

Spokane Drills For 100 Million Tonnes Of Ore

by Vivian J. Hartnett

Spokane Resources Ltd. is currently undertaking an extensive diamond drilling program at the company's Mac molybdenum copper property in central British Columbia. The focus of the Camp Zone drilling is to provide for calculation of ore reserves, which the company is confident will surpass 100 million tonnes. This program will also serve to evaluate the economic potential of known mineralization within a secondary and possibly larger Peak Zone.

In July, the company announced the completion surface exploration program on the Mac property. The property is located approximately 42 km east of the Bell and Granisle porphyry copper deposits, and 100 km north of the Endako molybdenum deposit. It is Babine Lake area near Smithers, British Columbia. More than 35 km of induced polarization, magnetic geophysical surface exploration, detailed geological mapping and prospecting were carried out.

Company President, Ronald Smith, stated that the diamond drilling will define and expand the Camp Zone to allow for ore reserve calculations, define the mineralization identified within the Peak Zone, and test for additional mineral deposits within the large porphyry system. The surface program has clearly detailed the anomalies resulting from mineralization in the Camp Zone, as well as ex-

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panded and defined mineralization in the Peak Zone.

"The company is very pleased with the results of the surface exploration program, which increases the potential of the Mac porphyry system, and further defines the known mineralization within both the Camp and Peak Zones," Smith says.

The company is continuing its studies of the relationship between molybdenum and copper mineralization and claims that no other deposit in British Columbia contains such high levels of both molybdenum and copper as the

Mac prospect. The property contains a highly prospective copper molybdenum porphyry system that has been defined over a length of greater than 3.5 km, and a width of up to 2 km. Spokane Resources will be spending \$1.7 million on exploration programs this year.

The Mac Property was acquired by Spokane from Rio Algom Explorations Inc. in 1995. Rio Algom discovered mineralization in the area as a result of a regional lake bottom geochemical survey conducted in 1982. Follow-up exploration in 1983 and 1984 included reconnaissance geochemistry, magnetic surveys and geological mapping. This was followed by trenching, detailed geological mapping, detailed lithochemical sampling and further magnetic surveys.

In 1989 Rio Algom completed a 1,488-metre diamond drilling program within the Camp Zone. The program confirmed molybdenite and chalcopyrite mineralization in a stockwork quartz vein system in the quartz monzonite and in zones of silification within the surrounding volcanics. A company report says the zones of silification in the surrounding volcanic rock contained the higher grades of both molybdenum and copper.

After acquiring the Mac property from Rio Algom in 1995, Spokane Resources conducted a large surface exploration program including approxi-



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mately 43 km of induced polarization and magnetic geophysical surveys, extensive geological mapping, and geochemical sampling. "It was this program that provided further definition to three zones of mineralization: the Pond Zone, the Camp Zone and the Peak Zone that were identified within a large copper and molybdenum porphyry system greater than 3.5 km long, and up to 2 km wide," Smith says.

In October and November of 1995, 1,986 metres of drilling were completed in 11 holes. In February 1996, an additional eight diamond drill holes (1,613 metres) were completed within the Camp Zone which now has been tested with a total of 23 diamond drill holes. Diamond drilling has outlined a zone of mineralization that has the potential of containing more than 100 million tonnes of molybdenum and copper mineralization associated with a quartz monzonite porphyry intrusive.

Spokane Resources Ltd. considers the Mac project to be one of the most prospective porphyry systems currently under exploration in British Columbia. The combination of potential high-grade mineralization and significant tonnage potential enhance the probability of proving up a massive deposit within the porphyry system.

"The extensive exploration program we are undertaking this year is designed to test for the presence of such deposits and define them to the point where reserve calculations and engineering studies can be commenced," Ronald Smith says. ■

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