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From:

Wilton, Paul EM:EX

Sent:

Thursday, April 27, 2000 9:48 AM

To:

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Smolik, Valerie EM:EX; Downie, Arlene EM:EX; MacDonald, Linda EM:EX

Subject:

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- Dennis confirms that no exploration projects have commenced field activities yet but a few are imminent (e.g. Rio Algom will commence camp construction on the South Findlay project next week and drilling will start shortly after - total 2100m, 4 holes).

Other activity expected in the Findlay block (Chuck Downie's "North Sullivan Camp") include 1500m, 3 holes drilling by Eagle Plains on North Findlay (still looking for new JV partner), more mapping and one 1000m drill hole by Kennecott at Greenland Creek to test new, large zinc-in-soil anomaly and 1500m drilling by Ascot Resources on Midfork claims.

- The only confirmed drilling plans so far in the rest of the Sullivan sedex play that I'm aware of are one 600m hole by National Gold Corp. on McNeil Creek property (optioned from Sedex Mining but originally a PAP project of Frank O'Grady) and two short holes by Eagle Plains on its Bohan property near the head of Arrow Creek.

- Once again it appears that the Lang Group of companies will be responsible for most of the major programs in the West Kootenays. Cream Minerals, at the Kaslo Silver project on Keen Creek, plans to recover a 10,000 tonne bulk sample from the Silver Bear high-grade (Ag) graphitic shear zone and another from underground at the Cork replacement Ag-Pb-Zn zone. The latter sample is contingent on the results of a preliminary modest surface drill program and on rehabilitating and extending the u/g workings at the former Cork-Province mine. The hope is that both samples can be processed at the Ainsworth mill.

Sister company, Sultan Minerals, will be aggressively exploring its recently optioned Kena bulk-tonnage gold prospect south of Nelson with mapping, further sampling of old unsampled core, geochem/geowhiz surveys and about 10 trenches and 6 drill holes. It also plans to complete its trenching and drilling test of the large Wilson Creek soil anomaly at the Jersey-Emerald property, a program aborted last season due to a dispute over road access across private land.

Another Lang company, Emgold Mining Corp, has optioned the Rozan pluton-hosted gold prospect, also south of Nelson, from Eric and Jack Denny and are planning a small initial program of mapping, soil and rock geochem, and trenching.

- No staking to report yet as follow-up to the Mt. Skelly open file release at KEG. Eagle Plains, among the first to grab a copy of the release, decided not to stake but will recce the area later in conjunction with work on its nearby Bohan project (Confidential of course). I'll check the maps next week to see if anything is recorded in the first 20 days or so.
- So far 19 PAP grant applications have been received for review, and a few more are en route from another regional office to which they were mis-mailed. There may still be some late arrivals to come from Victoria. This compares to a total of 27 applications reviewed in 1999. This task will be a major time sump for me for the next two weeks.
- Presently fine-tuning my talk and poster for the East Kootenay Chamber's Cranbrook Workshop on May 6 & 7. There's been no opportunity to do any upgrading or changes, so it'll be basically the same as done at Kamloops and Calgary earlier this month.