# Schroeter. Tom EM:EX

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Rabbit North a

924/10W 924/10W

From: Sent:

Friday, March 19, 2004 1:57 PM

Auterra Ventures Inc. [ir@auterraventures.com]

To:

Auterra Ventures Inc.

Subject: Auterra Ventures Inc. -News Release-Trenching Program Confirms Exploration Potential at Rabbit

North

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12g3-2(b): 82-4000 Standard & Poor's Listed TSX Venture Exchange: BGS

Internet: www.balladnet.com Email: ajb@balladnet.com

# **AUTERRA VENTURES INC.**

12g3-2(b): 82-4653 Standard & Poor's Listed TSX Venture Exchange: AUW

Internet: www.auterraventures.com Email: bharris@auterraventures.com

**NEWS RELEASE** 

March 19, 2004

# Trenching Program Confirms Exploration Potential at Rabbit North

Auterra Ventures Inc. ("Auterra") and Ballad Gold & Silver Ltd. ("Ballad") are pleased to announce the results of the recent Phase I Trenching and Sampling Program on the Rabbit North Gold/Copper Project located 20 km southwest of Kamloops, British Columbia, Canada.

The Rabbit North Gold/Copper Project targets two deposit types: large-tonnage Afton/DRC type copper-gold deposit and high-grade Snip type mesothermal gold vein deposits. The Afton/DRC deposit is reported to host 68.7 million tonnes grading 1.68% Copper Equivalent (Metal Prices Used: Copper \$US 0.85/lb, Gold \$US 375/oz, Silver \$US 5.25/oz and Palladium \$US 200/oz). The Snip deposit was a high grade gold-invein deposit averaging about 25 grams per tonne gold mined in the Iskut River area of North Western British Columbia during the 1980 and 1990's.

The completed trenching and sampling program was designed to follow-up on targets identified variously by drilling, trenching and enzyme leach soil sampling by the previous operators.

A total of 11 excavations, mainly deep pits up to 13 metres in depth were dug using a Cat 235C excavator during the Phase I Program. Some of these excavations encountered weak to strongly anomalous gold in bedrock with

one encountering highly anomalous copper-gold mineralization.

Excavations number EX03-1 and EX03-2 successfully targeted the surface extension of a high-gold bearing shear zone previously encountered by earlier diamond drilling. Gold mineralization within this shear zone is variously hosted by quartz stringers and the diorite host rock. This high-grade gold bearing structure is believed to extend 30 metres along strike between the two excavations. Chip sampling across this gold-bearing structure encountered significant gold values with the highest chip sample being 14.30 grams per tonne gold over 1.0 metre.

This highly mineralized gold-bearing structure is believed to be the same structure intersected in 1997 by a previous operator. That hole intersected 15.4 grams per tonne gold over 8 metres, including 27.55 grams per tonne over 2 metres. Another drill hole, located 25 metres further along strike, intersected 4.27 grams per tonne gold over 2 metres.

Chip Sampling highlights from Trenches EX03-1 and EX03-2 are listed below:

Trench	Sample Type	Width (m)	Gold Grade (grams per tonne)
Ex03-1	Chip	1.0	14.30
Ex03-1	Chip	1.1	10.90
Ex03-1	Chip	0.6	2.54
Ex03-1	Chip	1.1	2.34
Ex03-2	Chip	1.0	3.98
Ex03-2	Chip	0.4	2.82
Ex03-2	Chip	1.9	1.69

Excavation number EX03-3 probed for copper-gold mineralization in the western contact of the Durand Stock, targeting Afton/DRC type copper/gold porphyry mineralization. The trench encountered bedrock containing chrysocolla with associated gold. The average of 5 samples totaling about 50 kilograms of mineralized material returned 391 ppb (0.391 grams per tonne) gold and 2138 ppm (0.2139%) copper. Previous drilling and prospecting along this drift covered contact, which has been surveyed by IP and various other geophysical and geochemical methods, resulted in a previous drill hole intersecting 0.4% copper and 0.188 grams per tonne gold over 27.5 metres. Also found along this contact is mineralized float returning up to 3.25% Copper in chrysocolla combined with 0.715 grams per tonne gold. Float comprised of massive chalcocite, a high-grade copper mineral, has also been found along this contact.

Excavation number EX03-3 is located nearby an old drill hole which encountered a notable 0.14% copper and 0.424 grams per tonne gold over 90 metres. Excavation EX03-3 is located in an area containing strong indications of activity involving porphyry style copper-gold mineralization over an area of about 300 metres, the length of the local contact. A large Induced Polarization anomaly, covering 300 meters by 600 metres, occurs in the area and straddles the intrusive-volcanic contact further supporting the potential for Rabbit North to host an Afton/DRC type deposit. About half of this target is capped by Tertiary volcanics which are believed to have protected soft, supergene mineralization from glacial erosion, similar to what happened at the Afton deposit. Diamond drill testing of this target will be a key portion of the upcoming drilling program, which would include several holes into the main gold structure.

The 2003 Phase I Trenching Program was conducted under the direct supervision of Independent Qualified Person James A. Currie, P.Eng. who provided QA/QC protocols and conducted check sampling.

The Rabbit North Gold/Copper Property is located 12 km away from the former Afton Mine and is considered to have excellent potential for the discovery of vein-type gold deposits and bulk-mineable copper-gold deposits. Like Afton, the Rabbit North Property is underlain by a large, altered porphyry system of Upper Triassic age. Previous and current exploration efforts have encountered extensive zones of anomalous gold and copper-gold mineralization. Rabbit North is almost completely covered in glacial drift ranging from a few meters to several tens of meters.

On January 28, 2004, Auterra and Ballad entered into a joint venture agreement under which Ballad has the right to earn up to a 70% interest in the project. The joint venture partners plan to proceed to Phase II of the exploration program on Rabbit North as soon as snow conditions allow for safe and efficient mobilization of exploration crews. Phase II will comprise drill testing of several targets which have been identified though previous work and from the results of the recent trenching program.

Also being considered for inclusion of the Phase II Program is further trenching on a circular, untested, drift covered IP anomaly measuring 0.9 kilometres in diameter. During the Phase I exploration program a pit was dug at the end of the trail being built to access the target. Samples taken from the bottom of the pit, recovered from glacial till, encountered 340 ppb gold. This is believed to occur near bedrock.

The companies are monitoring the current snow conditions in order to determine access road conditions for drill team mobilization. The Phase II of the exploration program is expected to commence once road conditions are suitable to support mobilization of the drill team and rigs.

### Peñascudo Gold/Silver Project Update

Exploration at Ballad's Peñascudo Gold/Silver Project in Argentina is continuing with crews expected to complete the current exploration phase at the end of March. Crews will begin compilation of the Phase I data while finalizing Phase II exploration plans. Ballad will release the results form Phase I when available.

### BALLAD GOLD & SILVER LTD.

### **AUTERRA VENTURES INC.**

Per: <i>"Brian Harris"</i>	
Brian Harris	
President	

For further information contact:

**BALLAD GOLD & SILVER LTD** 

Anthony J. Beruschi, LLB, B.Sc.

Tel: 604.682.7159 Fax: 604.669.5886

Toll Free: 1.880.888.2288

Email: ajb@balladnet.com

**AUTERRA VENTURES INC.** 

Brian Harris
Tel: 604.669.5819
Fax: 604.669.5886

Email: <u>bharris@auterraventures.com</u>

The TSX Venture Exchange has not reviewed and does not accept responsibility for the adequacy or accuracy of the content of this News Release.

# Schroeter, Tom EM:EX

From:

Investor Relations [ir@auterraventures.com]

Sent:

Thursday, May 13, 2004 3:18 PM

To:

**Investor Relations** 

Subject: BALLAD TO COMMENCE DRILLING PROGRAM AT RABBIT NORTH ON MAY 25, 2004

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12g3-2(b): 82-4000 Standard & Poor's Listed TSX Venture Exchange: BGS Sw - May 14/04

# AUTERRA VENTURES INC.

12g3-2(b): 82-4653 Standard & Poor's Listed TSX Venture Exchange: AUW

### **NEWS RELEASE**

May 13, 2004

# BALLAD TO COMMENCE DRILLING PROGRAM AT RABBIT NORTH ON MAY 25, 2004

VANCOUVER, CANADA - Ballad Gold & Silver (TSX-BGS) and Auterra Ventures (TSX-AUW) are pleased to report that drilling is scheduled to commence on May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2004 at the Rabbit North Copper/Gold Property located between the Afton and Highland Valley mines near Kamloops, British Columbia, Canada.

Phase 1 of the program will consist of six diamond drill holes totalling approximately 1000 metres, designed to expand and confirm mineralization. Completion of the Phase 1 program is expected to be mid-June.

The Rabbit North Copper/Gold Property is considered to have excellent potential for the discovery of vein-type gold deposits and bulk-mineable copper-gold deposits. Like Afton, the Rabbit North Property is underlain by a large, altered porphyry system of Upper Triassic age. Previous and current exploration encountered extensive zones of anomalous gold and copper-gold mineralization.

Ballad's interest in the Rabbit North property is held pursuant to an option agreement with Auterra whereby Ballad has the right to earn up to a 70% interest in the property, subject to TSX acceptance for filing.

In connection with the effort Ballad has arranged a \$250,000 non-brokered private placement consisting of the issuance of 500,000 units of Ballad at a price of \$0.50 per unit. Each unit comprises two flow-through common shares and one share purchase warrant. Each share purchase warrant will entitle the holder thereof to purchase one warrant unit at a price of \$0.50 for a period of nine months from closing. Each warrant unit comprises one flow-through common share and one non-flow-through common share of Ballad. A finder's fee pursuant to the policies of the TSX Venture Exchange is payable by either cash or shares at the election of Ballad. The proceeds of the private placement will be used for exploration. Ballad will not proceed with the private placement announced January 28, 2004. The private placement is subject to acceptance for filing by the TSX.

# Schroeter, Tom EM:EX

TGS-RABBIT

From: Investor Relations [ir@auterraventures.com]

Sent: Monday, July 05, 2004 3:54 PM

To: Investor Relations

Subject: Ballad Gold & Silver Ltd. News Release-DRILLING COMPLETED AT THE RABBIT-NORTH C

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Sw-July 6/04

12g3-2(b): 82-4000 Standard & Poor's Listed TSX Venture Exchange: BGS

# AUTERRA VENTURES INC.

12g3-2(b): 82-4653 Standard & Poor's Listed TSX Venture Exchange: AUW July 5, 2004

**NEWS RELEASE** 

# DRILLING COMPLETED AT THE RABBIT-NORTH COPPER AND GOLD PROJECT ANALYSIS PENDING

Ballad Gold & Silver Ltd. and Auterra Ventures Inc. are pleased to report that diamond drilling was completed at the Rabbit North Gold and Copper Project near Kamloops, BC, Canada. Seven holes (810 m) were completed on time and within budget. All cores have been logged and sampled and all samples were delivered to the laboratory. Complete analytical results are expected to be received by Ballad over the next few weeks; after the samples are fully processed and all necessary check assays are completed.

The drill program mainly targeted high grade gold in quartz-pyrite zones that were originally found in 1997. In holes 04-3 and 04-4 of the program several zones of quartz-pyrite were intersected, the largest intercept measuring 3.0 m for an estimated true width of 2.5m. These two holes are situated 50 meters apart and were drilled parallel to each other. The holes established that these quartz-pyrite zones strike in a west-northwesterly direction. Potential for extending these zones to the east and west is excellent as no outcrops or drill holes are present to the east of hole 04-4 and for at least 300m to the west of hole 04-3.

The Rabbit North project is situated 12 km southwest of the Afton Mine in an area of excellent infrastructure. The project is considered by our consulting geologist to have prime potential for the discovery of a vein type gold deposit and also for bulk mineable copper-gold. Like Afton, the Rabbit North harbors a large altered alkaline porphyry system of Upper Triassic Age.

Andre M. Pauwels P.Geo, consultant, acted as the Qualified Person for the project and reviewed this press release.

Auterra has an option from the owners to acquire a 100% interest in Rabbit North by issuing shares (300,000 - 200,000 issued), paying cash (\$300,000, \$35,000 paid) and incurring \$1,500,000 in exploration expenditures over 5 years. The property is subject to an NSR Royalty in favor of the vendors: 2% for base metals and 3% for gold. A 1% portion of each royalty can be acquired. Ballad in turn has an agreement to earn up to 70% of Auterra's interest by paying cash (\$ 200,000), incurring work (\$1,000,000) and issuing shares (500,000) to Auterra before November 17, 2007. Auterra has the election to limit Ballad's interest to 50% after Ballad has incurred \$600,000 in exploration expenditures. The Auterra/Ballad agreement is subject to TSX acceptance for filing.

For more detailed information and a drill hole location map please visit our websites at www.balladnet.com and at www.auterraventures.com

### BALLAD GOLD & SILVER LTD.

### **AUTERRA VENTURES INC.**

Per: "Anthony J. Beruschi"
Anthony J. Beruschi, LLB, B.Sc.
President

Per: "Brian Harris"
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Toll Free: 1.880.888.2288

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Brian Harris Tel: 604.669.5819 Fax: 604.669.5886

Email: <u>bharris@auterraventures.com</u>

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