

STRATABOUND MINERALS CORP.**CYGNET PROJECT (SWAN AND RAP PROPERTIES), OMINECA REGION, BRITISH COLUMBIA.**

In British Columbia the mining and logging industries have been under great pressure from Canadian, American and German environmental interest groups. Mining companies continued pulling out of exploration projects in B.C. in 1993 in the wake of the Windy Craggy decision, preferring to work in virtually any Latin-American jurisdiction. Exploration spending in the province fell to \$35 million in 1993 from a peak of \$156 million in 1988.

Following expenditure of only \$70,000, and despite favourable results, Cominco has abandoned the Cygnet project, now 100% controlled by Stratabound Minerals Corp. All claims have been returned to us in good standing for two to three years.

We have compiled much of the Cominco (1993) and Firesteel (1992) soil sampling data, but are still awaiting Cominco's final report. The 1973 SEREM data also need to be obtained and plotted to complete the picture. This acreage requires a major exploration project, including airborne geophysics, and should be of interest to any major base metal mining company still interested in operating in British Columbia.

The Cygnet properties cover Cassiar Terrane stratigraphy, with rocks ranging in age from Late Proterozoic (Ingenika Group) to Devonian-Mississippian (Big Creek-Earn Group and Gilliland Tuff). This stratigraphic package is equivalent to the Kechika Trough to the north which hosts economically significant SEDEX lead-zinc deposits, including the Cirque. The Cygnet Lower Paleozoic interval also resembles the Lower Paleozoic dolomite, limestone, black shale and chert strata that are favoured host rocks for SEDEX lead-zinc mineralization in the Faro, Howard's Pass and MacMillan Pass regions.

The **SWAN BLOCK** (239 units) covers a 15 kilometre-long strike of favourable lithologies characterized by a string of long, high value lead and zinc soil anomalies, accompanied by lead, zinc, silver and barite showings. The **RAIN**, **KNOLL** and **SWAN** are three such anomalous areas, underlain by Cambrian to Devonian limestones, dolomites, phyllites and shales along a 13.5 kilometre northwest trending geological strike interrupted by fault displacement.

The anomalies indicate an intermittent trend of lead/zinc showings of undetermined significance along the entire length of the property.

Prospecting and geochemical soil sampling done in the 1960's, 1973, 1992 and 1993 located many small lead-zinc-silver-barite occurrences in rock outcrops and drift. The known occurrences are much too small to explain the widespread and consistent, very high lead and zinc levels in soils.

Limestone units (**Sandpile Group** and/or **Rosella Formation**) are host to most of the known mineralized occurrences along the length of the main block of claims. The most significant areas discovered to date are in the **KNOLL** and **SWAN** mineralized zones, where there has been no drilling. Both areas show mineralization in dolomitized, intensively silicified and brecciated limestone. This formation shows potential for three possible types of lead-zinc mineralization: "manto"-type (often with high precious metal content), Mississippi Valley type, or Kootenay Arc type (carbonate-hosted Irish SEDEX type).

In addition, a number of significant lead-zinc soil geochemical anomalies, which offer buried SEDEX lead-zinc potential, occur in areas with little to no rock exposure interpreted to be underlain by tuffaceous argillites and phyllites ("shales") of the **Kechika Group** in the **KNOLL** and **SWAN EAST** areas, and by **Earn Group** argillites in the **BURN** anomalous area. Kechika and Earn Group rocks weather recessively and hence tend not to outcrop.

In the area of the **KNOLL** and **SWAN** showings, the **Sandpile(?)** limestone horizon is capped by a very siliceous dolomite breccia and a siliceous thin banded dolomite which may represent a silica-replaced algal-mat reef. Most of the currently known occurrences are fairly low-grade lead-zinc-silver, with varying amounts of barite, situated in localized areas of brecciation and dolomitization within limestone and marble. The apparent "preferred host" status of the limestone units for mineralization may be partly a function of the amount of outcrop of the various lithologies. Open-space fillings include dolspar, barite spar, galena and sphalerite.

Many of these features are common to several dozen manto- and Mississippi Valley-type lead-zinc deposits in Lower Paleozoic miogeosynclinal carbonate rocks such as these throughout British Columbia.

The **KNOLL** anomaly remains "open", an exceptionally high contrast lead- and zinc-in-soil anomaly over a kilometre long and of undetermined width. Mineralization in the exposed cliff consists of coarse barite and calcite breccia fillings with disseminated lead and zinc minerals, and is consistent with the type and grade of mineralization which surrounds large base metal orebodies in carbonates. Glacially transported boulders of dolomite containing up to 3.6% lead are present at the southeast end of the knoll, and also at the northwest end within a vegetation "kill zone" that covers an area at least 150 m. in diameter. **The Knoll is a large area that looks extremely promising.**

The **KNOLL** anomaly appears to be caused by mineralization of an undetermined nature within dolomitized carbonates, with additional anomalous areas occurring further downslope as outlined by SEREM's sampling in 1973. These additional areas, as well as portions of the **SWAN EAST** anomaly, may be underlain by **Kechika Group** phyllites with potential for SEDEX lead-zinc sulphide deposits. Extensive additional soil sampling and mapping are required between the **KNOLL** and **SWAN EAST** areas to trace the buried trend of the **Kechika Group**.

The **RAIN** anomalies and geology indicate mineralization is hosted by **Rosella** limestone overlying **Boya (Mt. Brown)** phyllitic mudstone and limestone (or **Sandpile** limestone immediately overlying the **Kechika/Road River Group**). Earlier mapping described the clastic unit as a recessive band of tuffaceous phyllite and argillite with disseminated pyrite. At **RAIN "A"**, a grab sample in 1973 assayed 0.82% lead, 3.68% zinc, 0.10 oz/ton silver, and 14.5% barite. Two 1973 grab samples from the **RAIN "B"** showing were reported to have returned 4.53% lead, 4.20% zinc, 0.91 oz/ton silver, 31.0% barium; and 6.88% lead, 1.04% zinc, 1.56 oz/ton silver, 48.5% barium as vein-filling mineralization. Within the **RAIN "B"** anomaly, barite float was found along a 500 metre strike length. Barite-rich beds are commonly associated with SEDEX lead-zinc deposits.

Two old trenches are located on the **CRAG** anomaly, the best of which exhibits 4.5 metres of sparry dolomite with disseminations and stringers of galena and sphalerite. Grab sample assays include 0.4% Pb, 1.8% Zn, 0.3 oz/ton Ag; and 5.0% Pb, 2.8% Zn, 5.5 oz/t Ag and 0.48% barium. Channel sampling averaged 0.20% Pb, 1.69% Zn, 0.19 oz/ton Ag and 0.18% Ba over 10 feet. To the northwest of the **CRAG** showing, mineralized dolomitic float returned 3.64% Pb, 0.10% Zn, 0.58 oz/ton Ag and 1.4% Ba. Several lenses of barite were observed within a grey dolomite in proximity to black graphitic slates.

The **BURN** occurrence consists of stratabound lenses of barite within the siliceous argillites of the **Earn (Big Creek) Group**. The barite lenses and associated lead-zinc soil anomaly again indicate the potential for SEDEX-type deposits.

The **SWAN** showings area contains a few old trenches, the best of which, the "**SWAN MAIN SHOWING**", reveals the basal 5.5 metres of the mineralized **Rosella** carbonate unit as a zone of disseminated and stringer galena with yellow brown sphalerite in brecciated sparry dolomite. Continuous chip sampling of the exposed zone returned 0.3% lead and 0.5% zinc, an encouraging rock geochemical anomaly, while grab samples ran as high as 1.00% lead, 1.61% zinc and 0.64 oz/ton silver, with little barite. A 1973 grab sample from the westernmost showing assayed 2.50% Pb, 9.20% Zn, 1.0 oz/ton Ag and 1000 ppm Ba. The channel sample averaged 0.48% Pb, 1.72% Zn, 0.12 oz/ton Ag and <0.1% Ba across an unknown width.

At the "**SWAN MIDDLE SHOWING**", a mineralized occurrence of coarse barite and light brown sphalerite in fractured siliceous carbonate assayed 0.4% lead and 1.8% zinc. A small gossan, about 10 metres in diameter, occurs 250 metres north of this showing at "**SWAN EAST**". A soil sample collected near this gossan in 1992 tested 0.50% lead (4,963 p.p.m.) and 1.10% zinc (10,993 p.p.m.). The 1992 sampling indicated a large lead- and zinc-in-soils geochemical anomaly extended for 700-800 metres to the northeast of this point, as indicated by two contour soil lines with sampling at 25 metre spacing. All zinc values were anomalous with the highest value of 10,993 p.p.m. Lead values were anomalous over the western half of the sampled area with a peak value of 6,238 p.p.m.. The west end of the anomalous area was marked by the small gossan and a few carbonate outcrops; the rest of the lead-zinc geochemical

anomaly was believed to be underlain by recessive **Kechika Group** phyllites. Cominco's 1993 program extended this anomaly, which has lead and zinc peaks of 3,657 and 8,704 p.p.m., respectively.