

Also of concern is the fact that the dollar value of proposed programs, with the exception of the Kemess project, is down from last year. Of the majors, only Cominco, Placer Dome and Rio Algom have significant committed budgets for the district to date.

Placer Notices however are well up from last year (97 vs 47), as is usual when there is a down-turn in the economy.

1. There are rumours of a land deal or joint venture being negotiated between majors with interests in or holdings in the Kemess-Johanson Lake area. Immediately to the south however, early indications are that neither Teck Corp. nor Kennco Explorations will be back on the Porphyry Creek (Cu, Au) and Lorraine/Dorothy (Cu, Au) properties respectively this season. Both companies had \$½ million plus budgets last year.
2. International Lornex has resurfaced with plans to evaluate the potential of Cu/Ag vein properties in the Racing River area (NE BC). Their proposal is woefully inadequate re: environmental concerns and costs.
3. Placer Dome has optioned ground north of the Cat property (Cu, Au) from Lysander Gold Corp.

Racing
River

PROGRESS:

1. Noranda completed drilling on the Mitzi property (Cu, Au) with (visually) disappointing results. As Bruce noted in the February report, the drilling program seems to have been hastily put together.
2. Rio Algom continues to increase its stake in the Kemess deposit with another purchase of St. Philips shares. Directly or indirectly through El Condor, Rio now has close to 20 per cent interest in the entire project.
3. Cominco is anxious to get on with exploring the sedex mineralization found on the Par property last year. Company geologists have confirmed that the mineralization is entirely shale-hosted. They claim to have staked all the known shale sequences in the Ingenika.

MDR:

1. Stronsay Corp. has filed a revised reclamation plan for the Stronsay project (sedex) and is still hoping to get a Mine Development Certificate in time to start construction this summer.
2. Placer Dome is pushing for Mine Development Certificate for the Mt. Milligan deposit (Au, Cu) despite finding the deposit to be uneconomic.
3. El Condor is testing the uncharted waters leading to a Mine Development Certificate for the South Kemess deposit (Au, Cu). They have filed a "Preapplication for a Mine Development Certificate" (what ever was wrong with the old "Prospectus"?)