



### CORPORATION

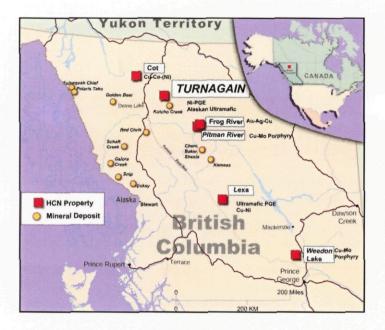
# **The Turnagain Nickel Project**

Highland Area

**DJ** Area

**Bench** Area

Horsetrail Zone



Hard Creek Nickel Corporation has an experienced, talented team of geoscientists using the best modern exploration techniques to explore for sulfide nickel, cobalt, platinum and palladium at the Company's core property, the 100% owned Turnagain Project in north-central British Columbia.

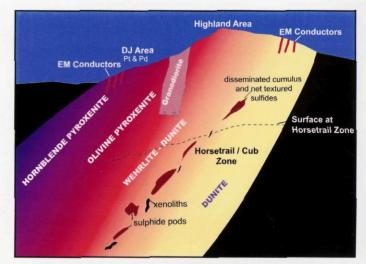
The project area is underlain by a partially exposed ultramafic intrusive complex, presently interpreted as the remnants of a subvolcanic magma chamber. The exploration model envisages a nickel-rich magma, sourced from the earth's mantle, coming into contact with sulfide and graphite bearing metasedimentary wall rocks. Sulfur from the wall rocks combine with nickel and iron in the ultramafic magma to produce nickel and iron sulfide minerals.

The focus of the 2005 field program will be to explore for sulfide rich zones within the 8km by 3.5 km ultramafic intrusive. Modern best practice is to use electromagnetic (EM) and magnetic surveys to locate zones of conductivity within the intrusive. EM surveys are particulary effective in this ultramafic environment given the excellent contrast between highly conductive sulfide minerals and the nonconductive ultramafic host rock.

Initial analysis of our late 2004 helicopter-borne EM survey has revealed many near surface conductive targets within the Turnagain ultramafic intrusive. In the Highland area, a linear feature of multiple conductors extends along a strike length of approximately 1.6 km. Geology and anomalous PGE and Nickel soil geochemical results enhance this target area. In the Bench area, located 2 km south of the Highland area, we have a series of conductors along 1.4 km of strike in an overburden covered area.

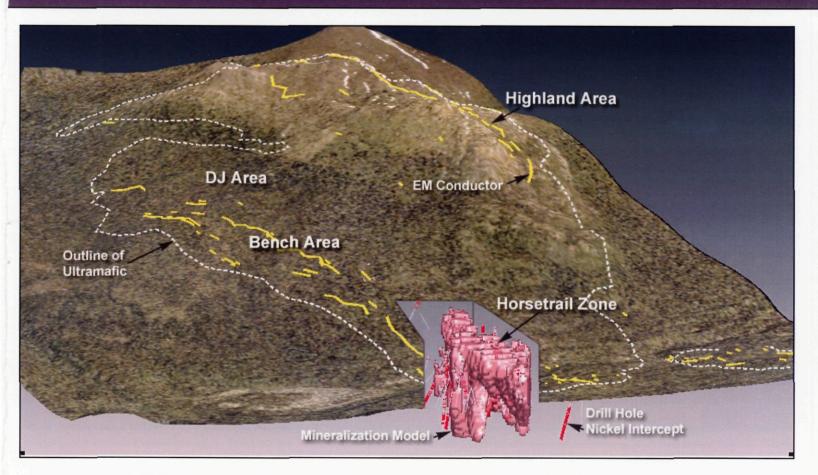
Outside of these two prominent conductive areas are other conductors, some of which coincide with platinum and/or nickel soil geochemical anomalies. We are currently planning an exploration program to drill-test most of the conductors on our property.

Note that a conductor does not necessarily indicate the presence of economic sulfide mineralization. Conductive responses are also generated by, among other things, graphite and non-economic sulphides such as pyrrhotite. Drilling and core analysis are required to establish the source of the conductive feature.

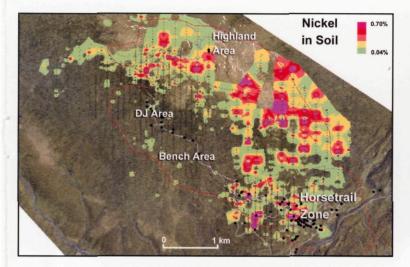


Conceptual cross-section through Turnagain ultramafic complex.

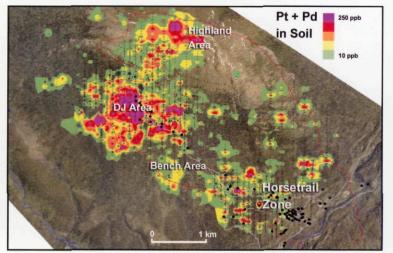
# Exploration



Oblique view looking northwest over core area of Turnagain property. Known mineralization in the extensively drilled Horsetrail Zone is shown in pink. Conductive drill targets generated by the Aeroquest EM survey are shown in yellow. The 2005 exploration campaign will step out from the known mineralization in the Horsetrail Zone by drilling the conductors to the Northwest and will also test prominent conductors in all other areas of the property.



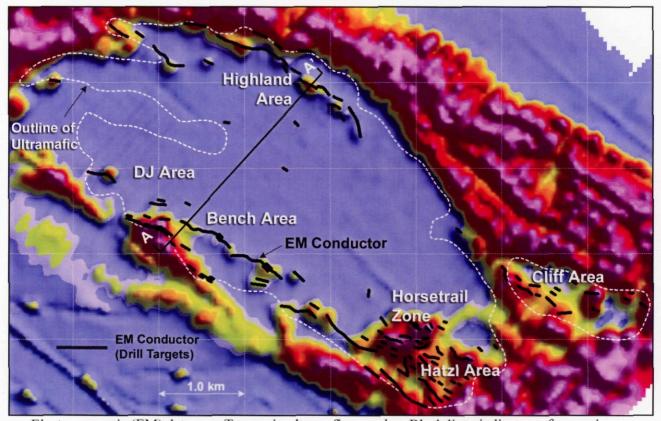
Contoured nickel values from geochemical soil survey. The Horsetrail Zone is just one part of a broad, 6 km. arc of nickel anomalies.



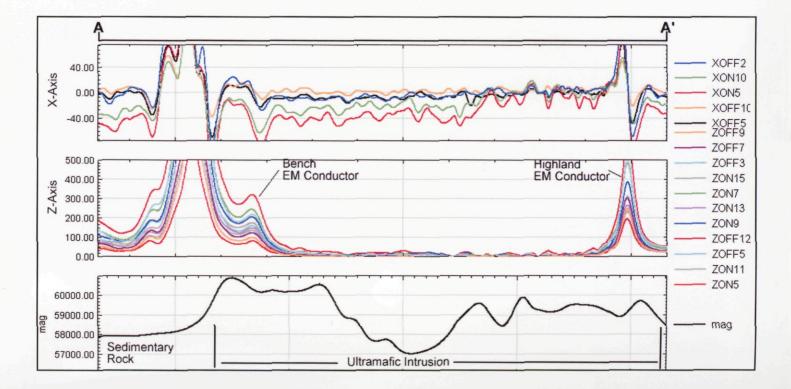
Strange The Manual

Contoured platinum and palladium values. The largest anomaly is separate from nickel anomaly. Further exploration of the platinum and palladium targets is planned for 2005.

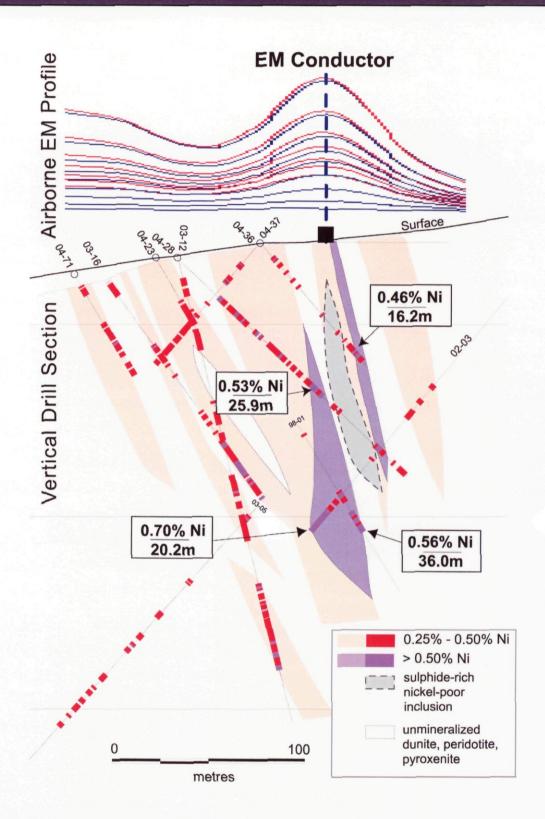
# **Airborne EM Survey**



Electromagnetic (EM) data over Turnagain ultramafic complex. Black lines indicate surface projections of interpreted conductors within the ultramafic body. Geophysical profiles along section line A-A', through Bench and Highland areas appear below. High resolution geophysical data generated several drill targets with EM anomalies similar to the Horestrail Zone including two that have higher rated multichannel responses and coincide with soil and rock geochem anomalies in nickel and PGE.



# **Airborne EM Analysis**



Geophysical profiles from a recently flown Airborne EM survey flight line over the Horsetrail Zone are shown above a geological cross-section through the mineralized Horsetrail Zone. The conductor axis coincides with surface projections of higher sulfide content and nickel grades. Strong correlation between the EM survey anomalies and known drill tested sulphide mineralization has shown the effectiveness of the Airborne survey. Hydrometallurgical processes for base metal production have been rapidly advanced by a number of the world's leading mining companies and equipment suppliers. For the nickel sulfide miners contemplating the construction of new processing facilities, hydrometallurgical techniques offer a number of advantages compared to traditional smelting.

#### Ability to Process Low Grade Concentrates:

Froth flotation of sulfide ore has been the preferred metallurgical process to produce a sulfide concentrate prior to smelting. However, smelting has generally required nickel concentrate grades greater than 8% nickel in order to maintain the minimum sulfur content required for the heat balance. The presence of other elements, such as excessive magnesium, can also affect the economics of smelting. Hydrometallurgy is much less affected by the sulfur and magnesium contents in a concentrate. This permits the potential exploitation of lower grade, but larger tonnage nickel deposits which can be mined at low cost.

#### **Smaller On-Site Production Option:**

Principal hydrometallurgical plant equipment consists of autoclaves and/or tankage that can be readily sized to suit smaller producers. Smelters generally require complex supporting infrastructure, resulting in the need for large throughput. Often this requires the transportation of concentrates long distances in order to meet the throughput requirements. The ability to build refining treatment on-site eliminates the often significant cost of concentrate transport.

#### Versatile:

Hydrometallurgical options include a variety of atmospheric and pressure leaching procedures that can be designed to meet specific feed material characteristics. Downstream metal production can selectively remove deleterious elements, and recover by-product metal values including cobalt, copper, precious and platinum group metals.

#### **Environmental Advantages:**

Hydrometallurgical processes offer environmental advantages, including eliminating the expensive cleanup of  $SO_2$ , particulates, and greenhouse gases. Often these hydromet plants can be designed with zero discharge by re-circulating flow streams and controlling the water balance.

#### Lower Operational Costs:

Elimination of custom toll fees, transportation and penalty charges, and reduced environmental issues can often result in improved net revenue to a nickel project by using on-site hydrometallurgy as compared to custom smelting of concentrate.

#### Lower Capital Costs:

Due to simplified process flowsheets, ability to construct plants with reduced throughput, and fewer environmental issues, hydromet plant construction can result in lower capital costs as compared to smelting.

Ongoing metallurgical test work on Turnagain composite samples is examining the feasibility of producing concentrates for both the hydrometallurgical and smelting options.

Frank Wright, BBA, B.Sc., P.Eng. (Metallurgy), Qualified Person

# **President's Letter to Shareholders**



As the 2005 exploration season approaches, the excitement is starting to build in our office. Our geological staff feel that the geological, geochemical and geophysical data collected last year has brought the entire ultramafic intrusive at the Turnagain project into focus. They are eager to get out and drill test the many new targets generated by last year's hard work.

Most people don't think of mining exploration in terms of "high tech". Yet technology has had a huge impact on the mineral exploration business. Increased computer power has brought sophisticated 3-D modeling software within the financial grasp of junior companies. Global Positioning System (GPS) technology has enabled more accurate mapping and modeling. Continual refining of geophysical data acquisition and interpretive techniques have put powerful new tools into the hands of explorers.

As an investor, I think it is important to be aware of trends in technology. When I was a director of Ultra Petroleum, we recognized that new frac techniques could make it possible to economically liberate gas from the vast, but previously uneconomic, gas deposits in the Green River Basin. We were right, and the company and its shareholders were handsomely rewarded. A similar example from the mining industry would be heap leach technology, which made it economic to mine large, near surface, low grade gold deposits. People who caught that trend early did very well. I think something similar is happening right now in the mining business. A new technology for refining metal is, in my opinion, in the process of replacing traditional smelters. The adoption of hydrometallurgy (of which there are several varieties) is at an early stage (so there is still a risk I could be wrong), but the implications are powerful. An on-site hyrometallurgical plant can be scaled to fit the deposit size. The technology is much more friendly to the environment than traditional smelting, and the technology has the ability to process lower grade concentrates.

All of this could prove useful to Hard Creek Nickel. So far, we have been successful at finding low grade, near surface sulphide nickel mineralization at the Turnagain project. We think that if we can find enough tonnes of this material, at some point we will cross a threshold where economies of scale could impact favorably on the project economics. On-site refining with hydromet technology would be part of that scenario.

We are hoping to do even better than that by intelligent application of another technology. Our helicopter-borne electromagnetic (EM) survey has revealed many conductive anomalies within the ultramafic intrusive. In the extensively drilled Horsetrail zone, drill holes intersectecting conductors delivered some of our best nickel grades. Most of the conductors on our property have yet to be drill-tested.

This is why our geologists are so eager to get back into the field. I look forward to reporting our progress to you during the coming year.

#### Mark Jarvis, President,

Hard Creek Nickel Corporation

Technical information in this document was reviewed and approved by Chris Baldys, P.Eng., a Qualified Person. This document contains forward looking statements, including statements about future exploration programs, which are subject to risk factors, both known and unknown, which may cause actual results to differ materially from forecast results.

#### **CAPITAL STRUCTURE:**

As of June 09, 2005

Authorized:	unlimited
Issued & Outstanding:	29,263,619
Options:	2,470,000
Warrants:	9,145,095
Fully Diluted:	40,878,714

#### **OFFICE:**

Suite 1060 -1090 West Georgia Street Vancouver, B.C. V6E 3V7 Phone : (604) 681-2300 Fax: (604) 681-2310 Investor Relations: (604) 681-2323 Toll Free: 1-800-681-2399 Email: info@hardcreek.com Web: www.hardcreek.com TSX.V - HNC

#### **OFFICERS & DIRECTORS**

Mark Jarvis, Chairman and President Frank Wright, BBA, B.Sc., P.Eng. (Metallurgy); Director George Sookochoff, B. Comm.; Director Lyle Davis, MBA, Director Tony Hitchins B.A.Sc., M.Sc.; Chief Operating Officer Leslie Young, Corporate Secretary

#### **INDEPENDENT QUALIFIED PERSON**

Dr. Nicholas C. Carter, Ph.D., P.Eng.; Independent Qualified Person

#### **GEOLOGICAL CONSULTANTS**

Chris Baldys, P.Eng. (Mining Geology), Qualified Person; Geologist

Neil Froc, P.Eng.

Bruce Northcote, B.Sc., M.Sc.

#### **ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS**

James J. McDougall, M.Sc., P.Eng., Retired Western Exploration Manager Falconbridge Group of Companies; Advisory Board

Bruce Downing, M.Sc., P.Geo.; Advisory Board

John Schussler, Prospector and Miner; Advisory Board

#### **AUDITORS**

Dale Matheson Carr / Hilton La Bonte

Suite 610-938 Howe St.

Vancouver, B.C.

Ph: 604-682-2778

#### **TRANSFER AGENT**

Pacific Corporate Trust Co.

10th Floor, 625 Howe St.

Vancouver, B.C.

Ph: 604-689-9853

#### LEGAL COUNSEL

Clark, Wilson

Suite 800 - 885

West Georgia St.

Vancouver, B.C. V6C 3H1

Ph: 604-687-5700

# REPRINTED FROM The SLOBAL MINING NEWSPAPER Volume 91 Number 47

# A new leaf for Turnagain nickel

Hard Creek envisions big potential

By Stephen Stakiw

Vancouver -- With an eye toward boosting mineralized tonnage on its Turnagain project, results from Hard Creek Nickel's (HNC-V, HNCKF-O) completion of phase-2 drilling have expanded the size potential of the nickel property located about 70 km east of Dease Lake in north-central British Columbia.

Not a new project by any means, nickel and copper sulphide mineralization at Turnagain was first identified in the mid-1950s, with Falconbridge (FAL.LV-T, FAL-N) moving in and acquiring the ground in the mid-1960s. Several years of exploration by the major (under the direction of James McDougall), including programs of geophysics, mapping, sampling and the drilling of about 40 holes, led to the discovery of significant nickel sulphide mineralization. However, Falconbridge exited B.C. in the early-1970s due to an unfriendly political climate towards mineral exploration, which accompanied the provincial election of the New Democratic Party (NDP) in 1972.

Additional work was conducted by Union Minière Explorations and Mining, and a number of juniors through the 1980s and '90s that tested the gold, cobalt and platinum group metals (PGMs) potential of the area.

Hard Creek Nickel, through predecessor companies Canadian Metals Exploration and Bren-Mar Resources, became involved in the mid-1990s and has undertaken extensive programs of geophysics and drilling in addition to metallurgical studies.

Drilling in 2003 and 2004 formed the basis of an initial resource estimate on the Horsetrail zone of the project. Based on 36 holes, an indicated resource of 15.7 million tonnes grading 0.34% nickel, 0.07% copper and 0.019% cobalt was reviewed in the central zone, plus an additional inferred resource of 31.6 million tonnes of 0.32%



June 12/06

From left: Hard Creek Nickel project manager and COO Tony Hitchins, engineer Neil Froc, and president and chair Mark Jarvis examine core at the Turnagain nickel project in north-central B.C. Recent drilling increased the project's potential for more nickel.

nickel, 0.04% copper and 0.016% cobalt contained in the eastern and western sections of the zone. A cutoff of 0.25% total nickel was used in the calculation.

Subsequent drilling in 2005 was aimed at adding to the Horsetrail resource and identifying higher-grade mineralized sections, or potential "starter-pit" areas. Hard Creek recently engaged engineering firm AMEC to conduct a preliminary economic assessment on a potential open-pit, bulk-tonnage sulphide nickel operation at Turnagain. The study is expected to be completed by mid-2006 and will include block modelling, preliminary pit design, process infrastructure needs and capital cost estimates.

One major constraint in the potential development of Turnagain is the lack of an accessible electrical power grid. Establishing an on-site diesel generator facility may also fall short of power requirements for a large-scale operation. The hurdle may be resolved, however, if the B.C. government moves on proposals to build and expand electrical transmission lines along the Highway 37 corridor from Meziadin Junction to Dease Lake. The Highway 37 power line initiative has received strong support from regional communities and prospective resource developers alike (mining, forestry, and oil and gas), who view it as an essential item for economic growth in the area.

The company has now completed well in excess of 100 drill holes on the project, with latest results being some of the more significant. Hole DDH 05-106, testing near-surface extensions of mineralization at Horsetrail, intersected almost 236 metres (essentially from surface) grading 0.3% nickel and 0.019% cobalt, including a 53-metre interval of 0.46% nickel. Hole 107 cut a 91-metre intercept averaging 0.3% nickel and 0.019% cobalt.

Drilling collared immediately south of Horsetrail, targeting electro-magnetic (EM) conductors, returned a number of intercepts averaging about 0.25% nickel over widths of 116-192 metres.

Several Horsetrail zone holes located west of prior drilling intersected wide intervals of near-surface mineralization ranging from 0.25% to 0.33% nickel over widths of 62-142 metres. These holes extend the Horsetrail zone about 350 metres to the west; it remains open to the west, northwest, north, south and to depth.

Interestingly, a pentlandite-dominated nickel halo was encountered in one of the recent holes. This lower sulphide mineralization was not detected in EM surveys but did show up as a geochemical anomaly with significant size potential.

"These results are expected to add significant tonnes to the Horsetrail zone," says Mark Jarvis, president of Hard Creek Nickel. "The wide intercepts of near-surface mineralization are shaping up into a good geometry for modelling a large-volume, open-pit mining scenario."

#### The rocks

Mineralization at Turnagain is hosted in an 8 by 3.5-km wide zoned, Alaskan-type ultramafic intrusive. The late-Triassic complex is situated on a major terrane boundary and composed of a central dunite core with outer, gradational zones of wehrlite (an olivine and clinopyroxene-rich peridotite), olivine clinopyroxene, clinopyroxenite and hornblendite, all representing crystal cumulate sequences. Iron and nickel sulphides most commonly occur in the wehrlites and clinopyroxenites. Semi-massive to massive sulphides (pyrrhotite with lesser pentlandite and minor chalcopyrite) and broad disseminated zones tend to occur in the wehrlites near the southern and eastern margins of the intrusive.

Testing the percentage of nickel present as a sulphide mineral, as opposed to that tied up in the crystal lattice of silicate minerals (olivines), involves leach analysis. Ammonium citrate-hydrogen peroxide leach testing of Turnagain samples indicate 60% to 90% of the nickel is in sulphide form. It is only economically feasible to extract sulphide nickel using standard flotation processes.

Other targets have developed from the EM surveys and geochemical sampling, including a few large PGM anomalies (the DB, DJ and Highland zones). The DJ zone, 3 km northwest of Horsetrail, shows significant platinum and palladium mineralization hosted in a serpentinized clinopyroxenite.

Recent drilling on the DB area returned intercepts of up to 1.5 grams platinum per tonne and 1 gram palladium per tonne over 3.1 metres in hole 05-88, within a 13-metre interval of 0.85 gram platinum and 0.7 gram palladium.

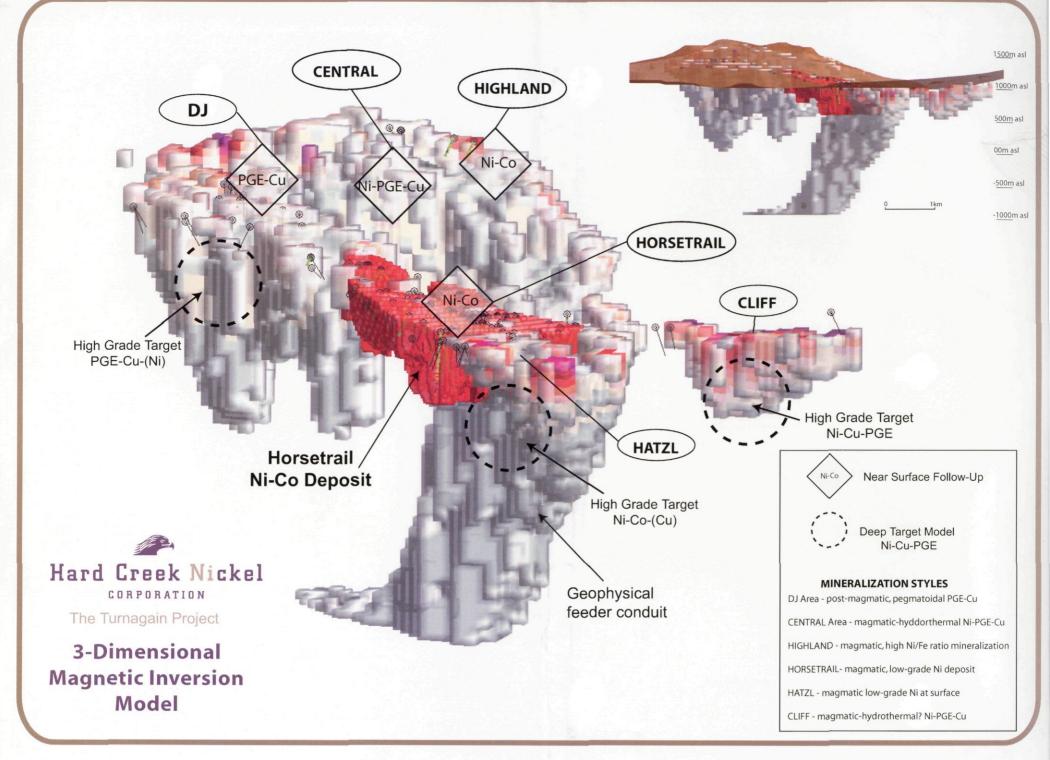
Not yet extensively tested, the PGM potential of the project is scheduled to be targeted in 2006 drilling.

The prospect of a large-scale nickel operation near the Pacific coast has the company very excited as Asian demand for the metal continues to grow. World demand growth had been pegged at around 5% annually, with China's appetite increasing at 20% per year. Whereas about 58% of world nickel production currently comes from sulphide nickel deposits (with the remainder from laterites), just 28% of worldwide resources are in the sulphide form. Large tonnage, sulphide nickel deposits have become increasingly rare, especially those amenable to open-pit mining.

With well over 30,000 metres of drilling and spending of about \$9 million to date, the company has borne criticism for possibly taking on a project deemed "too big" for a junior. However, continued exploration success and positive economic studies could remedy this by flagging the attention of a major nickel producer.

Following the recent wide-drill intercepts of nickel mineralization encountered at Horsetrail, shares of Hard Creek Nickel rallied about 50% from the  $40\phi$  level to reach a new 18-month high of over  $60\phi$  per share. The company posts a \$23-million market capitalization based on its 37.7 million shares outstanding.

# June 12/06





James J. McDougall, P. Eng., passes a piece of massive sulphide core from the Turnagain property to Mark Jarvis, President of Hard Creek Nickel Corp.

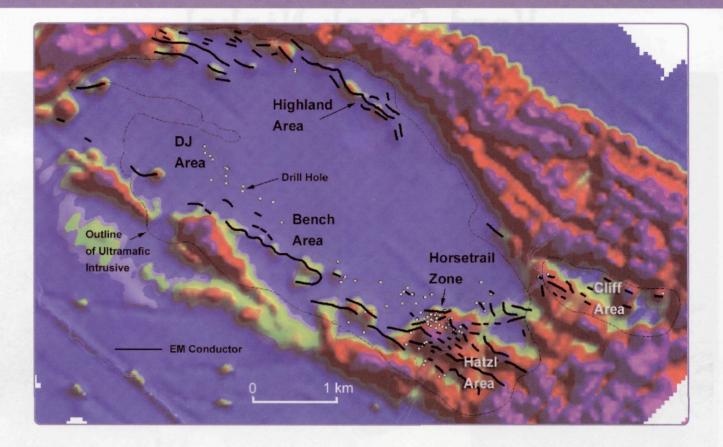
Mr. McDougall, a past recipient of the "Prospector of the Year" award as well as the "Spud Huestis" award, sits on the Advisory Board of Hard Creek Nickel Corp.

Mr. McDougall was the first to recognize the potential of the Turnagain property as a possible large tonnage, low grade sulphide nickel open pittable deposit when Falconbridge explored the property in the sixties and early seventies.

Working with Falconbridge for 30 years, ultimately as Manager of Western Exploration, McDougall was involved in a truly prodigious amount of reconnaissance exploration throughout British Columbia, Yukon and Alaska. He was involved with the rebirth of the Tasu copper-iron mine in the Queen Charlottes by proving that the deposit dipped the opposite way to that earlier published. He explored previously untested iron deposits in the southern part of the Charlottes which led to minor production, and he discovered iron reserves on Vancouver Island that await development.

In addition, Mr. McDougall was involved in the discovery of a number of gold deposits, several large copper deposits including Catface and Sustut, the original zinc discovery in the Gataga area, the Windy-Craggy copper-gold-cobalt deposit in northwestern B.C., and numerous mineral deposits in Alaska, success that he attributes largely to company owned helicopters and seasonally employed northern bush pilots.

# THE TURNAGAIN



One of the best techniques for finding sulphide mineralization in ultramafic intrusives is the electromagnetic (EM) survey, which locates conductive bodies within the generally non-conductive intrusive. In September of 2004, Hard Creek Nickel Corp. conducted a 1700 line kilometer helicopter-borne magnetic and EM survey which successfully located numerous conductors within the intrusive body.

Almost all of the conductors remain to be drill-tested. Even in the Horsetrail Zone, most of the conductors remain untested. However, where existing drill holes do cross a conductor, we see some of our best nickel grades.

The cross-section at right is an example from the Horsetrail Zone. Coincident with the conductor is a sulphide-rich, nickel poor metasedimentary inclusion, surrounded by a halo of +0.5% nickel, within a further halo of 0.25 - 0.5% nickel in sulphides.

The EM map (above) shows conductors in black within the ultramafic intrusive. In the Highland Area there is a linear zone of multiple conductors along a strike length of approximately 1.6 km, plus several additional prominent conductors. Several of the conductors are coincident with nickel and/or platinum-palladium soil geochemical anomalies; see plan views at right.

In the Bench Zone, 2.5 km south of the Highland Area, there is a linear conductor along approximately 1.4 km of strike in an overburden covered area, plus several other prominent conductors, one of which is coincident with a strong platinum-palladium soil geochemical anomaly.

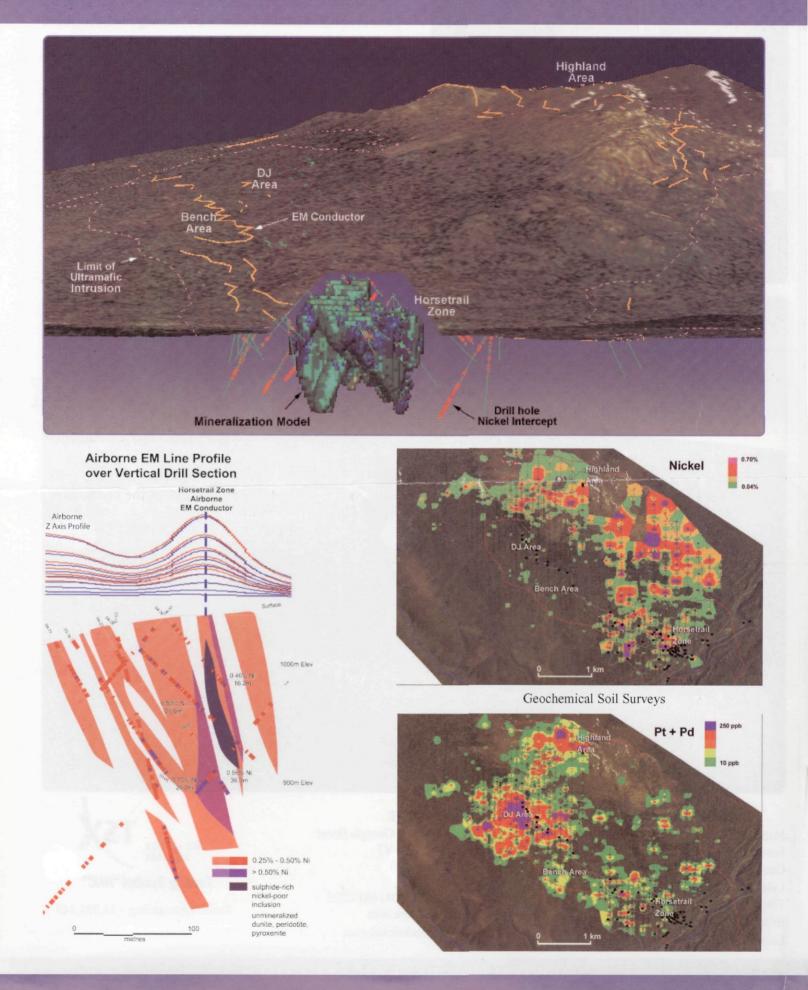
Between the Bench Area and Horsetrail Zone are several conductors that may provide an opportunity to extend the mineralized resource in the Horsetrail Zone towards the west. South and east of the Horsetrail Zone are a series of untested conductors in the Hatzl and Cliff Areas.

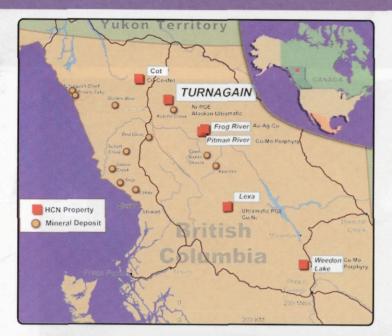
We hope to test most of the conductors on our property during the 2005 drilling campaign.

The presence of EM conductors does not guarantee the presence of economic sulphide mineralization. A conductor may be explained by, among other things, non-economic sulphide mineralization such as pyrrhotite or by graphite. Only drill core analysis can provide a definitive explanation for the anomaly.

Technical information in this brochure has been reviewed and approved by Neil Froc, P.Eng., Qualified Person.

# NICKEL PROJECT

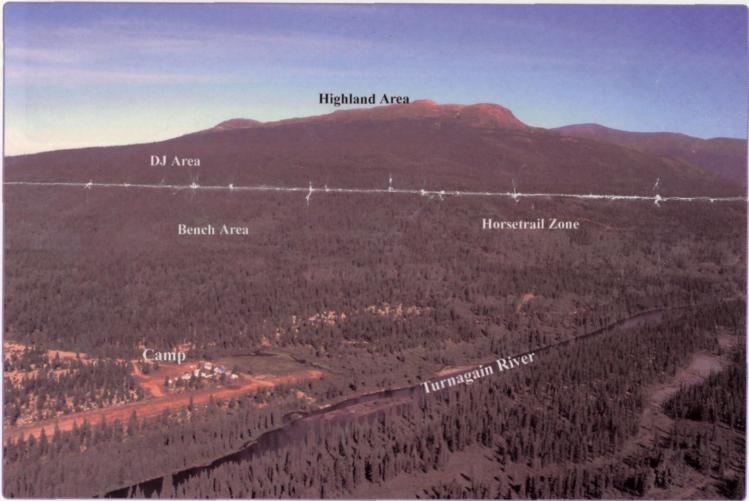




The Turnagain Nickel property is located 70 km east of Dease Lake in northern British Columbia. A mining road, accessible by 4 wheel drive vehicles in the summer months, connects the property to Dease Lake.

The property is in rolling foothills terrain, in a dry belt behind the Coast Range mountains to the west. An air strip suitable for small planes is located right next to camp.

Two drills were stored on the property during the winter, so it will be easy to ramp up the program once surface work is complete. Initial work will begin on the property in mid May with drilling expected to start at the end of June, 2005.



#### **DIRECTORS & OFFICERS**

Mark Jarvis, President - Director Frank Wright, BBA, B.Sc., P.Eng. - Director George Sookochoff, B. Comm. - Director Lyle Davis, MBA - Director Tony Hitchins - COO Brian Fiddler - CFO Leslie Young - Corporate Secretary

#### **HEAD OFFICE**

Suite 1060 -1090 West Georgia Street Vancouver, B.C. V6E 3V7 Phone - (604) 681-2300 Fax - (604) 681-2310 Investor Relations - (604) 681-2323 Email: info@hardcreek.com Web: www.hardcreeknickel.com



Shares Outstanding - 28,993,349

#### WWW.HARDCREEKNICKEL.COM

### June 12/06

"Some people say our Turnagain project is too large for such a small company. I say, that is exactly the problem I want to have."

Mark Jarvis, President, Hard Creek Nickel Corp.



January 2006



The 2005 field season at the Turnagain Project, comprising 7,143m of drilling in 37 holes, was successful on several fronts:

- We significantly expanded the potential resource area of the Horsetrail zone. An updated resource estimate is expected in the first quarter of 2006.
- We discovered a new zone of sulphide nickel mineralization with considerable upside in the Highland zone.
- We obtained some very encouraging platinum-palladium results in the DB-DJ area which has lead to a re-evaluation of the entire 1km by 1km platinum-palladium soil anomaly, as a large tonnage, open pit platinum-palladium target.

Tony Hitchins, C.O.O Hard Creek Nickel Corp.

In the Horsetrail area, we drilled 23 diamond drill holes designed to expand the resource to the west, northwest, northeast and south (see plan map below). Results were encouraging, with long, continuous intervals of sulphide nickel mineralization in most holes, highlighted by hole 05-106, which returned 0.30% nickel over 236m, starting at 3m depth, and including 53m of 0.46% nickel from 83 to 136m.

In the Highland area, hole 05-85 intersected a new zone of sulphide nickel mineralization in a low sulphur environment but with pentlandite as the dominant sulphide. The entire hole length of 140.2m averaged 0.26% nickel including 0.38% nickel over 17.5m. Metallurgical testwork showed concentration ratios > 90:1 to produce concentrate grades of 20% and 21.5% nickel from two composite core samples. There is at least 1 kilometer of strike length to this zone and follow-up drilling is planned in 2006.

Two holes were drilled to test the DB geophysical anomaly, located in the southwestern corner of an extensive platinumpalladium soil anomaly. Hole 05-88 intersected a 49.3m long interval averaging 0.96 g/t platinum plus palladium and platinum plus palladium and 0.14% copper. Within these broad intersections, individual assay samples, from 0.5m to



Large projects can be challenging, but if you can work through the challenges, the rewards are very large. So it's worth putting in the effort.

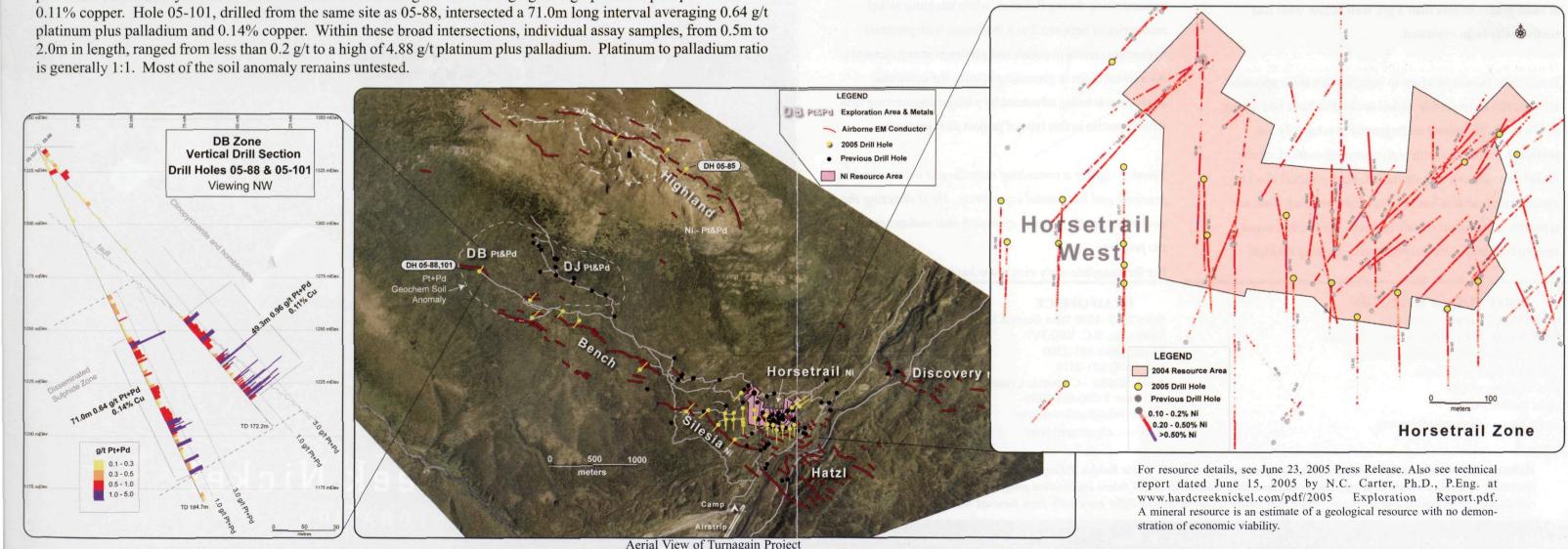
palladium.

Mark Jarvis, President & CEO Hard Creek Nickel Corp

Within this large intrusive we have identified areas where sulphur has mixed in with the magma to form sulphide minerals, which are easy to extract from the rock. Our target is a large tonnage, low grade, open pit mine where economies of scale drive the profitability.

In pursuit of this goal, we have engaged AMEC Americas Limited (AMEC), a leading mine engineering firm, to perform a Preliminary Economic Assessment (PEA) of the Turnagain project. The PEA will provide a base case scoping level engineering study of our resource which will include a financial sensitivity analysis using several different nickel price assumptions.

We have a lot of work to do before we know the ultimate size of the resource on the Turnagain property. In 2006, we plan to continue expansion drilling of the Horsetrail resource, follow up on our exploration success in the Highland zone and the DB zone and continue exploring several other prospective areas of the ultramafic intrusive.



The Turnagain Nickel project is an area about 32 km by 5 km – a large area for an exploration project. The core exploration area is an ultramafic intrusive - an ancient magma chamber - with a surface expression of 12.8 sq. kilometres. The entire intrusive was a source rock for nickel, cobalt, platinum and

### The Time has Come for Low Grade Sulfide Nickel



Frank Wright, BBA, B.Sc., P.Eng. (Metallurgy), Director Qualified Person under 43-101

Turnagain's nickel grades, low by traditional standards, show exciting potential if treated with newly developed process technology, and a bulk tonnage open pit mining approach. Modern mining and process methods have been changing the way large mining

companies and knowledgeable investors look at mineral properties. The trend began in the 1960's with copper projects going from smaller underground operations, often with grades exceeding 2% to larger low grade projects with grades that could be less than 0.5%. By the 1970's the bulk mining of other low grade metals was advancing, most notably gold using new hydrometallurgical techniques and at head grades of less than 3 g/t, well below what had traditionally been exploited.

It may now be nickel's turn to benefit from this approach. Historically most sulfide nickel ore bodies have had grades of 1% to 2% Ni, mined underground at relatively low production rates and with high operating costs. Laterite nickel deposits can be bulk mined, but the nickel can't be concentrated, so that both capital and operating costs are typically higher than sulfide projects. As a result major mining companies are not necessarily looking for high

#### **DIRECTORS & OFFICERS**

Mark Jarvis, President - Director Frank Wright, BBA, B.Sc., P.Eng. - Director George Sookochoff, B. Comm. - Director Lyle Davis, MBA - Director Tony Hitchins - COO Brian Fiddler - CFO Leslie Young - Corporate Secretary grades, but rather for large tonnage potential that can be shown to be economically attractive. An example is the Mt. Keith Mine owned by Western Mining in Australia, recently acquired by BHP Billiton, with open pit mining of sulfide nickel having grades of approximately 0.5% Ni.

At Turnagain, attention was focused on process studies at an early stage of project development, which is key to justifying advancing any low grade metal deposit. This work has been carried out by several well recognized, independent, mineral testing laboratories. The results for the targeted resource at Turnagain show a very encouraging response to standard froth flotation, as well as hydrometallurgical procedures for concentrate treatment. Most of Turnagain's mineral zones provide a high ratio of concentration during flotation, while attaining nickel recoveries of between 2 to 8 lbs/tonne, with potential byproduct credits in cobalt and platinum group elements. As a result of these promising results, the economic evaluation is being advanced by a major engineering firm with expertise in this type of project development.

Frank Wright is a consulting metallurgist with extensive precious and base metal experience. He is directing the development of a process approach that makes sense for the project.

For the complete story visit www.hardcreek.com

#### HEAD OFFICE

Suite 1060 -1090 West Georgia Street Vancouver, B.C. V6E 3V7 Phone: (604) 681-2300 Fax: (604) 681-2310 Randy Buhler - Corporate Communications: (604) 681-2323 Toll Free: 1-800-681-2399 Email: info@hardcreek.com Web: www.hardcreek.com

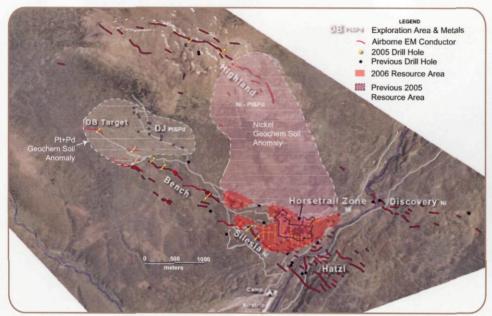
Technical information in this document was reviewed and approved by Chris Baldys, P.Eng., a Qualified Person. This document contains forward looking statements, including statements about future exploration programs, which are subject to risk factors, both known and unknown, which may cause actual results to differ materially from forecast results.

Hard Creek Nickel Corp.

www.ha<u>rdcreek.com</u>

# *"Moving Ahead... Expanding our Resource"*

# Turnagain Project 2006 Resource Update



Plan View of Turnagain Property and Nickel Resource Area

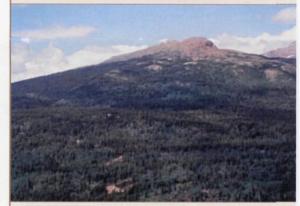


#### AT A GLANCE

100% owned by Hard Creek Nickel Area of Ultramafic: 12.8 sq.km (3,163 acres) Expenditures: \$9,485,000 Drill Holes: 163 Meters Drilled: 32,000 meters (105,000 ft.) Soil & Rock Samples: 5,800 Airborne Mag/EM: 1,700 line kms.



Geologists Mark Greenhalgh and Jeff Kyba on top of the Highland area.

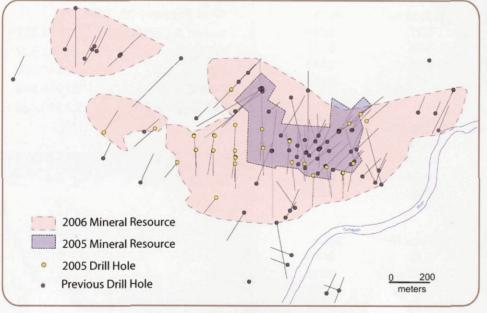


View of the Turnagain Property.



COO Tony Hitchins and Project Geologist Chris Baldys examining Turnagain exploration data.

**TSX.V - HNC** 



Horsetrail Zone 2006 Resource Area

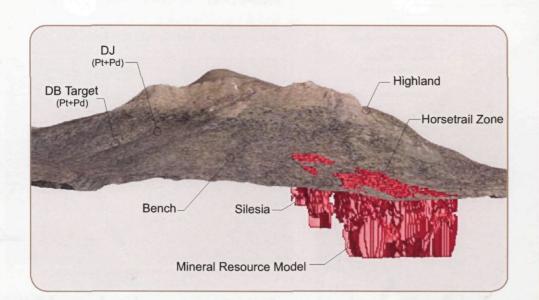
www.hardcreek.com

# *"Moving Ahead... Expanding our Resource"*

March 2006

#### Turnagain Project 2006 Resource Update

3D View of Turnagain Property and Mineral Resource Model

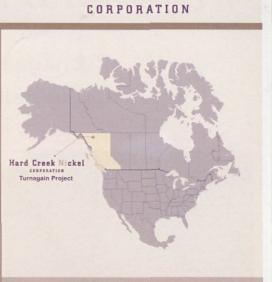


2006 Mineral Resource

Cut-off Grade				
0.15 % Sulfide Ni	Tonnes (000)	% Sulfide Ni	% Total Ni	% Co
Measured	22,181	0.23	0.27	0.016
Indicated	83,549	0.21	0.26	0.015
Measured + Indicated	105,731	0.21	0.26	0.015
Inferred	139,488	0.20	0.25	0.015
Cut-off Grade		(Base Case)		
0.20% Sulfide Ni	<b>Tonnes (000)</b>	% Sulfide Ni	% Total Ni	% Co
Measured	13,472	0.26	0.30	0.017
Indicated	36,442	0.25	0.30	0.017
Measured + Indicated	49,914	0.25	0.30	0.017
Inferred	57,233	0.25	0.28	0.016
Cut-off Grade				
0.25% Sulfide Ni	Tonnes (000)	% Sulfide Ni	% Total Ni	% Co
Measured	5,807	0.31	0.35	0.019
Indicated	14,415	0.30	0.34	0.018
Measured + Indicated	20,222	0.30	0.34	0.018
Inferred	21,606	0.29	0.32	0.017

A mineral resource is an estimate of a geological resource with no demonstration of economic viability. For resource details, see March 02, 2006 Press Release at www.hardcreek.com.

These mineral resource estimates were prepared pursuant to Canadian Institute of Mining (CIM) Standards on Mineral Resources and Reserves, prepared by the CIM Standing Committee on Reserve Definitions and adopted by the CIM Council August 20, 2000 and published in the CIM Bulletin of October 2000 and compliant with National Instrument 43-101 – Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Exploration and Development and Mining Properties. Numbers have been rounded subsequent to calculation. Technical information in this document has been reviewed and approved by Chris Baldys, P.Eng., a Qualified Person.



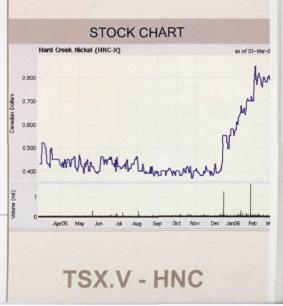
Hard Creek Nickel

OFFICE

Suite 1060 -1090 West Georgia Street Vancouver, B.C. V6E 3V7 Phone : (604) 681-2300 Fax: (604) 681-2310 Investor Relations: (604) 681-2323 Toll Free: 1-800-681-2399 Email: info@hardcreek.com Web: www.hardcreek.com TSX.V - HNC

#### SHARE CAPITAL

As of February 23, 2006				
Issued & Outstanding:	40,513,937			
Warrants:	6,952,607			
Options:	3,440,000			
Fully-Diluted:	50,906,544			
Working Capital:	\$2,560,026			





June 12/04

#### **Management & Consultants**

#### Mark Jarvis Chairman and President

Mr. Jarvis has considerable experience in the financing and operations of public companies, primarily in exploration and production of mining and oil and gas projects. After a career in financing exploration projects as a stockbroker, Mr. Jarvis moved to the corporate side of the business by joining the Board of Ultra Petroleum, at the time a small oil and gas exploration and development company, in 1996. As Director responsible for Corporate Finance, he raised the equity capital necessary for proof of concept and to establish enough production to leverage further growth through debt financing. Ultra Petroleum has grown through the drill bit from a market capitalization of U.S. \$10 million to its current capitalization of more than U.S. \$3 billion. Mr. Jarvis is also a former President of Gemini Energy Corp., another successful oil and gas company. Mr. Jarvis has held the position of CEO and President of Hard Creek Nickel Corporation since January 7th 2004. During his tenure he has taken control of management, reorganized the Board, raised Cdn. \$4.5 million in equity and significantly advanced the Company's Turnagain project by focusing the Company on best practice in exploration techniques.

#### Frank Wright, BBA, B.Sc., P.Eng. (Metallurgy) Director

Graduate University of Alberta, Edmonton Alberta, B.Sc. Metallurgical Engineering

Graduate Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC, Bachelor of Business Administration Mr. Wright is a consulting professional engineer with experience in project management, design and supervision of laboratory and pilot plant mineral testing programs, environmental assessment, process flow sheet development and economic evaluation. His background includes experience on precious and base metal projects worldwide, but focused in British Columbia. He has been involved with a variety of major studies for metallurgical programs, including pioneering work with bacterial leaching of minerals leading to patent filings. Mr. Wright has 20 years of process consulting experience serving junior and major mining firms that has included employment with Bacon Donaldson Associates Ltd. and Process Research Associates Ltd.

#### George Sookochoff, B. Comm. Director

A graduate of the University of British Columbia, Mr. Sookochoff is responsible for computer systems management providing Graphical Information Systems (GIS).

Mr. Sookochoff has been providing GIS and exploration data management services to mining companies since 1983.

#### Lyle Davis, MBA Director

Mr. Davis previously worked in the corporate finance practices of Ernst & Young, an accountancy, and in a similar capacity at C.M. Oliver, a brokerage firm. Before that, Mr. Davis was with the Vancouver Stock Exchange where he was responsible for trading operations during the transition from floor based to screen based trading, prior to which he was a senior member of the VSE's corporate finance division.

#### Tony Hitchins B.A.Sc., M.Sc. Chief Operating Officer

Mr. Hitchins completed his bachelors and masters degrees in engineering geology and economic geology at the University of Toronto. Subsequently Mr. Hitchins spent the next twenty years involved in various aspects of mineral exploration from field geologist to project manager. Exploration targets included volcanogenic massive sulphides, carbonate and sandstone hosted Pb-Zn-Ag, vein gold, intrusive hosted gold, base metal skarn, and tungsten-molybdenum porphyry deposits for the Amax group of companies.

Between 1994-1998, he was district exploration manager for Cyprus Gold in Western Australia. Since returning to Canada, Mr. Hitchins has worked with Vancouver based junior exploration companies.

Brian Fiddler, C.F.O.

Leslie Young, Corporate Secretary

Randy Buhler, Corporate Communications

#### **INDEPENDENT QUALIFIED PERSON**

#### Dr. Nicholas C. Carter, Ph.D., P.Eng. Independent Qualified Person

Dr. Carter has over 35 years experience as a geologist both within government and the private sector, in eastern and western Canada and in parts of the United States, Mexico and Latin America. Work has included detailed geological investigations of mineral districts; examination and reporting on a broad spectrum of mineral prospects and producing mines; supervision of mineral exploration projects; comprehensive mineral property evaluations and reserve calculations for mineral deposits. Dr. Carter is registered with the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists and British Columbia since 1966, and a Fellow of the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and is a director of the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada and a past President of the B.C. and Yukon Chamber of Mines.

#### **GEOLOGICAL CONSULTANTS**

#### Chris Baldys, P.Eng. (Mining Geology) Qualified Person, Geologist

Mr. Baldys has an engineering degree in mining geology from the University of Mining and Metallurgy in Cracow, Poland. He has been active as a geologist and a prospector in British Columbia, Alberta and the Yukon since 1984. His work career includes large exploration drilling projects for low grade, large tonnage gold deposits in Mexico, Central Asia and Slovakia. In recent years he has worked as a Consulting Geologist in Vancouver and Calgary.

#### **ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS**

James J. McDougall, M.Sc., P.Eng. Retired Western Exploration Manager Falconbridge Group of Companies Advisory Board

Mr. McDougall graduated with a Master of Science (M.Sc.) from the University of British Columbia and is a Professional Engineer (Geological).

He is a registered member of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of the Province of British Columbia, a Fellow of the Society of Economic Geologists, a member of the Geological Association of Canada, the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, the B.C. Yukon Chamber of Mines, the Northwest Mining Association, and the Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada.

Mr. McDougall has worked as a geologist for a total of 50 years including early fieldwork with the Geological Survey of Canada. Mr. McDougall served 30 years with Falconbridge Group of Companies, the latter portion as Western Exploration Manager. He has consulted extensively to the mining industry and supervised drill programs on numerous properties, a number of which attained production. Mr. McDougall was involved in the Turnagain project with Falconbridge in the 1960's and 1970's.

#### Bruce Downing, M.Sc., P.Geo. Advisory Board

Graduate of Queens University (B.Sc.) and University of Toronto (M.Sc.)

Mr. Downing's experience is centered on mineral exploration and environmental mining standards. He has published 16 papers concerning mining exploration, computing - developing three commercial programs for use in the exploration and mining industry, has extensive knowledge of environmental standards, policy issues and reclamation code.

Mr. Downing has consulted to Teck Corp, Newmont Exploration of Canada and Falconbridge Nickel Mines Limited.

#### John Schussler Prospector and Miner Advisory Board

Mr. Schussler started his prospecting and mining career in 1953 and founded DJ Drilling, which provides a full service contract diamond drilling operation. DJ Drilling Ltd. conducted exploration and drilling programs on the Turnagain property for Falconbridge Mines starting in 1968 and ending in 1972 when Falconbridge divested all B.C. holdings and withdrew from the provincial mining environment.

Mr. Schussler subsequently acquired and maintained the Turnagain property claims until entering into a property sales agreement with Canadian Metals Exploration Ltd. DJ Drilling has conducted all Turnagain exploration drilling for Hard Creek Nickel Corporation to the present day.