Mt. Sicker Group on Vancouver Island loaded with possibilities

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The Sicker Group volcanic/sedimentary belt on Vancouver Island, British Columbia, is the object of extensive exploration this year, including an estimated minimum 80,000 feet of drilling and about C$10 million in exploration expenditures on at least 20 separate properties.

The main focus is on polymetallic massive sulphide deposits; however, the Sicker Group is host to several different styles of mineralization, a number of which can demonstrate economic potential.

1) Volcanogenic massive sulphides
a. felsic - hosted: Westmin, Lara, Twin J, Debbie
b. mafic - hosted: Thistle, Raft (?)
c. distal facies: King Solomon
2) Oxide/sulphide iron formation: Chem, Lady, Ermilina
3) Skarns: King Solomon, Skarn
4) Tertiary (?) quartz veins: High Grade Vein, Havilah, Emma
5) Listwanite/structurally controlled Au: Yellow, Lizard, Raft, Heather
6) Platinum group metals: Kitkat

MPH Consulting has been involved to some degree in the discovery and exploration of all six types of Sicker-hosted mineralization.

Drilling programs planned for the 1986 season are located from one end of the belt to the other, which stretches for 80 miles from southeast of Duncan to north of Port Alberni.

Felsic-hosted massive sulphide deposits such as Westmin's H-W, located at Buttle Lake, 43 miles northwest of Port Alberni, and the old Twin J mine,located six miles northwest of Duncan, were the catalyst for interest in the Sicker Group.

To date, only one new discovery of such an occurrence has been publicly announced—Abermin Corp.'s Coronation zone on the Lara property. Average grades of 4.54% zinc, 0.12 ounces of gold per ton, 2.7 ounces of silver per ton, 0.79% copper, and 0.83% lead have been announced from 17 of the drill holes that have outlined the zone over a strike length of 4,920 feet, to depths averaging 492 feet, and over widths of up to about 16 feet. Trenching results of 0.717 ounces of gold per ton, 14.98 ounces of silver per ton, 43.01% zinc, 8.30% lead, and 3.04% copper over 11.5 feet announced August 13 were obtained on surface above the Coronation zone discovery hole.

In the northwestern half of the Sicker belt, felsic volcanics are rare. Here, several occurrences of mafic-hosted massive sulphide bodies have been located. The most important of these is on Nexus Resource Corp.'s Thistle property currently being explored by Westmin Exploration Ltd.

The Thistle mine produced 6,920 tons of ore grading 0.40 ounces of gold per ton, 0.31 ounces of silver per ton, and 4.92% copper from 1938 to 1942. Westmin has identified a package of basaltic flows within which 15 gold/copper showings occur over a strike length of 2.9 miles.

On the Reward Resources Ltd. King Solomon property, six miles south of Duncan, distal facies massive sulphides have been tentatively identified. The property has a history of exploration and mining dating back to 1886. Total recorded production is 993 tons grading 5.16% copper and 0.5 ounces of silver per ton. Diamond drilling carried out by MPH in early 1986 on the property located a massive sulphide horizon hosted by altered mafic tuffs and cherty tuffs that assayed up to 4.32% copper, 0.11% zinc, 0.52 ounces of silver per ton over 17.7 feet, including 3.4 feet of 14.2% copper and 1.52 ounces of silver per ton.

Possibly related to the volcanogenic massive sulphide mineralization are iron oxide/sulphide horizons such as that found on the International Cherokee/Vanwin Chem property, adjacent to the Lara property. A magnetite/ jasper/silica horizon with some massive magnetite/pyrite zones is hosted by a package of cherty tuffs and metasediments up to 3,280 feet thick. Values of up to 0.14 ounces of gold per ton, 2.6 ppm silver, 1.84% zinc, 1,011 ppm copper, 89 ppm bismuth, 51.5 ppm cadmium, and 2,308 ppm vanadium have been obtained from various parts of the mineralized section.

Skarn mineralization, produced as a result of Jurassic and/or Triassic plutonism, is known at several localities in the Sicker group, including the King Solomon and Skarn properties. Work carried out to date appears to indicate that skarns in the Sicker Group generally have little economic significance, although assays of up to 0.41 ounces of gold per ton over 3.3 feet as well as 8.3% copper over 19 feet have been obtained from skarn mineralization at the Comego property, north of Cowichan Lake. An important point to consider is that skarns may mask an earlier type of mineralization, as at King Solomon, where skarn mineralization is overprinted onto the pre-existing volcanogenic massive sulphide layer.

Numerous gold-bearing quartz veins, probably of Tertiary age, occur within Sicker Group rocks in the China Creek area, southeast of Port Alberni. Assays from the High Grade vein range up to 5.98 ounces of gold per ton, 3.74 ounces of silver per ton over six inches, while past production from the Yellow property (1896-1939) totals 483 tons grading 0.795 ounces of gold per ton, 0.11 ounces of silver per ton, and minor copper.

Listwanite zones, often spatially associated with gold quartz veins, occur in a nearly continuous belt for 21 miles at the northern end of the Sicker belt. These zones of intense carbonate (quartz) alteration appear to be structurally controlled and commonly contain anomalous gold, arsenic, and barium values.

For instance, at the Yellow property, values of up to 1,420 parts per billion gold over 96 feet have been obtained from a carbonate/pyrite/quartz-altered mylonite zone. On the nearby Lizard Lake property,

Continued on page 20

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Continued from page 16

of **Multinational Resources Inc.**, which has an option on the Baker mine mill, capable of 200 tons per day with modifications. The company carried out geochemical and geophysical work last year as well as trenching and diamond drilling. For 1986, Multinational is continuing to diamond drill known targets and open up new areas.

Vancouver-based Energex is in the midst of an aggressive and encouraging exploration program on its 70-square-mile property, where the company is currently expanding known reserves, discovering new zones, and has a pilot mill in operation.

The anticipated road to Serem's mine, to be built by Serem and the provincial government at a cost of C$8 million, will also be a stimulus for other companies by providing road access to the heart of the gold camp, which is fast developing into one of the hottest gold plays in British Columbia. ⚒

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Continued from page 17

professionals, including geologists, mining engineers and metallurgists.

In order for such teams to conduct a thorough and timely review, the documents could be broken into technical packages. Three levels of documentation could be prepared. The first level would provide a quick review of the project; the second level would provide a digested summary of all the pertinent technical and economic data; and the third level would provide the detailed support for the other levels of documentation. In this way, fair and reasonable property values commensurate with the technical risk can be established in the minds of potential financiers.

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31) Asitka Resource Corp.—(Omineca)
32) Au Res. Ltd.—(Alberni)
33) Auckland Explorations Ltd.—Aspen (Nelson), (Slocan)
34) Avino Mines and Res. Ltd.—Truax Gold (Lillooet)
35) Baha Res. Ltd.—Hyland River (Liard)
36) Bahama Res. Inc.—(Similkameen)
37) Banbury Gold Mines Ltd.—Pine Knot (Osoyoos/Similkameen)
38) Banqwest Res. Ltd.—Eagle's Nest (Lillooet), Tofino (Alberni), April (Greenwood)
39) Bart Res. Ltd.—(Cariboo), (Omineca)
40) Beau Pre Explorations Ltd.—Valentine Mtn. (Victoria), Frost Lake near Cowichan Lake
41) Bel-Air Res. Ltd.—Cuba (Slocan)
76) Canasil Res. Inc.—Swannell River, Brenda (Omineca)
77) Canbec Res. Inc.—Phoenix (Greenwood)
78) Can-Ex Res. Ltd.—American Boy (Omineca)
79) Candol Developments Ltd.—Payne (Kamloops), dolomite-limestone (Vancouver)
80) Candorado Mines Ltd.—Nickel Plate Mtn. (Osoyoos), Mustang (Cariboo)
81) Canova Res. Ltd.—Yellow Jacket (Atlin), (Osoyoos)
82) Caprock Energy Ltd.—Castle Mtn. (Omineca)
83) Cascadia Mines & Res. Ltd.—(Cariboo)
84) Cassiar Mining Corp.—Cassiar asbestos mine (Liard)

Amir rotary drilling program ends

ELK CITY, ID—**Amir Mines Ltd.** (AMM: VSE) has completed second-phase drilling of the North Buffalo Gulch zone on its Buffalo Gulch property two miles east of Elk City, Idaho.

With its joint venture partner, **Glamis Gold Ltd.**, Amir drilled 35 rotary holes totaling 6,500 feet on 200-foot centers. Reserves to date total 5.0 million tons grading 0.031 ounces of gold per ton, within which is a higher grade zone of 2.8 million tons grading 0.036 ounces of gold per ton.

Ian D. Johnson, vice president of Amir, says an excellent potential exists for outlining an additional 2.0 million tons of similar grade leachable material.

Based on these results, Glamis has begun 10,000 feet of development drilling. The entire north Oxide zone will be drilled to 100-foot centers, while the southwest corner will be drilled to 25-foot centers in preparation for a bulk leach test.

In addition, Glamis has initiated column leach tests on 500-pound samples of Buffalo Gulch ore at its Picacho mine site in Southern California.

As reported elsewhere in this issue, Amir and its joint venture partners, **Normine Resources Ltd.** and Glamis, have completed drilling the Friday property group and has begun development drilling in preparation for a bulk leach test.

Geochemical sampling and geological mapping has further defined three additional large anomalous zones over the 17-mile Idaho belt. The South Buffalo Gulch zone has been defined over an area 800 feet by 1,300 feet. Samples range to a high of 0.035 ounces of gold per ton. The zone is an attractive target for reserves of up to 10 million tons.

Mt. Sicker Group

Continued from page 19

values of up to 0.026 ounces of gold per ton and 0.073 ounces of silver per ton over 18.1 feet have been obtained from 1985 drilling of a similar zone.

The occurrence of platinum group metals (PGM) on the Kitkat property was discovered by MPH workers in 1985. The PGM and associated copper, nickel, gold, chromium, and cobalt occur in fractured Sicker Group mafic volcanics marginal to gabbroic intrusions of the West Coast complex. Values of up to 0.155 ounces of palladium per ton and 0.048 ounces of platinum per ton, along with 6,702 ppm copper and 2,012 ppm nickel, were returned from surface sampling. Minor platinum and palladium values as well as up to 0.104 ounces of gold per ton, 1.12% copper, and 1,140 ppm cobalt have also been obtained in an area 2.1 to 2.5 miles northeast of the main PGM showing.

We believe that due to deposit type and project locations, this belt holds the greatest promise for new mine development in British Columbia at this time.

118) Desperado Res. Inc.—SAL 1 (Kamloops), (Slocan)
119) Dia Met Minerals Ltd.—(Fort Steele), (Golden)
120) Diamond Res. Inc.—(New Westminster), (Skeena)
121) Dickenson Mines Ltd.—Silvana mine (Slocan)
122) Discovery Gold Explorations Ltd.—Lost Canyon (Alberni)
123) DK Platinum Corp.—(Similkameen)
124) Dolly Varden Minerals Ltd.—(Skeena)
125) Dome Exploration (Canada) Ltd.—QR, Bullion Lode (Cariboo)
126) Dragoon Res. Ltd.—(Slocan)
127) Duke Minerals Ltd.—(Omineca), (Liard)
128) Dusty Mac Mines Ltd.—Dusty Mac (Osoyoos)
129) E5 Res. Corp.—Cup (Liard)
130) Eden Res. Ltd.—Yellow Giant (Skeena)
131) E.L.E. Energy Inc.—Indian 1&2 (Omineca)
132) Elite Resource Corp.—Swannell River (Omineca)
133) El Paraiso Res. Ltd.—(Cariboo), (Kamloops)
134) Energex Minerals Ltd.—Al, Moose (Omineca), (Osoyoos)
135) Epic Res. (B.C.) Ltd.—(Slocan)
136) Equinox Res. Ltd.—Pinchi, Axelgold (Omineca); Nimp (Nanaimo)
137) Equity Silver Mines Ltd.—Equity mine (Omineca)
138) Esperanza Explorations Ltd.—Wisconsin (Nelson), Tillicum Mtn. (Slocan)
139) Esso Res. Canada Ltd.—Indian (Skeena), Taylor Windfall (Clinton), (Revelstoke)
140) Eureka Res. Ltd.—Frasergold, Don (Cariboo)
141) Everest Res. Ltd.—April (Alberni), Poison Creek (Kamloops)
142) Ewing Oil Corp.—Firebrand (Slocan), (New Westminster)
143) EZ Ventures Ltd.—(Atlin), (Victoria)
144) Falconbridge Ltd.—Valentine Mtn. (Victoria), Salmo (Nelson), Ikeda (Skeena), Alexandria (Vancouver), (Greenwood)
145) Faraway Gold Mines Ltd.—Sam (Omineca)
146) First Allied Res. Corp.—Black II (Liard)
147) Fleck Res. Ltd.—Hedley (Osoyoos), (Similkameen), (Kamloops), (Omineca), (Clinton), (Vancouver)
148) FM Res. Ltd.—(Nelson), (Cariboo), (Revelstoke)
149) Foremost Energy Corp.—(Slocan), (New Westminster)
150) Fox Res. Ltd.—Hedley (Similkameen)
151) Franklin Res. Ltd.—Yuill Towser (Revelstoke)
152) Freemont Gold Corp.—Dome Mtn. (Omineca)
153) Freeport Res. Inc.—Tsirku Jarvis (Atlin)
154) Frontend Res. Ltd.—(Cariboo), (Fort Steele)
155) Gabriel Res. Inc.—Ahbau/Yellow Lake (Cariboo)
156) Gallant Gold Mines Ltd.—Georgia (Trail Creek), Perry Creek (Fort Steele)
191) Gulf International Minerals Ltd.—Waratah (Liard), (Fort Steele)
192) Gunsteel Res. Inc.—Jerro (Trail) Gonzo (Cariboo), Allco (Revelstoke), (Omineca)
193) Hallmac Mines Ltd.—mine (Sloc
194) Hallmark Res. Ltd.—Cronin (Omi
195) Hambro Res. Inc.—(Nicola)
196) Happy Res. Ltd.—April I (Liard)
197) Hardy International Developmen Inc.—(Kamloops), (Omineca)
198) Harlin Res. Ltd.—Bonanza (Lillo
199) Harwin Exploration & Developm Inc.—ORA (Lillooet)
200) Hawk Res. Inc.—(Fort Steele), H (Similkameen)
201) Heaston Res. Ltd.—Rock I (Greenwood)
202) Hemlo Explorations Ltd.—(Liard
203) High Level Res. Ltd.—(Kamloop
204) Highmark Res. Ltd.—Mam (Osc
205) High Reserve Res. Ltd.—Lisa (Kamloops)
206) Hillside Energy Corp.—Easy (N Westminster), Eve, Thale, Ave [illegible]looet Texada Island (Nanaimo)
207) Hollycroft Resource Corp.—Mc (Alberni)
208) Homestake Mineral Developm Co.—various
209) Homestead Res. Inc.—Grand L (Nelson), (Alberni)
210) Hoyle Res. Inc.—(Lillooet)
211) Hudson Bay Exploration & Development—Truck, Paymaster (Lill Hanna Gold (Kamloops/New Westmi
212) Huntington Res. Inc.—Brett (V (Liard)
213) Hycroft Res. & Development C C.P.W., Peso (Cariboo); (Skeena); (Ne Westminster)
214) Imperial Metal Corp.—Cunnin Creek (Cariboo), Haslam on Vancouv Silver Pond (Liard), (Lillooet), (Omine
215) Indian River Res. Inc.—Banks (Skeena), (Osoyoos)
216) Interaction Res. Ltd.—(Kamlo
217) Inter-Globe Res. Ltd.—Yellow (Skeena)
218) Int'l Curator Res. Ltd—[illegible]gass Weaver, Seneca (New Wes[illegible]ster)
219) Int'l Damascus Res. Ltd.—OX (Omineca)
220) Int'l Flyer Res. Ltd.—J.R. 2 (Sl
221) Int'l Focus Res. Inc.—Ni Ban (Greenwood)
222) Int'l Maggie Mines Ltd.—Indi (Vancouver)
223) Int'l Maddo Ltd.—(Kamloops)
224) Int'l Prism Exploration Ltd.—(Skeena), (Osoyoos))
225) Int'l Rhodes Res. Ltd.—(Omi
226) Int'l Royalon Minerals Inc.—I Lynn (Alberni), (Cariboo)
227) Int'l Santana Res. Inc.—Lake (Omineca)
228) Int'l Standard Res. Ltd.—Riv (Revelstoke)
229) Int'l Tillex Enterprises Ltd.—(Greenwood)