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\*Snip mine produced 123,589 ounces of gold from 155,179 tonnes of ore in 1996. This represents a grade of 0.86 oz/t. Production cost was U.S. \$190 per ounce, up 8% from 1995 due to the switch from mechanized to conventional mining.

\*Eskay Creek produced 211,276 oz of gold and 12,054,161 oz of silver from 105,000 tonnes of ore direct shipped in 1996. Production cost was U.S. \$170 per ounce, 8% less than in 1995.

#### EXPLORATION ACTIVITY

\*Initial drill results (24 holes) from Polaris Taku are encouraging and 3000 m has been drilled on the Polaris level by Feb 20 following a Christmas break. The Polaris level is being rehabilitated and de-watering of lower levels is in progress. Down holes targeting the 150 level are said to be encountering excellent results.

\*Kenrich Mining Corp. proposes to do an airborne magnetic and electromagnetic survey over the eastern half of the Corey property.

\*Energex Minerals plans to reassess the Yellow Giant gold prospect on Banks Island, once it is re-listed and acquires the minority interests of Trader Resources (controlled by Royal Oak Mines) and Falconbridge. Southern continuation of the gold-bearing regional shear zone on Banks Island has been acquired by Firesteel Resources.

\*Todd Creek gold-copper prospect has been optioned by Island Arc Resources, Geofine will do the work.

\*Porcher Island drilling resumed after a mid-winter break, 3000 ft to be completed. The aim is to confirm potential for additional reserves outside the AT zone. Drill targets are derived from VLF and magnetic surveys. Fall 1996 drilling (13 holes) on the 60/70, AT West and Slope zones yielded about three ore intercepts.

\*Super Twins Resources Ltd. (Isk Wollastonite project) has changed its name to Whitegold Resources Corp.

\*Generally little claim staking in January, most notable exception is the Babine camp where contract staking is suspected to have acquired selected areas that lapsed one year after the November-December 1995 staking rush.

#### OFFICE ACTIVITIES

\*Muheim school, Grade V-VI class visit MEI office on Feb 12 for lesson on mineral exploration and mining, and benefits thereof.

PW, MR Feb. 1977

Yellow  
Giant