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**Schroeter, Tom EM:EX**

**From:** Houle, Jacques EM:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, May 11, 2001 1:15 PM  
**To:** Hall, Ted EM:EX  
**Cc:** Carriere, Greg EM:EX; Jakobsen, Dorthe EM:EX; Randall, Alf EM:EX; Reid, Bruce EM:EX; Taje, Eddy EM:EX; Wishlow, Wayne EM:EX; Smyth, Ron EM:EX; Lefebure, Dave EM:EX; Brown, Derek EM:EX; Massey, Nick EM:EX; McArthur, Gib EM:EX; Pinsent, Robert EM:EX; Cathro, Mike EM:EX; Lane, Bob EM:EX; Wilton, Paul EM:EX; Wojdak, Paul EM:EX; Schroeter, Tom EM:EX  
**Subject:** Houle Weekly Report for May 4-10, 2001  
**Sensitivity:** Confidential

**Prospectors Assistance Program:**

- **2001 Grant Allocation Update:** All 22 (20 entirely in S.W. plus 2 shared with other regions) grant applications were evaluated, copied and the originals delivered to Victoria; Grants allocations and other issues were confirmed in a conference call today with other Regional Geologists and the Victoria management team, consisting of Dave Lefebure, Garry Payie and Janet Holland; 11 grants will be issued for the S.W. Region, consisting of 5, full grants and 6, 3/4 grants; geographic distribution of grants consists of 7 for the mainland portion of the region, and 4 for the Vancouver Island portion; official notification to grantees and applicants will occur after compilation of a master list by Victoria to be completed May 16.

**Mineral Exploration Activity:**

- **Cogburn Harrison Lake Area Cu-Ni-PGE Property Update:** Recently it was announced that Leader International Mining Inc. has optioned the Cogburn Property from John Chapman and KGE Management Ltd for \$345,000 cash and \$1.5 million in exploration work over 5 years, plus issuing staged warrants and a 3% NSR to the vendors; work planned consists of geophysics and possible drilling, to commence in June, 2001; the Cogburn Property hosts the NI prospect (MINFILE 092HSW081 alias OX, COG, COGBURN); this option should bode well for both other prospectors and planned Geological Survey Branch projects in the Harrison Lake area near the former producing Giant Mascot property.
- **Polaris Minerals Corporation Bella Coola Area Rock Quarry and Gravel Properties Update:** Notices of work received for helicopter-supported, preliminary drilling programs on two separate properties in the Bella Coola area by Polaris Minerals Corp. to start in May, 2001 as follows:
  - **Bella Co Property:** 12 short diamond drillholes totaling 2070 meters to test a rock quarry site near Bella Coola harbour
  - **Noosatsum Property:** 7 short percussion holes totaling 420 meters plus a 2500 meter seismic refraction survey to test a gravel site along the Nusatsum River valley, located 20 km. east of Bella Coola
- **Northern Texada Island Area Update:** Contact received from prospector Robert Duker of Vananda that 555 Corporate Ventures may be returning optioned claims, including the Bolivar Mill Site, to vendors in the near future; issues to be considered include: permit and bond status for the millsite, litigation with Blubber Bay Mine owners, northern Texada Island geological compilation and promotion of the region for its Au-Cu porphyry/skam potential (Sillitoe's pressure cooker-type?)
- **Mctush Port Alberni Area Property Update:** SYMC President Herb McMaster indicated that his company is raising \$140,000 in a private placement, to be followed by an \$800,000 public offering to fund future work on the Mctush Property; diamond drill core from the late 2000 program has now been logged by consultant Bob Davey, and samples are to be sent for analyses shortly?; it is hoped that the public offering requirements will necessitate a proper compilation and documentation of exploration targets on the property, which in itself is a major and very important threshold for SYMC to meet; a copy of said compilation was requested, upon its completion.

**Other Clients:**

- **Rhodonite Inquiry:** A local student inquired about the status of Rhodonite production and exploration in B.C., which provided another opportunity to promote the ministry's website among potential younger users; unfortunately, data on Rhodonite is quite sparse in spite of its common use for jewellery; several historic and hobby sources occur in the Lake Cowichan area of Southern Vancouver Island.

**Ministry Projects:**

- **Mines Branch Budget Status:** In spite of reduced budget in the local branch this fiscal, support has been received for providing selective geochemical analyses of rock samples for clients, and purchasing a digital camera to replace the broken film camera previously used; these items will assist in providing improved services to clients and superior