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WESTPINE METALS LTD. (WM-V)

TASEKO DRILLING TO START - Willis Osbourne, vice president, Westpine Metals Ltd., has reported the start of the 1990 exploration program on the Taseko copper-gold-molybdenum property, located 140 miles north of Vancouver, B.C.

Westpine recently granted ASARCO Exploration Company an option to earn a 60% interest in the property by completing \$3,650,000 of exploration work and by making payments of \$340,000 to Westpine over four years. The 1990 budget is a minimum \$300,000 and will include 5,000 feet of diamond drilling.

The program's main objective will be to extend the 76 and North Zones within the Empress Showing. The North Zone has been traced for 800 feet and one drill hole in 1976 intersected 180 feet of 1.20% copper and 0.055 oz./ton gold. The best 1989 drill hole in this zone, W89-2, intersected 300 feet of 0.38% copper and 0.013 oz./ton gold. Numerous high grade fragments of float have been found within the Empress Zone. The highest assay from these fragments was 7.05% copper and 0.302 oz./ton gold. It is suspected these fragments are from an untested portion of the 76 Zone, to be drilled.

A clear picture of the North Zone has not yet emerged although potential for a large tonnage, low grade zone exists. A 1976 hole cut 512 feet of 0.32% copper. Two of the better 1989 holes cut W89-8, which 342 feet of 0.35% copper and 0.012 oz./ton gold, and W89-12 which intersected 227 feet of 0.57% copper and 0.014 oz./ton gold. The zone is open and will be tested.

The Taseko property include a very large zone of intense alteration, the presence of alkalic intrusive rock, the association of copper-gold zones and magnetite, and wide distribution of mineralization. The objective of the 1990 exploration program is to significantly extend the known mineralized zone.

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