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George Cross News Letter

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WESTPINE METALS LTD. [WM-V] 7,507,370 SHS.

SAPPHIRES FOUND AT TASEKO PROJECT - Willis W. Osborne, president, Westpine

Metals Ltd., reports the start of a field program on the Taseko property, located 48 km northwest of Goldbridge, BC, to study the occurrence of sapphires on the property. The program will consist of collecting samples and prospecting to determine the extent of occurrence of sapphires.

The samples collected in 1996 and 1997 will be used to determine the potential of corundum or sapphire as a potential gem material. The program will be carried out with the cooperation of personnel from the Energy and Minerals Division of the BC Ministry of Employment and Investment.

The largest sapphire crystal found to date on the property is 20 mm long and 3 mm wide. In the past, the Taseko property has been explored for its copper-gold-molybdenum potential. The property covers the Empress Zone which hosts a mineral resource of 11,078,000 tons grading 0.61% copper, and 0.023 oz.gold/ton and is thought to overlie a large copper-gold porphyry system. (SEE GCNL NO.118, 19Jun97, P.5 FOR GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY PROJECT INFORMATION)

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