

LAND USE

* **ADM Land Use (Derek Thompson)** and Warren Mitchell explained the new bureaucracy to Northwest IAMC on Feb. 4. Kitlope and other issues were discussed but I had other commitments and could not attend (see MLMalott report).

* **IAMC meeting on February 15**, key agenda items were Mt. Edziza R.A., Kitlope, LRMP priority, budget and two year plan for PAS. Warren Mitchell's presence at the meeting was a bucket of cold water on EMPR priorities. **Mt. Edziza TOR** was not approved and study team is not formalized. In regard to lifting IMG's on **Bear Pass**, Mitchell stated there is no established procedure to declassify or modify study areas, so there will be no progress on this important issue either. The **Kitlope** process is bogged down, it looks more like a land ownership issue than a Protected Area study. The next LRMP priority is the **Queen Charlotte Islands** (Kispiox, Bulkley, Kalum and Lakes are in progress) but planning funds would have to come from the Vancouver Forest Region budget. IAMC has planned a retreat for March 4th in response to Mitchell's comments to establish:

- a process for dealing with study areas
- a business plan
- PAS strategy

* **Mineral potential of the Babine Mountain R.A.** was discussed at IAMC. This resulted in a followup meeting of IAMC with two representatives of the Smithers Community Resource Board. The board is to consider re-opening the Recreation Area boundary to public review.

EXPLORATION AND MINESITE ACTIVITY

CASSIAR
 * **B.C. Chrysotile** will reactivate the Cassiar asbestos site now that a letter of understanding has been signed with the Provincial Receiver. Cliff Resources, part of the B.C. Chrysotile consortium, has patented wet process technology to recover asbestos from tailings.

* During underground development of the West Bain gold vein at **Table Mountain**, Cusac Industries discovered a high-grade fault displaced continuation of the vein. Gold grade determined from underground sampling of the vein is 1.3 opt Au vs 0.687 opt determined from drill core. Stope development continues.

* **Junior companies** are actively staking and making property deals in the Red Mountain area.

RED MOUNTAIN
 * **Attended Lac Minerals' Red Mountain** update presentation to Northwest MDRC on Feb 8. Mill and tailings options continue to be evaluated by Lac, the latest is an underground mill on site with tailings disposal in Kitsault Lake, 20 km to the south across the Cambria Icefield. Road access to Goldslide cirque is not being considered as was incorrectly reported last month.

* **Golden Bear** decline to the Grizzly zone is progressing very slowly. Drilling in the Kodiak zone has been going well.