

EXPLORATION IN HIGH GEAR AT GOLDSTREAM MINE

By Chris Wild, P. Eng., Chief Geologist

1994 has been a busy year for those involved in running the Goldstream Mine. Goldstream, now in its fourth year of full production, is operated by Bethlehem Resources Corp. with partner Goldnev Resources Inc., both of Vancouver. The underground high grade copper-zinc mine is located in the heart of the northern Selkirk Mountains, 80 kilometres north of Revelstoke.

With the rebound in copper prices and the continuing weak Canadian dollar, the mine has finally emerged from tough times with a lean and efficient operation. Ore production at Goldstream, under the joint venture, has averaged over 1,100 tonnes per day, for a total of almost 1.35 million tonnes grading 4.2% copper and 3.0% zinc.

The Goldstream deposit is characterized as a Besshi-type volcanogenic massive sulphide. Ore consists of massive and strongly disseminated sulphides, principally pyrrhotite, chalcopyrite and sphalerite, hosted in calcareous, sericitic and chloritic phyllites.

The orebody is ruler shaped, striking east-west with a 35° north dip, and a pronounced northeast rake. The strike

width varies between 330 and 150 metres, averaging approximately 180 metres. Ore thicknesses range between 1 and 6 metres, averaging around 2 metres. From the top of the open pit to the deepest ore intersected with diamond drilling, the total length of the deposit is approximately 2 kilometres, and remains open to depth.

Deep ore reserves have been difficult to estimate. Because of the orientation of the orebody, the length of drill holes from the surface increases dramatically as drilling steps down plunge. Furthermore, the high cost of developing an exploration drift in the hanging wall of the orebody prevents staging diamond drilling from underground.

Most Besshi deposits occur in groups of several orebodies, often as satellites to larger deposits. With this in mind, Bethlehem has embarked on a three pronged exploration strategy. The initial stage consists of deeper drilling on the existing orebody to better define and expand ore reserves. To this point in 1994, 6 diamond-drill holes have been put into the orebody, the deepest over 2200 feet long. Results from these drill holes will allow us to project reserves down to sea level, over 900 metres in elevation below the top of the orebody. Once drilling is completed, a new ore reserve will be calculated.

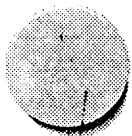
The second part of the strategy involves areas immediately adjacent to the mine. Because much of the prospective geology lies in the Goldstream valley bottom, target selection relies heavily on geological interpretations. One area, the C-1 Zone, west of the mine, is the focus of much of this year's exploration effort. Drilling is slated to begin shortly on a series of geochemical and geophysical targets. Previous drilling in 1991 encountered intervals of lead-zinc mineralization near the mine horizon.

Peripheral properties, (including the Brew and the Rain properties), are being actively explored with detailed geological mapping and prospecting.

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Both claims cover geology and host mineralization very similar to that found at Goldstream. Diamond drilling is planned for the best targets in the near future.

Hope remains high that another orebody will be located in the Goldstream area, to allow mining operations to continue into the next century. ■

GOLD: A NUGGET OF INFORMATION

(from: the Canadian Mining Journal,
August 4, 1994 edition)

The Snip gold mine in northwestern B.C. produced 149,475 oz of Au in 1993 at a cost of \$152/oz.

Two gold producers, American Barrick and Placer Dome were the most profitable mining companies in Canada in 1993 with profits of \$213 and \$107 million U.S. respectively. ■

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The Mother lode Oct. '94

RENEWAL OF E.M.P.R. REQUIRED CERTIFICATES

By E.J. (Ted) Nunn, P. Eng.

There has been some confusion amongst members of the Chamber of Mines over the Mines Act, and its accompanying Health, Safety and Reclamation Code for Mines in British Columbia in regard to changes to certification requirements. Some certificates that were once valid for life will now be required to be renewed by June 1995.

This change is intended to reflect what is happening in mining and is designed for continued review and updating in order to maintain pace with industry and associated impacts on health and safety.

The following summarizes the certificate requirements:

SHIFT BOSS CERTIFICATES

These must now be renewed every 5 years. Any certificate that existed prior to July 1990 will expire in June 1995. To maintain the Shift Boss certificate it is necessary to maintain current First Aid and Mine Rescue certificates.

SUPERVISOR CERTIFICATE

This is a new qualification for persons who do not need a Shift Boss qualification, but directly supervise workers (Code 1.12.5). This person is required to have a First Aid certificate when required by the District Inspector, which is currently the case in the Kootenays. The certificate is valid for 5 years.

BLASTING CERTIFICATE

Currently these certificates are still issued for life. There are several

classes of certificate applicable to different disciplines as follows:

- Surface Mine Blasting
- Underground Mine Blasting
- Underground Coal Mine Blasting (Fireboss)
- Electrical Blasting
- Avalanche Blasting

MINE RESCUE

Mine Rescue certificates have been issued with an expiry date for some time, but any undated ones will be deemed to expire in June 1995. If renewed before expiry then a one day (8 hour) course is required. If expired then the candidate will have to take the full four day (28 hour) course.

FIRST AID

E.M.P.R. no longer provides education in First Aid, instead relying upon the professional standards of St. John's Ambulance, the Workers Compensation Board (W.C.B.) and the Red Cross W.C.B. First Aid Requirements have just been changed, and this may impact on members. ■

ANNOUNCEMENT: MINE RESCUE COURSE

A four day Mine Rescue course is scheduled to be held at the Chamber of Mines of Eastern B.C. in Nelson during the day-time hours from 7 November to 10 November.

The course will allow participants to receive certification in both underground and open pit rescue. An updated Mine Rescue certificate is a requirement for a valid Shift Boss certificate. Those members having a Mine Rescue certificate which expires before June 1995 should consider attending this course.

To register, please contact the Chamber of Mines as soon as possible since the course is limited to eight participants. There is no cost for the course but the textbook "BC Mine Rescue Manual" must be purchased from Crown Publications. ■



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YELLOW DOT PROGRAMME

by J. Murray, P. Geo.

To help increase awareness of the importance of resource industries which produce our wealth the forest and mining industries are starting a "YELLOW DOT CAMPAIGN". The idea is to stick yellow dots, (made available by the MABC), to all the bills in your wallets/purses (as the case may be!). The dots are cheap - 100,000 will cost \$500 - and the Chamber Board fully endorses the campaign and will try to get some for distribution in the Kootenays. Let's let people know where their money comes from! ■

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

Articles for and by the membership and members' advertising are part of this newsletter! Copy deadline for the November edition will be Oct. 21st for publication Oct. 28th. Copy should not exceed 500 words except by arrangement. Copy may be edited. Late copy will be processed for the following month. 5.25" disks with MSWorks, MSWord, WP, MS RTF or IBM DCA files may be submitted instead of hard copy.

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