

VBS → Willa
889529

Orphan Boy Resources Inc.

410 – 325 Howe Street, Vancouver, B.C., Canada, V6C 1Z7
tel: 604.687.3520, fax: 604.688.3392, E-mail: orphanres@telus.net

November 28, 2002

To: File

From: D. Makepeace

RE: Dowa Visit Summary to the Willa Deposit November 26-27, 2002

The purposes of the visit were to:

- Show the Dowa representative (Mr. Toshiaki Suyama) the deposit
- Show the Procon representative (Mr. Ernst Binder) the underground workings
- Take underground chip samples of ore at approximately the same location as the Treminco/Northair check sample locations as a further check on the sample grades
- GPS survey strategic points so that a conversion factor can be applied from mine grid coordinates to UTM NAD 83 coordinates
- Identify a possible location for a settling pond for the mine water discharge.
- Identify a possible low angle-grade mine haulage road.

The team (Mr. Toshiaki Suyama, Mr. Ernst Binder, Mr. Steve Phillips and Mr. Dave Makepeace) went underground upon arrival (November 26, 2002). Conditions of the 1025 Level are as follows:

- Good air was encountered and tested to the very back of the level and in all X-Cuts.
- There were no surface buildings at the 1025 portal. The portal has a missing (broken?) timber that allows entry into the 1025 Level. There is no door and hence no lock on the portal which could be a liability issue.
- The Level 1025 is nominally 3.1 m wide and 3.5 to 4 meters high.
- Minor slough from ribs and back were encountered along the main drift. The largest was a low angle gouge zone (Willa Shear Zone) approximately 50 meters northwest of the 1013 Decline/1000 X-Cut junction
- Types of ground control were observed throughout the level (rockbolts, rock-bolted strapping, rock-bolted wood blocks, rock-bolted mesh and wooden sets). Very little ground pressure was seen bearing on any of these types of control.
- All drainage ditches on the level were filled.
- Water was flowing at approximately 100 liter/min.
- 60-pound rail was in-place up to the 1000 X-Cut.
- There was little fungal growth on walls or wood except powder boxes

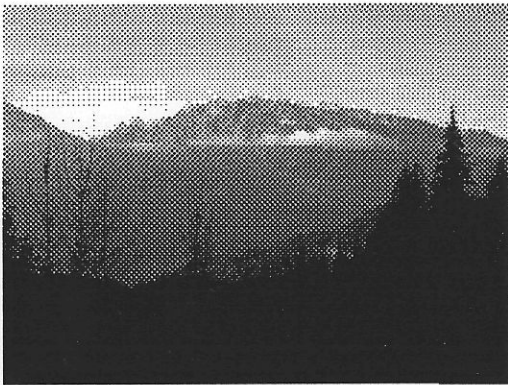
- No water pipes, air pipes or air ducting was installed on this level.
- All workings below Level 1025 are flooded
- The 1100 Raise was open with ladders. There was no attempt to climb to the Level 1100

Eight two meter chip samples were collected at approximately the same location as the Tremenco/Northair check samples. The 1100 portal was explored from surface only. This portal will need to be repaired to insure ventilation and an alternate escapeway during production. The bridge leading to the portal needs to be repaired (replaced?). There are no surface buildings at the 1100 portal. A woodcutter was falling trees for firewood below the 1100 portal.

November 27 Mr. Toshiaki Suyama and Mr. Dave Makepeace examined the surface showings and other workings. GPS readings were taken at all portal entrances. The following was observed:

- The main Willa Road is been eroded at the Little Daisy Creek crossing preventing vehicle access beyond this point (1/2 day excavator work to re-open).
- The majority of the road above the Little Daisy Creek is clear of debris.
- The main Willa Road is badly washed out at Aylwin Creek and would require several days excavator work to rehabilitate (bridge?).
- The Willa No. 2 portal is accessible and open for its entire 5 meter length.
- The Willa No. 1 Portal is almost completely caved.
- The Kirkland portal is completely caved but portal timbers are visible.
- The Little Daisy portal is almost completely caved but some of the adit is accessible from going over the cave.
- The Little Daisy road ends at Little Daisy Creek. There are several steep sections and rock cliffs to the north of the creek which would make extending the road expensive and time consuming (possible route to explore the Tungsten/Copper/Gold soil anomalies).
- A low level road that cuts off the main Willa Road near its junction with Red Mountain Road is passable and there is a large area near Aylwin Creek that could be used to construct a mine-water settling pond.
- The junction of the main Willa Road and Red Mountain Road could be moved 125 meters to the northeast to take advantage of the wider contours and better visibility on Red Mountain Road.
- Office facilities could be based near the Red Mountain Road junction (direct access to telephone and power lines).

Attached are pictures taken during the visit.



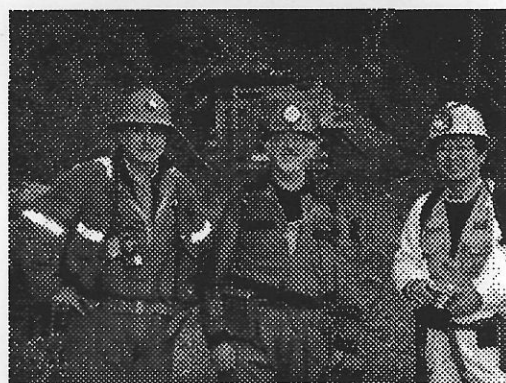
Valhalla Provincial Park From 1025 Portal



Willa Main Road at 1025 Portal



Rail Dump At 1025 Portal



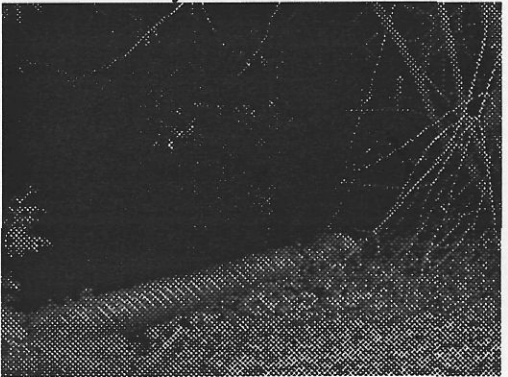
E. Binder, S. Phillips and T. Suyama at 1025 Portal



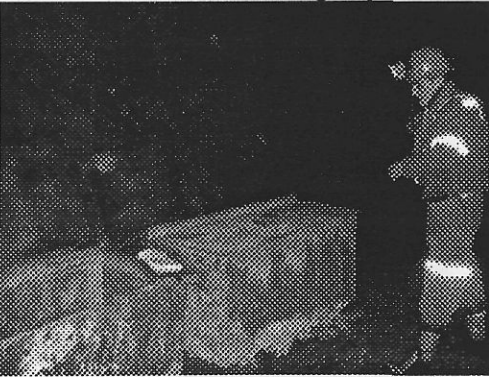
T. Suyama at 1025 Portal



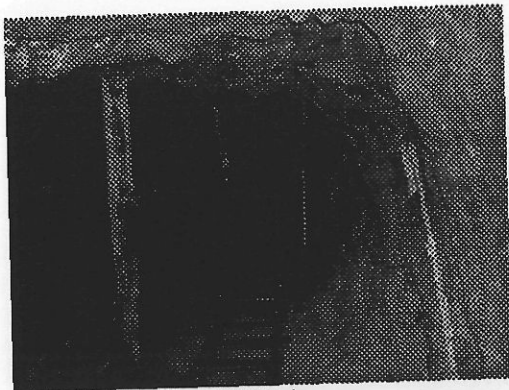
Mine Water Discharge Pipe



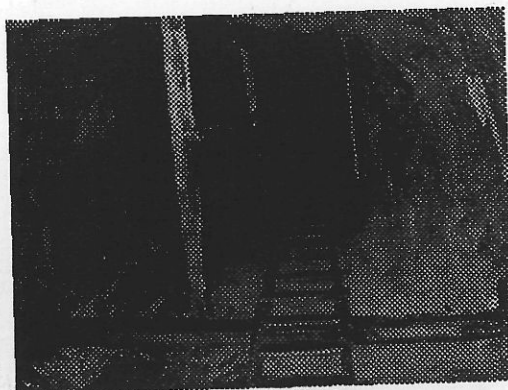
Mine Water Discharge Pipe



E. Binder at Powder Boxes 1013 Decline



1100 Raise



1100 Raise



950 S Drift East Rib 2m sample (86-88)



1000 X-Cut North Rib 2m sample (8-10)



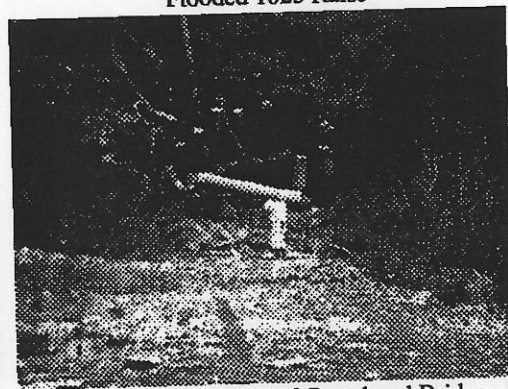
1000 X-Cut South Rib 2m sample (8-10)



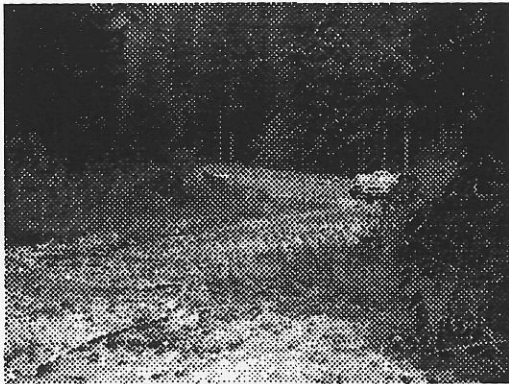
Flooded 1025 Raise



Partially Collapsed 1100 Portal



Partially Collapsed 1100 Portal and Bridge



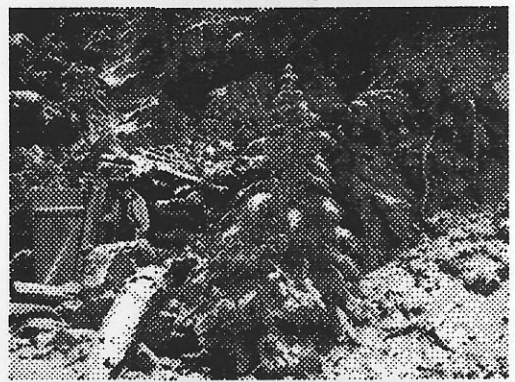
1100 Portal Dump Area



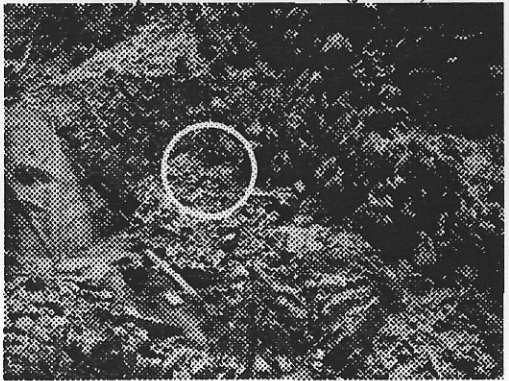
1100 Portal Dump East Side



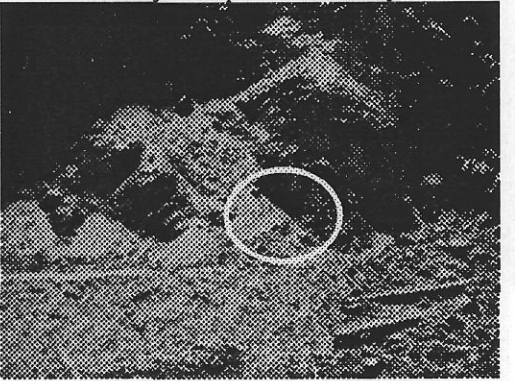
Collapsed Rockland Adit (yellow)



Partially Collapsed Little Daisy Adit



Collapsed Willa No.1 Adit (yellow)



Partially Collapsed Willa No.2 Adit (yellow)

ORS → WILLA

ORPHAN BOY RESOURCES INC.

TSX.V:ORS

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May 12, 2003

NR-03-05

Project Subject to BC Environmental Assessment Process

Management has received notification from the BC Environmental Assessment Office that its application for a waiver of the Company's Goldstream Willa Gold Project under the BC Environmental Assessment Process has been denied.

The Company's management and Board of Directors are reluctant to resubmit the Project at this time. Assessments by accredited geoscientific consultants indicate that any environmental issues that may be associated with the project can be fully addressed through Project design and under existing BC legislation and regulations. The decision to subject the Project to potentially lengthy review appears to be counter to the recent BC government's stated commitment to bring the greater certainty needed to revitalize B.C.'s economy and create new opportunities in heartlands communities.

The Company will continue work on its feasibility study which proposes to mine the Willa from underground at a rate of 500 tonnes per day and truck the ore to its Goldstream mill. The Company will also be continuing with its planned exploration program aimed at expanding the size of the Willa deposit as well as testing adjacent high quality targets.

-30-

On behalf of Management
John A. Chapman
Director

Orphan Boy Resources Inc.

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Mr. Blair Suffredine, MLA, Nelson-Creston
East Annex, Parliament Buildings
Victoria, B.C. V8V 1X4

July 3, 2003

Dear Mr. Suffredine:

Re: Goldstream Willa Gold Project

Thank you for taking the time to meet with Mark Brown and me on June 12th. We found the meeting interesting and informative.

Mr. Stephen Connolly, Project Assessment Manager, EAO sent a letter dated June 13th regarding the “issues” related to the Goldstream Willa Gold Project, resulting from the filing of a Project Description in February 2003, and our meeting of June 12th. Unfortunately, the ML/ARD issues are the same onerous “zero tolerance” items that resulted in the Company not proceeding into the EA process upon denial of waiver on April 28, 2003.

We have reviewed Mr. Connolly’s letter with our technical representatives and associates; as a result the Company’s management and Board of Directors are reluctant to resubmit the Project at this time. Assessments by accredited geoscientific consultants indicate that any environmental issues that may be associated with the Project can be fully addressed through Project design and under existing BC legislation and regulations. The decision to subject the Project to potentially lengthy review appears to be counter to the recent BC government’s stated commitment to bring the greater certainty needed to revitalize B.C.’s economy and create new opportunities in heartlands communities.

Given the existing permits at Goldstream and the extensive prior EA work done at Willa, it is our position that the Goldstream Willa Gold Project should be allowed to proceed directly to permitting under the revised EA Act. Unfortunately, Mr. Connolly’s letter of June 13, 2003 still left the EA process completely open ended as to what they could ask us to do and as such is not good enough for us to proceed.

If you have any questions or suggestions do not hesitate to call me at 604.724.2369.

Yours truly,

Orphan Boy Resources Inc.

Original signed by:

Ronald Coombes
President & CEO

cc: Honourable Gordon Campbell, Premier
Stephen Connolly, Project Assessment Officer, EAO
Wendy McMahon, MLA, Columbia River Revelstoke
John Errington, Deputy Chief Inspector, Reclamation & Permitting, MEM

T68 → WILLA

Bethlehem Resources (1996) Corporation

410 – 325 Howe Street, Vancouver, B.C., Canada, V6C 1Z7
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September 27, 2004

Via: Email

Mr. Bruce Reid
Inspector of Mines
Ministry of Energy & Mines
2nd Floor, 8th Avenue South
Cranbrook, B.C. V1C 2K3

Dear Sirs:

Re: Willa Deposit Development - Permitting

This letter will confirm our telephone meeting of last week regarding the intention of Bethlehem Resources to advance the Willa gold-copper-silver deposit to production by May 1, 2005, subject to permitting.

As discussed, Steve Phillips, Willa Mine Manager and I would like to meet with you and Mr. Steve Wuschke at your earliest convenience to discuss the necessary steps to permit the Willa for: (1) a 10,000dmt bulk sample, and (2) 75,000dmtpy as a small mine.

We can meet in either Cranbrook or Victoria, whichever is most suitable for you.

Yours truly,

Bethlehem Resources (1996) Corporation



John A. Chapman
Project Manager & Director

- cc. Mr. Steve Phillips, Willa Mine Manager
Mr. Steve Rothman, Inspector of Mines, Thompson-Okanagan
Mr. Joe Sequin, Inspector of Mines, Permitting, Thompson-Okanagan
Mr. Steve Wuschke, Inspector of Mines – Permitting and Reclamation

MEMORANDUM

Bethlehem Resources (1996) Corporation

VBS → WILLA
→ GOLDSTREAM
→ SPIRE

Date: October 23, 2004
To: Mark Brown, Gerry Carlson, Ron Coombes
From: John Chapman
Re: **Progress Report – Advancing Toward Production**

Following is a point form update on progress toward development on ORS and Bethlehem properties:

- (1) The Willa property has been the focus of many activities in 2004, including:
- (a) NAD83 survey control was established on surface and underground, bringing all maps to modern standards;
 - (b) A 5,284m underground infill and step-out core drill program was completed in September. The resulting data is being entered into the Willa deposit digital model (Surpac) from the NI43-101 resource report completed by Geospectrum Engineering in March 2003 (posted on Sedar). The resource prior to the 2004 drill program was: 1.83 million mt grading 4.8gpmt gold, 0.7% copper and 9.2gpmt silver at a 2.5gpmt gold cut-off or 996,600mt grading 6.3gpmt gold, 0.8% copper and 10.8gpmt silver at a 3.5gpmt gold cut-off;
 - (c) Preliminary work has been started on stope design to outline the development of the highest grade ore to be produced in the first two years of production. Final design awaits the model update and some definition drilling which is scheduled to commence in mid November;
 - (d) Hatch has completed a study for surface infrastructure and ore haulage from an underground transfer station on the 1025 Level, within the ore zone, to surface. This is considered as Plan A with modern trackless development;
 - (e) Steve Phillips, Dave Makepeace and John Chapman are developing a Plan B using the existing track and 1025 Level adit for ore transport to the same surface transfer stockpile described in Hatch's Plan A. This Plan B will have substantially lower capital costs than Plan A, but will result in higher operating costs;
 - (f) The 1100 Level portal is undergoing rehabilitation to provide underground ventilation and an emergency escape for miners. The portal work will be completed in early November;
 - (g) Two surface lots, totaling 27.38 acres have been purchased (deal closes on November 15th) on Highway 6, near Willa, for transferring underground ore onto highway trucks;
 - (h) The Rush and Margie mineral claims are presently being legally surveyed as a first step toward their conversion to mining leases. The other Willa property claims have had a CAD filing extending their expiry to 2014;
 - (i) A Notice of Work has been filed for improvement of surface access at Willa;
 - (j) Underground equipment (jeep and electrical switchgear) has been transferred from Goldstream to Willa;
 - (k) Steve Phillips and John Chapman are meeting with local Mines Inspectors on October 26, 2004 to initiate application for a 10,000mt bulk sample permit and a ~75,000mtpy small mine permit;

- (l) Owner operators, with tridem tractors and quad K-Line trailers will be utilized on the Willa to Goldstream ore haul. Silverton Transport Ltd. will manage the haul. Advertising for owner operators will be conducted in January;
 - (m) An open house meeting has been scheduled for November 10th in Silverton to update the public on Willa development (proposed May 1, 2005 startup). The last local meeting was held in the same location in February 2003 (see meeting results on ORS Website);
 - (n) Regular monthly reports for Willa and LH from Discovery Consultants and Steve Phillips have been circulated to Board Members and Team Members for information purposes.
- (2) During 2004 the LH property, adjoining the Willa, has been explored on surface with prospecting, soil geochemical surveys and IP surveys. Gold has been discovered in outcrops at high elevations in rugged terrain on Congo Creek but no surface drilling has been conducted due to very difficult access and approaching winter conditions. A 1,000m nearly flat core hole is currently being drilled from surface at the Willa deposit under the mountain toward Congo Creek - there are low-grade sulfides visible in the core with associated silicification, but no assays have been received to date.
- (3) Verbal reports from Ron Coombes indicate potential on the Rain property for the development of an economic resource. Given the mineralogy (zinc, lead and silver), Teck Cominco may be interested in making a private placement in ORS toward the advancement of the Property. The Trial smelter is in desperate need of local lead and zinc concentrate feed as presently almost all of the feed comes from expensive off-shore sources. Russ Babcock, Smelter Manager has made presentations to the local mining community stressing Teck Cominco's need for local concentrates. I have recommended to Ron that preliminary metallurgical work be done on the Alfie and Lynes showings to fast track interest by the public and by Teck Cominco (I have not seen the showings personally but have been told that the mineralization is coarse grained which probably indicates good separation and recovery characteristics). I have also recommended to Ron that Steve Phillips visit Rain to determine the best locations to develop the Alfie and Lynes showings by underground entry – this knowledge could be useful if a bulk sample Notice of Work is warranted. Exploration and development at Rain will be low-risk due to its proximity to the Goldstream plant. No written progress report has been received from either Ron Coombes or Gordon Gibson for several months - a report ASAP would be helpful to the Board and the Team in understanding the situation at Rain, Spire and Boutwell.
- (4) The Goldstream plant and infrastructure is undergoing continuing feasibility work (with related minor preproduction expenditures where necessary) as follows:
- (a) Merit Consultants' preliminary report (Phase One review) dated November 2002 outlined the capital cost and schedule to restart the Goldstream plant (posted on Sedar). The report set out the general plant and infrastructure condition at Goldstream. The report estimated that it would take approximately \$4.4 million in capital costs (excluding reagents, spare parts and working capital) and four months of time to bring the mill to operating condition. A Phase Two program was planned to bring capital cost estimates into the +/- 15% range;
 - (b) In April 2004, Art Winckers (former Senior Metallurgist Teck Cominco) completed a professional report on the processing of Willa ore in the Goldstream mill (posted on Sedar);
 - (c) On October 4, 2004 Klohn Crippen completed a feasibility study on the expansion of the surface tailings facility. The study concludes that the existing Goldstream Tailings facility, as permitted originally, can adequately store all the Willa tailings generated by five years operation at 500dmtpd. The existing facility can also be raised and/or extended to the west to expand the storage capacity in excess of what is needed to accommodate an additional 15 years of operations at 1,000dmtpd. Moreover, an additional potential

- impoundment site located on the Old Goldstream Creek channel is identified for future consideration;
- (d) Hatch Limited has commenced a study related to the disposal of tailings in the Goldstream underground adjacent to the plant. If feasible, this method would substantially reduce start-up and operating cost for several years. I have personal experience with this technique that was used successfully at Keystone Gold in Manitoba;
 - (e) Merit consultants are now on the job at Goldstream executing a Phase Two program. They have available reports from the 1991 restart as well as the knowledge of Red Daley former Concentrator Superintendent who was present for the 1991 plant startup. The program includes fine tuning the Phase One estimate by bringing in a small team of experts under Merit's leadership to examine and catalogue in detail the work to be done for plant restart. This detailed examination phase includes millwright, electrical, electronic, mechanical, welding, piping and process expertise as well as purchasing/inventory skills. Besides examining all mechanical, electrical and building systems Merit would catalogue (digitally) the spare parts inventory and tools which are presently spread among some five locations at the Goldstream site. The insurance underwriter will also attend to the fire water systems requirements to bring the system up to industry standards. Phase Two is scheduled to be completed by the end of November and the resulting report will contain more precise capital costs and schedule to restart the plant as well as general arrangement drawings for construction;
 - (f) Jeff Sato, Manager, Rates and Connections BC Hydro has been contacted regarding a May 2005 plant restart. Jeff has forwarded the latest Electricity Supply Agreement for the Goldstream Plant - it is dated November 10, 1999;
 - (g) On September 25th Butterfield Mineral Consultants Ltd. completed a marketing study for proposed Willa concentrates as defined in work done by Winckers & PRA in 2003 as well as prior metallurgical work done by Lakefield Research for Northair in the 1980s. A digital copy of the report was distributed to Board Members and to Team Members;
 - (h) The land adjacent to the west side of the Goldstream Concentrator has been cleared to facilitate surveying and geotechnical testing for design of facilities for ore transfer, ore stockpiles and ore crushing;
 - (i) On October 6th, Jack Stanley, consultant, delivered his report on the proposed analytical laboratory at the Goldstream plant;
 - (j) One long delivery item, a Larox pressure filter, has been identified and an option payment of US\$25,000 is being made to hold the unit at the McCoy/Cove mine (Newmont) until February 15, 2005 when a final payment of US\$175,000 will be due in order to close the purchase. At this time, there is no other long delivery item identified by the Team that could cause a delay for a May 1, 2005 commissioning;
 - (k) Art Winckers and John Chapman met with MEM officials in Kamloops on October 21st to request an amendment to the Goldstream operating permit M-147 to facilitate custom mineral processing at the rate of 1,000dmtpd from various sources of ore. The meeting was positive with the government officials suggesting that they should be able to review and approve the request within 60 days of formal submission (November 15th).

If the Board can decide upon a date for a general meeting with consultants it would be wise to have a meeting in the next three weeks. A meeting would provide a forum to bring all of the management and Project Team members up to date.

We are continuing toward completing all elements of the Feasibility Study by the last week of November. Dave Makepeace and John Chapman will then combine the independent reports into one Feasibility Study

Document and add an Executive Summary, for submission to the ORS Board of Directors by December 6th.

In order to achieve a May 1, 2005 start-up of Goldstream and of Willa, construction will need to commence no later than February 1, 2005. Hence, it will be of critical importance to obtain permitting and financing before February 1, 2005.

John A. Chapman

TOP → WILLA
From: John Chapman
Nov. 25/04

Public shows cautious support for Willa mine

by *Katrine Campbell*

SILVERTON—Preliminary results suggest that most people who attended a public meeting on the Willa mine are in favour of the project, providing it doesn't cause any problems for neighbours or the environment.

It was standing room only at Silvertown Memorial Hall November 10 as people packed in to hear a presentation and ask questions of Orphan Boy Resources (OBR) director John Chapman. Ann Phillips, wife of mine manager Steve Phillips, handed out 125 questionnaires; 99 were returned. The results haven't been tabulated, but Steve Phillips says a straw poll showed about 80 responses were favourable, eight undecided and seven against. Four were anonymous, and he isn't sure if they will be counted.

In his presentation, Chapman noted that metal prices were strong and he believed they would stay that way. The drill tests showed 6.3 grams of gold per tonne, 10.77 g/t silver, and .79 per cent copper. A production feasibility study is due at the beginning of December.

The south entrance to Red Mountain Road isn't up to Ministry of Transportation standards, he said, and Orphan Boy has commissioned four designs to fix the problem.

Asked about this later, Phil Best from MoT in Nelson said the road evolved over the last century and was never built to any specific standard.

"It's perfectly fine and safe and would probably meet any design review" for its current use, but the B-trains used to haul ore are too big to turn north onto the highway without cutting into the southbound lane. The ministry reviewed OBR's designs, and chose the one "the best met the needs of the road users and the adjacent property owner." No taxpayers' money will be spent redoing the intersection, he added.

During the question period,

Chapman tackled a number of concerns, mostly from Red Mountain residents.

Water runoff: Paul Gibbons' concerns about an MoT culvert which diverts water into Vevey Creek instead of into Aylwin, where it should go, would be relieved by OBR requesting MoT to remove the culvert, reinforce the ditch and put the water back into Aylwin, Chapman said. He also said he had offered to dig a well for Gibbons—news to Gibbons, who asked for—and later received—the promise in writing.

The mine tailings will be stored underground, not on the surface.

Noise: The mine will use generators instead of installing power lines. Because it uses three-phase, lines would have to come from the substation in Silvertown instead of just hooking up from the highway. This would mean substantial logging to accommodate the lines, as well as higher costs, Chapman said. To those concerned about the noise, he said the generators had "good technology" and extra mufflers so no one should be able to hear them.

Silvertown Transport's Stuart Nelson said there is no need for the truck drivers to use jake brakes on the hill.

Environmental reviews: Bob Varaleau, who has complained OBR won't talk to him in his capacity as head of the Red Mountain Residents' Association mine committee, accused Chapman of trying to get around the regulations. Chapman had explained the mine had applied for a 10,000 tonne bulk sample permit, then for a small mines permit to allow it to take out 75,000 tonnes a year. At the projected 500 tonnes per day, this would be a six-month supply.

When Varaleau said "being a 'small mine' gets you around the review process," Chapman agreed.

"Of course it does. We follow the laws. Once we're at 500 tonnes a day for a full year, we apply for the larger

mine permit."

Although Varaleau said this would be done without any public input, Chapman was unruffled.

"You're here now," he said. "Make your comment... if you have something material that's really bothering you now, say it now."

Varaleau didn't reply.

Traffic: Judith Maltz asked if the trucks would be on a time limit, citing the problem with chip trucks whose drivers had to speed to make their deadlines. Chapman said there would be no time restrictions, and OBR's plans to rent the ferry at Galena meant the drivers wouldn't have to rush to catch it. He also called local highways "too winding" and "underused."

After the meeting, Chapman told *The Valley Voice* he thought it went quite well.

"The idea was to have an open dialogue with people. We think we achieved that... we know these people have a reputation for getting into other peoples' business and that watershed protection and logging have been big issues in the valley. We're sensitive to that also. [The laws] are there for a good reason and we're not there to break them, but we should be able to run a business in an efficient manner without ongoing interference."

Paul Gibbons was not quite so optimistic. He complained that the information offered was old, and there was no data from this past summer's drilling program or info about infrastructure changes.

"It's a problem with communication," he said. "OBR has to talk to us, to the RMRA, and find out exactly what problems there may or may not be and deal with them. Having this confirmation [about the well] in writing is a start."

"People aren't opposed to the mine. We just don't want it done at our expense."

THE VALLEY VOICE - Nov. 24, 2004
LETTER TO EDITOR

Hoping that the mine will be a good neighbour

My family lives on Red Mountain Road very close to the proposed Willa Mine. We are one of the immediate neighbours that John Chapman has promised to listen to.

On behalf of my family, we congratulate Orphan Boy Resources on pulling together an excellent project and welcome the mine. We are also encouraged by changes to the onsite development. The access road realignment now avoids our drinking water source.

I once worked underground as mine geologist (at Nunisivik Mines on Baffin Island) which later led, a decade ago, to my participation as a representative from Ontario with the Mining Caucus of the Canadian Environmental Network during a federal review of liquid effluent from metal mining (AQUAMIN).

The greatest concern from that Review was for Acid Mine Drainage. I am very happy to know that the Willa ore body is low in sulphides and the sulphide waste rock will be left underground covered with water. Leaving contaminated waste rock and tailings underground was recommended by AQUAMIN.

I was also fascinated, reading the geological paper about Willa, that the ore body (distinct from Sandon) is related to persistent Jurassic volcanism. I live beside the throat of an ancient volcano. Mineralization is related and is also concurrent to silicification (quartz) cementing the volcanic pile.

This last fact means that workers have a stable underground and very little water penetrates the mountain.

These are some of the reasons I am satisfied with the Willa Project. I was compelled to write of this support because of the confusing representation from Red Mountain Residents Association. Our neighbouring communities have been left with the belief that RMRA is against the mine when this is certainly not the case.

RMRA is arguing that Orphan Boy Resources should speak to local residents through their organisation. John Chapman says he will talk to immediate neighbours directly. He is, in fact, the first to intend to do so.

RMRA has yet to canvas, poll, or question my family and other neighbours. We withdrew our membership earlier this year because the organisation acts in camera with executive decision-making without reporting. Meetings are infrequent and improperly advertised. And, in my family's case, honest questions that differ from committee positions are disregarded and the questioner bullied.

John Chapman demonstrated much more willingness to entertain questions at last week's meeting. On three separate occasions I attempted to communicate with RMRA directors about the Willa project and offer my expert knowledge. I was told that it was a stock ploy and not to worry about it. Moreover, I was told that most members were not against the mine.

My family looks forward to talking to Orphan Boy Resources directly rather than through RMRA. We will cooperate with good neighbours.

Dave Good, BSc Geology
Red Mountain Road

THE VALLEY VOICE - Nov. 24, 2004
LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Supports Willa Mine

I am writing this letter to say 'thank you' to Mr. John Chapman and Orphan Boy for their efforts in restoring our mining industry in this area. We need this industry back so badly. I am proud to say mining was the reason my father brought us out here from Ontario. He got a job in the mine in Sandon and relocated to New Denver, as did many other families.

Unlike Mr. Varaleau, I have lived in New Denver all my life. I have seen the good days and the bad—something unfortunately he did not experience. Perhaps if he had, he would try harder to see these types of things through.

I remember the days as a young girl working in a variety of places. In the grocery store where we would stock things like two cases of lettuce and two cases of celery per day. It was not at all strange when we had to restock the dairy case twice, sometimes three times, a day.

The line-ups were long and the money was flowing, as was the case in the bank and the credit union—yes, we did have two. In the restaurants there were times you couldn't get a seat, they were so packed, and the bars were the same on almost any given night. The rooms were filled with the miners and there was plenty of work for a kid like me, who would waitress during the week and clean rooms on the weekends.

Our classroom sizes were at maximum capacity and our sports teams were some of the best in the region. We even had enough money to supply each member on those teams with nice matching jerseys—no sharing as they have to do today.

The town started to go downhill fast when the mine shut down and due to the new extreme laws in the forest industry, we saw many men having to sell off equipment and move on as well.

Most stores and restaurants had three or four employees working per shift. Nowadays, most businesses in the area may employ three or four people in total. There are times that I bet the poor employers put out more in empty wages than they bring in in sales. Our schools are at risk of being closed and the kids bussed to Nakasp. Our kids will never experience what it's like to have a skating rink or a proper school park. There are no Brownies or Club Scouts because there aren't enough kids to make up a group. The hospital is a story in itself.

And the list goes on.

To our local nay-sayers who choose to live way out in the north 40 somewhere, saying 'we don't need those loud pubs, or those long line-ups at the grocery stores, or those horrible Chambers chip trucks running up and down our pristine valley'—those of us who chose to actually live and work within the community do need these things... People who want things to stay as they are for their own retirement needs are a drain on our society and strain on the

economy.

We can't go on like this forever. We are dying a slow and painful death. It has to stop and if we all try really hard we can help to revive our failing economy and get things back on the right track.

We have had the pleasure of raising our three children here but the hardest thing I've had to face is the fact that there is nothing here for them. After graduation they have to leave us, and it's forever... they should be able to go to college and return home and contribute to their community if they would like to.

I have never, and would never, compromise our health or even our valley's beauty for a buck, but by the same token the reality is we will not last without some sort of economic change. Unfortunately, money makes the world go round.

So thank you. Thank you for bringing so much business to the hotel/restaurant where I work. Thank you for bringing some of our men back home to work and be with their families. Thank you for donating so generously to our graduating classes; both of my daughters have benefitted. I will continue to push for you—and our—success in this venture.

June McMillan
New Denver