



NORTHERN NEIGHBORS

Compiled by Shane Lasley



AGNICO EAGLE MINES LTD.

After completing an initial 50,000 meters of drilling this year, Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. has outlined 1.9 million ounces of gold at the Whale Tail deposit at Amaruq.

Amaruq resource expands, drilling continues

Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd. Aug. 20 provided an update on exploration at its Amaruq gold project in Nunavut, including an expanded resource of the project's Whale Tail deposit. A 50,000-meter drill program completed during the first half of 2015 resulted in an updated inferred resource of 9.7 million metric tons grading 6.47 grams per metric ton (2 million ounces) gold for Amaruq, a 35 percent increase in gold content since the end of 2014. Most of this resource – 9.1 million metric tons grading 6.56 g/t (1.9 million oz) gold – is located in the Whale Tail deposit. The company is continuing to explore Amaruq with a second 50,000-meter drill program initiated in July. At Whale Tail, this drilling has encountered an open-ended high-grade ore shoot that has yielded intersections of 6.7 g/t gold over 32.3 meters from a depth of 284 meters in hole AMQ15-310; and 10.4 g/t gold over 21.9 meters from a depth of 311 meters in hole AMQ15-330. Gold mineralization has been found in a gap between the Whale Tail deposit and the eastern part of Mammoth Lake, including 10.8 g/t gold over 6.9 meters in hole AMQ15-351; and 9.3 g/t gold over 4.2 meters in hole AMQ15-302. The company said that infill and deep exploration drilling continues to cut multiple intercepts of high-grade gold amenable to both open-pit and underground mining. Engineering and environmental baseline studies are underway to support the permitting process for Amaruq as a potential satellite to Agnico's Meadowbank mine, located about 50 kilometers (31 miles) to the southeast. The application to construct an all-weather access road between Meadowbank and Amaruq was filed in the first quarter of 2015.

Spectrum drilling exceeds expectations

Skeena Resources Ltd. Aug. 20 said the first six holes of its 12,000-meter drill program at the Spectrum gold-copper property in northwestern British Columbia has cut multiple high-grade intercepts. One of the best examples is S15-012 cut 10.59 grams per metric ton gold over 6.6 meters beginning at 102 meters, 25.27 g/t gold over 3.9 meters at 197.6 meters, and four meters grading 7.08 g/t gold at 234 meters; and S15-017, which cut 85 meters grading 9.79 g/t gold and 430 g/t silver starting at 103.2 meters, eight meters grading 10.46 g/t gold starting at 128 meters, and 3.6 meters grading 11.68 g/t gold starting at 157.4 meters. "The results from the first few holes have exceeded our expectations and demonstrate the potential of the deposit to deliver high-grade gold intercepts," said Skeena Chairman Ron Netolitzky. This year's 60-hole program at Spectrum is primarily focused on expanding the 500 Colour and Central zones and the information will be used to calculate an NI 43-101-compliant mineral resource by early 2016. Additionally, Skeena has

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British Columbia Energy and Mines Minister Bill Bennett joined Alaska Lt. Gov. Byron Mallott and Alaska Fish & Game Biologist Jeff Williams on a trip up the Taku River, which flows from Northwest B.C. through Southeast Alaska near Juneau.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Trans-boundary bonds

Tough meetings with SE Alaskans lay groundwork for potential BC-AK MOU

By SHANE LASLEY

Mining News

British Columbia Energy and Mines Minister Bill Bennett spent the week of Aug. 23 working to build bonds with Southeast Alaskans worried about potential downstream effects of mining copper- and gold-rich deposits located in northwestern B.C.

Bennett's visit comes one year after a tailings dam burst at the Mount Polley Mine in central British Columbia, sending a deluge of mining waste and untreated water into the surrounding watershed. While the spill did not affect Alaska waterways, it stoked fears about the potential development of mines being planned at deposits located in watersheds that do run through Southeast Alaska.

At least six Northwest B.C. projects located upstream of Alaska – Brucejack (Pretium Resources), Kerr-Sulphurets-Mitchell (Seabridge Gold), Schaft Creek (Copper Fox Metals-Teck Resources), Galore Creek (Novagold-Teck), Kisault (Avanti Mining) and Tulsequah Chief (Chieftain Metals) – are currently in various stages of advanced exploration.

Alaska Lt. Gov. Byron Mallott, who is leading a trans-boundary working group that is tackling the northwestern B.C. mining issues on Alaska's behalf, took early steps to find a diplomatic resolution of tensions that have erupted over the issue. He met with Bennett and other provincial leaders during a trip to British Columbia in May.

"As neighbors, we have many things in common, and I want to strengthen the relationships we, Alaskans, have with British Columbia," Mallott said before his trip.

The lieutenant governor also toured the site of the tailings storage dam failure at the Mount Polley Mine during his B.C. trip.

Bennett's visit to Alaska is a continuation of this diplomatic effort and dialogue, including tough meetings with Southeast Alaska tribal, conservation and fishing groups that have been most outspoken

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—Heather Hardcastle, *Salmon Beyond Borders*

about their distrust of British Columbia and its ability to protect rivers that flow through Southeast Alaska.

"We thank Lt. Gov. Mallott and the Walker Administration for their continued attention to our transboundary mining concerns and are glad that Minister Bennett has made the effort to visit Southeast Alaska and to engage with us directly," Heather Hardcastle, a coordinator for Salmon Beyond Borders, said in a statement.

Bennett and Mallott said British Columbia and Alaska are working out details of a memorandum of understanding that would codify Alaskans' engagement in the permitting and monitoring of future northwestern B.C. mines upstream of Alaska.

"We have had some really excellent discussions with the State of Alaska on what we can do to enhance their already existing role in our environmental assessment process," Bennett said during an Aug. 26 press conference with Mallott.

Such an MOU is expected to include provisions that would further entrench Alaska's Large Mine Review Team in the process for permitting northern B.C. mines, including a role in monitoring and oversight once the mine goes into production.

The agreement also is expected to include enhanced engagement and information-sharing with Southeast Alaskan tribes, fishermen and conservationists, when it comes to these trans-boundary projects.

Mallott emphasized the point that any MOU signed by Alaska would be a "living document" that can be modified as circumstances dictate.

Salmon Beyond Borders and other concerned

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