



THE CLAIM POST

SUMMER 2005



Northwestern Ontario Prospectors Association's Objectives

To represent and further the interests, serve the needs, and support the aspirations of the individual prospectors in Northwestern Ontario.

NWOPA ELECTS DYNAMIC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The NWOPA membership should be pleased to have such a dynamic and experienced group of directors working for them. We have representation from both major and junior mining companies, MNDM staff, a professional staker and a couple of retired school teachers with some experience in the prospecting business.

Public Education

Mining exploration objectives are becoming increasingly more vulnerable mainly due to public ignorance. The public continues to consider us as rapists and pillagers of the land so they will always support the conservationists, surface rights holders and politicians when it comes to land use issues. This Board's response will be to do more to educate the public on the facts; the main facts being that mining exploration leaves a minimal footprint on the land and that mining companies are legislated to clean up their mess.

Forest Road Access

Freewest Resources has to *replace* 8 culverts and a bridge to gain access to its Sungold Property. Rampart Ventures is faced with a similar situation south of Lake Nipigon. NWOPA will step in and lobby with MNR and forest industry representatives to keep forest roads open while there is active mineral exploration. Greg Brumpton chairs the Land Use Committee.

Map Staking

Pressure by cottagers and surface rights holders in Southern Ontario keep map staking an issue. NWOPA and OPA are both opposed to map staking. Karl Bjorkman will monitor and respond to this issue.

Prospector Education

When prospectors filed claims or assessment work at the MNDM office, they could always count on Pat Landry to provide assistance. Sadly for us, Pat has retired and her position as Mining Lands Consultant has not been filled full-time. NWOPA's action, headed by Bob Chataway, will be to produce a guidebook to filing claims and assessment work. This will be presented a workshop later on this fall.

Prospector Fun

The annual Christmas party has always been an important time for NWOPA members to get together and have some fun. This year we will attempt to liven things up by providing music that will appeal to all members.

These are a few of the things that the Board will deal with this year. If you need to contact us, please call.

Contact

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cyndee.komar@ndm.gov.on.ca

See Bernie Remembered p.11

NWOPA BOARD 2005

President John Halet
Vice President Dave Hunt
Treasurer Paul Nielsen
Secretary Cyndee Komar
Director Chris Bever
Director Greg Brumpton
Director Barb D'Silva
Director Bob Chataway
Director Karl Bjorkman

FAREWELL PAT



Pat Landry Mining Lands Consultant

NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO MINES AND MINERALS SYMPOSIUM

A HUGE SUCCESS





This year's symposium was more upbeat than usual. High demand for almost every commodity created a mood of optimism and excitement rarely experienced in the mining exploration community.

Exhibitor booths generated a lot of interest. Topping the list were Freewest Resources with its Sungold base metal discovery and Rampart Ventures, uranium exploration project in the southern part of the Lake Nipigon area.



The Freewest discovery is in a typical volcanogenic massive-sulphide environment in the Shebandowan greenstone belt.

VMS deposits are often flat-lying lense-shaped bodies and occur in clusters.

Up to 3% Cu and 9% Zn have been found in massive, semi-massive and stringer mineralization.

Highly anomalous to high grade samples (12%) of U 238 have been found in the Sibley Basin, Lake Nipigon area.

Pitchblend or Uranium Oxide is found at or near the base of clastic sandstone mineral deposits that overlay sulfide mineral deposits.

The mineral is greenish to brownish black (pitchlike), Hardness 5-6, opaque, brittle, radioactive, often found in association with iron formation.



The booth displays were all very well done.



There were many interesting commercial displays...



and we even had a visit from the OPA President.



The Awards Ceremony was very well planned and presented by John Mason and his Committee. Andy Fyon, OGS Director, represented the Minister of MNDM.



DISCOVERY OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR 2004

For the Seagull Discovery

Bob Fairservice

Geoff Heggie (Lakehead University)

Tom Hart (Ontario Geological Survey)

Bob Middleton (East West Resource Corp.)

Mike Jones (Platinum Group Metals Ltd.)

Wally Rayner (Lake Nipigon Region Geoscience Initiative related to the Seagull Discovery)

Garry Clark (Lake Nipigon Region Geoscience Initiative related to the Seagull Discovery)

Andy Fyon (Lake Nipigon Region Geoscience Initiative related to the Seagull Discovery)

DEVELOPER OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR 2004

Musselwhite Mine - PQ Deeps Discovery

Dan Gagnon (Placer Dome)

Andrew Cheatle (Placer Dome)

Placer Dome (CLA) Ltd. Musselwhite Mine

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR 2004

Mel Stewart
Harry Lundmark
Knut Kuhner
Walter Baker

The Field Trip To North American Palladium's Open Pit Mine Was Outstanding



Nobody fell into the crusher.

Mike talks about the Baker zone while C.J. Baker thinks about what could have been.



Ray Mason
Mine Manager
Lac des Iles Mines Ltd.

Dear Ray

Thank you very much for providing the 2005, NWOPA Mines and Minerals Symposium attendees, the opportunity to tour the Lac des Iles Mine Site.

Your staff went out of their way to make sure that the visitors felt welcomed and fully informed. They accomplished this by making the tour of the mine, mill and mine block intrusion comprehensive, while discussing and responding to questions in a professional manner.

To go down into the open pit was a unique and unforgettable experience and we thank you for this opportunity. And to be given high grade ore samples from the Roby Zone was a wonderful added touch.

Prospectors and explorationists need to see the end product of their endeavors and this was accomplished from this tour.

A special thanks goes out to Mike MacIsaac for organizing and hosting this event. Because of his efforts the tour went smoothly and without a hitch.

Yours sincerely

John Halet

President Northwestern Ontario Prospectors Association



This is very amazing concentrate.

The Northwestern Ontario Prospectors Association would like to thank the following sponsors for their support.

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MNDM
Musselwhite Mine
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Map Staking

The issue of map staking will not go away. It is constantly being debated throughout the mining community across the province. Opinions are divided for many reasons, which won't be debated in this article.

The Ontario Prospectors Association is represented by six regional associations. Some are strongly opposed to map staking and others have no firm consensus either way.

At a recent meeting of the NWOPA Board of Directors, Karl Bjorkman presented a list of reasons why we should not support map staking. They are as follows:

[Reasons to not have map staking](#)

- Map Staking is socially regressive. Map staking favors the large corporations.
- Map Staking cuts out average Ontarians.
- Map Staking will result in job loss.
- Map Staking will result in less fractionation of land positions around new discoveries there by creating less "pieces of

the pie" for junior mining companies to raise money with. *** Most people in the industry work or contract for junior mining companies.

-There will be less qualified prospectors to work in summer as they will not be able to remain in the industry without staking employment.

-There will be fewer discoveries made as many new showings are found while staking.

-Often the staker is the only person to actually walk the ground ever.

-1 Prospector/Stakers are often community based and offer a liaison with local people. They offer the "human" side of mining to the average citizen.

-2 Prospector/Stakers are often community based and offer local information to the exploration company.

-Ontario is #1 in mining exploration. Why change a good thing?

-If the mining act needs adjustment to accommodate problems in the south etc. then make the appropriate changes i.e..map staking in Southern Ontario.

Bernie, You Will Always Be Remembered. Thank You For Your Wonderful Service To Prospectors.



Photo by John Scott

To Bernie's Many Friends

Thank you for your part in making this memorial tribute possible.

To date there have been 75 donations, exceeding \$10,000.00. This is tremendous and a wonderful tribute to Bernie. The Bernie Schnieders Memorial Bursary will provide assistance to students studying geology at Lakehead University and will be a lasting legacy in Bernie's name.

For those who would like to make a gift, they can call Laurie Hill Lakehead University. Cheques are made payable to Lakehead University (including Bernie's name on the memo line) and can be mailed to:
Lakehead University
Development Office
955 Oliver Rd.
Thunder Bay, Ontario
P7B 5E1

New Prospecting Opportunities

The Northern Boreal Initiative is a plan by the MNR to bring the forest industry into the area north of The Area of Undertaking (the area presently licensed for the forest industry). There will be a great deal of planning and preparation before this will happen but the bottom line for prospectors is that new roads will be constructed on areas of significant mineral potential and that the MNDM , Ontario Geological Survey branch ,will be providing 15 million dollars worth of geoscience data.

We will keep you posted on events as they unfold.

Ontario Geological Survey Ministry of Northern Development & Mines Far North Geological Mapping Initiative General Planning Framework

Development and Approval of a General Approach:

The 2005 Ontario Budget announced a funding commitment of \$15M over three years for geological mapping in the Far North as part of the Northern Prosperity Plan. The Ministry has since carried out background work to develop the Far North Geological Mapping Initiative, consisting of:

- Government investment in Far North geoscience mapping through the purchase, organization, compilation and analysis of new geoscience data, state-of-the-art geoscientific surveys and assessments;
- Government communication, consultation, and building of relationships with aboriginal communities in and near to the study areas; it will transfer technical knowledge and understanding, listen to concerns and increase capacity for aboriginal participation in private sector economic activities.
- The OGS will publish and ensure the geoscience results are available for investment, planning, or policy decisions. It will deliver and market the geoscience data to a global market of exploration companies and investors to increase international interest in the Far North's mineral exploration potential.

Elements of the approach to the Far North Geological Mapping Initiative:

The type and location of geoscience surveys undertaken will require consideration of the geoscience gaps in each survey area:

Geographic Survey Areas:

The Far North Geological Mapping Initiative will focus on three geographic survey areas (attached figure):

- a) Area of Northern Boreal Initiative and adjacent areas;
- b) Eastern Shield area; and
- c) Shield edge area.

Only portions of these areas will be surveyed and mapped during the Far North Geological Mapping Initiative. The survey areas have been selected to:

- assist near-term planning by filling geoscience gaps to complement the Provincial Northern Boreal Initiative;
- fill geoscience gaps in areas by building from, and adjacent to, areas of modern geological knowledge and data derived from recent geological surveying;
- anticipate near-term development that will likely build from south to north; and,
- build on existing relationships between aboriginal communities and MNDM.

CLASSIFIED

The Claim Post welcomes its members to post items for sale or items they wish to purchase. We will also post services and property presentations.

August 9/05

Hello

I have for sale an Atlas-Copco rock drill, 12 knockoff bits with sharpener and two spare stones. Machine runs and drills well. Please contact Myron Nelson at mwnelson@tbaytel.net or call 807 875-2170

Myron Nelson
P.O. Box 32,
Beardmore, Ont.
P0T 1G0