

005309

YUKON REGIONAL PROGRAM (Y-06)

The Yukon Regional Program, which commenced in 1983, was designed as a search for epithermal precious metals in unglaciated terrain of the western Yukon. The major criteria for target selection include known areas of Tertiary- Cretaceous volcanism, the presence of known precious metal deposits, the distribution of placer gold, the proximity to porphyry Cu systems and to a lesser degree, the presence of government geochemical anomalies. Major fault structures, Tertiary conglomerates, reported silicification, mineral zoning and general geological complexity have also been considered.

Another consideration has been the possibility of heap leachable gold since the western Yukon is largely unglaciated. Archer Cathro has been pursuing this idea with respect to their Casino and Big Creek area properties, Dawson Range, Y.T.

Initially, the regional program incorporated targets in the Stewart River and Aishihik map sheets and the Dawson Range. In 1986, the program focused on targets in the Dawson Range and the Wheaton River areas because of recent activity in the Mt. Nansen Gold Camp and the opening of the Mt. Skukum Gold Mine, respectively.

Four properties were staked as a consequence of the 1986 regional program, during which nineteen targets were investigated. (Refer to following figures). The properties include the FOG, MAJI, BUG and MAG claims. An additional property may be staked after further investigation of Y 109. Two other targets, (Y107, Y123), require follow up in 1987. Many unexplored targets still exist in the Dawson Range, Wheaton River and Aishihik areas.

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The BUG and MAG claims were staked as a result of government geochemical releases. No significant work has been completed on either property consequently they should be regarded as regional targets.

Almost 1/3 of the BUG claims, Wheaton area, overlap ground staked by Archer Cathro less than 1 hour previous. However, a brief examination of the property should determine whether a joint venture should be considered. The BUG is underlain by a Cretaceous granite batholith with some quartz veining and minor metamorphosed volcanic rocks.

The MAG claims, (Aishihik area), cover an area of quartz veining within a potassium rich intrusion, (an alkali granite to syenite occurs on the VIC claims), with local rhyolitic volcanic rocks. The property was staked because of increased activity in the area due to a government geochemical release. The MAG claims and a proximal area of Tertiary felsic volcanics should be investigated in 1987. Several high government stream sediment anomalies drain the volcanic package including one 1500 ppb Au value.

Tertiary volcanic rocks are abundant in the central Aishihik area. Regional work is proposed for this area as well as around the margins of the Tertiary Sekulmum Lake stock and other isolated occurrences of Tertiary volcanism and intrusion. (Refer to regional map for Aishihik area).

Target Y109, (Wheaton area), is located on the west shore of Bennett Lake, southern Yukon, approximately 10 km west of the Venus Au, Ag Mine. Anomalous values appear to be restricted to an andesite tuff unit, (with sedimentary interbeds), and related subvolcanic rocks.

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A sample of altered andesite ? with malachite, azurite and rare quartz stringers collected from the mouth of an old adit ran 2150 ppb Au. Similar material, 3 km south of the adit in the vicinity of a strong gossan, returned several anomalous Au values in the 50-150 ppb range, with one of 960 ppb Au. Anomalous Ag values up to 20.0 ppm also occur. Silts in the area are anomalous in Au including a government anomaly of 202 ppb, repeated at 286 ppb. A more detailed examination of the adit and surrounding area should be conducted in 1987.

In conclusion, the 1987 regional program should include follow up of targets in the Dawson Range and Wheaton River areas as well as the investigation of new targets. The Aishihik area should also be revisited with emphasis on a central area of Tertiary volcanism.