# Eskay Mining

#### **Unlocking District-Scale Potential**

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Quinton Hennigh Ph.D., P.Geo. is a qualified person as defined by NI43-101 and has reviewed the contents of this presentation.

#### Eskay Mining Property

- In the heart of the Golden Triangle
- SIB-Lulu
  - Likely continuation of world-class Eskay Creek VMS system
- TV-Jeff
  - A trend of Au-Ag enriched VMS systems on the east limb of the Eskay anticline
- Corey showings (C10, GFJ, Red Lightning, Tet, Spearhead, HSOV, Big Red, Sweet Virginia, Virginia Lakes, Cascade)
- North Mitchell
  - Au showing that may be similar to the Brucejack (epithermal?) deposit



#### **Overview of Research**

- Eskay Creek is a world-class high-grade intermediate tonnage VMS deposit
- Is there a second Eskay Creek?
- Application of lithogeochemistry to existing bulk rock compositional dataset
- Utilization of VMS-related alteration as a vector
- Leapfrog modelling of of SIB and Corey properties
  - Utilization of 3-D model to redefine geology and alteration haloes in order to guide drilling program



Mercier-Langevin et al. (2011)

#### Volcanogenic Massive Sulfide Deposits

- Occur in clusters along synvolcanic extensional structures
- Convection of seawater over igneous intrusion
  - Convecting seawater interacts with volcanic rock package and leaches metals
  - Upflow zone above pluton with sulfide stringers and intense hydrothermal alteration
  - Sulfides precipitate from hydrothermal venting on seafloor (black smokers)
    - Forms mounds of massive sulfide minerals



#### Volcanogenic Massive Sulfide Deposits

- Occur in clusters along syn-volcanic extensional structures
- Numerous examples of old and actively-forming VMS systems







Setting of the Archean (ca. 2698 Ma) Millenbach VMS deposit, Quebec



and Allen (2003

#### Volcanogenic Massive Sulfide Deposits Sub-seafloor Replacement and Stacked Deposits

- The largest VMS deposits are formed by subseafloor replacement
  - Diffuse hydrothermal fluid flow through volcanic or sulfide chimney debris pile effectively "filters" metals out of solution
  - Preferable to "exhalative" hydrothermal venting into the seawater
  - Occurs 10-200 m below seafloor
- Stacked VMS deposits
  - Sulfide deposition occurs at or within 200 m of the seafloor
  - The seafloor position changes because the old seafloor is buried by lava
  - Re-establishment of the hydrothermal system during volcanic quiescence produces another sulfide body proximal to the new seafloor position
  - This process can be repeated several times



- A = Seafloor accumulation
- B = Synchronous seafloor/subseafloor accumulation + burial by lava
- C = Replacement within lava
- D = Replacement of volcaniclastic material
- E = Seafloor accumulation + burial by lava



#### Volcanogenic Massive Sulfide Deposits Stacked VMS Deposits: Noranda Camp



Volcanogenic Massive Sulfide Deposits: Quantifying Alteration

- Quantifying VMS alteration has been well-described by Large et al. (2001)
- Alteration index (AI)
  - AI=100(K<sub>2</sub>O+MgO)/(K<sub>2</sub>O+MgO+Na<sub>2</sub>O+CaO)
  - Sericitic alteration of albite distal to VMS system
  - Chlorite alteration of sericite in feeder zones to VMS system
- Carbonate-Chlorite-Pyrite index (CCPI)
  - CCPI=100(MgO+FeO)/(MgO+FeO+Na<sub>2</sub>O+K<sub>2</sub>O)
  - Alteration associated with ore-proximal zone of VMS system
- Alteration box plot
  - Combination of AI and CCPI



#### **BLEG Sampling**

- Bulk Leach Extractable Gold
  - Sampling of clay fraction from stream sediments
  - Analyze for Au adsorbed onto clay minerals
  - Also analyze for trace elements correlated with Au
- C10, Vermillion, and Red Lightning area has several very strong Au anomalies
- Additional very strong Au anomalies in the northeastern part of the Property





## Moving beyond the Contact Mudstone

- Eskay Creek hosts the newly-discovered stratiform mineralization hosted by the Lower Mudstone and Even Lower Mudstone (ELM) zones
- These strata continue onto Eskay Mining Corp claims
- Additional stratiform mineralized zones have been identified by Eskay Mining Corp.

Harrymel Transform Fault @

Western Anticline Eskay Anticline

Sweet Virginia

Eskay Creek

SIB-Lulu

Cumberland -

TV-Jet

C10

Vermillion -

Bowser Lake Group

Upper Hazelton Group

Lower Hazelton Group

Basement below fault

VMS mineralization

Modern erosion

surface

decollement

~ 5 km



#### Proposed Sequence of Tectonic Events at SIB

- 1) Arc volcanism related to subduction (Betty Creek Fm. Unuk River andesite)
- 2) Slab rollback induces back-arc rifting and formation of submarine basin (e.g. the dacite units in the Betty Creek Fm. and the rhyolite flows in the Spatsizi Fm.)
- 3) Inception of rift-related volcanism (Iskut River Fm. Bruce Glacier felsic unit)
- 4) Bimodal rift-related volcanism
  - Initially dominated by Iskut River Fm. Eskay rhyolite with minor basalt
  - Period of volcanic quiescence marked by seafloor hydrothermal venting and deposition of contact mudstone
  - Basalt becomes dominant volcanic rock (Iskut River Fm. Willow Ridge mafic unit)
- 5) Termination of volcanism and deposition of Bowser Lake Group sedimentary rocks
- 6) Continued accretion of terranes to western continental margin deforms rocks described above
  - Eskay anticline with attitude of contacts steepening to the south
- 7) Thrust faulting displaces Bowser Lake Group over Hazelton Group volcanic rocks
  - Thrusting of younger rocks over older rocks possible if folding occurs first
  - The western limb of the Eskay anticline meets this condition
  - Consequently the favorable Au-bearing stratigraphy continues under the Bowser Lake Group

#### **Cumberland: Contact** Mudstone-hosted **Mineralization**

- On west limb of Eskay anticline
- Historic Au intercepts at Contact Mudstone horizon
  - Au grades up to 10.97 g/t
- Portion of known deposit eroded into Sulphurets Creek
- Indicates mineralized Contact Mudstone-horizon continues at least 15 km along strike from Eskay Creek



Thrust Faul

5 km

#### Lulu Zone: Eskay Rhyolite-hosted Mineralization

- Au and Ag is associated with stratiform mudstone horizons
- Highest-grade intercepts (up to 85 g/t Au) are within massive and semi-massive sulfosalt-sulfide bodies hosted by peperitic rhyolite





Mrg+Stb

Mrg+Stb

Br

1<u>cm</u>

1cm

1cm

<sub>/</sub>Brt

#### SIB: Spatsizi Formation-hosted Mineralization EK18-160

- Hosted by Spatsizi Fm. peperitic rhyolite
  - 61.9 g/t from 203.1-204.1 m
- Primary volcaniclastic pyrite, apatite, and rutile
- Volcaniclastic pyrite replaced by hydrothermal arsenian pyrite
  - Further investigations needed to identify Au host mineral
- VMS-related sulfides are associated with K-feldspar, illite, chlorite, Mn-calcite, and dolomite alteration



#### TV and Jeff Showings: Betty Creek Fm.-hosted Mineralization

- Mineralization hosted by dacitic and basaltic peperite and breccia in Betty Creek Fm.
  - Mineralization outcrops on surface
- Trend of stacked sulfide bodies on the East limb of the Eskay anticline
- SkyTEM survey shows conductivity anomalies coincident with known sulfide bodies and graphitic mudstone







#### TV : Betty Creek Fm.-hosted Mineralization

- Mineralization hosted by dacite and basalt peperite and breccia in Betty Creek Fm.
- Stratigraphy and attitude of contacts are consistent with location on eastern limb of Eskay anticline
- Stratigraphy and geophysical anomalies in undrilled ground suggest additional stratiform mineralization
  - Up-stratigraphy
  - Down-dip
  - Along-strike









#### TV : Lower Massive Sulfide Zone

- Mineralization is semi-massive to massive
  - Pyrite, pyrrhotite, and sphalerite are dominant sulfide minerals
  - Au- and Ag-bearing
- Hosted by intensely hydrothermally altered mudstone
- Associated with asymmetric alteration horizon
  - Confirms paleo-seafloor position
- Potential for stockwork mineralization below (TV21-69)
- Older than the Upper Massive Sulfide Zone







#### TV : Stringer-style Mineralization

- Broad zone of stringer-style mineralization overlies Lower Massive Sulfide Zone
- Abundant sulfide and Ag mineral mineralization
- Intensely silicified







#### TV: Upper Massive Sulfide Zone

- First intercepted by TV21-78 that targeted the predicted location of an Upper Massive Sulfide Zone
- Approximately 9 m of massive and semi-massive sulfide mineralization
  - Pyrite clasts with replacement-style sphalerite, chalcopyrite, and pyrrhotite
  - Visible Ag-sulfosalts
- Associated with asymmetric alteration just like Lower Massive Sulfide Zone
  - Confirms that these massive sulfide bodies formed during distinct hydrothermal events
- Associated with SkyTEM and IP anomaly



#### TV: Northward Extension of Sulfide Mineralization

- TV21-81 intercepted intense stringer-style sulfide mineralization from 242-328 m
  - 300 m north of known mineralization at TV
  - Hosted by dacite breccia
- Targeted using SkyTEM and IP data
- Suggests TV and Jeff may be part of one larger VMS system





#### Jeff

- Stockwork-style mineralization
  - High-grade domains within a broad zone of 0.1-0.5 g/t Au mineralization
  - Associated with moderate to intense hydrothermal alteration
- Stratigraphically lower than TV
- Brucejack-like mineralization
  - Precious metal mineralogy
    - Electrum
    - Freibergite
    - Pyrargyrite
    - Acanthite
  - Alteration mineralogy
    - Silica
    - Dolomite
    - Ferroan dolomite
    - Hyalophane
    - Illite
    - Chlorite







#### Jeff

 Mineralized dacitic and basaltic peperite in drill core





J20-39 82.8-83.0 m 0.163 g/t Au, 14 g/t Ag

J20-33 59.97-60.58 m 79.2 g/t Au, 203 g/t Ag

65

66

67 68

69



#### Vermillion-C10 Region



#### Vermillion-C10 Region

- 2021 drilling identified likely westdipping thrust fault at C10
- Geophysics and field investigations identified sinistral strike-slip fault
  - Interpreted as reactivated synvolcanic feeder structure





#### C10: Lithology and Mineralization

- Hanging Wall: dacite-hosted sulfide mineralization intercepted by several holes including C21-4 53 m south of 99.4 g/t in CR05-17
  - Likely stratigraphically correlated with Jeff
- Footwall: Willow Ridge basalt-Eskay rhyolite contact under glacial till at 204.20 m in C21-5
  - Pyrite-bearing mudstone occurs below this contact
  - Confirms that the contact mudstone horizon is present in this area









#### Vermillion

- 2.1 km east of C10
- Massive sulfide discovered in outcrop
- Drilling intercepted long intervals of dacite-hosted pyrite, sphalerite, chalcopyrite, and pyrrhotite stringer-style mineralization
- Rock is intensely chlorite and illite altered in drill core and on surface
- Alteration and sulfide mineralogy consistent with higher temperature hydrothermal system



#### Spearhead

- Outcropping semimassive sulfide mineralization
  - Hosted by mudstone associated with rhyolite
- 1.3 km NE of Vermillion
- Historic surface samples graded up to 4.1 g/t Au
- Along the same sinistral structure as Vermillion and Red Lightning





#### Scarlet Ridge

- Cluster of very strong BLEG anomalies in the NE part of property
- Scarlet Ridge is associated with extensive outcrops of peperitic rhyolite-hosted sulfide mineralization
  - On east limb of Eastern anticline
- Strong BLEG anomalies continue to NE on flanks of McTagg anticlinorium
  - Hosted by Betty Creek Fm. rocks
  - Stratigraphically correlated with Tudor Gold's CBS Zone
  - Probable thrust fault separates Eastern anticline from McTagg anticlinorium



#### Prospects Identified by BLEG: Scarlet Ridge

- Nose and east limb of Eastern anticline
- Numerous sulfide-bearing gossans hosted by a peperitic rhyolite sill complex
- Gossanous bluff extends along strike 1.5 km
  - Trend of Au-enriched historic surface samples extends 7.6 km
- Historic drilling 4km SW along strike intercepted modest gold mineralization
  - No follow-up work has been done since 1991
- Existing geologic maps are incorrect
  - Mapped contact relationships don't make sense



Scarlet Ridge: VMS Feeder Mineralization on the Surface





gossanous rhyolite

pyrite stringers

#### Questions?

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