



Muskox Seeking Source Of Atlin Placer Gold

Muskox Minerals Corp. [MSK-TSXV; MQS.GR-Frankfurt] reports receiving most of the assays from its Phase II drilling program on the 100% optioned Yellowjacket Atlin gold-silver property in northern British Columbia. More than a million ounces of placer gold is believed to have been recovered between 1890 and 1990 from the Atlin Gold Camp located on the eastern shore of Atlin Lake.

The objective of the Muskox exploration programs is to search for the bedrock source of the placer gold. Numerous gold-bearing quartz veins are situated near the gold placers that are considered to be the source for many of the placer deposits. In late 2003 the Muskox Phase I drill program tested beneath the placer gold gravels where gold grades of 15.0 oz/ton across 5.6 metres were intercepted in a section of the Pine Creek Fault Zone within the underlying bedrock. Gold occurs within the 50 to 70-metre wide Pine Creek Fault Zone associated with ultramafic (dark) rocks. The March 2004 Phase II drilling program tested a 50-metre strike length


of the Pine Creek Fault.

The Phase II drilling returned 0.76 oz.gold/ton (26.21 grams/tonne) over 8.2 feet (2.5 metres) in hole YJ-04-01 that included an interval grading 1.87 oz.gold/ton (64.28 grams/tonne) over 3.28 feet (1.0 metres). Other encouraging assays included 0.21 oz.gold/ton (7.08 grams/tonne) over 0.68 feet and 0.29 oz/ton (10.0 grams/tonne) over 0.45 metres. Drill hole YJ-04-07 intersected six gold-bearing zones with the best

assay returning 6.58 oz/ton over 1.05 metres.

New geological modeling of drill hole data has now defined three parallel planar zones of gold mineralization within the Pine Creek Fault Zone that trend east-west and dip toward the south. Dr. Roger Morton, president, says the Phase III drill program has been designed to test the three parallel mineralized zones in nine holes totaling 1,305 metres. A diamond drill has been mobilized to the property with drilling to start immediately.

Dr. Morton says that due to what is known as the “nugget effect” the company is considering extracting a bulk sample from a small open pit after the Phase III drilling program is completed. The nugget effect occurs when very high bonanza-grade gold values skew the resource calculations.

“A bulk sampling program would enable the company to get a better handle on the average grade of the deposits,” says Morton. The bulk sampling program would most likely be followed by a scoping study. 



Examples of coarse placer gold from the Atlin Gold Camp in northern British Columbia.

Photo courtesy Muskox Minerals Corp.