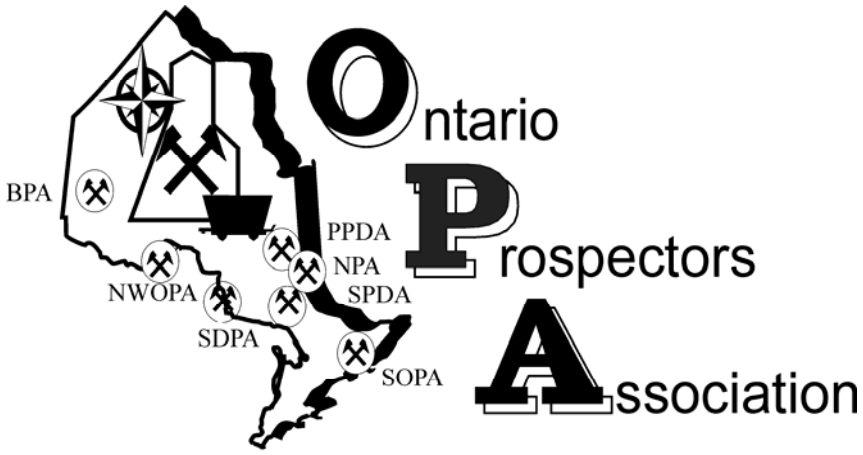

ONTARIO EXPORATION & GEOSCIENCE SYMPOSIUM "HIGHLIGHTING ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL EXPLORATION YEAR"

ABSTRACTS

December 9 & 10, 2008
Sudbury, Ontario

Ontario
Northern Ontario Heritage Fund
Fonds du patrimoine du Nord de l'Ontario

Presentations Tuesday, December 9th

Page 1	Andrea Waldie, Association of Professional Geoscientists of Ontario	Professional Registration in Ontario - Myths, Misconceptions and Other Information You'll Want to Know
Abstract Not Available	Blaine Webster, JVX Ltd.	JVX Deep Penetrating Moving Loop Electromagnetic System
Page 1	Sam Lieff, TELUS	Mapping and Planning Geology, Mining and Exploration Projects with SPOT High-Resolution Satellite Imagery
Page 1	Stew Hamilton*[1] & Kerstin Brauneder[1], Keiko Hattori[2], [1]Ontario Geological Survey, [2]University of Ottawa	Origin of forest ring related biogas deposits of northern Ontario
Abstract Not Available	Greg Stott, Ontario Geological Survey	Superior Province: Terranes, Domains and Autochthons
Abstract Not Available	Etienne Dinel*[1], W. Bleeker[1], B. Dubé[1], J. Ayer[2], B. Berger[2], [1]Geological Survey of Canada, Natural Resources Canada, [2]Ontario Geological Survey	Stratigraphic and structural framework of the Kidd-Munro assemblage
Page 2	John B. Chapman*[1], J.M. Peter, D. Layton-Matthews[2], J.B. Gemmell[3], [1]Geological Survey of Canada, Natural Resources Canada, [2]Queen's University, [3]University of Tasmania	Identifying and decoding geochemical variation in metalliferous black shales of the Kidd-Munro Assemblage: a potential vectoring tool for base metal mineralization?
Abstract Not Available	Mark Smyk, Ontario Geological Survey	Mining & Exploration Activity in Northwestern Ontario
Page 3	Nelson Baker, Rainy River Resources Ltd.	Canada's Next Mining Camp
Page 5	Zoran Madon, Brett Resources Inc.	Hammond Reef: Building a Multi-Million Ounce Gold Resource
Page 6	Todd Keast, Canadian Arrow Mines Ltd.	The Kenbridge Deposit and Regional Exploration Targets
Page 7	Pete Hollings, Lakehead University	Mineral deposit research at Lakehead University
Page 7	Bob Middleton, East West Resource Corporation	Copper Exploration in the Thunder Bay Region
Page 8	Andrew Cheatle, AMEC Americas Limited	AMEC in Ontario, in Canada and Worldwide. Responsibly
Page 8	Ian Russell, Rubicon Minerals Corp.	F2 Zone Gold Discovery, Phoenix Gold Project, Red Lake

Presentations Wednesday, December 10th

Abstract Not Available	Pam Sangster, Ontario Geological Survey	Southern Ontario 2008: Exploration Highlights and a "Green" Minerals Forecast
Page 9	Ruth Debicki, Ministry of Northern Development & Mines	The Diamond Pipeline, and Diamonds in Ontario
Abstract Not Available	Dale Sutherland, Activation Laboratories	Soil Gas Hydrocarbons: Pathfinder compounds to success!
Abstract Not Available	Blaine Webster, Goldeye Explorations Ltd.	Sandy Lake a New High Grade Gold Project
Page 9	Gary Grabowski, Ontario Geological Survey	Northeast Ontario Exploration Highlights
Abstract Not Available	Charles Page, Queenston Mining Inc.	More Ounces Being Found in Kirkland Lake
Abstract Not Available	Jonathon Rudd, Aeroquest	Navigating the Minefield of Selecting the Appropriate Airborne EM Technology
Abstract Not Available	David de Launay, Assistant Deputy Minister - Far North, Ministry of Natural Resources	Far North Planning
Abstract Not Available	Monte Hummel, World Wildlife Fund-Canada	Environmentalists and Prospectors: Is Peace Possible?
Abstract Not Available	Larry Innes, Canadian Boreal Initative	Land Use Planning for Prosperity
Abstract Not Available	Michael Power, Mayor of the Municipality of Greenstone	Community Involvement in GIS Product Development
Abstract Not Available	Neil Pettigrew, Vice President of Exploration, PC Gold Inc.	The Pickle Crow Gold Mine Property, A 21st Century Approach to Exploration in a Famously High-Grade, Past Producing Mine
Abstract Not Available	Christine Kaszycki, Assistant Deputy Minister and Susan Capling, Director, MNDM	Mining Act Modernization, MNDM
Abstract Not Available	Matt Rees, Linear Metals Corporation	Kilometre 61 Molybdenum-Copper-Silver Deposit

Professional Registration in Ontario – Myths, Misconceptions and Other Information You'll Want to Know

Over the last several years some misconceptions, miscommunications and misunderstandings have emerged with regards to professional geoscience licensure in Ontario and now swirl around as general "knowledge"; breeding further misunderstandings and miscommunications in a vicious circle. Hopefully a little clarification will assist all concerned and will help build a strong and proud profession. A brief update on Association events over the last year and on the registration regulation will also be presented.

Mapping & Planning Geology, Mining, and Exploration Projects with SPOT High-Resolution Satellite Imagery

Since 2003, TELUS and Iunctus Geomatics have been acquiring high-resolution satellite imagery of Canada using the SPOT (*Satellite Pour l'Observation de la Terre*) satellite constellation. By maximizing the capacity of the satellites, a vast amount of imagery can be collected each year, which in turn provides the most up-to-date high-resolution imagery dataset of the country. The SPOT imagery is used for mapping and planning in a number of professional industries including oil & gas, resource management, infrastructure development, forestry, emergency response, and agriculture.

Currently in Ontario and northern Canada, the imagery is being utilized by a number of professionals operating in the geology, mining, and mineral exploration industries. The users come from varying organizations ranging from junior exploration companies to the federal government. Join us to discover how TELUS and Iunctus are acquiring and providing the SPOT satellite imagery, and see some examples of how it is being used in geology, mining, and mineral exploration projects.

Origin of forest ring related biogas deposits of northern Ontario

Kerstin Brauneder, University of Ottawa
Stewart Hamilton, Ontario Geological Survey
Keiko Hattori, University of Ottawa

For over 10 years, the OGS has been investigating Forest Rings – large circular features that occur in carbonate-rich soils in forested areas of northern Ontario. During this time the features were determined to be centred on sources of negative redox charge, most commonly composed of large and shallow accumulations of natural gas in unconsolidated glacial overburden. Previous studies have shown this gas to have formed under low temperature conditions by biological decomposition of organic matter in the glacio-lacustrine and glacio-marine clays and sands that host the gas deposits. The nature and origin of the organic matter is, as of yet, unknown.

Recent field experiments have determined that a significant amount of the natural gas is present as a vapour phase in groundwaters within the rings. Gas/water ratios exceeding 0.3 have been measured in groundwaters from only 8 meters depth. Considering the large number of rings and their wide distribution across northern Ontario, forest rings may represent significant deposits of biogenic natural gas that may be exploitable.

In addition to the previously known methane gas, there are indications of complex hydrocarbons dissolved in groundwater collected near the centre of some of the rings. The geographic distribution of the rings appears to be related to ground temperatures with almost all of the several thousand known rings occurring south of the boundary of discontinuous permafrost. The isotopic evidence, the hydrocarbon production and the relationship between ring distribution and ground temperature regime suggest that microorganisms are intimately involved with the creation of the source gas and that this process may still be ongoing.

Current investigations are determining the role that microorganisms play in the creation of the visible ring and of the source gas. Field and laboratory studies include detailed investigation of the chemistry, microbiology and ground temperatures at the edge of three rings – two that are methane sourced and one that is centred on an accumulation of dissolved hydrogen sulphide. Part of the work includes in vitro experiments that attempt to recreate the redox and electrical field conditions that occur in the high gradient areas at the edges of forest rings.

Identifying and decoding geochemical variation in metalliferous black shales of the Kidd-Munro assemblage: a potential vectoring tool for base metal mineralization?

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Sedimentary horizons commonly occur as intercalations within the volcanic succession in the Kidd-Munro assemblage of the western Abitibi, Ontario. Such horizons may have a variable tuff or greywacke content, but are generally dominated by carbonaceous (graphitic) argillaceous material. These horizons represent quiescent periods in the volcanic sequence and thus may preserve geochemical records of contemporaneous hydrothermal activity, either by direct incorporation of sulphide phases or by incorporation of other hydrothermal plume material by chemical and terrigenous detrital sedimentary processes. These argillaceous sediments are commonly highly sulphidic, some even containing narrow massive sulphide lenses, and form conductive horizons that are frequently mapped using geophysical methods during the course of base metal exploration. Argillaceous horizons have been examined in over 90 diamond drill cores located within MacDiarmid, Reid, Mahaffey, Kidd, Carnegie and Prosser townships, north of Timmins, and 357 samples were collected for further work and analysis. Samples represent the full range of sedimentary and mineralogical variability encountered, and are from all major geophysical anomalies identified within these townships. Sulphides are dominated by pyrite ± pyrrhotite, with minor sphalerite, galena and chalcopyrite. Five textural types have been identified within the Fe-sulphides: Py_1, chemical sedimentary laminae and framboids; Py_2, recrystallized chemical and detrital sedimentary sulphides; Py_3, zoned and contorted crustiform beds; Py_4, nodules and concretions; and Py_5, metamorphic overgrowths and porphyroblasts. There is also much evidence for alteration sulphides and replacement of early sulphide phases by later, possibly hydrothermal phases, although the timing of these alteration events remains somewhat cryptic. Whole rock conventional and portable x-ray fluorescence (pXRF) geochemical analysis has been used to identify prospective horizons, and has shown that element anomalies can be used to correlate horizons between adjacent drillcores. Multivariant statistical analysis (principal component analysis - PCA) of bulk sample geochemical analyses has been used to identify element associations that reflect major source contributions: 1)

hydrothermal – Ag, As, Bi, Cd, Cu, Hg, In, Mo, Ni, Pb, Sn, Te, Zn; 2) hydrogenous – Au, Ca, Cr, Mn, Pt, Sb, Sc, Tl, V; and 3) terrigenous – Al, Ba, Be, Ce, Cs, Dy, Er, Eu, F, Ga, Gd, Hf, Ho, La, Lu, Mg, Nb, Nd, Pr, Rb, Sm, Sr, Ta, Tb, Th, Tm, U, Y, Yb, Zr. Iron and S do not have eigenvalues consistent with the major PCA groupings, suggesting that pyrite and pyrrhotite abundance may be a poor indicator of hydrothermal input to black shales. To elucidate the source of observed chemical variability, in-situ laser ablation ICP-MS trace element analyses of pyrite and pyrrhotite of all documented textural types were carried out at the University of Tasmania. Trace elements of putative hydrothermal origin showing significant enrichment in pyrite include Ag, Au, As, Bi, Cu, Pb, Sb, Sn, Tl and Zn, whereas Co, Ni, Mo, Se, Pt and Te are presumed to have a hydrogenous origin, based on comparison with modern and ancient analogues. Comparison of these element groupings with those determined from bulk chemical analyses highlights further the complex nature of element distributions and associations within the sulfide component of the Kidd-Munro black shale horizons. In general, the early, visibly included “dirty” pyrite forms (Py_1 to Py_3) have the greatest trace element contents, and later, inclusion-free “clean” metamorphic pyrite (Py_5 and pseudomorphous pyrrhotite) contain the lowest trace element abundances. Ongoing work seeks to provide an interpretive framework within which to identify both the type (e.g., low-temperature <200°C, non-massive sulfide precipitating, versus high-temperature, ≈350°C, massive sulfide generating) and recognize geochemical gradients on the palaeoseafloor within the argillite horizons that can be used to vector toward high-temperature hydrothermal venting centres and concealed mineralization.

DOES THE VASTLY UNDEREXPLORED RAINY RIVER GREENSTONE BELT HOST CANADA’S NEXT GOLD CAMP?

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Rainy River Property is located near the international boundary with Minnesota and a short distance east of the Manitoba border. Covering over 60,000 acres, it discontinuously spans 60 km of the vastly underexplored Rainy River greenstone belt (RRGB). In the past, traditional mineral exploration, along the belt, had been hampered by the combined factors of lack of bedrock exposure and substantial private ownership of lands: both circumstances that deterred activity by exploration companies. As a consequence, this greenstone belt escaped the level of exploration activity that has characterized many other greenstone belts within the Superior Province. A regional, $440,000 rotosonic till sampling program conducted by the OGS between 1986 and 1987 (A. Bacz) along the covered portion of the RRGB is credited for the discovery of one of Canada’s largest gold-in-till anomalies.

The property was purchased by Rainy River Resources Ltd. in 2005 from Nuinsco Resources Limited who, between 1994 and 1997, spent about $11 million, a large part of that expenditure consisting of reverse circulation drilling (597 holes) and diamond drilling (219 core holes) principally focused in Richardson Township. Nuinsco’s reverse circulation drilling outlined a till-hosted gold-pyrite dispersal train extending 15 km southwest from an interpreted caldera structure beneath ~30 m of glacial overburden. In the till directly over the caldera structure, reverse circulation drilling delineated several higher-grade nodes including the composite dispersal train that hosts the 17 and 433 Zones. This work also established that a 600 ha block of southward-tilted, folded caldera dacites is pervasively anomalous in volcanogenic gold and pyrite. Follow-up diamond drilling of the dacites by Nuinsco beneath the 17/433 dispersal train located and partially defined the large, gold-enriched but then sub-economic 17(now renamed to17/ODM) and 433 Zones.

Of particular significance to the mineral potential of the RRGB, the 17/ODM Zone, 433 and the Beaver Pond gold deposits are Na-depleted, K-enriched, aluminous with widespread and relatively abundant base metal mineralization (primarily zinc). Because of the gold mineralization, together with its association with highly aluminous alteration and enrichment of zinc and copper, volcanologists interpret this to be compatible with a shallow-water VMS depositional system.

The gold mineralization, within the interpreted caldera structure in Richardson Township, occurs along four sub-parallel east-west trends on the Rainy River Property: the CAP Trend (2 km long), the 17 Gold Trend (3.3 km long) which includes 17(east), 17(main), ODM, Beaver Pond and West Zones, the HS Trend (300 m) and the 433 Trend (1.5 km long). The 17/ODM, HS, 433 and Beaver Pond deposits are complex deformed and folded deposits. The largest deposit delineated to date, 17/ODM, averages 75 m in width, has been traced along strike for a distance of 900 m and is open down plunge with the deepest intersection recorded below the 1000 m level. Drilled at 30 m to 60 m centers to about the 450 m level, the 17/ODM deposit that strikes 100° and dips 55°S. The 17 (east), 17/ODM, Beaver Pond and West Zones all occur within a regional magnetic low that extends for approximately 11 km in a west-northwesterly direction from the 17/ODM deposit. Sulphide minerals typically comprise 5 to 10% of the mode of the 17 Zone. Pyrite predominates, accounting for 90% of the sulphide content, and other identified (in decreasing order of abundance) minerals include sphalerite, chalcopyrite, pyrrhotite, galena, and minor arsenopyrite.

Since 1993, approximately $26 million ($11 million by Nuinsco and $15 million by Rainy River Resources Ltd.) have been spent by both companies along the RRGB. Although the largest part of the above expenditure has occurred within the caldera structure in Richardson Township, 23 km along strike to the northeast, where the RRGB is better exposed, prospecting and detailed mapping resulted in a new discovery of widespread base metal sulphides (Zn-Au-Ag-Cu) at the contact between a 4 km by 9 km felsic dyke complex and a metagabbro unit. An initial drilling program testing some newly discovered surface showings confirmed multiple intervals of VMS-style mineralization providing strong evidence that the RRGB is an important new mineral district that is highly prospective for more than one style of gold and base metal deposit.

In February, 2008, based on 145,630 m of diamond drilling, Rainy River released a NI43-101 global gold resource for the 17/ODM deposit, the Beaver Pond and the top parts of the Cap and 433 Zones prepared by CCIC Consulting. At a 0.5 g/t Au cut-off, the mineral resource estimate is summarized below:

Category	Tonnes	g/ t Au	Ozs Au	g/t Ag	Ozs Ag
Indicated	34,238,000	1.26	1,386,000	2.63	2,896,000
Inferred	67,564,000	1.03	2,233,000	2.35	5,109,000

Since this mineral resource estimate, an additional 90 drill holes (November 4, 2008) have been completed in Richardson Township adding a higher grade gold content to the existing resource (17/ODM, 433, HS, Cap Zones and 280). To date, a total of ***eight*** distinct gold zones have been discovered within or near the margin of the partially explored, 600-ha caldera structure located in Richardson Township. The Company's next NI43-101 resource estimate is being prepared by SRK Consulting and is due Q1, 2009. Our preliminary in-house economic assessment of the 17/ODM deposit indicates that it can be developed profitably by a combination of open pit and underground mining methods at present gold prices.

Rainy's solid exploration team, headed up by Wally Rayner, our Project Manager, and C.J. Baker, our regional exploration geologist, continue to demonstrate that the exploration potential for other gold-bearing mineral occurrences along the poorly exposed RRGB remains high. Going forward, the 600 ha gold-bearing caldera structure in Richardson Township remains largely unexplored. Recent reverse circulation till and bedrock sampling has highlighted with several untested, high priority gold targets that will be tested in 2009. In addition, the widespread VMS-style mineralization discovered in the Off Lake area, is also scheduled for drill testing during the Q1, 2009 period.

Hammond Reef: Building a Multi-Million Ounce Gold Resource.
(abstract for the OPA 2008)

Gold showings at the Hammond Reef Gold deposit near the town of Atikokan, in northwestern Ontario, have been reported in geology journals and newspapers as early as the 1890's. In the early 1900's several small scale gold deposits were mined in the Sawbill Bay area. These deposits tended to generate anywhere from five hundred to a couple of thousand ounces of gold. Reported grades from the mined deposits ranged from 0.3 ounces per ton to 0.5 ounces per ton. Falconbridge Gold Corp. initiated a gold exploration program at Hammond Reef in 1984.. Falconbridge Gold became Kinross Gold Corp when Falconbridge sold all its gold assets to form a separate gold trading company in 1993. During the 1990's Pentland Firth Ventures Ltd., a public company, in which Kinross was a major shareholder, explored Hammond Reef for gold. A combination of prospecting, mapping, geophysics, and drilling indicated that the gold mineralization at Hammond Reef was large, near surface and low-grade. Pentland Firth calculated an inferred resource of 86 Mt at 0.93 g/t Au or 2.6 M Ounces of gold (pre NI 43-101 reporting).

Brett Resources Inc. formed a joint venture with Kinross on Hammond Reef in March of 2006. Brett could earn up to 60 percent of the project by spending US $5 million on the property over a four-year period. Brett fulfilled its spending obligations at Hammond in November of 2007. In March of 2008 Brett announced that it planned to purchase the remaining 40 percent of Hammond Reef it did not already own from Kinross. Brett now owns 100 percent of Hammond Reef and has also optioned several adjacent gold properties from local prospectors.

Brett has focused most of its 34,000 metres of diamond drilling on the Hammond Reef "A Zone" where thick gold mineralized lenses extend from surface to over 300 metres in depth. Mineralization of the "A Zone" strikes east-north-east for more than two kilometres.

In October 2008 Brett announced the completion of an initial inferred resource estimate for Hammond Reef. Scott Wilson Roscoe Postle Associates Inc., independent resource consultant for Brett, audited the resource estimate and confirms that it is National Instrument 43-101 compliant. Based on a cut-off grade of 0.6 grams per tonne Au and using Inverse Distance Cubed methodology ("ID3") Brett Resources has estimated an inferred resource of 141.5 million tonnes at a grade of 1.05 grams per tonne or 4.8 million ounces contained gold.

The table below illustrates the sensitivity of the gold deposit to different grade thresholds.

Cut-off (g/t Au)	Tonnes (000's)	Au g/t	Au Oz.
+0.7g/t	115,600	1.14	4,252,000
+0.6g/t	**141,500**	**1.05**	**4,794,000**
+0.5g/t	169,800	0.97	5,294,000
+0.4g/t	200,500	0.89	5,737,000

Exploration efforts at Hammond Reef have succeeded in outlining a large, near surface gold deposit. Over 97% of this resource is within 300m of surface and the mineralization remains open along strike and to depth. Preliminary metallurgical work indicates that gold recoveries in excess of 90 percent are achievable. The Company intends to initiate a preliminary economic assessment on Hammond Reef in the spring of 2009. Also in the planning stages, is further drilling and an exploration program which will explore the lateral extents of the deposit and assess the potential of other areas within our large land position to host additional gold deposits. Baseline environmental studies and consultation with First Nations are also proceeding

The Kenbridge Deposit and Regional Exploration Targets

Canadian Arrow Mines, Ltd. (CRO-TSXV) is working towards developing the Kenbridge Nickel deposit in conjunction with identifying additional nickel resources within northwestern Ontario. Since optioning Kenbridge in 2006, CRO has undertaken 30,000 m of diamond drilling, completed metallurgical studies, has ongoing environmental baseline studies, completed a Preliminary Economic Assessment, identified a land based tailings site, commenced formal consultations with the Anishinaabe Nation in Treaty #3, purchased several long lead time pieces of equipment, submitted a project description to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency, received permits to take and discharge water for an advanced underground exploration program, and received a work permit to construct a road into the Kenbridge site. The Kenbridge deposit remains open at depth and along strike with an excellent potential to expand the resource estimate.

Regional exploration programs have identified prospective nickel mineralization associated within the Denmark Lake Intrusion. The large size of the body, the relative lack of historical exploration in conjunction with the initial results at the Caribou Lodge showing, indicates a high potential for this intrusion. A series of historical showings in the Turtlepond Lake area have been advanced to the drill stage. New exploration targets have been identified while exploring the historical showings. Canadian Arrow Mines Ltd. is focussed on exploring and developing nickel sulphide deposits within northwestern Ontario, an underexplored region with considerable mineral potential.

Mineral deposit research at Lakehead University

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The faculty and students of the Geology Department of Lakehead University are involved in a wide range of mineral deposit studies both in Northern Ontario and overseas. The majority of these research projects are supported by, and undertaken in close cooperation with, industry partners. Although Lakehead is maintaining a strong focus on gold deposit research through ongoing partnerships with the Musselwhite and Williams mines, we are also working on base metal, diamond and porphyry/epithermal deposits.

Copper Exploration in the Thunder Bay Region

By: R.S Middleton, P.Eng, Moe Lavigne, Paul Nielsen, Lucy Rajnovich, Neal Bennett, and Jordan Laarman.

There are three principle geological settings containing significant copper in the Thunder Bay Region of Northwestern Ontario. Achaean volcanogenic massive sulphide and associated stringer zones; magmatic Cu-Ni sulphides in both Achaean and Proterozoic age mafic-ultramafic intrusions; and a new setting for the Region classified as IOCG (iron oxide copper gold) that is Temiskaming in age (late Achaean) and has the potential for large tonnage, low grade copper-gold-silver-molybdenum.

Exploration by East West Resource Corporation started in 2003 on the Hamlin Copper showings and clear cut logging had exposed an extensive pink coloured breccia containing high copper values in hand grab samples (2.0-6.0%) with associated gold and silver. Trenching and 58 drill holes were completed in 2004-2006 which outlined an 800 metre long and 50-200 metre wide breccia zone that also extends westward 3-4km on claims held by Freewest Resources. Gravity, Induced Polarization (IP), magnetic and airborne surveys assisted in outlining the zone.

An option to further explore the property was announced in January 2008 with Xstrata Copper, who have continued mapping and are now currently drilling the breccia zone. Age dating done by East West using Molybdenite (Re/Ox) gave a Timiskaming age which is the same as the Caragas IOCG deposits in Brazil. Chalcopyrite, with minor pyrite 5-10% magnetite, molybdenite, epidote, hematite (pervasive and veinlets) characterize the breccia host.

In the Marshall Lake area within the Wabigoon greenstone belt, exploration has found the extension of the Teck, Gazooma and North Gazooma copper showings using IP and VTEM airborne surveys. Due to high silica content, these copper zones are poor EM conductors. Drilling in 2006-2008 now traced all 3 showing to depth.

At Norton Lake, north of Fort Hole, copper makes up an important part of a nickel copper cobalt PGE resource. This zone is hosted in a pyroxenite-gabbro Achaean intrusion in contact with basalt volcanics and dips 60° northward in a lense 250m long and extending by and 400m in depth. VTEM airborne ground magnetics and IP have been employed as well as downhole pulsed EM and mise-a-la-masse.

Proterozoic ultramafic intrusions also contain copper such as the seagull intrusion where carbonate, chalcopyrite and native copper are associated with PGE-nickel mineralization.

The Great Lakes Nickel deposit is another Proterozoic example. Other companies have explored or developed copper deposits in Thunder Bay such as the Lac Des Iles Palladium mine where a large low grade 0.05% copper, 0.05% nickel resource is being mined from an Achaean gabbro pyroxenite. Landore Resources have been drilling a nickel copper deposit at Junior Lake, 15km west of the Marshall Lake deposit.

New copper-nickel discoveries are underway in the McFaulds Lake area where Noront have reported a total indicated resource of 1,862,000 tonnes of 1.75 % Ni, 1.03 % Cu, 0.14 g/t Au, 0.97 g/t Pt, 3.45 g/t Pd, 3.3 g/t Ag and a total inferred resource of 1,109,000 tonnes of 2.16 % Ni, 1.12 % Cu, 0.12 g/t Au, 1.22 g/t Pt, 4.01 g/t Pd and 3.7 g/t Ag.

AMEC in Ontario, in Canada and Worldwide, Responsibly
Andrew Cheatle, AMEC Americas Limited

AMEC in Ontario, in Canada and worldwide provides leading consultancy advice and services from exploration to resource estimation, to Technical Reports, engineering design through to EPCM contracts (turn key mine development), including the successful construction of De Beer's Victor Mine project ahead of time and below budget.

F2 Zone Gold Discovery – Phoenix Gold Project, Red Lake, Ontario
Ian Russell - Exploration Manager
Rubicon Minerals Corporation

Rubicon Minerals is aggressively exploring their high grade gold discovery, the F2 Zone, at the 100% controlled Phoenix Gold Project, Red Lake, Ontario. Since discovery in February 2008, drilling has identified significant zones of mineralization including bonanza-style and high-grade gold intercepts. Gold mineralization has now been intercepted over a strike length of 360 metres and 1025 metres vertically, to a depth of 1117 metres and remains open along strike and to depth. The F2 Zone is located in the world's high-grade gold capital, it is close to infrastructure and is at shallow depths. It is emerging as one of the more significant discoveries within the Red Lake gold district in recent years.

Significant high-grade intercepts from the F2-Zone include 24.4 g/t gold over 17.0 metres, 42.4 g/t gold over 11.0 metres, 52.6 g/t gold over 7.4 metres and bonanza grade mineralization of 891.1 g/t gold over 2.0 metres and 361.7 g/t gold over 1.8 metres. Associated with these high-grade intercepts are extensive, gold-bearing sulphide zones, such as 8.3 g/t gold over 30.0 metres and 5.6 g/t gold over 50.7 metres. Geological interpretation suggests the gold mineralization occurs in a series of multiple, sub-parallel zones that dip steeply to the northwest. The geological setting, grade distribution, dimensions of the zones, style of gold mineralization and associated alteration of the F2 Zone are similar to those documented at the major Red Lake gold mines.

Additional drilling is planned to define the distribution of gold mineralization. The F2 Zone is approximately 450 metres from an existing shaft and underground workings on the property providing the company a unique opportunity to fast track a planned underground exploration program through the core of the F2 Zone. Rubicon is in the permitting process to allow shaft dewatering and rehabilitation to commence late in 2008, barring any unforeseen circumstances. A series of drill stations are planned from a proposed drift at 350 metres below surface to allow

for detailed drilling and exploration of the F2 Zone, as well as along-strike and depth extensions of the currently known limits to the gold mineralization.

The Diamond Pipeline, and Diamonds in Ontario.
Ruth Debicki, Ministry of Northern Development & Mines

The "diamond pipeline" is the name given to the diamond business, starting with grassroots exploration and ending in finished jewellery for sale at a retail store. The diamond pipeline is a relative new concept in Canada, which has gone from being a non-producer to the world's third largest producer of diamonds (by value) in just 10 years. With the opening of De Beers' Victor Mine, Ontario has become Canada's newest diamond producing jurisdiction. The presentation will address the 6 stages of the pipeline, including highlighting various aspects of this exclusive industry in their global, national and provincial contexts, and point out the work being done in Ontario to establish all stages of the pipeline here.

OEGS 2008 Presentation Abstract
Resident Geologist Program
Ontario Geological Survey
Exploration Highlights of Northeastern Ontario
Gary Grabowski
Acting Regional Resident Geologist
Kirkland Lake Region

The mining and mineral exploration industries experienced unprecedented high levels of activity in northeast Ontario during 2008. Over 320 exploration projects representing investments in excess of $370 Million were active in the northeast during 2008, which includes projects at the McFaulds Lake, Victor/Kyle Lake area, Timmins/Wawa area, the Kirkland Lake area and Sudbury/Sault Ste Marie areas. Exciting new discoveries and significant advancement of ongoing projects was the order of the day for most of the year.

These activities were driven by high commodity prices that eventually fell catastrophically over a few short weeks this past fall. Nobody was surprised that the "super cycle" ended, but the speed of the global market downturn caught everyone off guard. Explorationists traditionally take the long term view and those with solid treasuries have scaled back but are continuing to develop value in the ground in anticipation of the next up cycle. Highlights of only a few of the many worthwhile projects continuing across northeast Ontario will be presented.