

Gold activity picks up

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Vulcan Minerals Inc. is preparing for a summer field program and plans to seek a partner to finance exploration at a newly acquired property in central Newfoundland.

The St. John's-based firm said it has acquired, by staking, the Little River gold property which covers a 20-kilometre belt of sedimentary rocks hosting "significant" gold zones.

Mineralization is contained in the Isle Galet formation, which has been subjected to extensive alteration consisting of carbonates, chlorite, sericite, limonite, antimony oxides and silicification, the company said.

"Drilling by a previous operator in the Wolf Pond zone encountered mineralization up to 8.2 metres in width grading 2.38 grams per tonne gold," Vulcan said.

Grab samples from the Bower's Tickle and Long Jacks Bight showings have reported up to 12.3 grams per tonne gold and 13.7 grams per tonne gold, respectively.

Several gold-in-soil anomalies and showings remain unexplored.

"Vulcan is in the process of compiling all existing information on the property toward planning a summer field program and attracting a partner to finance exploration of the property."

Meanwhile, Mount Pearl's Cornerstone Resources has provided an update on its Island Pond gold property in central Newfoundland.

The property, located in the newly recognized Botwood Basin, adjoins the Moosehead property of Altius Minerals, which is under option to Sudbury Contact Mines Inc.

"The Moosehead property is host to bonanza grade gold mineralization including recent drill intersections of up to 170.31 grams per tonne gold over 1.5 metres," Cornerstone said.

The Island Pond property consists of 38 claims, or 950 hectares, which are 100 per cent owned by Cornerstone.

"The area has recently been identified as having high potential for low sulphidation epithermal gold systems, as well as Carlin type, sediment-hosted gold deposits," the company said.

Of special interest is the fact that two of the zones, which have been delineated, are in areas that were found to contain clusters of quartz/sulphosalt boulders and quartz breccia boulders, Cornerstone said.

"Both zones have elevated gold, antimony and arsenic soil anomalies and are associated with distinct north-northwest to northwest trending magnetic anomalies."

A program is underway to further define the anomalies identified in 2001, the results of which are expected by the end of this month.

"The company is currently holding discussions with potential joint-venture partners to fund an aggressive, Phase 2 exploration program to test the high quality targets identified by Cornerstone and to investigate other areas of the property."