

MARKET COMMENTARY

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Rick Mills publishes pertinent investment articles on his website on a regular basis. He also publishes a regular investment newsletter.

Richard Mills is owner and host of **AHEADOFTHEHERD.COM**. His articles have been published on over 400 websites.

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As a general rule, the most successful man in life is the man who has the best information

Boreal Metals hunting high-grade VMS in mining-friendly Sweden

Boreal Metals Corp. (TSX-V:BMX) is poised to benefit from Sweden's attractive exploration and mining climate. During the mining downturn a few years ago, EMX needed to cull its Scandinavian asset portfolio of around 24 projects. After whittling it down to its best four, EMX management began looking around for a partner to either acquire the Scandinavia portfolio or become a strategic partner.

They knew Patricio Varas, the former CEO of Western Potash, through an earlier collaboration in Arizona, and asked if he would be interested. He was, and a series of fruitful discussions resulted in the birth of Boreal.

Based in North Vancouver with an office in Sweden, Boreal now presides over a portfolio of eight projects, which were the product of approximately \$6 million spent by EMX over several years in assembling this Scandinavian portfolio.

We think that Boreal has all the pieces in place to advance a project that could become the next base metals producer in Sweden, a mining-friendly jurisdiction that has removed most, if not all, of the impediments to mining.

As copper soars, capital markets specialist joins Rockridge board

Copper's year to date price rise has been impressive. The high performance isn't only reflected in short-lived catalysts. As we have been reporting, all the estimates call for a copper supply deficit in the next few years. Citi Bank has said it expects the bellwether metal to rally 10% over the next three to six months, during which time the Chinese and US trade delegations should come to an agreement on the year-long trade dispute.

That would put copper at \$6,700 a tonne this year due to 2% growth in Chinese demand "led by strong growth in late cycle construction completions and power infrastructure investment," Citi said, adding that growth in electric cars will buttress copper needs.

The bank also predicts copper inventories, which are at a 10-year low, will fall further in the second quarter and leave the copper market in a deficit of 200,000 tonnes this year and next.

Clearly it's a good time to be a copper miner or explorer, since rising copper prices are bound to influence the stocks of other majors and juniors.

Enter Rockridge Resources (TSX-V:ROCK), the Vancouver company that has an option on the Knife Lake Copper VMS project.

Max runs up 30% on gold- satellite survey correlation

Max Resource (TSX-V:MXR) briefly hit a fresh 52-week high today after publishing the results of a long-wave infrared (LWIR) survey at its Choco Precious Metals Project in Colombia. The aim of the LWIR survey was to identify a correlation between gold-bearing conglomerate outcrops (mineralized areas at surface) and historical production in the Choco Precious Metals District.

https://aheadoftheherd.com/Advertising/Max-Resources/LWIR-Survey.jpg

"The LWIR has yielded responses throughout the 1000 sq. km survey area similar to responses over the 36 sq. km area of our concentrated exploration efforts to date," Matich states in the Feb. 27 news release, adding: "The LWIR survey has also further increased our level of confidence in a possible link between overlying Choco Pacific production and underlying gold-bearing conglomerates."

The "cloud-stitched" LWIR survey results "appear to suggest a strong correlation between the gold bearing conglomerate Trial Pits and Outcrop sample sites and LWIR anomalies," states the news release.

The next catalyst for investors is the grades of a concentrated portion of a 50-kg sample taken from each of the six test pits. The grams per tonne of free gold processed to a minus-two-millimetre concentrate are expected to be released shortly.

Cypress moving forward to Phase 11 Prefeasibility

Cypress Development Corp (TSX-V:CYP) has achieved its objective of confirming that recent metallurgical test results closely match those outlined in a preliminary economic assessment (PEA) released in October.

The completion of the PFS first phase confirms that lithium can be acid-leached to between 75% and 83% extraction with sulfuric acid consumption of between 85 and 132 kilograms per tonne - generally lower than the 125 kg/t estimated in the PEA. The tests also showed impurities such as magnesium - which can significantly increase the complexity and costs of processing lithium, are easily controlled through conventional

While that is all very good, since it shows greater confidence in Cypress' strategy of building a new lithium mine in the United States right next to the only current producer, Albemarle's Silver Peak, the really big news is that Cypress is so confident in its test results, it feels it can move on to the next stage of the prefeas, which is to produce lithium carbonate and lithium hydroxide in forms that can be marketed to end-users.

Defense Metals on track to build rare earth mine

At Ahead of the Herd we've identified a project in northern BC that has all the elements in place for a successful, small-scale rare earth operation: Defense Metals' (TSX-V:DEFN) Wicheeda Project. Located close to a major population centre, Prince George, Wicheeda has no uranium, low thorium values, all the necessary infrastructure, the deposit has simple mineralogy, and the metallurgy has already been demonstrated through bench-scale testing.

Enough historical drilling has been done to compile an historical non-43-101 compliant resource estimate of 11.2 million tonnes grading 1.95% Light Rare Earth Elements at a 1% cutoff (LREE = Ce + La + Nd).

A 2009 study was designed to discover the ease of making a rare earth concentrate from a composite rock sample taken from Wicheeda carbonatite, based on three assay samples.

Bench-scale testing yielded more potentially recoverable rare earth elements than the resource estimate's current REEs (lanthanum, cerium, neodymium and samarium) such as dysprosium, europium and praseodymium.

Richard (Rick) Mills

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