

Acquisition Nickel Royale Project

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NOVAWEST RESOURCES INC ("NVE-V") - Acquisition Nickel-Royale Project

Hemlo-Schrieber Camp, SW Ontario

Palladium, Platinum, Nickel, Copper, Cobalt Primary Project Focus

NovaWest Resources Inc. (the "Company") Symbol "NVE" on the Canadian Venture Exchange (CDNX), is pleased to announce that the Company has negotiated an agreement to acquire a 100% interest in the Nickel-Royale Property (formerly known as the Nicopor Prospect) situated in the Hemlo-Schrieber Camp of Southwestern Ontario. The Nickel-Royale Property encompasses 32 claim units (1280 acres) and is strategically situated in the western portion of the Hemlo-Schrieber Greenstone Belt which contains the Marathon deposit (34 mt Cu-Ni-PGMs) being investigated by Geomaque, to the east and the Nipigon Plate are investigations by Maple Minerals/East West Resource Corp. to the west. The belt, traditionally known for its VMS potential and the Hemlo gold deposits, appears to be evolving into an important locus for polymetallic sulphides rich in Ni-Cu-PGMs. The Nickel-Royale property is easily accessible by road and lies 9 miles west of the town of Schrieber, and is in close proximity (10km) to the Winston Lake polymetallic VMS mine (Inmet Mining).

The Nickel-Royale property straddles the northern contact of the Hemlo-Schrieber greenstone belt with the Crossman granitoids to the north. At present the known mineralization appears to be related to a presumed, younger, south-dipping (35-40 degrees), phase layered complex involving ultramafics and mela/leucogabbros. Association with flow-like emplacements of komatiitic composition is considered unlikely.

The basemetal sulphide mineralization is comprised of pyrrhotite-chalcopyrite-pyrite-pentlandite. Pentlandite, the Ni-bearing sulphide phase, is particularly visible in cut and polished slabs and accounts for up to 15% of the sulphides. The sulphides occur as massive to net-texture and vein-like; Ni/Cu ratios exhibit a spread but average 3/1: Pd/Pt ratios average approximately 4/1. Sulphides recalculated to 100% (Inco 1998) yielded grades up to 7.5% Ni, 6.6% Cu and 0.3% Co.

Last significant drilling by Nichol Mines in 1970, proved the continuity of Ni-Cu-PGM zone to at least 400 feet down dip with a surface width of 7 feet and a strike length of 450 feet. It was concluded that the grade of about 1.0% Ni and 0.03% Cu over 5 to 15 feet showed indications of improving at depth. The body of mineralization was determined to be approximately 185,000 tons and open in three directions.

The suggested complexities in lithology and mineralization will be assessed along the lines of the footwall contamination and sulphide remobilisation model successfully applied by Puskas at Marathon. In this context the untested magnetic anomalies with/without associated EM conductors identified by Falconbridge, extend both west (1+5E to 10+E) and east (from 25E and 32E) of the identified resource, for an overall strike length of 3,000 metres, and offer the potential to greatly expand the abovementioned resource.

Grab samples taken in 1997 by the owners, assayed as high as 5.7% Ni, 1.3% Cu, 0.09% Co, 0.44 g/t Pd and 0.11 g/t Pt. A nearby showing, 200 meters north west gave a grab sample that ran 2.55% Ni, 2.4% Cu and 0.03% Zn.

A selection of the grab samples taken from the Nickel-Royale in 1997 resulted in the following assays:

Sample	Ni	Cu	Ni + Cu	Au	Pd	Pt	PGE (Pd+Pt)
97-09	2.92 %	0.078%	3.70%	36 ppb	158 ppb	60 ppb	0.254 g/t
97-10	5.70 %	0.09 %	5.79 %	24 ppb	442 ppb	30 ppb	0.496 g/t
97-11	1.44 %	1.26 %	2.70 %	56 ppb	194 ppb	50 ppb	0.300 g/t
97-12	0.60 %	1.01 %	1.61 %	64 ppb	24 ppb	110 ppb	0.298 g/t
97-13	1.55 %	0.66 %	2.21 %	36 ppb	186 ppb	40 ppb	0.262 g/t
97-14	0.66%	0.11 %	0.77 %	32 ppb	242 ppb	50 ppb	0.324 g/t
97-15	3.27 %	0.09 %	3.36 %	24 ppb	236 ppb	70 ppb	0.330 g/t

Drilling by Zenmac Metal Mines in 1965 (5 short holes - 200 feet) indicated a zone of nickel-copper mineralization about 300 feet long and 10 feet thick to a depth of 30 feet. Zenmac's 5 short holes on the main zone indicated a grade at that time of 1% Ni and 0.3% Cu over a length of 100 feet at 30 feet in depth.

Hole # 1 - 9.5 feet of .06% Ni & .06% Cu

Hole # 2 - 12.5 feet of .87% Ni & .31% Cu

Hole # 3 - intersected a porphyry unit that truncates the ore zone

Hole # 4 - 6.5 feet of .97% Ni & .07% Cu

Hole # 5 - 5.5 feet of .64% Ni & .38% Cu

Novawest will pay the Optionor five thousand dollars cash and twenty-five thousand shares upon exchange approval. Novawest will pay the Optionor twenty-five thousand shares upon the first positive geological report, and five thousand dollars cash and fifty thousand shares upon the second positive geological report Novawest generates from its work on the Nickel-Royale property. The property is subject to a two percent NSR, half of which is repurchaseable for one million dollars. All shares are subject to any applicable hold periods. All terms are subject to CDNX approval.

NovaWest also has the 600 sq km/150,000 acre Raglan Ni-PGM-Co-Cu Project, 1200 claim Lac Rocher Ni-PGM Project, GoldenPoly Zinc-Polymetallic Project, Bucke Pipe Diamond Project and GoldStock Gold Project. NovaWest trades on the CDNX under the trading symbol "NVE". U.S.A. SEC exemption: 12(g)3-2(b)#82-3822.

NovaWest invites the public to visit its website at (www.novawest.com), e-mail us at (novawest@novawest.com) or contact Jerry Dibble in Corporate Communications at 1-604-937-5585. TEL: (604) 683-8990

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