

# THE NORTHERN MINER

GLOBAL MINING NEWS • SINCE 1915

APRIL 17-30, 2017 / VOL. 103 ISSUE 8 / WWW.NORTHERNMINER.COM

## EnGold discovers copper-rich skarn at Lac La Hache

**BC DISCOVERY** | EnGold expands drill program to probe gravity anomaly for skarn mineralization



EnGold Mines' field manager Jesse Berkey gives the thumbs-up from an excavator after uncovering a gold-copper-rich quartz vein at surface in 2016 at the Aurizon zone, part of the Lac La Hache property. EN GOLD MINES

**BY LESLEY STOKES**

lstokes@northernminer.com

VANCOUVER

**E**nGold Mines (TSXV: EGM) has mobilized another drill rig to its Lac La Hache polymetallic property in central B.C., after finding a copper-gold-silver skarn zone in recent drilling.

The company intercepted 26.6 metres

of 1.8% copper, 0.27 gram gold per tonne, 10.3 grams silver per tonne and 35.8% iron at 337 metres deep in a hole designed to test a poorly constrained, 1 by 1.4 km wide gravity anomaly.

The Feb. 22 announcement triggered shares of the company to almost double to 40¢ at press time.

The hole was a diversion from the company's 6,200-metre drill program, which

was intended to target the extensions of a gold-bearing structure at the project's Aurizon South zone.

EnGold president and CEO David Brett tells *The Northern Miner* during a phone interview that the gravity anomaly could reflect the presence of skarn mineralization similarly seen at the project's Spout deposit, 1.8 km northwest.

The deposit contains a resource of 7.6



A worker checks drill core at the new skarn discovery zone at EnGold Mines' Lac La Hache polymetallic property in central British Columbia. ENGOLD MINES

million indicated tonnes of 11.4% magnetite and 0.3% copper, and 15.8 million inferred tonnes of 8.3% magnetite and 0.2% copper.

"It was an itch we just had to scratch ... so I agreed to add a hole to the current program, and sure enough, we hit this amazing-looking core," Brett says. "Aurizon South is absolutely the most compelling target on the property, but this discovery has changed that. We now have a dual focus."

The company has begun drilling extensions of the new zone, and plans to complete a more detailed gravity survey, which will guide future drilling.

While Brett wouldn't comment on details of the program, he expects it will be aggressive.

"The resource calculation at Spout rendered the deposit unappealing as a focus ... but we see size potential at this new zone compared to the Spout deposit," he says. "We have a fairly large anomaly, and if we

step out from where we are, we could build tonnes much faster than we can at Spout."

But the size of the anomaly doesn't necessarily reflect the size of a potential orebody, Rob Shives, EnGold's vice-president of exploration, points out during an interview.

"The gravity survey is very poorly constrained by sparse data. We have one line of data, and that defines the size of the anomaly," he says. "We are careful to not suggest an orebody of these dimensions, but what we do have suggests it could be quite extensive."

The gravity method in geophysics aims to calculate the density of rocks, whereby the highest gravity values equate to the rocks

## **"AURIZON SOUTH IS THE MOST COMPELLING TARGET ON THE PROPERTY, BUT THIS DISCOVERY HAS CHANGED THAT. WE NOW HAVE A DUAL FOCUS."**

**DAVID BRETT**

PRESIDENT AND CEO, ENGOLD MINES

with the most density, and vice-versa.

Shives says the company first conducted the survey in 2015, as "proof of concept" that skarn-style mineralization on the property — which occurs with dense magnetite and focuses along a stratigraphic contact — lights up as a gravity high in the data.

He adds that magnetic geophysical surveys — which measures the magnetism of rocks beneath the surface — isn't as useful, as the rock's magnetic response falls off at depth.

"The skarn mineralization we see in this new zone lies within the same volcanoclastic unit as the Spout deposit, but we've never seen this uniformity of grade," he says. "It's got a sense of continuity that we don't have at Spout, which is a lot more spotty and difficult to follow." TNM