MAR 20130010: MUSKEG RIVER EAST

Muskeg River East- A report on limestone exploration near Fort McMurray, North East Alberta.

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GRAYMONT WESTERN CANADA INC. 877384 ALBERTA LTD.

2013 EXPLORATION WITHIN THE MUSKEG RIVER EAST METALLIC AND INDUSTRIAL MINERALS PERMIT NORTH OF FORT MCMURRAY, NORTHEAST ALBERTA

PART B

Metallic and Industrial Mineral Permit 9309020193

Geographic Coordinates

57°08'10 N to 57°08'14 N 111°30' W to 111°33' W

NTS Sheet 74 E/04

Owner:

877384 Alberta Ltd. 18, 10509 - 81 Avenue

Edmonton, Alberta T6E 1X7

Operator:

Graymont Western Canada Inc.

260, 4311 - 12 Street N.E. Calgary, Alberta T2E 4P9

Consultant:

Dahrouge Geological Consulting Ltd.

18, 10509 - 81 Avenue Edmonton, Alberta T6E 1X7

Authors:

P. Kluczny, B.Sc., P.Geol. K. Krueger, B.Sc., Geo.I.T.

Date:

March 13, 2013

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1. SUMMARY

On March 5th, 2013, Metallic and Industrial Minerals (MAIM) permit 9309020193 was explored for high-quality carbonate rocks. The permit is informally named Muskeg River East.

Access routes were mapped and prospects to revisit during future exploration periods were identified, but no outcrops were identified on or near the property.

2. INTRODUCTION

The 2013 exploration within the Muskeg River East permit was conducted by Dahrouge Geological Consulting Ltd. (Dahrouge), on behalf of Graymont Western Canada Inc. (Graymont). This assessment report describes the exploration conducted within MAIM permit 9309020193, north of Fort McMurray. Bob Robison, exploration manager for Graymont Western U.S. Inc., authorized this work.

The objectives of the 2013 exploration were to map access routes and identify outcrops. This report includes information on the access routes near and within the permit area.

3. GEOGRAPHIC SETTING AND ACCESS

3.1 LOCATION AND ACCESS

MAIM permit 9309020193 is located north of Fort McMurray and within National Topographic System Map Sheet 74 E/4 (Fig. 3.1).

Access to the Muskeg River East permit is from Fort McMurray, by traveling approximately 55 km north along Highway 63 to Fort MacKay, and then approximately 8 km southeast (Fig. 3.2). The permit can be accessed from the all-season Canterra Road south of Albian Sands Mine and Hammerstone Quarry (Fig. 3.2). Within the permit, travel is by ATV, snowmobile or hiking.

3.2 INFRASTRUCTURE

Accommodations, food, fuel and other necessary services are available in Fort McMurray. The local economy is almost completely reliant on energy-based industries.

Fort McMurray is a community of more than 60,000 and is the supply and services centre for the Alberta oil sands. It is located at the confluence of Athabasca and Clearwater rivers in northeastern Alberta, about 437 km by paved highway from Edmonton.

3.3 TOPOGRAPHY, VEGETATION AND CLIMATE

Along Athabasca River, the dominant vegetation is a mix of deciduous and coniferous trees, with occasional accumulations of dense alder and willows. Above the river valley, the vegetation is typified by boreal forest and muskeg.

At Fort McMurray, mean annual snowfall is 47.2 inches, and mean annual precipitation is 16.32 inches. River breakup generally occurs in the third week of April. On rare occasions, ice-jam floods can occur; there have been 10 recorded floods since 1985.

3.4 FIELD OPERATIONS

Field operations were conducted by a two-person geological crew from Dahrouge, based in a hotel in Fort McMurray.

Transportation to and from the property was by four-wheel-drive truck. Access throughout the property was by snowshoeing.

Garmin GPSmap 60CSx instruments were used to mark outcrop locations and record access information. Compasses were set at a magnetic declination of 15°49' east.

4. PROPERTY, EXPLORATION AND EXPENDITURES

4.1 PROPERTY SUMMARY

In early 2009, 877384 Alberta Ltd. acquired MAIM Permit 9309020193 to cover high-calcium limestones north of Fort McMurray (Fig. 4.1). The total permit area is 64 hectares.

The entirety of the MAIM Permit will be retained.

4.2 2013 EXPLORATION SUMMARY

On March 5th, 2013, Dahrouge, on behalf of Graymont, conducted exploration for carbonate lithotypes within northeastern Alberta. The work was undertaken to determine the location and extent of carbonate units in the permit areas.

The southwestern edge of the permit area was focused on, due to its proximity to the Canterra Road (Fig. 3.2). Although no carbonate outcrops were identified on the Muskeg River East permit, detailed access routes were noted for future exploration periods. Access routes that were previously unknown to Dahrouge or Graymont were mapped and are presented in Fig. 3.2. Additionally, several locations of relatively high relief were identified for future exploration period (Fig. 4.2).

Field maps were completed on 1:20,000 and 1:25,000 scale map sheets and concentrated on

areas adjacent to Highway 63 and Canterra Road, north of Fort McMurray.

4.3 EXPLORATION EXPENDITURES

Expenditures for 2013 totalled \$1,113.27. The entirety of MAIM Permit 9309020193 will be retained. Excess expenditures are to be assigned to future exploration periods.

Assessment Period MAIM Permit 9309020193	Expiry Date	Requirement Expenditures	Assigned Expenditures
Yrs 3-4	Feb. 10, 2015	\$640.00	\$640.00
Yrs 5-6	Feb. 10, 2017	\$640.00	\$473.27

5. REGIONAL GEOLOGY

The geology and stratigraphy of northeastern Alberta has previously been described by Carrigy (1959), Norris (1963), Holter (1976), and Cotterill and Hamilton (1995).

The sedimentary cover of northeastern Alberta consists primarily of Paleozoic carbonates, evaporites and clastics, overlain unconformably by Mesozoic siliciclastics (Table 5.1; Fig. 5.1). Near Fort McMurray the Precambrian basement is at depths of between 250 to 300 m and has a southeasterly regional slope of about 5½ m per km (Halferdahl, 1985). The Precambrian basement is overlain by middle Devonian strata of the Elk Point Group, followed by the Beaverhill Lake Group, and further west, the Woodbend Group. In turn, the Devonian is unconformably overlain by Cretaceous sediments of the Mannville, La Biche and Smoky groups. The oil-sands of the McMurray Formation are within the lowest part of the Mannville Group.

Above the Cretaceous siliciclastics is a variety of unconsolidated Quaternary sediments. Near Fort McMurray there is a basal diamicton derived from the Laurentide Ice Sheet, which is overlain by gravel, sand and clay from glacial Lake McMurray (Fisher and Smith, 1993). Within Athabasca river valley, near Fort McMurray, is a complex mixture of spillway deposits. The spillway deposits consist of poorly sorted boulder-gravel-sand, with blocks of oil-sands and glacio-lacustrine sediments. Smith and Fisher (1993) interpret the spillway deposits as a result of a high-velocity flood, sourced from Glacial Lake Agassiz in northern Saskatchewan.

5.1 STRATIGRAPHY

The sedimentary succession of northeastern Alberta comprises a lithologically diverse suite of

Devonian carbonates, clastics and evaporites, which are unconformably overlain by Cretaceous siliciclastics. Of the stratigraphic units in Table 5.1, carbonates are present within the Methy Formation, the Slave Point Formation, the Waterways Formation, and the Woodbend Group.

5.1.1 Methy Formation

The Methy Formation is within the upper Elk Point Group of the Middle Devonian. The formation is described as a reefal to non-reefal unit containing massive to bedded dolostone, dolomitic limestone and minor anhydrite and gypsum (Cotterill and Hamilton, 1995). The Methy outcrops along Clearwater River valley, and sparsely along Firebag and Marguerite rivers. It is generally a dolomitic unit with interbedded anhydrite that has been described as calcareous or strongly calcareous (Norris, 1963).

5.1.2 Slave Point Formation

The age of the Slave Point Formation has been debated in the past, placed within the Middle (Norris, 1963; Halferdahl, 1985) and Upper Devonian (Carrigy, 1973; Cotterill and Hamilton, 1995). Upper and lower contacts of the unit are defined by paraconformities. The Slave Point generally consists of limestone, siltstone and dolomitic limestone. It is characterized by brownish-grey, skeletal wackestones and argillaceous lime mudstones with interbedded dark brown shale laminations (Cotterill and Hamilton, 1995). The Slave Point Formation is generally less than several metres thick near Fort McMurray.

5.1.3 Waterways Formation

Members within the Waterways Formation consist of the Firebag, Calumet, Christina, Moberly, and Mildred. The carbonates of the Waterways Formation reach a thickness of over 250 m in western Alberta, and thin toward the Precambrian exposure. The Firebag Member is at the base of the Waterways Formation, and consists of an olive-green calcareous shale. Sequences of interbedded olive-green limestone, argillaceous limestone and shale are also present; Norris (1963) notes several thin brachiopod-rich beds throughout. The Firebag maintains a relatively uniform thickness of about 50 m in the Fort McMurray area.

The Calumet Member conformably overlies the Firebag Member, and consists dominantly of limestone. Other units within the member include variable amounts of argillaceous, skeletal nodular lime mudstones and wackestones interbedded with grey-green calcareous shale (Cotterill and Hamilton, 1995). Norris (1963) notes significant brachiopod-rich beds in the Calumet Member. In the Fort McMurray area, the Calumet Member maintains a thickness of about 30 m.

TABLE 5.1 GENERALIZED PALEOZOIC STRATIGRAPHY
OF THE FORT MCMURRAY AREA, NORTHEASTERN ALBERTA*

Age	Group	Formation	Member
Quaternary			
	Smoky		
Upper Cretaceous	I - Di-h-	La Biche	
	La Biche	Shaftesbury	BENEFIT OF
Lower Cretaceous		Grand Rapids	
	Mannville	Clearwater	Wabiskaw
		McMurray	a D Poot
***************************************	***************************************	Grosmont	
	Woodbend	Ireton	
		Cooking Lake	
	Beaverhill Lake	Waterways	Mildred
Upper Devonian			Moberly
			Christina
			Calumet
			Firebag
		Slave Point/ Fort Vermillion	
		Watt Mountain	W 3 4 3 3
	Upper Elk Point	Prairie Evaporite	
Middle Devonian		Methy/Winnipegosis	THE SECTION
	Lower Elk Point	Meadow Lake/ McLean River/ Contact Rapids	
Lower Paleozoic		La Loche/ Granite Wash	
Precambrian	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	······································	

^{*} Modified after Halferdahl (1985); Cotterill and Hamilton (1995)

The Christina Member consists dominantly of green-grey calcareous shale and conformably overlies the Calumet Member. Other lithologies within the upper section of the Christina Member include minor interbeds of argillaceous lime mudstone and occasional thin, skeletal wackestone and packstone beds. In the Fort McMurray area, the Christina Member attains a thickness of approximately 25 m.

Conformably overlying the Christina is the Moberly Member. The lower third of the Moberly Member, labelled units 28 to 37 by Norris (1963), consists of an alternating sequence of light olivegreen, rubbly, thinly-interbedded, variably argillaceous limestones and shales, and hard beds of pale

⁻⁻⁻⁻ Erosional Unconformity

[—] Paraconformity

⁻⁻⁻⁻ Paraconformity?

brown, cryptocrystalline limestones. The upper two-thirds, units 38 to 57, consists of thicker units of light to dark olive-green, variably calcareous shale, and thinner units of rubbly, variably argillaceous fragmental limestone. The Moberly Member attains a thickness of about 60 m in the Fort McMurray area.

The uppermost member of the Waterways Formation is the Mildred Member. This unit is characterized by variably argillaceous, nodular lime mudstone and calcareous shales. A thickness of 40 to 45 m is maintained by the Mildred Member.

5.1.4 Woodbend Group

The Woodbend Group consists of limestones from the Grosmont, Ireton, and Cooking Lake formations. The majority of examined Grosmont Formation limestones in the Fort McMurray area are dolomitic with minor anhydrite (Halferdahl, 1985). The underlying Ireton Formation has been described as an argillaceous, medium- to coarse-grained limestone accompanied by limey shale. Some limestones of the Cooking Lake Formation have been noted as dolomitic and argillaceous (Halferdahl, 1985).

5.2 STRUCTURE

Within northeastern Alberta, the Devonian and Cretaceous sedimentary sequences onlap onto the Precambrian cratonic platform, forming two eastwardly converging sedimentary wedges. The southwest regional dip of the Devonian strata follows the contour of the underlying Precambrian basement, which has an apparent northwest strike and southwest dip. Near Fort McMurray the Precambrian basement is at depths of between 250 to 300 m and has a southwesterly regional slope of about 5.5 m per km (Halferdahl, 1985).

The westward dipping wedge of Devonian and underlying sediments rest unconformably on the Precambrian basement. The Devonian sediments young to the west. The top of the wedge is marked by an erosional surface that is overlain by Lower Cretaceous strata (Table 5.1). Structural complexities within the sedimentary succession are thought to be due to salt dissolution of the Lower Devonian evaporites. The result is a set of small scale domes, basins, and folds, with amplitudes of between 15 and 30 m. Topographic structures of the sub-Cretaceous unconformity are due to differential erosion of the underlying Devonian sediments. The result is a generally northward-trending set of ridges and valleys.

6. RESULTS

On March 5th, 2013, half a day was spent checking road and trail access to and throughout the property. Several new access routes were identified, which will assist future exploration programs (Fig. 3.2). Althrough no outcrop was identified, several areas of relatively high relief on the southwestern corner of the permit area have been identified for future exploration (Fig. 4.2).

7. CONCLUSIONS

Exploration of the southwestern edge of MAIM Permit 9309020193 revealed a lack of exposed carbonate outcrops. While no outcrops were identified or sampled, time was spent checking access routes to and throughout the permit for future exploration. Based on the early stage of exploration on the permit and the locations identified as possible outcrops, the entirety of MAIM Permit 9309020193 will be retained.

Future exploration will consist of detailed mapping and sampling of any identified outcrops and further exploration of high-relief areas. A review of available core from the ERCB Core Research Centre in Calgary would also be beneficial.

8. REFERENCES

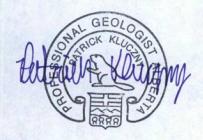
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STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS

- I, Patrick Kluczny, residing at Edmonton, Alberta, do hereby certify that:
- I am a geologist of Dahrouge Geological Consulting Ltd., Suite 18, 10509 81 Ave., Edmonton, Alberta, T6E 1X7.
- I am a 2006 graduate of the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta with a B.Sc. in Geology.
- I have practiced my profession as a geologist continuously since 2006.
- I am a registered Professional Geologist with the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta, member M81985.
- I hereby consent to the copying or reproduction of this Assessment Report following the one-year confidentiality period.
- I am the author of the report entitled "2013 Exploration Within the Muskeg River East Metallic and Industrial Minerals Permit North of Fort McMurray, Northeast Alberta" and accept responsibility for the veracity of technical data and results.

Dated this 13th day of March, 2013.

9.



Patrick Kluczny, B.Sc., P.Geol. APEGA M81985

APPENDIX 1: COST STATEMENT FOR THE 2013 EXPLORATION WITHIN THE MUSKEG RIVER EAST PERMIT

a) Personnel		\$	685.42
b) Food and Acco	mmodation	\$	165.73
c) <u>Transportation</u>		\$	148.08
d) Instrument Ren	<u>ıtal</u>	\$	12.83
e) <u>Drilling</u>	n/a	\$	
f) Analyses	n/a	\$	
<u>Total</u>		\$	1,012.06
			404.04
Administration		\$	101.21
Total + Adminis	stration	\$	1,113.2



