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**The Voisey's Bay deposits – discovery to pre-feasibility:  
an exploration perspective**

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The discovery of the Voisey's Bay deposits on the north coast of Labrador is one of the most significant mineral discoveries made in Canada in the last 35 years. The surface discovery by Archean Resources in 1993 was followed by a five-hole diamond drill program in October of 1994. By July 1995, a major near-surface deposit, designated as the Ovoid, had been outlined and immediately to the west, the Discovery Hill zone, site of the original discovery, was also delineated.

A step-out drilling program east of the Ovoid commenced in August 1995 and resulted in the discovery of the Eastern Deeps zone. The Reid Brook zone was discovered in January of 1997 while testing geophysical conductors in the deeper portions of the host troctolitic dyke west of the Discovery Hill zone. Further exploration to the east along the strike of the deposit trend resulted in the discovery of a zone of mineralization referred to as the North Eastern Deeps zone in 1998, the Ryan's Pond zone in 1999 and the Red Dog zone in 2000.

VBN is currently engaged in an Advanced Surface Exploration program. This is a multi-faceted, two-staged program. Stage 1 is a surface drilling and geophysical program designed to provide the information required to complete pre-feasibility studies on the underground resources. Positive results from Stage 1 will lead to an underground exploration program in Stage 2. The Stage 1 program includes detailed drilling, geophysics, mineralogical and geochemical investigations and geotechnical assessments required to assess the economic potential of the underground resources.