

Initial field and petrographic investigations of the geology, paragenesis, and gold department at the Hopper Prospect, Yukon

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The Hopper prospect covers an area of 7400 hectares and is owned wholly by Strategic Metals Limited. The prospect is located east of Aishihik Lake, in the Kluane Plateau of southwestern Yukon. Underlying the Hopper prospect is the 5 by 7 km Late Cretaceous Hopper pluton. The Hopper pluton is part of a larger plutonic suite termed the "Casino Suite". The Casino Suite is comprised of Late Cretaceous intrusive rocks which form a belt in Yukon extending from the Dawson Range to the northeast of Haines Junction. The Casino Suite represents a suite of rocks with metallogenic significance. The Casino Suite hosts the Casino porphyry deposit and several MINFILE occurrences of porphyry- and epithermal-style mineralization. Geological mapping and sampling of the Hopper prospect was performed in August 2017. Twenty-four polished thin sections are currently being reviewed to determine a paragenetic sequence for skarn mineralization observed at the Hopper prospect. Specific ore and gangue mineralogy will be determined through the use of the Scanning Electron Microscope. Factors controlling the gold department observed in gold-rich intervals of drill core from the Hopper prospect are of particular interest. These controls (if observed) will be compared to gold-enriched skarn samples from the past-producing Arctic Chief mine of the Whitehorse Copper Belt, which has a protolith composition similar to that of the Hopper prospect.

[Poster]