

Rambler Has High Hopes for Canadian Copper-Gold Project

By Stephen Clayson
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LONDON (ResourceInvestor.com) -- A new base metals focused junior company, Rambler Mining & Metals (AIM: RMM), begins trading tomorrow in London. The company's initial project is the eponymous Rambler copper-gold property, located on the Baie Verte peninsula in Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada.

The property includes the previously producing Ming and Ming West mines, which closed during the 90s due to a property dispute. A mineral resource remains of approximately 400,000t at grades of around 3.5% copper and 2.5g/t gold, according to Rambler's Chairman Harry Dobson.

The results of recent exploration by previous owner Altius (TSX-V: ALS), including four drill holes, suggest that a sizable extension may exist to the Ming deposit, and that the underlying Ming footwall zone could also prove also economically significant. Altius' base of knowledge regarding the property is not to go to waste, as the company will be conducting further exploration on Rambler Mining's behalf.

A pre feasibility biased drilling programme has now commenced on the property, and is provisionally scheduled for completion in around 16 months, by which time 28-30,000m will have been drilled and C\$4.5m spent at the property. Dewatering of the old Ming mine has begun in addition to work on new exploration and development drifts that will be used to attempt the delineation of new resources.

The true resource potential of the Rambler property above and beyond what has already been outlined is as yet unclear, with the possibility that new exploration may reveal the existence of a massive sulphide ore body.

As currently planned for and assuming a massive sulphide deposit is not delineated, Rambler envisages the possibility of a 1500t/day mining operation yielding approximately 40-50,000oz/yr gold and 100mlb/yr copper. Broadly speaking, Dobson says that this kind of operation could perhaps be established for around C\$40m. Mine development economies could be derived from the prior existence of a mill on the property, and from raising shafts upwards from existing workings, which is faster and cheaper than sinking them from ground level as is usually necessitated.

Though schedules for projects of this type are obviously subject to change dependent on the results obtained moving forward, hypothetically, and if all goes to plan with the exploration programme, Dobson believes that a mine could be established on the property in around 30 months, with a feasibility study completed within 24 months.

Dobson sees Rambler's corporate strength as encompassing a broad spectrum of industry experience, including a strong exploration team supplied by Altius, the Rambler directors' mine development and financing experience and CEO Stanley Neamonitis' downstream marketing background. Dobson himself is also Chairman of Canadian mine rejuvenation success story Kirkland Lake Gold, and former Chairman of American Pacific Mining.

The company expects the copper market to remain strong, and hence supportive of the development case for the Rambler property. This seems an increasingly likely scenario, with Chinese demand still outpacing supply and LME monitored copper stockpiles continuing to decline markedly since the beginning of this year.

Rambler is placing 16m shares at 50p, raising a total of £8m to fund its ambitions. The company remains acquisitive and open to new opportunities, though intends to restrict itself geographically to North and Central America, where the management have gained most of their experience and where mining conventions are generally well established. But for now, the company's focus is on its namesake property.

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