

026

7. OTHER SKARN TYPES.

A. SHEET 1 - SHEPHERD AND MURPHY AREA:

a) Chlorite rich skarn

This occurs in core in the skarn body on the eastern side of the Bismuth Creek Fault; it occurs close to the fault in very fractured ground, particularly in ML3A. A description by W. Fander is in appendix 4.

It is interpreted to be a late stage lower temperature alteration of pre-existing wriggilite and calc-silicate rock.

Some sections of this skarn contain up to 8200 ppm Sn, much higher than the average for skarns in the area.

b) Sphalerite rich skarn

Coarse black sphalerite is disseminated through chlorite? - actinolite? rich skarn, occurring again to the east of the Bismuth Creek Fault, particularly in holes SMD 13 and 16. No thin section or polished section study has yet been carried out.

The skarn tends to occur in broken leached ground and again appears to be a lower temperature alteration of pre-existing wriggilite and calc-silicate rocks.

c) Pyrrhotite rich skarn

Significant quantities of this skarn are known to occur only in one drill hole, SMD 9, on the western side of the sheet area.

It consists of medium to coarse grained pyrrhotite, magnetite and fine grained actinolite? and chlorite? and minor very fine grained fluorite, and has an irregular wispy banded texture. The banding is nowhere near as regular as that in wriggilite. Dr. Kwak and T. Waite are presently carrying out petrological studies of this skarn, in conjunction with their work on wriggilite.

When this skarn was intersected we thought we may have found sulphide rich facies skarns similar to those at Mt. Bischoff, Cleveland and Renison. However it contains relatively low Sn values, generally about 100-900 ppm and up to 1700 ppm. Nevertheless the grade of cassiterite bearing

*Contains cassiterite*