

Open File 1998-10

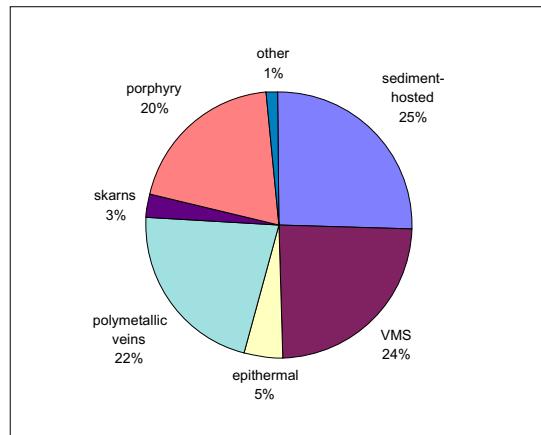
Major Silver Deposits of British Columbia

By L.D. Jones, D.V. Lefebure,
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Distribution of British Columbia's silver resources by deposit type.



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BRITISH COLUMBIA
Ministry of Energy and Mines
Energy and Minerals Division
Geological Survey Branch



British Columbia's World Class Silver Mines

- Eskay Creek - 5th largest silver producer in the world
- undeveloped deposits
- excellent exploration potential
- attractive commodity prices
- more than 50 silver lode mines and mining camps



Information Circular 1998-10

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Compiled by: L.D. Jones, D.V. Lefebvre,
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DEPOSIT TYPES

● **CONTINENTAL SEDIMENTS AND VOLCANICS**

Volcanic redbed Cu D03

■ **SEDIMENT-HOSTED**

Sediment-hosted Cu E04
Irish-type carbonate-hosted Zn-Pb E13
Sedimentary exhalative Zn-Pb-Ag E14

■ **MARINE VOLCANIC ASSOCIATION**

Besshi massive sulphide Cu-Zn G04
Cyprus massive sulphide Cu(Zn) G05
Noranda/Kuroko massive sulphide Cu-Pb-Zn G06
Subaqueous hot spring Au-Ag G07

▲ **EPITHERMAL**

Hot spring Au-Ag H03
Epithermal Au-Ag-Cu:High sulphidation H04
Epithermal Au-Ag:Low sulphidation H05

★ **VEIN, BRECCIA AND STOCKWORK**

Au-quartz veins I01
Intrusion-related Au pyrrhotite veins I02
Polymetallic veins Ag-Pb-Zn+/Au I05
Stibnite veins and disseminations I09

▲ **REPLACEMENT**

Polymetallic mantos Ag-Pb-Zn J01

◆ **SKARN**

Cu skarns K01
Pb-Zn skarns K02
Fe skarns K03
Au skarns K04
W skarns K05

● **PORPHYRY AND PORPHYRY-RELATED**

○ Subvolcanic Cu-Au-Ag(As-Sb) L01
Porphyry-related Au L02
Porphyry Cu-Au:Alkalic L03
Porphyry Cu+-Mo-/Au L04

● **OTHER**

Broken Hill-type Pb-Zn-Ag+/Cu

Producers

Past Producers

Deposits with significant reserves/resources



In addition to the map, the Open File includes summary tables of reserve and production data and deposit types for 300 major producers, past producers and developed prospects.

- As part of the northern Cordillera, British Columbia is a silver-rich region. It has three major mines, **Sullivan**, **Eskay Creek** and **Equity Silver**, which have produced, or will have produced by closure, more than **1.5 billion grams** (~48 million ounces) of silver.

- There are more than **50 silver lode mines and mining camps** in British Columbia that have produced, or might eventually recover **over 42 million grams** (~1.3 million ounces) of silver. These mines are typically polymetallic; many extract silver as a byproduct of their operation.

- Virtually all the province's silver production is derived from sediment-hosted, vein, VMS, porphyry and skarn deposits. Manto deposits and epithermal veins are more important in other parts of the Cordillera and deserve more investigation in British Columbia.