

CANADA VENTURE: Argentex Gets First Estimate For Pinguino

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By Brian Truscott

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VANCOUVER (Dow Jones) -- Argentex Mining Corp. (ATX.V) said this week it had received the first mineral resource estimate for its polymetallic Pinguino property in Argentina's Santa Cruz province.

Extensive drilling was carried out in the run-up to the mineral resource on what is an indium-bearing and silver deposit - one that's 100%-owned by the company. This estimate is based on a total of 258 drill holes, totaling 29,149 meters of core drilling as well as 55 surface trenches, completed between 2004 and 2008. There's an indicated and inferred resource of almost 43 metric tons, with silver grades on the indicated side of the equation coming in at 32.54 grams a ton.

"These are exciting results and they confirm our confidence in Pinguino," said Ken Hicks, president of Argentex, in a statement Monday. "Our independent engineers have recommended a preliminary economic-assessment study as well as a comprehensive new exploration program to test geophysical and geochemical targets at Pinguino. We believe this new exploration program can add to the property's existing potential."

He told Dow Jones Newswires Tuesday that the scoping study should begin relatively quickly and should be done in six months or so.

"I think this is the timeframe; we can get some of the numbers together and do some of the metallurgical work," he said.

While the property remains fully owned, he said there's always a possibility an opportunity for working with another company could arise, as long as it's in the best interest of shareholders.

The company is sitting on C\$750,000 and figures it needs about C\$5 million to carry out the kind of additional drilling, exploration and geological work needed to carry the project forward. Hicks said Argentex is sitting on a number of warrants and options and that any avenue to raise money would be done in a smart way.

He said the team that's on the ground knows the geology of the project inside and out so it will "be a fairly easy walk in the park" to carry out the additional work needed.

"We've got the same people who have taken it from grassroots to this stage; they have a really good handle on the geological model," he said. "We've had a very good success rate so far so it's really only a matter of time and money for us."

The resource estimate for this, its flagship property, is not based on all of the drilling and trenching done to date; it's based on data collected from five key veins - Marta Centro, Marta Este, Marta Sur, Marta Norte and Yvonne.

"This provided sufficient drill density for the creation of an indicated mineral resource," the company said in a statement.

Hicks did say one of the last holes drilled was sunk to 400 meters, not the usual 200 meters, and there were really good intersections there, so the company is keen to drill deeper in the future.

Company Web Site: <http://www.argentexmining.com>

-Brian Truscott, Dow Jones Newswires; 604-669-1595; brian.truscott@dowjones.com

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