

Dundee Corp. Blitz in Northern Quebec

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La Presse

(Montreal) Dundee Corp., directed by billionaire investor Ned Goodman, had a blitz of mineral title acquisitions in Northern Quebec—so much so that a Dundee subsidiary now has the fourth largest number of claims in the Province of Quebec, fewer than eight months after claiming its first title.

A mineral title, or claim, grants a right to the exclusive exploration of a portion of territory for a two year period. As of February 12th, 2282726 Ontario Ltd., a Dundee Corp. subsidiary, had 5,003 active claims covering an area of 2,320 kilometres, or the equivalent of close to five times the size the Island of Montreal.

The numbered company claimed all those mineral titles in the past eight months through Diagnos, a Brossard firm that has developed technology for identifying exploration targets. Following a recent private investment, Dundee Corp. will soon own 15% of Diagnos shares.

2282726 Ontario was incorporated in April 2011. Ned Goodman, CEO of Dundee Corp, is its chairman of the board. Murray John, who also directs the Dundee Resources subsidiary, is its chief executive officer.

Ned Goodman, born in Montreal but settled in Toronto, is a trained geologist with an excellent reputation in the mining sector. His investments in the sector are the basis of his financial success, which now extends to other areas, including real estate. Over the years, he has invested in several mineral exploration companies and has been involved in the startup of many large businesses; for example, Kinross AND Iamgold.

“Dundee is an active player in our industry, which strives to create value,” explains Éric Lemieux, a mining analyst at Desjardins Securities. “Ned Goodman is an outstanding ambassador (for the industry), who has been successful in the past.”

According to Mr. Lemieux, Mr. Goodman’s entry into Northern Quebec is a good sign. If Ned Goodman is positioned like that, it is perhaps because Dundee’s analysis shows them very strong potential there.”

Our interview requests to Ned Goodman and Murray John were unsuccessful.

“Considerable importance on the Plan Nord”

In a press release published in August 2012, Diagnos affirmed that its partner—without naming it—“placed considerable importance on the Plan Nord” and wanted to become one of the largest holders of claims in the Plan Nord.

Under an agreement between Diagnos and Dundee reached at the end of 2011, Diagnos analyzed 304,000 square kilometres of land and identified precious metal and base metal targets, explained its vice-president for the mining sector, Michel Fontaine. Dundee used this analysis, among others, to choose the mineral titles to claim.

The agreement between Dundee (TSX: DC.A) and Diagnos (TSX Venture: ADK) now stipulates that teams hired by Diagnos go to work at several of the targets this summer. If there was a discovery and then a mine on one of those targets, Diagnos would receive a 2% royalty.

Who is Ned Goodman?

Born in 1937 in Montreal and trained as a geologist at McGill University, Ned Goodman quickly turned to business. In 1967, he co-founded the investment firm of Beutel Goodman, which earned a reputation for its investments in resources. He founded Dundee Corp. in the early 1990s and still directs the investment firm, which is active in resources and real estate among other areas. A great philanthropist, Mr. Goodman funded the Ned Goodman Chair in Investment Finance at Concordia University’s John Molson School of Business.

Source: Canadian Mining Hall of Fame