

Diversified Junior Exploration Company

#### **Crevier Project**

May 2019



# **Introduction Crevier**



- The Crevier Tantalum and Niobium project is located 65km north of the municipality of Girardville, Québec.
  - Two metals identified as green and critical by the United States and the EU.
  - Demand rising strongly in technological applications.
  - Crevier would become the only Niobium and Tantalum Oxide producer in North America.
  - Great potential for the economic and social development of the Saguenay-Lac-St-Jean region
- Deposit discovered by SOQUEM in 1974 and taken over by Cambior (1986).
- Acquired an 50% from lamgold in 2008 for 7.5M\$
  - Reimburse Convertible Debenture (1.5M\$) in 2009
  - Invested 8M\$ between 2008 till 2013.
- NioBay to continue the development of the project.



# Location

- ΝίοΒαγ
- Located in the mining friendly region of Lac St-Jean, province of Quebec, Canada.
- Supported by Quebec government's Plan Nord and local first nation group.



- Easy access:
  - 85 km north of Dolbeau-Mistassini.
  - Road access to site.
- Industrial region:
  - Rio Tinto Alcan smelters.
  - Deep water port.
- The project is welcomed all stakeholders.

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# Deposit

# ΝίοΒαγ









# **Mineralization**



- The pegmatite nepheline syenite dyke is mainly composed by albite and nepheline with very large crystals.
- The other minerals are biotite, zircon, pyrochlore, magnetite, pyrrhotite and less frequently sodalite and cancrinite.
- Pyrochlore grains are disseminated between the Porphyric Nephiline crytals and are observed within sodalite in visible percentage.
- An ore petrography study indicate that niobium and tantalum are both contained in pyrochlore only, and apparently not partitioned into other accessory minerals.





# **Geology Section**

# NioBay





# Resources (NI 43-101)



- World class Niobium and Tantalum resource:
  - Comparable grades to actual producing mines and developing projects.
  - 25+ years of mine life at 1 million tons per year throughput.
  - Exploration works are to extend the resource southeast.

	Tonnage	Grade	
(Mil	(Million tons)	Nb <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> (%)	Ta <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> (ppm)
Measured	12.5	0.20	234
Indicated	12.9	0.19	234
Total (M+I)	25.4	0.20	234
Inferred	15.4	0.17	252
NI 43-101 Resources update on Crevier property, July 2010. Mineral resource within the geological deposit, 0.1% Nb2O5 cutoff grade. Niobium: High grades cut to 0.5% Nb2O5. Tantalum: High grades cut to 550 ppm Ta2O5.			





\*OEMs spend millions of dollars to ensure their products contains conflict-free minerals.

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#### NíoBaý **Niobium - Superalloys Supply Chain** METALS PECIAL METALS H.C. Starck Crevier Crevier (?) **Mine/Processor** Alloys manufacturer GfE AMG (Concentrate) $\rightarrow$ (Nb<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>) (Masteralloys) (Superalloys) 💥 ATI O CARPENTER Specialty Alloys Aircraft **Jet Engine Jet Engine** Manufacturer Manufacturer Component **GE** Aviation **GE** Aviation 🔨 **BOEING' 🌀** AIRBUS cfm Pratt & Whitney 🗇 GORDON Firth Rixson BOMBARDIER A PCC Compan Min International Aero Engines. **Rolls-Royce GKN AEROSPACE** LOCKHEED MARTIN **Honeywell** Aerospace BTI DASSAULT SAFRAN HITO ACATYPH Precision Components

TMX

ED ON

### Superalloys: Jet Engine Main Components



Other Nb and Ta products includes fasteners, bolts, shafts, etc.

# Metallurgy

# ΝίοΒαγ

- SGS Pilot plant testing in 2012.
  - Using approximately 250 tonnes of mineralization collected from a nearsurface location grading 0.02% Ta2O5 and 0.21% Nb2O5, similar to the resource average
- SGS Hydromet testing in 2012.
  - Confirmed the amenability of the Crevier pre-concentrate to HF/H2SO4-SX refining
- COREM Pilot plant testing in 2013.
  - Using 50 tons of material at an average of 0.24% Nb2O5 & 0.03% Ta2O5 in the feed.
- The pilot plant achieved higher Ta & Nb recoveries than the associated laboratory tests, but lower grade (due to the higher CaO in the concentrate).



- From the reviewed methods, H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> based route seems to be the most promising. Combination with other concept(s) may also be needed to achieve the target performances .
- Assess the opportunity of HF regeneration.



### Environment

- According to the Department of Natural Resources and Wildlife (MRNF) and the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks (MDDEP),
  - No mention of plants threatened, vulnerable or likely to be so designated is reported for the area covered by the Project.
  - No exceptional forest ecosystem is listed in the study area.
  - No wildlife habitats, mapped according to the regulations, is currently protected except for the fish habitat that consists of all the lakes, marshes, swamps, floodplains or streams where there are fish.
- Still need to identify any environments incompatible with development and the need for an impact statement for the BAPE.







# **Crevier Project: Planning**

- 2010 Preliminary Economic Assessment.
- 2010 Resources update (NI 43-101).
- 2012 Pilot plant SGS.
- <sup>2013</sup> Pilot Plant COREM.









- Update PEA of 2010 (underway, G Mining).
- Complete metallurgical works (H2 2019).
- Complete Feasibility Study
  - Improve metallurgy
  - Permitting
  - Environmental studies
  - Engineering
- Financing and construction

# **Update Prefeasibility 2019**



- Open Pit Optimization vs 2010
  - 6 smaller pits vs 1
  - Reduction strip ratio first years
  - 75% of waste disposed in pits
- Reduction of the strip ratio (<24%) mainly first years.</li>

#### CAPEX & OPEX

- Reduction expected vs 2010.
  - Power
  - Reagents









# Strategy

- ΝίοΒαγ
- NBY intend to create a Niobium and Tantalum mine-to-smelter industry in North-America.
  Local Financial Partners



# Conclusion



- The Crevier deposit hosts a world-class resource of Niobium & Tantalum.
- Only Niobium & Tantalum project in North America.
- Demand growth fundamentals are strong.
- Consolidation trend in the supply chains in order to secure supply.
  - Well developed end-market in North America.
- Solid economic study results.
- Opportunities;
  - Reduction CAPEX (powerline & contract mining).
  - Pre-concentration (reduction of reagents consumption, fastest

