

# northern PROSPECTOR <sup>2018-2019</sup>

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**Foran Mining Corporation's drill camp at  
McIlvenna Bay, Hanson Lake, Saskatchewan**



# FORAN FORGES AHEAD AT MCILVENNA BAY

With a recent \$9.4-million private placement, Foran Mining redoubles exploration and development activities in Saskatchewan

**F**oran Mining's McIlvenna Bay copper-zinc deposit sits at the epicentre of an emerging base metal district in east-central Saskatchewan, about an hour by road from Flin Flon, Man. A busy 2018 has seen Foran enter a new stage of development at McIlvenna Bay, after completing a \$9.4-million private placement in July 2018, just six months on from signing a technical services agreement with Glencore Canada Corporation in December 2017 and completing a \$5 million financing soon after.

"We believe that there is a locus of VMS deposits around McIlvenna Bay, and we intend on proving that in the next year and a half," says Foran Mining president and CEO Patrick Soares. The priority, says Soares, is to develop the company's flagship McIlvenna Bay property and discover more deposits in the over-40,000 hectares of claims that Foran controls in the Hanson Lake District, on the western edge of the Flin Flon Greenstone Belt, one of the most prolific mining belts in the world.

McIlvenna Bay, first discovered in 1988 by the Saskatchewan Mining Development Corporation (subsequently Cameco Corporation) in a joint venture with Billiton, is a volcanogenic massive sulphide (VMS) deposit, a deposit type commonly found in greenstone belts. VMS deposits are formed through the focused discharge of hot, metal-rich hydrothermal fluids into surrounding rock and commonly occur in clusters. A single deposit or mine may consist of several individual massive sulphide lenses and their underlying stockwork zones. Five distinct zones of mineralization have been identified in the McIlvenna Bay deposit.



"In its 90-year history in Flin Flon, Hudbay has developed and put into production 16 of these deposits," says Soares. "They're all around that area. We think we've got a number of them on our ground as well. We already know of at least three of them: McIlvenna Bay, Bigstone and Balsam and additional prospective targets have been identified for followup."

Foran optioned the deposit from Cameco in 1998 and, in 2010, a "lean and mean" new management team was established. Over 42,000 metres have been drilled since 2010, bringing the total metres drilled on the project to almost 100,000. The last mineral resource estimate for McIlvenna Bay was released in January 2013, with a total indicated resource of 13.9 million tonnes at 1.28 per cent copper and 2.67 per cent zinc, and a preliminary economic assessment completed in 2014. Soares says an updated resource estimate will be delivered in late 2018, followed by a feasibility study in 2019 and then a decision will be made whether to move forward and build the project.

The timing would be fortuitous for both Foran and the local workforce. Hudbay's

777 mine across the border in Manitoba has a three-year mine life and is anticipated to wind down in 2021, leaving mine and smelter workers in the area looking for new opportunities and local First Nations available to work in the mining sector.

"We provide updates to the leaders and community members of the Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation, upon whose traditional lands we explore," says Soares. "We appreciate learning about the area from them and look forward to discussing their needs and desires as the McIlvenna Bay project progresses. Exploration success at McIlvenna Bay could result in jobs, contracts and training opportunities close to home."

In addition to a ready and able workforce, McIlvenna Bay is accessible by road year-round and could connect to existing hydropower infrastructure. Foran is looking into options for processing and shipping the recovered ore, including utilizing existing milling and zinc smelting facilities in Flin Flon.

Like all mine development projects, Foran is faced with the uncertainty that comes with fluctuating metal prices and

the challenges related to permitting. However, with a project located in Saskatchewan – Canada’s most attractive province for mining investment according to the Fraser Institute – Foran is confident of working through all permitting requirements with the Saskatchewan and federal governments.

For the remainder of 2018, says Soares, Foran’s management team is focusing the company’s efforts on McIlvenna Bay and a handful of prospective targets within the Hanson Lake block. Drilling the deep but promising Target A geophysical anomaly is high on the list, but only possible during the winter months. During the winter of 2018, the upper edge of the modelled Target A conductor plate was intersected, and Foran is excited to follow up on this drilling during the winter of 2019.

Work also continues at Thunder Zone, the first new discovery in the district for 30 years, when Foran intersected 3.7 metres of massive sulphide that graded 4.1 per cent copper and 0.43 grams per tonne gold in 2013. Further



copper- and zinc-rich mineralization was encountered in four of the five drill holes during a 2015 drill program, and more drilling is planned to test the extent of the deposit this coming winter.

“We’re determined to bring McIlvenna Bay to production,” says Soares. “We know global demand for zinc and copper is increasing and there are not

enough projects in development to satisfy this demand. Millions of tonnes need to be identified and developed to meet demand for existing uses, along with batteries and new green energy infrastructure. We’re committed to developing the McIlvenna Bay deposit safely and responsibly to help meet this demand.” ✕

**FORAN**  
MINING CORPORATION

**Nothing But Blue Sky**

**McIlvenna Bay Project**  
Flin Flon Greenstone Belt  
Saskatchewan

TSXV**FOM**

29	63.546
Cu	
Copper	

30	65.39
Zn	
Zinc	

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