

Press Release

Niocan inc.

Niocan completes metallurgical testwork on optimization of S-60 deposit

Montreal, July 13, 1999

Optimization testwork carried out at the C.R.M. (Centre de Recherches Minérales) during the months of May and June 1999, showed an increased recovery from 74.6% to 78% for the S-60 deposit. Testing with various reagents have also resulted in a reduction of 25% in the costs of reagents per tonne of ore. This testwork further confirmed that the process flowsheet can be simplified resulting in lower capital costs for the mill. The S-60 deposit represents 70% of the reserves on the Niocan project with an average grade of 0.66% Nb₂O₅.

Testwork on the optimization of the HWM-2 deposit representing 30% of reserves will be completed in August.

A new office has been opened by Niocan in Oka at 298 rang St-Ambroise, tel: 450-479-6055 / fax: 450-479-8564 so as to work closely with the community and follow-up on the Environmental Impact study on site.

Niocan inc. is a **minerals resource company** that owns a deposit of niobium with proven and probable reserves for a minimum of 15 years operation **with an estimated recoverable value of \$1.0 billion**. The company is focusing on the development of its project to produce ferroniobium by the end of 2001. Ferroniobium is used in the production of specialty alloys for aerospace, power turbines and in high strength low alloy steel used in the automobile, construction and pipeline industries.

For more information please contact.

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