

# The role of a Renaissance Geologist in the Modern Job Market

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## Preamble

- Your thesis project has probably focused on some aspect of geology around a deposit or mine, where the tectonic, geological and structural setting are relatively well understood.
- What happens when you join a junior exploration company and your job is to find one?

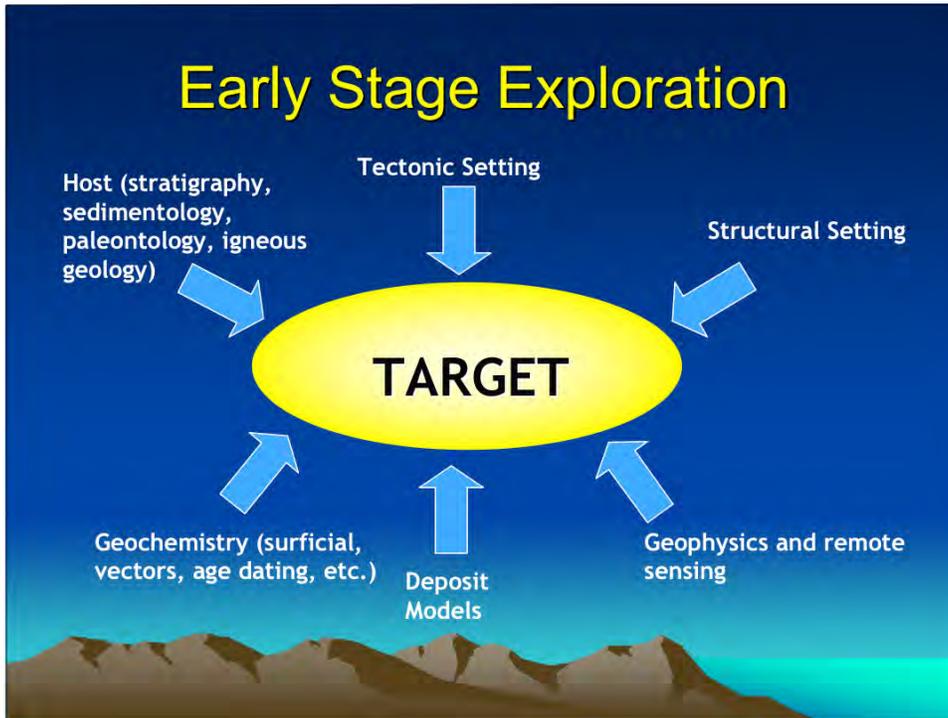
## Talk Outline

- What's a Renaissance Geologist?
- Why do I need to step outside of my specialization in economic geology?
- What will I be doing in industry/what kind of specialized knowledge might I need to acquire?
- What are mining companies looking for?
- Finding that first job
- Free advice

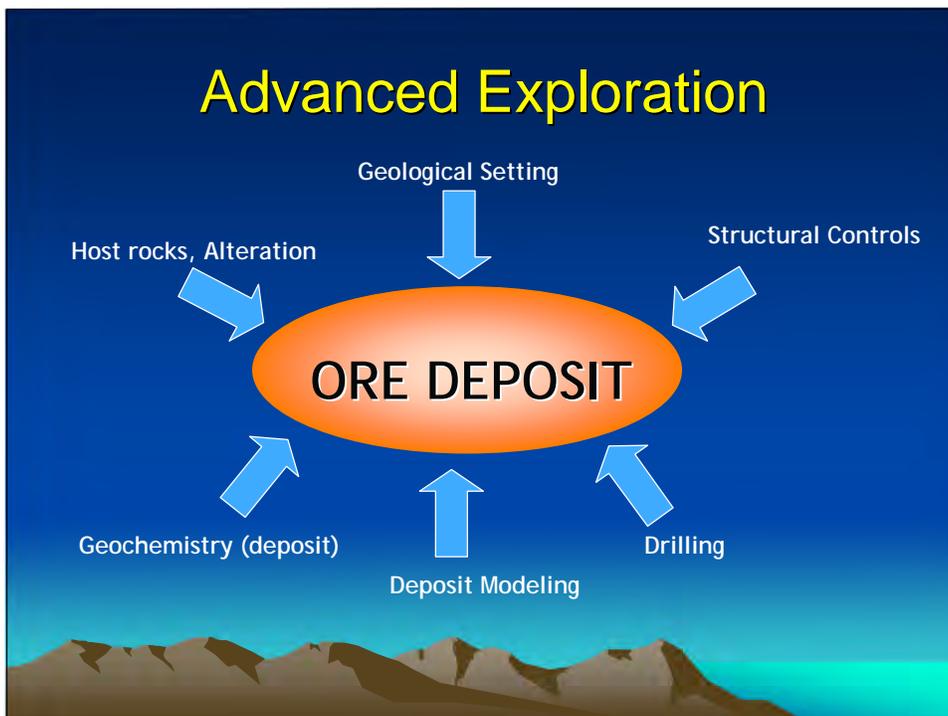
## Renaissance Geologist

- **Noun1.Renaissance man** - a modern scholar who is in a position to acquire more than superficial knowledge about many different interests; "a ~~statistician~~ **geologist** has to be something of a generalist"
- a **geologist** who has wide interests and is expert in several areas

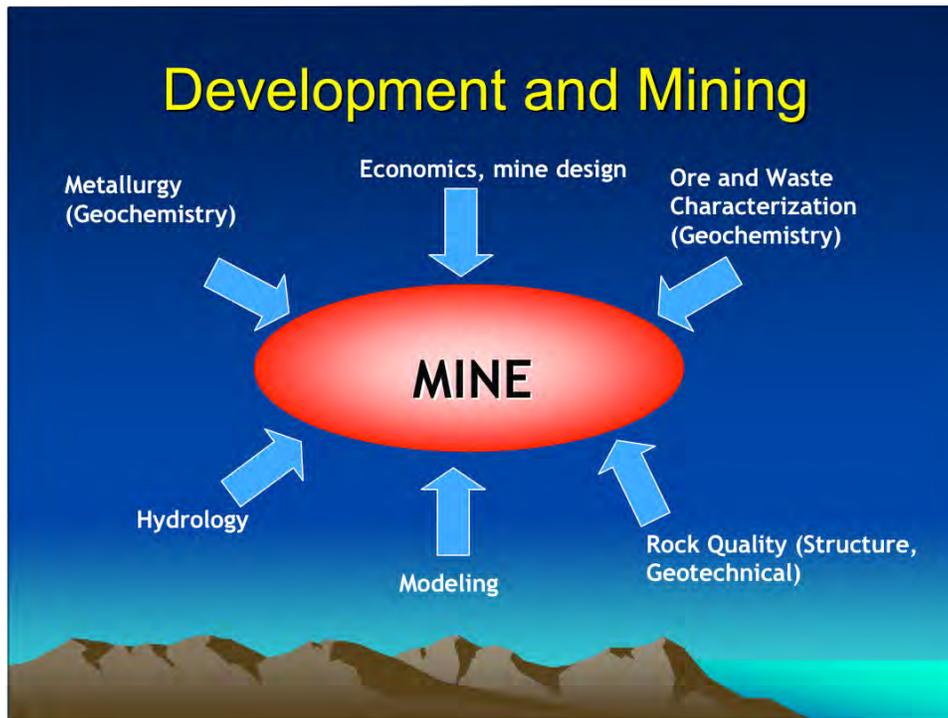
## Early Stage Exploration



## Advanced Exploration



## Development and Mining



## Exploration Project Management may involve knowledge of:

- Legal Framework
- Permitting Framework
- Stakeholders
- Health and Safety Regulations
- Geographic Information Systems
- Databases
- 3-D Modelling
- Metallurgy and Engineering
- Budgeting and Accounting
- Mineral Economics
- Team Building
- Logistics
- Diesel Mechanics and other practical stuff
- Reclamation
- Geology

## You might find yourself:

- In any country in the world
- Living in remote camps
- Staking claims
- Jumping out of helicopters
- Prospecting
- Silt sampling
- Soil sampling
- Regional mapping
- Logging chips
- Logging core
- Pit mapping
- Surveying drill holes and roads
- Compiling databases
- Digitizing maps
- Modeling ore bodies
- Writing reports
- Giving presentations
- Planning drill programs
- Developing budgets
- Working on teams with Engineers
- Supervising teams



...eating food out of a pit in the Atacama Desert....



...underground, down under.....



...scaling the highest peaks.....



...making new friends.....



...living in a tent camp in Alaska.....



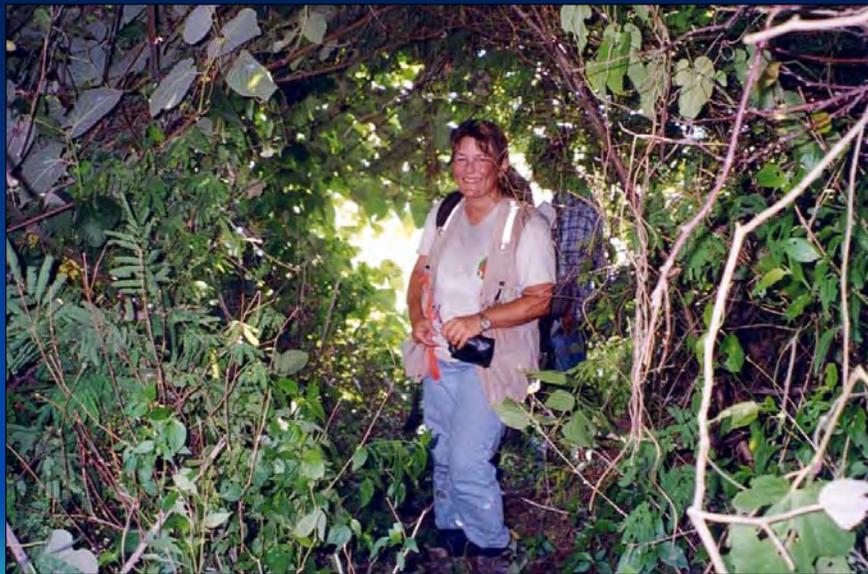
...or maybe Panama.....



...using a variety of forms of transportation.....



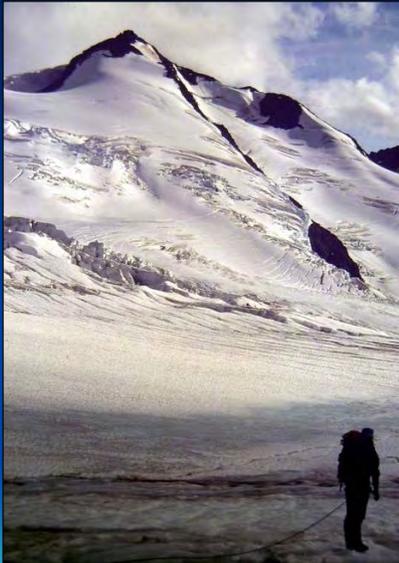
...possibly for uses unintended.....



...sweating it out in jungles.....



...desiccating in deserts.....



...or freezing on glaciers.....



...learning about new cultures.....



...learning the value of Teamwork.....

## Tombstone Tour 1999



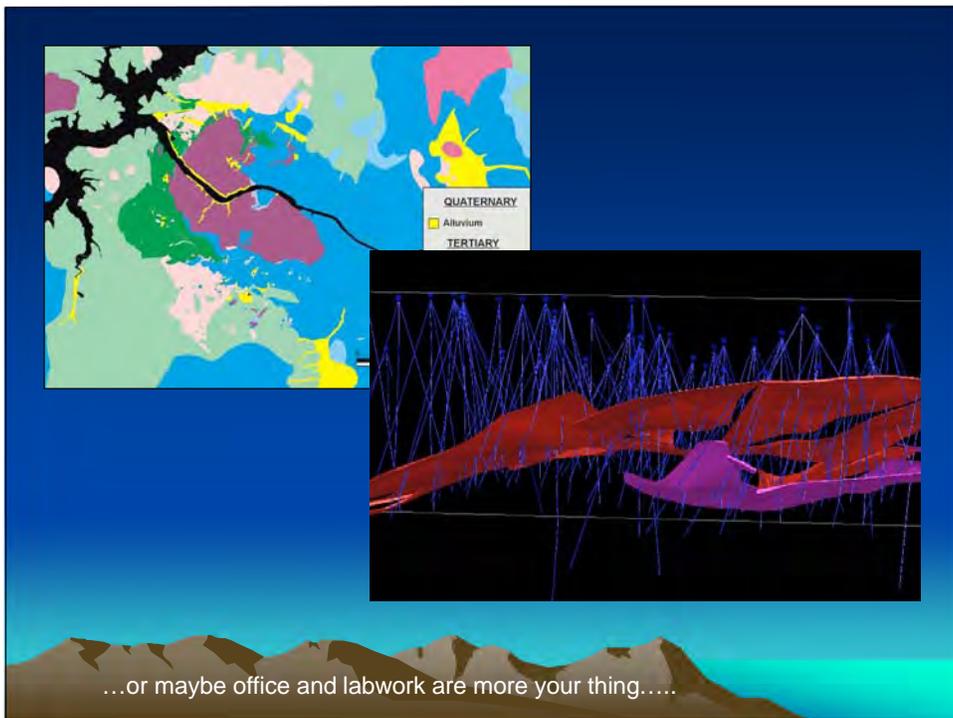
### Keno Hill, July 23rd, 1999

Moira Smith (Teck), Richard Goldfarb (USGS), Julie Hunt (YGP), Tim Baker (JCU), John Mair (UWA), Jim McFaul, Seth Mueller (UC), Julian Stephens (JCU), Louis Bucchi (UWA), Stephan Hagemann (UWA), Craig Hart (YGP) and Erin Marsh (UC).  
Photo by Cameron Romback (Teck).

...going on field trips.....



...or getting away from it all.....



## What are Exploration Companies looking for?

- Good communication skills (written, oral and presentation)
- Good soft skills/interpersonal skills (plays well with others)
- Good time management skills
- Broad range of geological knowledge applicable to finding ore bodies (not necessarily economic geology)
- Geological mapping skills
- Advanced degree may help you get hired and may help advance your career faster (or not)
- GIS, database and modeling skills
- Fluency or at least competency in a foreign language
- Summer work experience
- Common sense

## Finding that first job

- Decide what you think you might want to be (field guy? Manager? Modeler?)
- Decide what kind of company you want to work for (Major? Junior? Consulting?)
- Develop a short list of companies, do some research
- Spell check your resume
- Some interviewers may be intimidated by advanced degrees
- Volunteer to start at the bottom and work up
- Work on or visit as many deposits as you possibly can
- Never say no to a good opportunity

## Free Advice\*

- Take advantage of being in school and take as many classes in as many disciplines of geology as you can.
- Incorporate geological mapping into your thesis study.
- Take a GIS class (or two)
- Learn Powerpoint and Excel
- Start the professional registration process sooner than later
- Find a mentor – ask a lot of questions
- Network (meetings are a good place to start)
- Volunteer
- Be humble
- Network (did I say that already?)

\*worth whatever you paid for it

## Good Luck!

- With \$1300 gold prices and lots of new discoveries lately, you can't ask for a better time to be starting your career!