

Hathor Exploration, Ltd.



Map of the Athabasca basin in Saskatchewan, Canada, where Hathor Exploration, Ltd. has found the highest grade (24 percent) of uranium in the world. Above, Saskatchewan Province in Canada.

what we deem is the best discovery in the last 20 years. And why we are excited is that we have found uranium on our original zone, the Roughrider zone, where two years ago, we found that our initial discovery hole, of 12 meters, had just over 5 percentage by weight of uranium oxide— $U_3O_8$ .

INTERVIEW: TONY NUNZIATA

## World's Richest Uranium Ores Found in Northern Canada

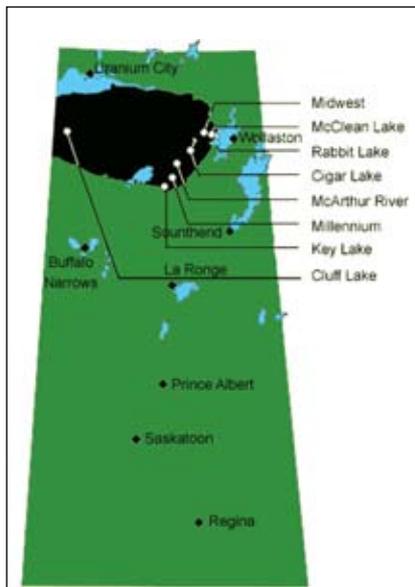
Tony Nunziata represents the uranium mining company Hathor Exploration, Ltd., in its Working Capital Corporation division. He was interviewed by Ilko Dimov, 21st Century correspondent.

**Question: Please tell us about Canada's uranium production.**

We are responsible for almost a quarter of the world's production of uranium. And it all comes from this one area in northern Saskatchewan, called the Athabasca basin. So it is right next to Alberta, and almost right next to the oil sands.

This Athabasca basin encompasses a number of high-grade discoveries and results. The biggest deposit is by Cameco. Cameco, as a single company, is the biggest producer of uranium in the world, through a property called the McArthur River Mine.

We are excited that Hathor, which is located just north of McArthur River, has



Areva

The Athabasca basin in northern Saskatchewan.

**Question: Wow!**

Since then we have expanded, and advanced that zone to a 200-meter strike length. And, we have come up with some phenomenal grades of uranium, including 23 meters of 24 percent  $U_3O_8$ —which is obviously a world class intersection.

**Question: Canada is now the largest exporter of uranium in the world, in mining and exporting, right?**

Kazakstan has actually taken over as number one. The bottom line is: you've got Kazakstan, Australia, and Africa: Niger and Namibia. They all produce uranium at less than 0.5 percent  $U_3O_8$ . But Kazakstan has superseded Canada as overall the biggest producer.

But, the highest grade ore bodies, definitely in the world, the only place you can find high grade, is in Saskatchewan.

**Question: Are there other provinces in Canada where we have uranium?**

Yes, there are other provinces. Labrador has uranium to a small degree. There have been some issues, against the government, and local governments there have put a moratorium on any uranium exploration.

The only other main area would be



Areva/IAEA

*Cigar Lake uranium mine, owned by Cameco, Areva Resources Canada, Idemitsu Canada Resources, and Tepco Resources has run into water problems in its mine shaft.*

Quebec, obviously, which is resource rich. They have not only uranium, but quite a host of other mineral resources.

Quebec does have a number of mining companies that are also exploring for uranium. Now, the big key with Quebec, is that they haven't produced uranium for quite a long time. As a matter of fact, there would be an issue there, because economically, there is no infrastructure in place.

In Saskatchewan, in the Athabaskan basin, for example, where we are located, we have major infrastructure in place. We actually have a couple of mills within a close distance to where our major project is. The McClean Lake Mill, for example, is a billion-dollar, most modern mill producing facility in the world, for uranium.

So, here in Saskatchewan, all the infrastructure, logistics, and environmental, all the areas of concern, have been in place. Quebec has low-grade uranium there, but in order to fulfill any potential production of uranium, there has to be a major resource, which would make it economically viable to build out infrastructure—which would take a long time.

Here [pointing to map] is an outline of the Athabaskan basin, on this eastern side of the Athabaskan basin, this corridor here, is a geological trend.

**Question: Is that like a fault line?**

Yes. For whatever reason, this geological trend hosts all the main discoveries and deposits. That's where Hathor has concentrated and accumulated all our properties and concessions. But if you look at the map, the biggest mine in the

world is McArthur River.

There is also Cameco at Cigar Lake, which has water problems; they have been trying to rectify that. There's Midwest Lake Deposit, right next to our discovery, which is AREVA's project. And then down here you have the Wheeler zone of Deniston, and then the Key Lake Mine, which is now depleted, but which also has a mill there. You can see that it's almost a direct trend, within this geological belt that we are exploring for the uranium.

**Question: Canada is not enriching uranium, just mining it, unlike France, which is producing nuclear fuel and exporting it to the international market?**

Oh, no, we are exporting. A good portion of the uranium from the world's richest mine... goes to places like Japan. We do export to other foreign countries.

**Question: How many months will you need to get the production of this new discovery going full scale in this area?**

It will take time. Right now, because we are in the process of exploring, we still have a lot of drilling to perform to find out the potential size of our discovered area, to make it into a world-class deposit.

After that, obviously for a small company like us, we are talking to major companies that will potentially partner with us, or who knows, maybe even buy us out in due time, in regards to fulfilling their requirements. We are talking to the big majors in the world. We are talking to big power utility companies, out of the Far East where the nuclear renaissance is occurring. Namely, China, India, Korea, Japan.

That's where a lot of the reactors are being built—you know there are 60 nuclear reactors that are being built currently, and most of them are in that neck of the world. Mind you, almost every country in the world is taking some initiative towards nuclear as part of their power.

**Question: What does the Canadian government have to say? Because, actually, if you are doing this job, you need support from the Canadian government—a partnership between the governments, the public, the population of Canada—that when you develop these resources, the benefits will stay in Canada. One of the problems we have, with the privatization of major Canadian companies, is that right now, we are becoming a banana republic. A former colony!**

I know. Prime Minister Harper just announced recently, that a foreign entity can actually purchase more than 50 percent of a uranium mine in Canada. The Parliament just passed that. You're seeing that happen. Look, last month China just put a billion dollars into Penn West. China is making a major thrust worldwide for resources.

In Canada, you know, we are a resource-rich country and, fortunately (or unfortunately) China is getting involved in all kinds of commodities here in Canada. Is that good or is that bad? Are we looking after our future generations, or are we selling out our resources? We do have a lot of resources.... But, that is a concern.

**Question: Can you say something about modernization, efficiency, the new technologies going into the industry?**

Here in Canada, we are leading edge when it comes to high grade ore.... We have the best technologies in the world, because of the mill facilities in this area, to be able to properly produce, with efficiency and safety, this high-grade uranium. This is the only place in the world that you can find high-grade uranium. So the logistics are there to be able to properly produce it. It's leading edge.

China, though on the nuclear power front, is building super-reactors. These are amazing next-generation super-generator nuclear power plants that are leading edge. And they are getting a lot of the technology from companies like AREVA and Westinghouse, which are advancing all their technologies.