Epithermal and Porphyry Style Copper-Gold Mineralization at Arthur's Seat Project, Jamaica

William Miguel, Stephen Hughes
C3 METALS, Toronto, ON, Canada

The Arthur's Seat project is located in the central inliers of Jamaica, approximately 45 km west-northwest of the capital city of Kingston. The Arthur's Seat epithermal vein swarm is a true maiden discovery, with almost no modern-day mineral exploration.

The project area is overlain by Lower Cretaceous andesitic volcanic rocks of the Arthur's Seat Formation. The Arthur's Seat Formation lithologies comprise a thick sequence of conglomerates and volcanic breccias, with intercalated ash and crystal tuffs and andesitic to basaltic andesite lava flows. The volcanic package is intruded by a series of monzonite and andesite dikes.

Three major vein and breccia zones have been discovered to date, varying from centimeters to 2 meters in true width, and typically strike northeast, north-northwest, and east-west. The main quartz vein zone is mineralized for over 3 km in strike length and is up to 25 m wide. Veins and breccia zones are characterized by massive, cockade, comb (dog-tooth), and drusy quartz textures; some of them contain rare carbonates. Shortwave infrared analysis indicates smectite to illite with chlorite alteration and a distal halo of illite-chlorite ± epidote alteration; adjacent to the vein, the smectite-illite alteration zone is predominant.

The Arthur's Seat project is a true maiden discovery and is early on showing significant potential to host an epithermal gold-copper deposit. Rock chip grabs from outcrop veins and breccias assayed up to 58 g/t gold and 11.1% copper. Rock slabs show identical vein and breccia textures to the little-known Pennants gold deposit located 11 km to the west. Although the project is early in its exploration development, two large, discrete magnetic anomalies coincident with the vein system, porphyry B-veins hosted in monzonite, and secondary copper oxides suggest there is a nearby porphyry system.