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亞洲礦業投資機會：為時不晚
*Asian Mining Investment Opportunities: Its
Not Too Late*

About the Author:

Jim's international mining industry experience provides a solid platform upon which to carefully select projects and management groups for research coverage. He has over 25 years of industry experience with major Canadian and international mining companies Cyprus Anvil Mining, Amax of Canada, Canada Tungsten Mining, Noramco Exploration, Barrick Gold, Eldorado Gold and Pacific Rim Mining and the Government of Canada. His research primarily focuses on the junior exploration sector to identify early stage opportunities that can provide the greatest leverage. Additionally, Jim follows new exploration projects with a high probability of advancing to the development stage or production. His global research concentrates on gold, silver, copper, lead, zinc, nickel, PGMs and diamonds. Jim is a professional geologist and registered professional engineer.

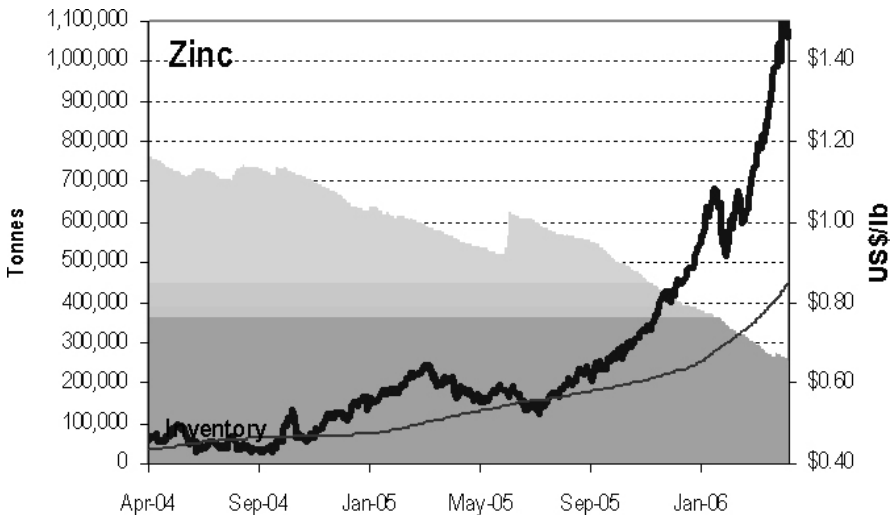
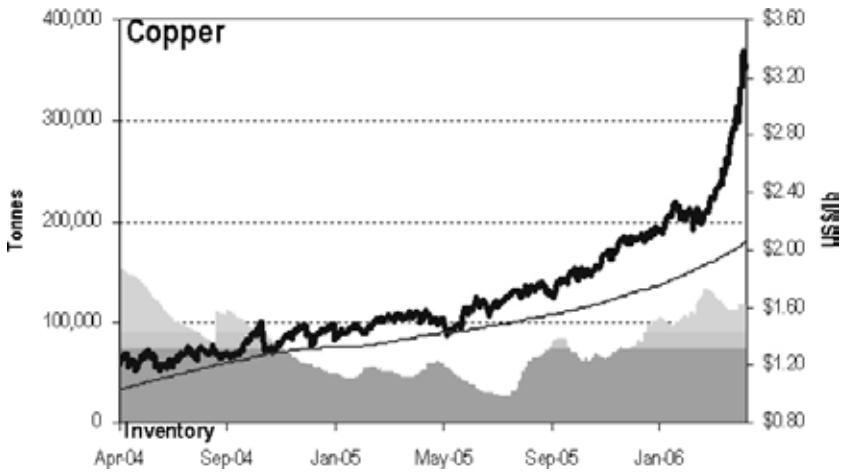
作者簡介：

Mustard先生擁有的豐富國際礦業工作經驗，為他在證券研究中仔細挑選具有優質項目和良好管理團隊的公司奠定了堅實基礎。他曾在多家大型的加拿大和國際性礦業公司效力25年，包括Cyprus Anvil Mining、Amax of Canada、Canada Tungsten Mining、Noramco Exploration、Barrick Gold、Eldorado Gold和Pacific Rim Mining等，並曾為加拿大政府工作。Mustard先生的研究工作，主要集中在初級礦業勘探領域，致力於發現能提供最大回報的早期投資機會。另外，他還對那些有潛力進展到開發階段或生產階段的新勘探項目進行追蹤研究。他對全球礦業市場的研究重點，集中在黃金、白銀、銅、鉛、鋅、鎳、鉑族金屬和鑽石方面。Mustard先生是一位專業地質學家和註冊專業工程師。

亞洲礦業投資機會：為時不晚

2006年第一季度，中國經濟折合成年度增長率達到了10%。中國經濟的繁榮很大程度上推動了亞洲對原材料商品的持續需求。對於那些希望利用這個投資機會的投資者來說，他們擁有充足的投資選擇可以進行考慮：到底是投資那些正在亞洲進行勘探的礦業公司，還是投資那些在其它國家進行勘探但產品的最終目的地是在亞洲的礦業公司。

在銅、鉛、鋅和黃金的價格每天都在創出新高的時候，就可以理解為什麼加拿大的公司正在中國尋找項目開發機會以及為什麼中國的綜合型礦業公司在國際市場上尋找新的資源。雖然亞洲國家存在了各種風險，而且這些風險有時會阻礙投資，但是對於那些生產高需求原材料商品的公司，機會還是非常顯著的，無論這些商品是煤、銅或是黃金。

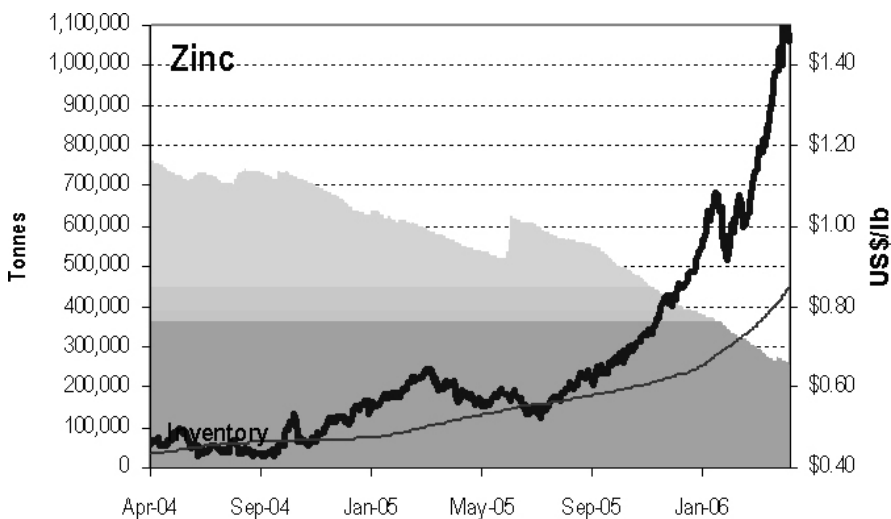
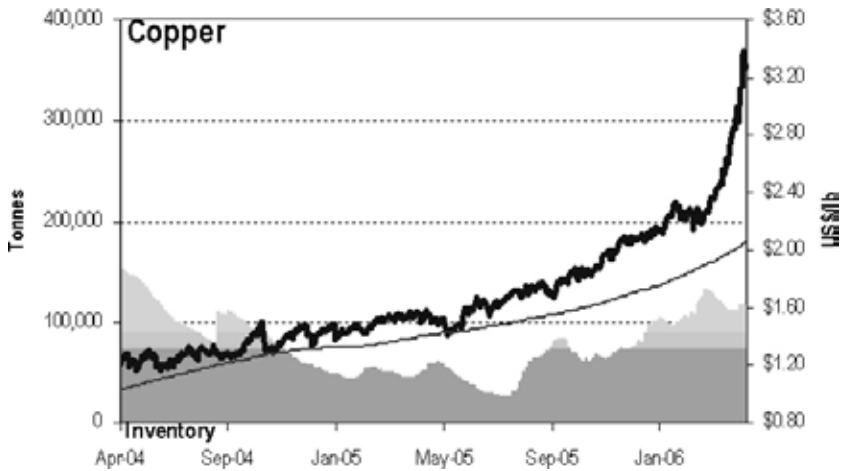


Asian Mining Investment Opportunities: Its Not Too Late

For investors intent on capitalizing on continuing commodity demand in Asia, driven largely by China where annualized growth in China was 10% in Q106, there are plenty of choices to consider – whether they be with mining companies exploring in Asia or perhaps in other countries where the product is destined for Asia.

With copper, lead, zinc and gold prices climbing

daily to new highs it is understandable why both Canadian companies are seeking project development opportunities in China and why Chinese integrated mining companies are seeking new sources of concentrates in the international market. While there are specific risks in the various Asian countries that, at times, dissuade investments, the opportunities are significant for those companies with a project that can produce a commodity in



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對上述兩種金屬價格走勢簡單觀察就可以發現，金屬價格的上升是因為供給不足而需求持續增長。

除了上述宏觀經濟因素外，亞洲國家吸引國外投資的關鍵在於它們提供的權益保障。一旦授予了某項權益，只要有關係款符合國家的礦業法規，這項所有權益就不會被剝奪。一項資產的所有權是根據有關法律決定的，對於國內和國外的公司同樣適用。這種所有權不可改變，只有在對有關法律出現誤解的情況下才可以改變。法定權益在一項資產進行融資或出售時是極其重要的。礦業公司總是在尋找途徑將價值兌現，即使這意味著需要將一個項目的開發權出售給另一家公司。由於許多交易缺乏透明度，所以大型公司採取觀望的策略，它們經常通過與初級公司合作來減少風險。那些存在權益不清或是对某項資產的出售有所限制的開發項目，幾乎無法進行債務融資，因為大型銀行認為如果權益保障存在疑問，將是非常高的風險。

世界各地的礦業公司都明白，它們並不真正擁有地下的礦藏，但是它們需要保證自己開採、加工和根據商業條款出售這些礦產資源的權利。礦藏(包括石油和天然氣)經常是由國家擁有的，公司只要獲得法定的權利就可以對它們進行開採。從地下開採的產品必須可以進行自由交易，也就是說可以根據商業條款，按照世界市場的價格出售，而不會受某些定價體系的限制。這些是加拿大礦業公司需要遵守的基本法規，也是加拿大成為一個非常重要的以自然資源為基礎的經濟體的基本法規。

例如蒙古在九十年代末重新制訂了該國的礦業法，允許外國礦業公司的控股比例達到100%，使得該國的礦業活動和投資有了顯著的增加。為了鼓勵項目開發，蒙古還採取了其它一些激勵措施，如特定的免稅優惠期等。礦業是一個高風險的行業，但是可以對一些偏僻的地區提供很多就業機會和稅收收入。

如今，Ivanhoe Mines在蒙古擁有的一個世界級項目，成為很多反對者關注的焦點。他們相信蒙古政府應該在項目開發上擁有更大的發言權，以“保證”國家獲得更多的份額。在這個問題得到解決之前，投資者將會對該資產的價值打上折扣並且肯定不太願意投資位於蒙古的其它項目。由於所有權的問題以及所提議的有關政府參與項目開發的改變措施充滿了不確定性，許多公司已經減少了工作力度，有的甚至完全撤出了蒙古而轉向更具吸引力的國家。

我們可以將越南作為另一個吸引外資的國家例子。這不是因為該國對礦業法進行了任何重大修改，而是因為這是一個勘探活動不充分但在亞洲擁有重要戰略地位的國家。Tiberon 正在開發的 Nui Phao 鎢-氟項目，距河內2小時車程。該項目的成功開發，將可能導致該國勘探和礦藏開發活動的大量增加，因為越南表明它正在採取步驟來保證投資的優惠條件以及政府對採礦權益的法律保障。

中國存在的問題甚至比蒙古複雜得多。首先，對於外國公司可以實際開發的礦藏級別，目前仍然存在著混淆，因為在歷史上曾經存在著一些有關黃金品位和冶金方面的規定，禁止非中國公司獲得“容易開採”的礦藏。雖然現在這些政策已經在很大程度上遭到擯棄，但其影響卻仍然存在。

其次，如果一家公司在勘探許可礦區有了重大發現，但它不一定能獲得開採許可。該公司擁有申請開採許可的優先權，但並不擁有獨家申請權。僅僅這一方面，就足以對那些投入巨資發現資源但卻不能獲得開採許可的礦業公司造成很大傷害，同時對投資者也帶來極大的損害。果真如此的話，為什麼那些礦業公司還要首先發現資源呢？考慮到資本市場所期待的時機敏感性問題，負責發放各種許可證的重重官僚機構(鎮、縣、省、中央)會對項目造成很大的負擔。

總體而言，投資者將能夠以折扣價格，對在亞洲開展業務活動的公司進行投資，但這需要承擔一些風險。市場上存在許多擁有成熟期項目的優秀公司，我們隨後將會對一些公司進行概略介紹。

除了活躍在亞洲的礦業公司外，在加拿大的許多開發項目對投資者也具有吸引力，因為這些項目的產品是面向亞洲營銷的。我們摘錄了一些加拿大公司最近就它們位於加拿大的項目達成的一些業務協議，這些項目有可能由中方合作夥伴提供資金支持。

Bc Metal Corporation 正在就其位於卑詩省的 Red Chris銅金項目的開發問題與江西銅業公司進行商談。合資協議(目前尚在討論階段)的容，將包括江西銅業為Red Chris的開發提供融資，並可能在該公司位於中國的加工廠進行礦石加工。

high demand – be it coal, copper or gold!

A brief look at the two metal charts tells the story – metal prices are high due to low supplies and continuing high demand.

Other than the above macro economic issues, key to attracting foreign investment capital for Asia is security of title, that once granted, the title to asset ownership is irrevocable as long as the terms are met under the mining act of the country. The ownership of an asset is determined based on laws that are applicable to domestic and foreign companies equally; the ownership is not subject to change and it is subject to challenge only if there has been a misrepresentation based on law. Legal title is exceptionally important when an asset is being used to raise equity financing or the asset is the subject of sale. Mining companies will always seek ways to monetize value, even if that means selling the right to develop a project to another mining company. Lack of transparency in many cases is what makes the larger companies stay on the sidelines and they will often work through juniors to reduce their risk. If title issues are not clear and restrictions on the sale of an asset would make it almost impossible to debt finance development projects as large banks assess the risk to be too high if the security of title is suspect.

Mining companies world wide understand that they don't actually own the minerals in the ground, but they secure the right to extract them, process them and sell them based on commercial terms. The minerals (including oil and gas) are generally always owed by the State and the company obtains the right recover them as long as they are legally entitled to do so. The product extracted from the ground should also be freely traded – that is sold based on the world price and on commercial terms, not subject to some form of fixed pricing structure. These are the general rules that apply to mining companies in Canada and have made Canada a very significant resource based economy.

In Mongolia, for example, a country that re-wrote their mining laws at the end of the 1990's to allow foreign mining companies to control 100%, attracted significant increase in activity and investments. Additional incentives were provided in the form of specific tax free periods that encouraged development of projects. Mining is a very high risk business that often can generate significant employment and tax benefits to isolated regions where employment opportunities are often the bleakest.

In Mongolia today, there is one world class project owned by Ivanhoe Mines that has become the focal point of many opponents who believe that

the state government should have a much larger say in its development by "preserving" a larger amount for the state. Until this issue is resolved, investors will tend to discount the value of the asset and will most assuredly be reluctant to invest in other projects in the country. The ownership issue and other proposed changes are now so uncertain the states will participation that many companies have curtailed the efforts or are could even leave the country completely for more attractive countries.

We next can turn to Viet Nam as an example of another country that is attracting foreign investment, - not because of any significant changes to the mining laws, but rather because it was under explored and is strategically positioned in Asia. Tiberon is developing the Nui Phao tungsten-fluorspar project that is a 2 hour drive from Ha Noi. The successful development of this project could lead to considerably more exploration and mine development as the country demonstrates that it has taken steps to ensure invested capital can be done on competitive terms and that the rules governing mining title are secure

The issues in China are much more complex than even Mongolia. To begin with, there is still confusion over the grades of deposits that a foreign mining company can actually develop as there are historical precedents of gold grade and metallurgical issues, that preclude "easily mineable" deposits from being made available to non-Chinese companies. Although these policies have largely been abandoned, they still persist.

Secondly, if a company makes a discovery on its exploration license, it may not be awarded the mining license – it has a "priority" right to apply for the mining license, but does not have exclusive right. This aspect alone, is very harmful to a mining company that may spend significant monies to discover a deposit and then to not be able to obtain a mining license can be extremely harmful to investors – if that were the case then why would a mining company want to make the discovery in the first place? The layers of bureaucracy in the varying licensing issues (prefect, county, province, state) can burden a project in consideration of the timing sensitivity that the capital markets expects.

Investors will generally be able to invest at a discount in companies working in Asia – but for those willing to take on some of the risk, there are many excellent companies with advanced stage projects, some of which are summarized in below.

In addition to mining companies active in Asia, there are many developing projects in Canada that can also be attractive to investors as they are marketing their products to Asia. We provide a

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Canadian Royalties 就位於魁北克的 Raglan 鎳項目與Jinchaun集團簽訂了諒解備忘錄。根據協議，Jinchaun將會在魁北克北部的偏遠地區設計和建造一座處理廠。

Pinnacle Mines Ltd與紫金礦業集團簽訂了一項協議，後者將向Pinnacle提供195萬加元的私募融資。該筆資金將用於在加拿大和中國的勘探工作。紫金將在Pinnacle的董事會中任命兩位董事，並會向Pinnacle提供在中國的各種項目機會，供其考慮成立合資公司。

儘管目前中加雙方還沒有就位於加拿大的鈾項目達成任何合作協議，但由於中國已經開始大規模擴展核發電能力，雙方如果在不久的將來進行合作將絲毫不會令人感到奇怪。中國最近與澳大利亞政府簽訂了一項協議。按照協議，澳大利亞未來每年將向中國提供4400萬磅的八氧化三鈾(U3O8)，這將是目前產量的兩倍。

目前在中國活躍著多的加拿大公司，包括：Silvercorp Metals Inc. (Ying)、Minco Mining and Metals (Anba)、Asia Now、Minco Silver、Southwestern Resources (Boka)、Golden China Resources Corp (Bynhar and Nibao)、Jinshan Gold (Chang Shan Hao or 217)、Mundoro Gold (Maoling)、Eldorado Gold (Tanjianshan)、Continental Minerals (Xietongmen)、Maxy Gold (MIDU)。以Silvercorp為代表的公司已經清楚地表明，外國公司可以獲得開採許可證；而像Jinshan Gold 這樣的公司則將項目發展到接近生的階段，它們已經提交了開採許可證申請。這些公司為投資者提供了從勘探階段到成熟期開發階段等不同項目。

當Southwestern在Boka發現了高品位的黃金資源之後，資本市場對中國的興趣立即顯著增加。這種現象持續了大約三年時間，直到 Mundoro Mining 控股的一家合資公司無法續延營業執照，並且因此無法續延Maoling黃金項目的勘探許可證止。由於該項目是中國目前最大的黃金礦藏，如果進行開發將有可能成為中國最大的金礦，因此資本市場對中國的興趣開始大幅減少。過了8個月仍不能續延營業執照這個事實有力地說明了權益保障的問題(這個案例中涉及的是商業權益)。這種問題的存在使許多投資者不願投資於在中國有項目的公司。

但是，我們可以看到Silvercorp的成功，他們已經將

Ying白銀項目從勘探階段開發到了接近生產階段。同樣，Jinshan Gold正在Chang Shan Hao(內蒙古)開發金礦，預計不久將能獲得開採許可證。所以，儘管一個項目受到挫折，礦業公司仍然可以融資並繼續進行項目開發。不過，為一個特定的礦業開發項目融資是一回事，對於一家剛剛在中國啟動業務的勘探公司而言，融資仍然相當困難。

正在考慮投資資源類公司的投資者，最好對許多技術性問題有一個基本瞭解，瞭解基礎商品的循環週期，與資本市場相關的公司相對價值、市值、管理團隊的優勢和劣勢等。投資者還需要對開採和勘探術語有基本的瞭解，例如資源品位的重要性以及投資獲利的經濟邏輯等。礦業投資是一種高風險的遊戲，但也可能獲得很高回報。要使勘探項目最終開發成為一個礦山需要克服千難萬險，有時候成功的概率只有1000：1。

找到知識豐富的投資顧問幫助你發現可以升值的公司，以及仔細研究公司的網站都是非常幫助的。考慮到加拿大有關信息披露的規定，我們可以在公司網站上找到許多有用的資訊，例如發行股的數量、董事以及有關項目的資料。研究一下公司融資的歷史及股價的表現，瞭解其股價最近上漲或下跌的原因。

synopsis of recent business arrangements between Canadian companies with projects in Canada that will likely be funded by Chinese interests.

Bc Metals Corporation has entered into discussions regarding their Red Chris copper gold project in British Columbia with Jiangxi Copper Mining Company regarding development of the project. The joint venture agreement (which is only at the discussion stage) would see Jiangxi provide financing to develop Red Chris and likely process the concentrate within China at Jiangxi extensive facilities.

Canadian Royalties Inc. has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Jinchaun Group Ltd regarding development of the Raglan Nickel project in Quebec. The agreement provides for Jinchaun to design and construct a process plant in a remote region of northern Quebec.

Pinnacle Mines Ltd. has entered into an agreement with Zijin Mining Group Co. that provides for a private placement with Pinnacle for \$C1.95 million. The money will be used for exploration in Canada and China. Zijin is to appoint two members to the board of Pinnacle and will also make available to Pinnacle various projects in China for consideration of forming joint ventures.

Although we have not seen any cooperative arrangements in Canada regarding uranium at this point in time, it will not surprise us to see this in the near term as China has embarked on significant expansion of its nuclear generating capacity. China recently inked a deal with the Australian government for the country supply as much as 44 million pounds of U3O8 annually in the future, which could lead to a doubling of current production.

There are numerous Canadian Companies active in China; these include: Silvercorp Metals Inc. (Ying) , Minco Mining and Metals (Anba) , Asia Now; Minco Silver, Southwestern Resources (Boka) .. Golden China Resources Corp (Byinhar and Nibao) .. Jinshan Gold (Chang Shan Hao or 217), Mundoro Gold (Maoling) , Eldorado Gold (Tanjianshan) , Continental Minerals (Xietongmen) , Maxy Gold (MIDU). Companies such as Silvercorp have clearly demonstrated a foreign owned company can obtain a mining license and a company like Jinshan Gold can move their projects closer to production as they have now applied for a mining license. Each of these companies provides opportunities for investors that range from advanced development stage projects to exploration.

Immediately after Southwestern's high grade gold discovery at Boka, there was considerable interest by the capital markets in China – this lasted for about

three years until a joint venture that Mundoro Mining controlled was not able to obtain its business license renewal and subsequently was not able to obtain the renewal of the exploration license for Maoling gold project. Since this project is now the largest gold deposit in China and if developed could well become China's largest gold mine, capital market interest in China has declined considerably. The fact that a business license has not been renewed after some 8 months sends a compelling message regarding security of title (in this case business title). Because of this issue many investors are reticent to finance companies with projects in China.

However we can point to the success of Silvercorp who have taken the Ying silver project from exploration and are now developing the project into a mine. Like wise, Jinshan Gold is also developing a gold mine at Chang Shan Hao (Inner Mongolia) as it soon expects to receive a mining license. So, despite setbacks with one project, companies can raise capital and will continue with mine development. However, financing for a specific mine development project is one thing; financing an exploration company who is just embarking on initial activity in China would still be difficult.

Investors considering a resource company for their investments are best to have a basic understanding of many of the technical issues – understand basic commodity cycles, capital market issues such as relative valuation of companies, market capitalization of companies, management strengths and weaknesses;. They must have basic understanding of mining and exploration terms such as the importance of grade, and economics to realize investment gains. Mining investment is a very high risk game that can be significantly rewarding; it takes many exploration projects to make a mine, in some cases the odds could be 1,000 to 1.

Locate a knowledgeable advisor who can work with you to gain an appreciation of a company and study company websites which are most helpful. Given disclosure requirements in Canada, there is much information available on the company such as number of shares issued and directors and also on the project. Study the history of financings and the price of a stock to determine why it has gained or lost value in the recent past.