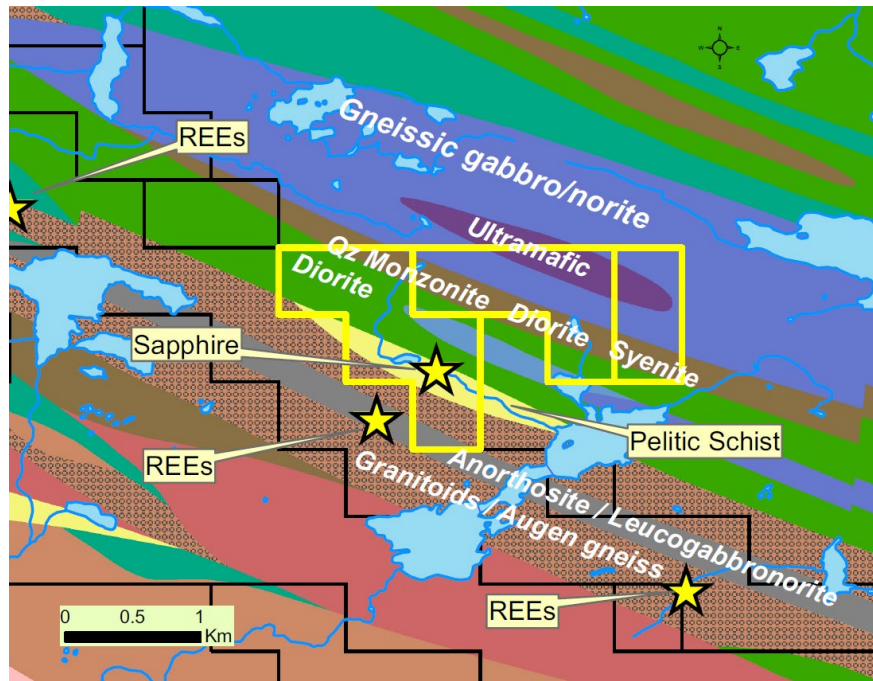


Labrador Sapphire



Overview:

- ★ Just 13 km from Port Hope, easily accessible by road and foot
- ★ Known sapphire zone has been traced intermittently for over 250 m along strike and is open at both ends.

Main Showing:

- ★ 140 m long, several parallel bands up to 3-4 m thick
- ★ Avg 3-5% bluish sapphire-corundums up to 4 cm long
- ★ Sections with concentrations of 10k to 20k carats per tonne

Eastern Zone:

- ★ > 60 m long
- ★ Avg 5-8% sapphires over an avg width of 0.5 m for over 25 m
- ★ One large slabbed sample averaged about 13.7 weight % or 684k carats per tonne
- ★ Three high-grade zones of 10%, 12%, 17% sapphire-corundums
- ★ Up to 4 cm long, more compact and deeper blue color than Main Showing



- **Colour:** Blue to lilac purple. Favorably compared to US produced “Idaho Purple” gems. Heat-treating these unusually Cr-rich sapphires (“chrome-sapphires”) may cause them to turn red, producing ruby. Some collected stones had a natural pinkish-reddish tinge.
- **Carat:** Large size. Some exceeding 4 cm long by 2.5 cm diameter; equates to 8 to >10 carat rough stones.
- **Clarity:** In 1994, nine gemstones were selected for preparation and analysis (in the US) and preliminary cutting, en cabochon, and polish (in Sri Lanka), four had inclusions of rutile (in sapphires) and chromite (in ruby). Sapphire, being a class-2 gemstone, ubiquitously contains such inclusions. All nine contained “silk”, which is a common gemological phenomenon caused by the sapphire crystal containing variable amounts of microcrystals of rutile, chromite or cobalt. Variations of these elements plus other elements produce a variety of additional colored sapphires (pink, yellow, green, orange, etc.) known as “fancy sapphire”.
- **Potential:** From the few point counts completed there appears to be a significant volume of sapphires in bedrock. From the few panned till samples taken near the bedrock source, it appears that the tills may be another significant source, if not a primary source of stones. To date no alluvial tills sampling has been done in the local alluvial plain. Communications with industry personnel (Montana sapphire mine) confirmed that the Labrador sapphires are semitranslucent, commercial grade stones suitable for jewelry making.

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