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# Prospects good for new mine

In the early 1900s the Commonwealth mine about 25 minutes from Wellington was known as one of the biggest minerals producer in Australia.

Some old mine shafts still exist not far from where Impact Minerals, a company backed by Perth billionaire Andrew Forrest is drilling for new riches now.

On site, international geologist James Cumming, who has worked in projects from Zambia to Pretoria and Australia, is impressed from what lies beneath.

“Our current drilling follows a successful 2014 drilling campaign where we tested known mineralisation shafts on Commonwealth mine,” he said.

“On that program we found an extension to the south with massive sulphide about to four

metres, 41 grams of gold, so now we have new targets based on various surveys.”

High in mountainous territory which overlooks country producing sheep and cattle are traces of copper, gold, zinc and lead.

These are sprouting new prospects from drilling.

Mr Cumming said basically gold, copper, lead and zinc was what they were finding.

Impact Mineral’s drill rigs are driving 150 to 300m below the surface.

Impact managing director Dr Mike Jones has described the Commonwealth mine project as being similar in potential strength to the large Cadia mine near Orange.

His geologist is upbeat too believing there is promise and

potential based on its history and finds so far in his mission to find the next big thing in mining.

Standing over the first samples which are about to leave for the laboratory for further investigation Mr Cumming is confident.

“The belt is rich in these targets, it’s a strong project with good potential,” he said

“We’ve sent in our first batch of samples within in the next two to three weeks we should begin to get results.

“So we can get a better feel for the rock.”



Geologist James Cumming looks at mineral samples.