

PREFACE

This publication is the eighth in a series of annual Reports of Activities in which the Mineral Development Division summarizes results of its projects in progress.

During the past year the field activities carried out by the Division under the Canada-Newfoundland Mineral Development Subsidiary Agreement reached a peak; some 23 field parties were active, with a total budget in excess of three million dollars. Much of this effort concentrated on regional geological mapping (reports 1-20). Field work was completed on long term mapping projects in the Davis Inlet area, the Red Wine Mountains, the Deer Lake Basin, the Victoria Lake area, and the Burin Peninsula. The Labrador Mapping Section began a concentrated effort in the Grenville Province, using large helicopter supported field parties. This effort, when combined with earlier work in the Red Wine Mountains and Hamilton Inlet areas, will provide complete 1:100,000 mapping across the northern part of the Labrador Grenville, from the Quebec border to Sandwich Bay, and a base from which to move farther south into Grenville Province. The Newfoundland Mapping Section continued its program aimed at 1:50,000 coverage of the island portion of the Province.

The Geochemistry Section continued its regional lake sediment survey program, this year completing the northeastern section of Newfoundland; in Labrador, the section concentrated on more detailed studies to follow up previously reported regional work. Data from the northeast Newfoundland regional survey will be released in the spring of 1981; the results of the detailed work in Labrador, which resulted in the discovery of uranium mineralization, were released in the fall of 1980.

The Mineral Evaluation Section saw a number of changes during the year. The section acquired a new senior geologist, was renamed the Mineral Deposits Section, and acquired responsibility for metallogenic studies, as well as industrial mineral surveys and mineral inventory. The industrial mineral assessment moved on from labradorite and other gemstones to investigate building stone and mineral fillers.

The Environmental Geology Section completed its inventory of aggregate resources along transportation corridors in the Province, and continued its investigation of the surficial and glacial geology of the Buchans Volcanic Belt. A study of the glacial geology of the Deer Lake Basin was also completed.

The Publications and Information Section took over the responsibility for the core storage program in 1980. The core storage building at St. John's was completed, a building was acquired at Goose Bay, and plans are in progress for a facility at Pasadena to be built in 1981. Field examination and retrieval of drill core continued with excellent cooperation from the exploration industry.

Next year the Division reaches the end of its current 5-year program of Federal-Provincial cost-shared geoscientific studies - the Canada-Newfoundland Mineral Development Subsidiary Agreement - which has provided the funding for most of the projects described in this publication (all except reports 9,24 and 25). Because of this, many of the projects will concentrate next year on the preparation of final reports for publication rather than on the acquisition of new data. We therefore anticipate a somewhat reduced field program in 1981, a reduction which we hope will be only a temporary interlude before we embark on a major new program in 1982.

B.A. Greene
Director
Mineral Development Division

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