

GEOSCAN - THE NATIONAL DATABASE FOR GEOLOGICAL INFORMATION:
'THE NEWFOUNDLAND CONTRIBUTION'

by

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GEOSCAN is a computerized bibliographic database of Canadian-produced and/or Canada-related geoscience documents.

The Newfoundland Department of Mines and Energy is one of the ten agencies which produce indexed documents. The 'geofiles' and the mineral inventory cards at the Publications and Information Section are the sources of our indexed documents. Other agencies, *e.g.* the Geological Survey of Canada and the Earth Physics Branch of EMR, also produce and index documents that concern this province.

As of June 1982, there were approximately 7000 documents that concerned this province in the GEOSCAN database. They include assessment files, serial literature, government reports and maps, theses, and consultant reports.

Usually, once per year, we arrange with the National GEOSCAN Centre to produce some custom indexes from the database. The most popular have been the NEWFOUNDLAND/LABRADOR NTS INDEX and the NEWFOUNDLAND/LABRADOR KEYWORD INDEX.

SALE AND USE OF GEOSCAN INDEXES
(FEBRUARY 1981 UPDATE)

TYPE OF AGENCY	NTS INDEXES		KEYWORD INDEXES microfiche only
	paper	microfiche	
Mining companies	12	23	26
Consultants	3	1	1
Universities/Libraries	0	1	1
Governments	2	2	2

This summer, 1982, we received NEW indexes, current to February 1982. These are now available from the Publication and Information Section (see page 23 of the publications list). As well as the regular KEYWORD and NTS Indexes, there are new indexes offered:

- a less bulky, paper copy, NTS index in reduced format,
- an author index on microfiche only,
- a drill hole, drill hole section and drill hole log index on microfiche only.

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The indexes are for the benefit of you, the user. We welcome suggestions for improvements and appreciate being notified of any errors or discrepancies that you may discover.

As well as these products, all of the 67,000 GEOSCAN records from across Canada are available through on-line computer searches at the Library of Geological Survey of Canada and, locally, at our Publications and Information Section. Searches are performed on a cost recovery basis with a minimal charge of \$10.00 per search topic. A moderate size search (100-200 titles) would cost between \$15.00 and \$45.00.

The above products and services are the last that will be offered in the old format. The National GEOSCAN Centre,

which manages GEOSCAN, is presently implementing a new software system, called MINISIS, to input and retrieve the bibliographic data more effectively. For at least a year, the old and the new systems will be operating concurrently. All new documents are input on the new system and are immediately retrievable. The old documents are available in the above indexes and old on-line service, but cannot be updated (corrected, deleted, status changed, etc.) until after all the documents on the system are converted to the MINISIS system. When the new system is fully in place, GEOSCAN should be a much more valuable tool in our search for new mineral resources.

For further information on GEOSCAN, please contact Catherine Patey (709) 737-3159. We look forward to your comments and suggestions.