

PREFACE

Welcome to *Current Research 2001*, the Geological Survey's first publication of the new millennium. It contains the usual eclectic selection of papers describing our field program and other projects carried out during the past year. And sometime during 2001, you will be able to view the entire contents of this *Current Research* via the Survey's website (www.geosurv.gov.nf.ca). It will be possible to download the paper(s) of your choice, printable, of course, with fully formatted text and graphics. However, along with web access, we will continue to provide *Current Research* in its familiar hard-copy format for the foreseeable future.

Our tradition of collaborating with outside agencies continues this year. Memorial University faculty and students are represented on several papers (*see*, for example, O'Brien *et al.*, and O'Driscoll *et al.*), and the National Geographic Society continues to support paleontological investigations (*see* Rohr *et al.*). I am also quite pleased to highlight the Geological Survey of Canada's contribution through two federal programs: the Targeted Geoscience Initiative (TGI) and the National Geoscience Mapping Program (NATMAP). Two TGI projects got started in the province in 2000, one in Labrador (*see*, for example, James and Nadeau) and one on the Island (*see* Valverde-Vaquero and van Staal). These are designed to provide the basic geological infrastructure requested by the mineral industry, and will enjoy the active collaboration of the provincial survey. NATMAP studies (*see*, for example, Burden *et al.*) are designed to further elucidate the stratigraphic and tectonic evolution of western Newfoundland in support of hydrocarbon- and mineral-potential evaluations. These detailed studies will be integrated with regional-geology contributions by the Geological Survey of Newfoundland and Labrador. I hope you will find these and the other reports of significant value to your geoscience needs, and invite you to approach any of the authors directly for further information.

R.F. Blackwood
Director