

CORE-STORAGE PROGRAM, 2002

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ABSTRACT

The Department of Mines and Energy currently operates six core-storage libraries located at St. John's, Springdale, Buchans, Baie Verte, Pasadena and Goose Bay. Currently, these facilities house in excess of one million metres of core samples collected from mineral-exploration projects in Newfoundland and Labrador. This report summarizes activities during 2002 and presents an overview of the operations of the core-storage program.

2002 FIELD ACTIVITIES

During 2002, the core-collection effort focused primarily on moving the approximately 20 000 boxes of core samples, collected during the previous three years, into the new building at Buchans. These core samples have now been organized on storage racks, catalogued and where sufficient information was available, have been added to the Department's website drill-core database.

Additionally, a total of 12 454 m of new core samples (Table 1), were added to the core collection in 2002, bringing the total core -sample collection, in storage, up to 1 046 389 m.

All core samples in the Department core libraries are available for inspection by interested parties and a catalogue (in paper or digital format) of all core samples in storage is available, by request, from the Department of Mines and Energy.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS

Refurbishment of the second building in Buchans has now been completed and all core material that had been temporarily stored outside the core library has now been moved inside. The core-storage racks in this building have a total capacity of 60 984 boxes of core samples.

All core libraries in insular Newfoundland, excluding Buchans, are filled to capacity and new core samples are not being accepted at these facilities. Any company wishing to claim assessment credits for delivering core samples to the Department core libraries (in insular Newfoundland) must deliver the samples to the Buchans core library.

Table 1. Cores added to the core collection facility during 2002

Company	Property	Length(m)
NDT Ventures Ltd	Project 61	316.9
NDT Ventures Ltd	Project 43	201.2
NDT Ventures Ltd	Project 44	644.6
NDT Ventures Ltd	Project 46	301.8
Atlantic Stone	Pye's Ridge North	318.9
Vulcan Minerals	Captain Cook #1	605.2
American Reserve	Flat Bay	661.0
Kelmet Resources Ltd	Buchans Area Properties	2483.8
Mountain Lake Resources	Valentine Lake	1110.0
Buchans River Ltd	Granite Lake	396.0
Tulks Resources Ltd	Tulks Project	1252.6
Altius Resources Inc	Rogerson Lake	164.5
Altius Resources Inc	Spencers Pond	827.0
Altius Resources Inc	Victoria River	1769.0
Vinland Resources Ltd	Triangle Pond	1109.3
Vinland Resources Ltd	Buchans Junction	292.1

The digital database containing relevant data on all drill-core samples in storage is now available on the Department website. This database is now accessible as a map layer by using the "Mineral Rights Inquiry Form" page, selecting the Newfoundland or Labrador HTML/JAVA Map and then checking the drill-core box under the select layers section. This database is updated on a regular basis and will be available in early 2003 in a table format that can be easily downloaded.

USING THE CORE LIBRARIES

Any person who wishes to visit either of the core libraries (Figure 1) for the purpose of examining core sam-

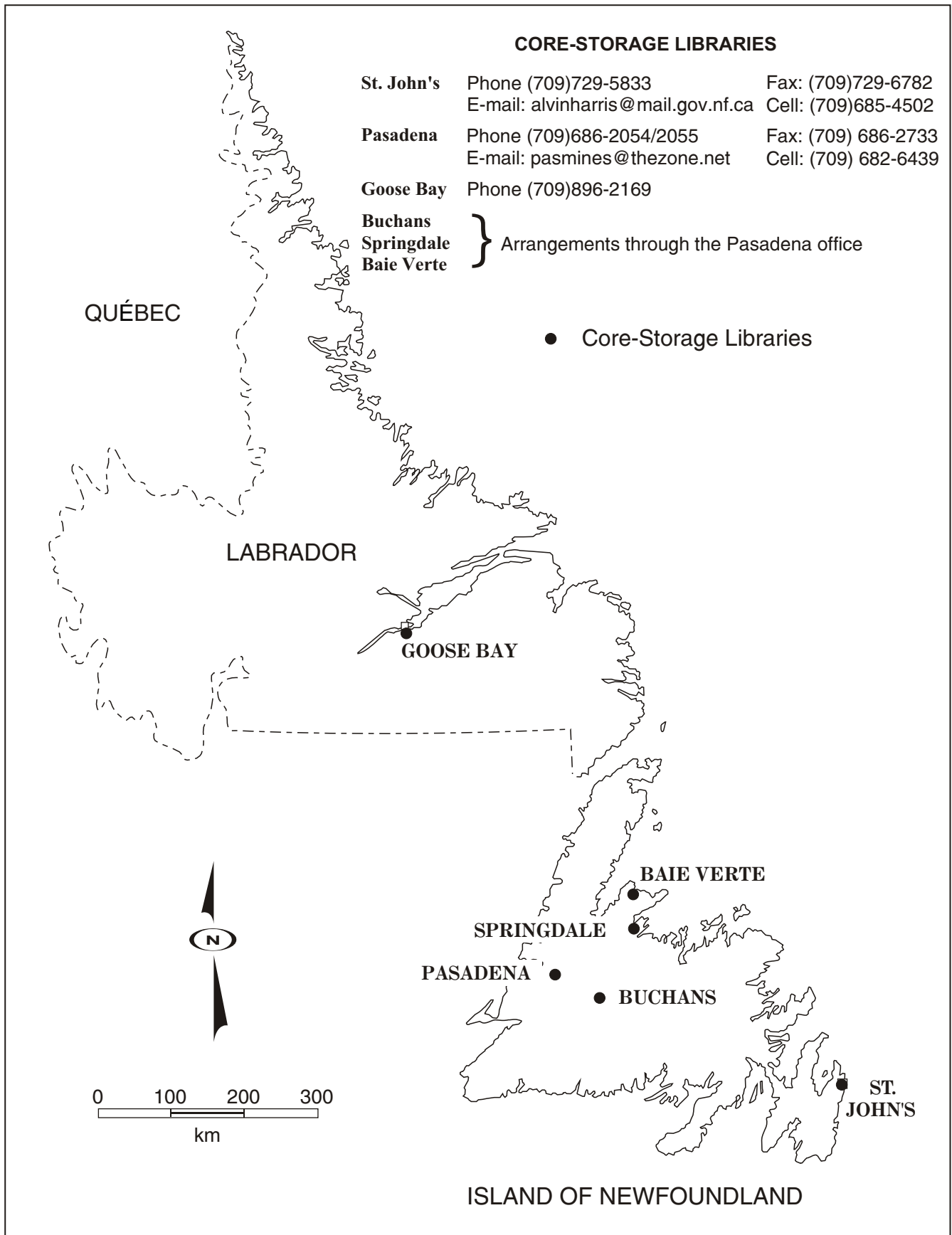


Figure 1. Core libraries in Newfoundland and Labrador.

ples should provide advance notice to the person in charge of the particular core library (see details at the end of this article). The Pasadena core library is staffed on a full-time basis by one employee and is open to the public during regular government office hours. Advance notice of one day is required in order to properly accommodate visitors to the Pasadena core library. Visitors to the St. John's core library should also provide advance notice of one day and advance notice of one week is required to properly accommodate visitors to the Goose Bay core library because it is not staffed on a full-time basis. Visits to the Springdale, Buchans and Baie Verte core libraries require a minimum notice of two days.

The indexing system for all core samples in the core libraries is based on the National Topographic System (NTS). Each drillhole, for which there are core samples in storage, is assigned a unique master number based on the 1:50 000-scale topographic sheet on which the drillhole collar is located. A manual index card file forms the basis of this system, in conjunction with a 1:50 000-scale, drillhole location map file, which shows the location of all drillholes from which core samples have been catalogued.

Each core library contains a file of all available data, i.e., drillhole logs, cross sections, and assay results for all core samples stored. The company drillhole number and the assessment file, in which the drilling was reported, are referenced on the index card.

A digital database containing all relevant data available for core samples in storage can now be accessed on the Department website. This database will, by the end of 2003, replace the manual index card and map-file system currently in use in the core libraries.

All six core libraries have core examination areas that contain or share rock-cutting equipment, a core splitter and a stereomicroscope with another core library.

The taking of samples is permitted where doing so does not destroy any lithological sequence or leave gaps in the drillhole record. The smallest size sample that is useful is taken and the minimum amount of core that must be left in each core box is a one quarter size split of the original core. The user must complete a 'Request to Sample Form' (Appendix 1) before sampling is permitted. All core samples, pulps, powders, thin sections, and any other materials generated from the core samples must be returned (along with a copy of the results of any work done on the samples) to the core library within one year from the date the samples were taken. The user shall be responsible for costs incurred in returning samples to the core library.

A user fee schedule for the services provided by the core storage program will be introduced in 2003.

PLANS FOR 2003

Plans for 2003 include continuation of the core-collection effort to obtain representative core samples (complete drillholes) from drilling projects in Labrador and ongoing core collection in insular Newfoundland, as required.

Updates to the drillhole database will be made on a regular basis as new core is added to the core libraries and work continues on summarization of all available assay data for core samples in storage. This assay data will be linked to the drillhole database file and will be available on the Department website in early 2003.

In addition to rack space for more than 60 000 boxes of core samples provided by the second building in Buchans, outdoor racks to hold 3500 boxes of core samples have been completed at the Baie Verte core library and outdoor racks are planned for the Springdale building in 2003. An effort will be made in 2003 to place core presently stored on the ground at the Springdale and Baie Verte core libraries on these racks and to reduce, where possible, the size of the collection from some drill projects.

Anyone requiring further information on the core-storage program or wishing to visit either of the core libraries should contact the staff listed below.

Project Geologist - Core-Storage Unit (Alvin Harris)
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St. John's, Newfoundland,
Canada
A1B 4J6
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Cell: (709) 685-4502
E-mail: alvinharris@mail.gov.nf.ca

Core-Storage Geologist (Pasadena) (Stewart Cochrane)
Department of Mines and Energy
Dr. A.K. Snelgrove Core Library
Pasadena, Newfoundland,
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A0L 1K0
Phone: (709) 686-2054, 2055 Fax: (709) 686-2733
Cell: (709) 682-6439
E-mail: pasmines@thezone.net

APPENDIX 1

CORE-STORAGE UNIT

Request to Sample Core

USER NAME: _____

COMPANY/AFFILIATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

NATURE OF PROJECT: _____

WORK TO BE CONDUCTED
ON SAMPLES: _____

DRILLHOLE NOS: _____

SAMPLE INTERVALS: _____

SIZE AND SHAPE OF SAMPLES: _____

REQUEST DENIED/GRANTED (REASON): _____

DATE: _____ CORE-STORAGE GEOLOGIST: _____

NOTE: All core samples and/or pulps, powders and thin sections, etc., generated from core samples must be returned to the core library at the end of a previously specified period. A copy of all assays and other analytical work conducted on the samples is also required at the end of this period.

RETURN DATE: _____ SIGNATURE: _____