

CORE-STORAGE PROGRAM, 2003

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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 over one million metres of core samples, collected from mineral-exploration projects in Newfoundland and Labrador. This report summarizes activities during 2003 and presents an overview of the operations of the core-storage program.

2003 FIELD ACTIVITIES

During 2003, efforts focused primarily on reorganizing core samples stored on the ground adjacent to the Springdale and Baie Verte core libraries, and placing them on outdoor core racks adjacent to both core libraries. In Springdale, 3168 boxes of core samples were relabelled, and reboxed where necessary, and placed on outdoor racks, and in Baie Verte, 3690 boxes of core samples were added to the outdoor core racks.

Additionally, a total of 10 050 m of new core samples (Table 1), were added to the core collection in 2003, bringing the total core samples in storage to 1 056 439 m. Several company core-storage sites were visited during the 2003 field season and core at these sites were prepared for collection and curation in 2004.

Table 1. Core added to the core-collection facility during 2003

| Company | Property | Length(m) |
|-------------------------|------------------|-----------|
| OroGrande Resources Inc | Burnt Pond | 1304 |
| Island Arc Exploration | Long Lake | 1226 |
| Mishibishu Gold Corp | Tulks Properties | 1196 |
| Vinland Resources L | Buchans Junction | 959 |
| Globenet Resources Inc | Cape Ray | 245 |
| Linear Resources Inc | Brady Option | 987 |
| Royal Roads Corp | Tulks North | 2918 |
| Deer Lake Oil and Gas | Deer Lake | 1000 |
| J.L. Carroll | South Yak Lake | 215 |

All core samples in the Department's core libraries are available for inspection by interested parties and a catalogue (in hard copy or digital format) of all core samples in stor-

age is available, on request, from the Department of Mines and Energy.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS

All core libraries in insular Newfoundland, except for the Buchans core library, are filled 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's core libraries (in insular Newfoundland) must deliver the samples to the Buchans core library.

The drillhole database is now accessible on the Department's website (<http://www.gov.nl.ca/mines&en/geosurvey/>) through the "Programs We Offer" button on the home page. Digital or paper copies of this database are available only from the Project Geologist, Core-Storage Program, on a request basis.

In January 2003, the Department, prompted by increasing liability and security concerns, made significant changes to the operations of the core-storage libraries and the services offered by the same program. A complete list of these changes has been posted on the Department's website; a summary of these changes is as follows:

- * Keys to Department's core libraries will not be issued or loaned to any person other than Department of Mines and Energy employees. All visitors to the core libraries must be accompanied by Department personnel.
- * All visitors must sign a personal liability waiver if they request to do anything other than examine core in the core examination areas of the core libraries.

- * A schedule of user fees has been applied to core sampling and photocopying.

USING THE CORE LIBRARIES

Any person who wants to visit any of the core libraries (Figure 1) for the purpose of examining core samples should provide advance notice to the person in charge of that particular core library. 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 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 satisfactorily 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 digital database containing all relevant data available for core samples in storage can now be accessed on the Department's website. This database has replaced the manual index card and map file system previously used in the core libraries.

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 in the drillhole database.

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.

Sampling is permitted where doing so does not destroy any lithological sequence or leaves 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.

PLANS FOR 2004

Plans for 2004 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's website in early 2004-05.

Anyone requiring further information on the Core-Storage Program or wanting to visit either of the core libraries should contact the staff listed below.

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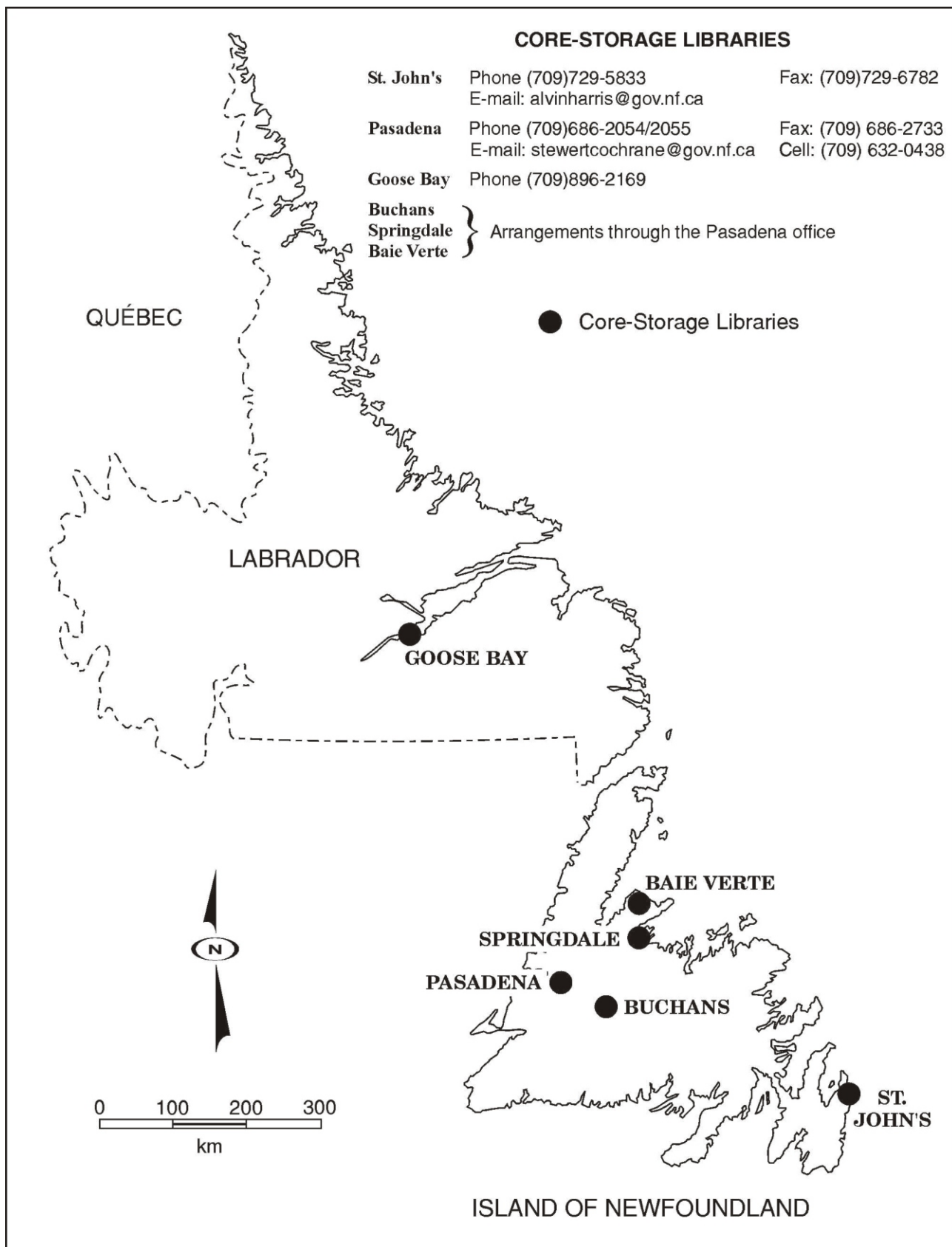


Figure 1. Core libraries in Newfoundland and Labrador.

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: _____