

PREFACE

The 2013 edition of Current Research reflects the wide range of activities undertaken by the Geological Survey, both in the field and in-house. The long-term funding for geoscience field work, mapping and other related in-house research, announced in Budget 2011, has enabled the Geological Survey to undertake one new multi-year field project on the Island, and one multi-year field project in western Labrador. At the same time, the Survey has maintained its ongoing field projects, office-based research on geochronology, mineral potential, and the assessment of recently acquired geochemical data.

The reports on field work on the Island include: a preliminary assessment of copper–nickel and copper–cobalt mineralization in southwest Newfoundland; gold mineralization in central Newfoundland; aggregate mapping to find new sources of construction and road gravel in the Clarenville area; surficial and ice-flow history of the Red Indian Lake Basin; and new, detailed work on the Cambrian Forteau Formation in Gros Morne National Park. Also, a review of models of the geological history of Fogo Island is presented. The Coastal Erosion project started in 2011, and jointly funded by the Office of Climate Change, Energy Efficiency and Emissions Trading (CCEEET), expanded into southern Labrador. This project has established base stations in numerous coastal localities and municipalities.

Reports on field work from Labrador describe: the geological setting of numerous iron-ore deposits in the Labrador Trough; a one-year project of esker sampling in western Labrador, covering the Archean Ashuanipi terrain and adjacent Middle Proterozoic Labrador Trough, to determine diamond potential of the area; and a report on the final year of field mapping of the Middle Proterozoic supracrustal Seal Lake Group sedimentary, basaltic and associated mafic intrusions known for its native-copper mineralization.

In-house projects include: an update on the Mineral Occurrence Data System (MODS); a statistical analysis of some regional geochemical datasets; a discussion of updates to the online Geoscience Atlas; a review of vanadium mineralization in Newfoundland and Labrador based on historic data and recent exploration; uranium mineralization in the Benedict Mountains region, northeast Labrador; mineralization in, and a resource assessment for, the Strange Lake rare-earth-element deposit in northern Labrador; geochronological data from the Measles Point Granite in the Makkovik Province; and an update on the stratigraphy and paleontology of the Watts Bight Formation in the Port au Port area of western Newfoundland.

The 2013 field season will see additional new projects in Newfoundland and Labrador along with the continuation of other projects. New projects include a lake-sediment survey in southeastern Labrador, surficial mapping in the Bay d’Espoir area, bedrock mapping in the Sweet Bay area, western Avalon, and the Ashuanipi Complex of western Labrador.

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Readers who would like to write a rebuttal to, or discussion of, any report contained in this volume are invited to submit it to the editor by November 1, 2013, to be considered for inclusion in Report 2014-1.