WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

Our primary mandate is to document metallic and non-metallic mineralization across the province, to conduct related geoscientific research, and to develop assessments of regional mineral potential. Our activities support the diverse mineral exploration sector in the province, and contribute to a wider understanding of geological processes linked to mineralization. The section also plays an important role in developing geoscientific material aimed at attracting mineral exploration investment to the province. There are currently 8 staff in the section, including two new faces - read on to find out who we are and what we do!



Senior Geologist: Andrew Kerr (B.Sc., Southampton, M.Sc., Ph.D., Memorial)

Andy takes care of section administration and project development, but tries to stay active in research activities. Current field projects include work on rare-earth element (REE) mineralization in Labrador, and ongoing work on other thematic studies related to mineral deposits in the province, including assessment of potential for vanadium deposits in several environments.

Project Geologist: James Conliffe (B.Sc., Ph.D., National University of Ireland, Galway)

The newest member of the project geologist team, James joined us in late 2011. He brings wide experience in a variety of fields, including granite-related mineral deposits, fluid inclusions, isotope geochemistry and petroleum geology. This is exactly the kind of diversity needed to tackle a regional project on iron ore!

Project Geologist: John Hinchey (B.Sc., M.Sc., Memorial, Ph.D., Ottawa)

John first worked with the survey as a student in 1997, and joined us full-time in 2005. In 2012, he continued work on volcanogenic massive sulphide (VMS) deposits. with an assessment of the Long Lake Group, in the area southeast of Red Indian Lake. Work also continued on magmatic sulphide mineralization in Silurian intrusive rocks.

Project Geologist: Hamish Sandeman (B.Sc., M.Sc., Memorial, Ph.D., Queens)

Hamish first worked with the survey as a student in 1986, and joined us full-time in 2008, after working all across Nunavut and the NWT. He is working on gold metallogeny, with an emphasis on newly-defined deposits and environments. In 2012, he continued work on several areas across Newfoundland, and also on gold mineralization in the Archean rocks of Labrador.

Project Geologist: Greg Sparkes (B.Sc., M.Sc., Memorial)

Greg first worked with the survey as a student in 2002, and joined us full-time in 2006. His previous project was focused on uranium, which was the subject of a major exploration rush in recent years. In 2012, he worked on the final report from work in the Central Mineral Belt of Labrador, and continued a project to document epithermal and porphyry gold environments in eastern Newfoundland.

Project Geologist: Greg Stapleton (B.Sc., Memorial)

Greg has been associated with the MODS project since the late 1980s, and now manages this important resource, with the assistance of the dedicated "MODS Squad". In addition to maintaining and expanding the database, Greg also takes care of mineral potential assessment for land use issues, protected areas initiatives and land claims discussions.

MODS Geologist: Trina Adams (B.Sc., Memorial)

Trina first worked on the MODS Project as a student, and is very familiar with the system. Prior to joining us in early 2012, she worked with the Water Resources Management Division as a hydrogeologist, and has experience in several other aspects of geology. We are pleased to welcome her back to the section, and know that she will make a valuable contribution.

MODS Geologist: Jan Smith (B.Sc., Memorial)

Jan is a long-standing member of the MODS team, and has worked to develop and update the database all across Newfoundland and Labrador. She is familiar with the mineral inventory and exploration history of almost all parts of the province.

In 2012, the Mineral Deposits Section was involved in a wide range of projects across Newfoundland and Labrador. Field projects were directed at Iron ore deposits in Labrador, base-metals in Newfoundland, and gold mineralization in several areas of the province. Office-based projects include the MODS database, and an ongoing project to develop commodity series reports for exploration industry use.