

WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

The primary mandate of the Mineral Deposits Section 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, 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 6 members in the section - read on to find out who we are and what we do!



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

John takes care of section administration and project development, and stays active in research activities. In 2016, he continued working on volcanogenic massive sulphide deposits and occurrences including the Katie occurrence in central Newfoundland. He also assisted with promotional activities in conjunction with staff from the Publications and Information Section.



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

James joined us in late 2011, after extensive experience working in academia and with industry. In 2016, James began a new project investigating the exploration potential for carbonate-hosted zinc deposits in western Newfoundland. He also continued research on iron-ore deposits in western Labrador, including a short field visit in August 2016.



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

Hamish first worked with the Geological Survey as a student in 1986 and joined us full-time in 2008. He has worked in England, Australia, Peru as well as Nunavut and the NWT. He is investigating gold and precious-metal mineralization, and in 2016, field work focused on the Bridal Veil and Hurricane-Sabre prospects, as well as areas around the Beaver Brook antimony mine.



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

Greg first worked with the Geological Survey as a student in 2001 and joined us full-time in 2006. In 2016, office-based activities involved finalizing a regional summary report on uranium mineralization in the Central Mineral Belt of Labrador in addition to continued deposit-level studies. Greg also remains involved in studies on epithermal-style gold mineralization 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. 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.



Mineral Inventory 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. She is familiar with the mineral inventory and exploration history of most parts of the province. In 2016, she worked on systematic and thematic updates to MODS, and assisted with other projects.

In 2016, the Mineral Deposits Section undertook a wide range of projects across Newfoundland and Labrador. Field projects were directed at Mississippi Valley-Type Zn-Pb and gold occurrences and deposits in Newfoundland. Office-based projects included the ongoing work with the MODS database and the compilation and publication of results from previous studies directed at iron ore and uranium deposits. The section will be hiring an industrial minerals geologist in 2016.