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 7 staff 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, project development, mineral potential assessments, and stays active in research activities. In 2018, he continued office based work on volcanogenic massive sulphide deposits and occurrences in central Newfoundland. He also assists 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 2018, James continued research investigating the metallogeny of the Labrador Trough in western Labrador, including a field visit to the Montgomery Lake Cu-Au occurrence. He also continued research on iron ore deposits in western Labrador and carbonate hosted Zn occurrences in western Newfoundland.



Project Geologist: Zsuzsanna Magyarosi (B.Sc., Brock, M.Sc., Ph.D., Carleton)

Zsuzsanna joined us in early 2017, after extensive experience working with industry on various types of mineral deposits. In 2018, she continued the project on the newly developed AGS fluorite deposit in the St. Lawrence area, Burin Peninsula. In addition, she examined numerous other granites with fluorite and rare earth element potential in central Newfoundland.



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

Hamish joined us 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 2018 focused on the geology, mineralization, and structural controls on mineralization along the trace of the Dog Bay Line. Hamish also spent 2 weeks ground-truthing the soon to be released new aeromagnetic map of the Hopedale map sheet in Labrador and conducting follow-up examination of bedrock exposures near gold in till- and lake sediment-anomalies.



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

Greg first worked with the Survey as a student in 2001 and joined us full-time in 2006. In 2018, Greg continued with investigations focused on volcanogenic massive sulfide occurrences within the central portion of the Buchans-Roberts Arm Volcanic Belt. He also continues with ongoing investigations of epithermal mineralization within the Avalon Zone.



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 all across Newfoundland and Labrador. She is familiar with the mineral inventory and exploration history of most parts of the province. In 2018, she worked on systematic and thematic updates to MODS, and assisted with other projects.

In 2018, the Mineral Deposits Section was involved in a wide range of projects across Newfoundland and Labrador. Field projects were directed at base metal (VMS), gold and precious metal, and industrial mineral occurrences and deposits in Newfoundland, and mineral potential in the Labrador Trough. Office-based projects included the ongoing work with the MODS database and the compilation and publication of results from previous studies.