

Mineral Resources INFORMATION

Volume 7, No.1 (SPRING, 2001)

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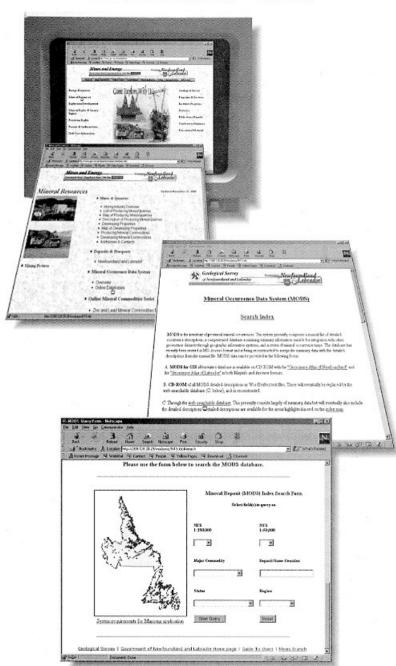




Department of Mines and Energy

Mines Branch

Where Can I Get Information on the Province's Mineral Resources? --- MODS.



To access MODS - visit The Department of Mines and Energy Web Page at www.gov.nf.ca/mines&en/ and follow the links under Mineral Resources

NEW MINISTER OF MINES & ENERGY

Mr. Matthews has enjoyed a successful career in both the public and private sectors before entering political life. He began with a career in banking and later worked with Revenue Canada. As an entrepreneur, Mr. Matthews has enjoyed a great deal of success in a variety of business ventures. He has been involved in the private sector for 20 years, culminating in the establishment of the Matthew Group of Companies, which includes Lumber World, Metal World, Offshore Supplies International and Matthews Investments Inc.

In the community, Mr. Matthews has served in a number of different capacities. For eight years, he was an elected school board trustee and has also served as provincial treasurer and vice-president of the Newfoundland and Labrador School Trustees Association. He is the founding chairperson of the Children's Wish Foundation of Canada in Newfoundland, and has served as both president and chairman of the national board for the past three years. Mr. Matthews is also the founding chairperson of the environmental organization, St. John's Clean and Beautiful. He has served on the YM/YWCA board of directors and the VOCM Cares Foundation board of directors, in addition to being a member of the St. John's Board of Trade and a number of other boards.

In 1993, Mr. Matthews was elected to the House of Assembly as the Liberal member for St. John's North. In 1994, he was appointed Minister of Health, and subsequently served as Minister of Works, Services and Transportation, Minister of Municipal and Provincial Affairs, Minister of Finance, and on February 13, 2001, he was appointed Minister of Mines and Energy.

NEW ASSISTANT DEPUTY MINISTER, MINES, DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND ENERGY

On January 2, 2001, Allister Taylor assumed the position of Assistant Deputy Minister, Mines, with the Department of Mines and Energy.

Allister Taylor has worked as a Mineral Policy Consultant with the Department of Mines and Energy since 1998. Prior to that, some of Mr. Taylor's other positions have included Manager of Economic Impact Analysis for the Project and Program Analysis Division of the Department of Finance and Senior Energy Analyst with the former Departments of Natural Resources and Mines and Energy.

Mr. Taylor holds a bachelor of Arts (Economics) from Rhode Island College and has collaborated on a number of major reports in the area of energy efficiency and management, economic impact, and integrated planning.

MINERAL OCCURRENCE DATA SYSTEM NOW ON-LINE

The Mineral Deposits Section of the Geological Survey, Department of Mines and Energy, supports the Mineral Occurrence Data System(MODS) Project, which is an internet accessible, digital database, designed to offer fast and easy access to information on the province's mineral resources. The MODS contains information on about 5700 mineral occurrences, covering the province.

The delivery point for MODS data is the MODS search index on the Geological Survey's web site (http://209.128.28.29/modsasp/NTS.idc).

The database can be searched by **Deposit Name**, **NTS Area**, **Region** either Newfoundland or Labrador, **Major Commodity** present in the deposit, i.e., copper, lead, zinc, gold, limestone, etc. and deposit development **Status**, of which, the possibilities are producer, developed prospect, past producer dormant, past producer exhausted, prospect, showing or indication.

Search results are displayed in report format and include information on the deposit's Location, i.e., easting, northing, latitude and longitude; Accessibility, brief description of the occurrence's location and how to get there; Physiographic Setting, brief description of the physical features of the earth's surface in the vicinity of the occurrence; Mineralogy, list of ore, gangue and alteration minerals present in the deposit; Description of Deposit, description of the deposit's key components and how they relate to each other; Metal/Mineral Content, geochemical determinations on the amount of metals or minerals present; Production and/or Reserves, information on the amount of ore produced form the deposit and the amount remaining, Structure of Deposit, data on the deposit's structural geology, ie., strike, dip, plunge, length width and thickness; Nature of Mineralization and Genesis, description of the mineralization and discussion of the geological processes involved in the deposit's formation; Regional Geology and Tectonic Setting, discussion of how the deposit fits into the regional geology of the area; History of Exploration and Development, chronological history of the deposit's discovery, exploration, development and mining; Geophysical Expression, information on the deposit's geophysical signature Geochemical Expression, information on the deposit's geochemical signature and a Bibliography of pertinent literature on the deposit.

Abbreviated MODS data can also be viewed using the mapping application which is accessible at the same internet address cited above. However, to do this, an Autodesk Mapguide "software plugin" program, which can be downloaded from the MODS web page, is required.

PROFILE OF A PROSPECTOR



One of the most active prospectors in the province, is Karl Krats of Labrador City.

Karl, who was born in Sudbury, Ontario has spent 35 years with the Iron Ore Company of Canada in Labrador City as Operations and Process Engineering Supervisor. During that time he took a break from his work to obtain a Physical Education Degree (minor in Geology) from Memorial University in 1978. He retired from the Iron Ore Company of Canada in 1995.

During the 1995 and 1996 summer field seasons he was employed with Reliance Geological Services on mineral claims evaluations in northern Labrador.

Along with his prospecting partners, his primary prospecting area is western Labrador, where they recently acquired claim blocks covering magmatic copper/nickel/cobalt prospects that are attracting the interest of a major mining company.

Karl is also involved with a prospecting association that has recently been formed in Labrador West. One of the primary aims of this group is to partner and lobby for the development of a prospector resource centre in their area.

PROVINCIAL PALEONTOLOGIST ON STAFF

Doug Boyce is the paleontologist with the Geological Survey of Newfoundland and Labrador. In addition to his ongoing paleontological (fossil) research, he does public/school lectures and field trips. Most recently he gave talks (Life - The Real "Survivor": A Four Billion Year Odyssey Through the Fossil Record) in St. John's (November 2, 2001) and Saint John (January 10, 2001). Currently, he is investigating the possibility of holding a Teachers' Workshop and/or Field Trip in conjunction with the upcoming national GAC/MAC "St. John's 2001" Conference.

During the conference, he will be running Field Trip A3 (Classic Cambrian Trilobite Localities of the Conception Bay South area, Avalon Peninsula, Eastern Newfoundland). Interested individuals should contact:

Mr. W. Douglas Boyce, M.Sc., P.Geo.,

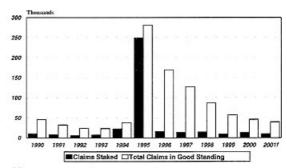
Phone: (709) 729-2163 Fax: (709) 729-4270

Email: wdb@zeppo.geosurv.gov.nf.ca

EXPLORATION UPDATE

During 2000, 12 969 claims were staked compared to 9643 claims staked in 1999. The increase in claims staked in 2000 can be attributed to the new claims staked by Iron Ore Company of Canada for iron ore in western Labrador. As of February 22, 2001, 3549 claims have been staked.

Newfoundland and Labrador Claim Staking

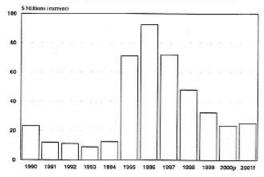


f:forecast Source: Newfoundland Department of Mines and Energy

Exploration expenditures in 2000 totalled \$23 million. This is down from \$32.3 million in 1999; the forecast for 2001 is \$25 million. Exploration expenditure levels are forecast to increase slightly in Labrador in 2001; while in Newfoundland exploration expenditure levels are forecast to remain on par with 2000 levels. Most of the exploration activity in Newfoundland is centered in the Buchans area and is directed at base-metal targets. Exploration activity in Labrador in 2001 will focus on nickel targets at Voisey's Bay and iron ore in western Labrador.

Newfoundland and Labrador Exploration Expenditures

(Including Administration and Overhead)



p: preliminary f: forecast Source: Newfoundland Department of Mines and Energy

Voisey's Bay Nickel Company Ltd. continues with geophysical and diamond-drilling programs on its Voisey's Bay deposit claims. Resources (all categories) stand at 136.7 million tonnes grading 1.59% nickel, 0.85% copper and 0.09% cobalt.

On October 31, 2000, Iron Ore Company of Canada staked 4212 claims in the general vicinity of its iron ore mines, western Labrador. Iron Ore Company of Canada has completed an airborne geophysical survey over these holdings.

Noranda Mining and Exploration Ltd. continues to sign exploration agreements on its Buchans - Red Indian Lake AND Charter and associated lands. Additional agreements have been signed with Altius Minerals Corporation (South Tally Pond) and Island Arc Resources Corporation (Long Lake) covering base-metal properties; both areas will be drilled in 2001.

Also currently undertaking or completing diamond-drilling programs in 2001 are: in west-central Newfoundland, Buchans River Ltd. around Buchans, Thundermin Resources Inc. and OroGrande Resoruces Inc. in the Tally Pond belt southeast of Red Indian Lake, and Copper Hill Resources Inc. at Powderhorn Lake; in south-central Newfoundland, Celtic Minerals Ltd. at Great Burnt Lake and South Pond; in northern Newfoundland, Major General Resources Ltd. in the Golden Anchor zone near Springdale and Canaco Resources Ltd. at Devil's Cove on the Baie Verte Peninsula; and in north-central Newfoundland, Rubicon Minerals Corporation at Lewis Lake.

Richmont Mines Inc. has made the decision, ahead of schedule, to go into Phase II of its test mining/milling program at the Hammerdown gold property.

Gallery Resources Limited completed programs of prospecting, geological mapping, geochemistry and geophysics at both its Gullbridge and Katie base-metal properties. Diamond drilling is ongoing.

Fall 2000 diamond-drilling results for **Rubicon Minerals Corporation** include 8.22 m grading 9.07% zinc and 2.71 g/mt gold from Point Learnington, where a geochemical survey was also completed.

On February 19th, 2001, **Cornerstone Resources Inc.** staked 2651 claims on the Bonavista Peninsula to the south of its Red Cliff property. Cornerstone Resources Inc. has joint ventured with **Noranda Inc.**, which will spend \$1.2 million during the first two years of the agreement.

MINERAL LANDS CLIENT SURVEY

On March 31, 2000, the Bristol Group completed a "Client Satisfaction Survey" on behalf of the Mineral Lands Division of the Department of Mines and Energy. The following recommendations were made to improve services offered by the Mineral Lands Division.

- Provide more information and services online to clients such as map information, licence inquiries, electronic forms, and quarry resources assessment,
- Increase capacity of indoor core-storage facilities and improve outside core-storage facilities. Assess personnel requirements at storage facilities to ensure safe handling of core.
- Increase human resources available to decrease turnaround time for assessment reports and to provide assistance to clients in understanding the requirements for completion of assessment reports.
- Improve quality of copies of claim maps and particularly quarry maps, and provide maps online.
- Improve reliability and accuracy of information provided on quarry maps.
- Referral process to other Government Departments relating to the issuance of quarry permits and leases should be examined and improved.
- Assist clients, as required, in becoming more knowledgeable about access to and utilization of the Department's website.

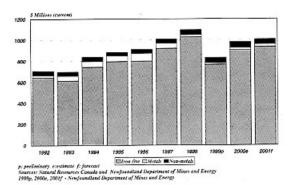
All of the above recommendations have been acted upon. Highlights of progress to date with respect to these recommendations include:

- Application forms for map and ground staked licences, quarry permits, beach quarry permits, quarry material exploration licences, peat harvesting, subordinate quarry permits and designation as a genuine prospector are available on-line. Transfer of mineral rights, exploration approvals and quarry lease questionnaire forms are also online on the Department's home page under "Permits and Authorizations".
- Information on mineral rights and quarry rights, diamond-drill core and core-storage facilities, mineral exploration activity/statistics which links to all legislation administered by the Mineral Lands Division are accessible on-line under "Mineral Rights and Quarry Rights", "Drill Core Information" and "Exploration and Development Activities". Posting of "Mineral Lands open for Staking" replicates Mineral Act Notices published in the Newfoundland Gazette.
- A proposal for a second core-storage building at Buchans is being reviewed by the Department of Work Services and Transportation.
- Digital files (MapInfo and ArcView) of the Newfoundland and Labrador claim maps are on-line and updated quarterly. Images of disposition maps are to be posted.
- A new database system became operational late in 2000 for the Quarry Materials Section for administering quarry permits. This system will allow future computerized improvements to streamline and reduce turnaround time on applications for Quarry Permits.
- Overall process of the review of mineral exploration assessment work reports is being evaluated and modified as required. Improvements on turnaround time for reviews and of the subsequent refund of staking security deposits are being made.
- Improvements are being made to the quality, reliability and accuracy of information on claim and quarry maps.

MINERAL INDUSTRY UPDATE

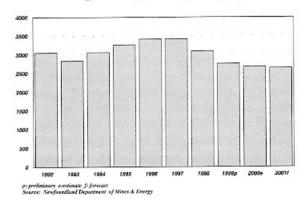
The value of mineral shipments in the province is forecasted to increase from \$972 million in 2000 to just over a billion dollars in 2001. This is due mainly to an increase in the volume of iron ore and gold.

Newfoundland and Labrador Value of Mineral Shipments



Direct employment is expected to remain at approximately 2650 people.

Newfoundland and Labrador Mining Industry Average Employment



In 2001, the Department of Mines and Energy expects Buchans Barite to reactivate the Buchans Barite plant; Richmont Mines to make a production decision on its Hammerdown gold property near King's Point; Thundermin Resources Ltd. and Queenston Mining Inc. to begin construction of the Duck Pond copper-zinc project, subject to a positive feasibility study, in the second half of 2001 with production starting in 2002; and, the start-up of dimension-stone processing facilities at Hopedale and Argentia.

MATTY MITCHELL PROSPECTORS RESOURCE ROOM

The Matty Mitchell Prospectors Resource Room (MMPRR) continues its efforts to assist prospectors on a number of fronts, and has spearheaded several joint industry - government initiatives to help prospectors bring their properties to the attention of potentially interested exploration companies.

The MMPRR was an important part of the province's delegation at the 2001 Cordilleran Round-up in Vancouver, helping showcase our thriving prospecting sector in Newfoundland and Labrador. The MMPRR Geologist, Ramsey Way, attended the meeting armed with 25 property posters, a properties-for-option map, and a new properties-for-option listing, which included over 100 mineral properties. The Newfoundland and Labrador Rock Room was busy throughout the conference, and the exploration industry was clearly excited about the prospectivity of Newfoundland and Labrador, and impressed with strong level of support provided to this province's prospectors and junior exploration fraternity. The MMPRR is currently involved with preparing displays for the Atlantic Canada Rock Room at the upcoming PDAC meeting, in support of the large contingent of local prospectors who will be attending and exhibiting properties in the trade show.

The MMPRR recently acquired a suite of samples from the Casposo low-sulphidation Au-Ag deposit in Argentina, courtesy of Battle Mountain Gold Co. As well, newly acquired Newfoundland and Labrador samples are being added to the collection on a continuing basis. Thanks to all who have donated samples, papers and textbooks to the resource room. We appreciate your much-needed support.

ST. JOHN'S TO HOST NATIONAL GEOSCIENCE CONFERENCE



Newfoundland and Labrador is renowned for its geology and its hospitality. You are warmly invited to experience both in the historic port city of St. John's during the GAC-MAC Annual

Meeting, May 27-30, 2001. Our Organizing Committee is preparing a contemporary technical program and an engaging Newfoundland-flavoured social program.

This is the third GAC-MAC Annual Meeting hosted by the St. John's geoscience community. As with the previous meetings held in 1974 and 1988, St. John's 2001 will take place at Memorial University of Newfoundland (MUN), the largest university in Atlantic Canada.

St. John's, of course, is one of the oldest European settlements in North America. Recent archeological work at its original waterfront has pushed back the date of the first formal settlement structures and artifacts (wharfs, European pottery) to the early 1600s. Today,

St. John's has a population of 102 000 and is a vibrant mosaic of the old and the new. Facing the Atlantic Ocean, it is ideally situated to inspire learned discourse on the earth sciences of the North Atlantic borderlands.

Four symposia at St. John's 2001 will cover: offshore hydrocarbon resources of the North Atlantic borderlands, mineral deposits, resources and potential of the North Atlantic region, and crustal evolution and global change. The minerals symposium deserves special mention in that it is constituted as the second North Atlantic Minerals Symposium (NAMS), sponsored by the Geological Survey of Ireland and the Geological Survey of Newfoundland and Labrador. Twenty-one special sessions will cover a broad range of topics, from hydrology and the environmental impact of exploitation of fresh-water resources to the Voisey's Bay deposit and ancient fossils. The program also includes three short courses, two workshops and, of course, a diverse offering of seventeen field trips that takes advantage of the unparalleled exposures and fascinating geology of Newfoundland and Labrador.

The St. John's 2001 logo symbolizes a beacon of geoscience knowledge emanating from St. John's, Newfoundland in May 2001, illuminating our way into the new millennium. Come and join our eclectic mix of scientific and social programs, and bring your expertise and conviviality to the GAC-MAC Annual Meeting. We extend our warmest invitation to you to help us launch an exciting geoscience exploration from that historic gateway in the far east of the western world – St. John's, Newfoundland.

Frank Blackwood, Chair, St. John's 2001 Toby Rivers, Vice Chair, St. John's 2001

NEWS FROM THE CHAMBER

The Chamber continues it's mandate in promoting the environmentally responsible development of the provincial mineral industry and highlighting its importance to the provincial economy.

A delegation to the Cordilleran Round-up in Vancouver this past January generated significant interest in the properties that were showcased as available for option. Two prospectors along with representatives from the Matty Mitchell and Norm Peters Resource Rooms and the Chamber were in the Newfoundland Rock Room along with several junior exploration companies.

Events such as the Cordilleran Round-up and the Prospectors and Developers Convention (PDAC) are important opportunities to promote the province's mineral potential. The Chamber co-sponsored with Mines and Energy a delegation of twelve prospectors to attend the PDAC and looks forward to more positive exposure for the provincial exploration community.

To learn more about the Chamber and the benefits of membership, please contact the Chamber's office at (709) 722-9542.

NORTH ATLANTIC MINERALS SYMPOSIUM PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

The second biennial North Atlantic Minerals Symposium (NAMS) will be held in St. John's, NF, from May 27-30, 2001, in conjunction with the joint annual meeting of the Geological Association of Canada and the Mineralogical Association of Canada. The preliminary program will cover:

MINERAL DEPOSITS PROGRAM

Global Trends in the Minerals Industry

Mineral Deposits of the North Atlantic Region

NAMS PLENARY ADDRESS: B. J. Skinner. From serendipity to science: The evolution of economic geology

MINERALS INDUSTRY ISSUES PROGRAM

Predicting The Future - the Mineral Supply/Demand Balance

Challenges to Mining

INDUSTRIAL MINERALS PROGRAM

Industrial Minerals in the North Atlantic Region

A final detailed program and registration information will be posted on www.gov.nf.ca/nams/ and www.esd.mun.ca/stjohns2001 For further information please contact Baxter Kean at 709-729-5946.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Minespace 2001 - Convention and Trade Show

April 29 to May 2, 2001

Québec City, Québec

103rd Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum in collaboration with The Canadian Space Agency and in association with Association Professionnelle des Géologues et des Géophysiciens du Québec.

For more information contact:

Serge Major

Tel: (514) 939-2710 Toll Free: 1-800-667-1246 E-mail: smajor@cim.org

Web site: www.cim.org

Industrial Minerals 2001

May 23 - 25, 2001

Victoria, British Columbia

The 37th Forum on the Geology of Industrial Minerals. For more information contact:

Myra Gerow

Tel: (705) 670-5825

St. John's 2001

May 27-30, 2001

St. John's, Newfoundland

GAC and MAC will launch the new millennium by holding their 2001 Joint Annual Meeting in St. John's, Newfoundland. For more information please access the web site www.esd.mun.ca/stjohns2001 or contact:

Doreen Peavy

Tel: (709) 729-2301

E-mail: dmp@zeppo.geosurv.gov.nf.ca

North Atlantic Mineral Symposium 2001

May 27-30, 2001

St. John's, Newfoundland

Special symposium held in conjunction with the St. John's 2001 GAC/MAC Joint Annual Meeting. For further information contact:

Baxter Kean

Tel: (709) 729-5946

E-mail: bfk@zeppo.geosurv.gov.nf.ca

Baie Verte and Area Chamber of Commence Mining Conference.

June 22 - 24, 2001

For more information, contact:

Linda Pinksen

Tel: (709) 661-5162

Fax: (709) 661-5154

Voisey's Bay & Beyond Conference

June 25 - 27, 2001

Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Labrador

Theme: The Nickel Industry & New Technologies

For more information, contact:

Mike Henley

Tel:

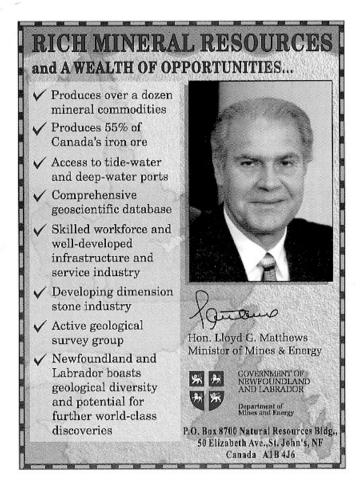
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Core Storage, St. John's(709) 729-5833 Core Storage, Pasadena(709) 686-2054	Mineral Occurrence Data System(709) 729-6071	
Director, Mineral Development (709) 729-3197	Regional Geology(709) 729-2769	
Engineering Analysis (709) 729-3197	Geochemistry, Geophysics & Terrain Sciences(709) 729-4014	
Mining Project Analysis(709) 729-3197	Geoscience Data Centre(709) 729-6693	
Mineral Industry Assistance(709) 729-2358	Industry Services(709) 729-6193	
Wabush Office(709) 282-3949	Geofile Database(709) 729-6441	
	Goose Bay Office(709) 896-5162	