







VOLUME 9, No. 1 (SUMMER, 2003)

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GOVERNMENT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

Department of Mines and Energy

Mines Branch

## **Outlook for Mining**

2003 promises to be one of the most exciting years in the history of mining in Newfoundland and Labrador. Always a vital component of the province's economy, today our mining sector contributes significantly to our economy through the production of over a dozen mineral commodities.

Approximately 2600 people are employed directly in the mining industry in this province. This year, the total gross value of the province's mineral shipments is forecast to increase from an estimated \$917 million in 2002, to approximately \$826 million.

Furthermore, the outlook is 'golden' for mineral exploration in our province. Total exploration expenditures could reach as high as \$20 million, nearly half of which will be spent exploring for gold. Most of the gold exploration will focus on the area stretching from Gander Bay to St. Alban's and from Gander to Botwood, including the Botwood Basin.

Our province's gold potential has sparked wide international interest. This province was clearly a 'star attraction' at the spring conference of the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada.

Currently, 120 mineral exploration companies are active in the province. Exploration is the key to future mining development, and exploration activity has been greatly enhanced by the Mineral Incentive Program, a joint initiative of government and industry. The five-year, \$22 million program, which started in 1999, was designed to boost exploration and encourage new investment, and has contributed to the signing of at least 35 private sector option agreements involving prospectors, and junior and senior mining companies.

2003 will also see an increase in construction activity associated with the Voisey's Bay nickel project. Voisey's Bay Nickel Company estimates between \$100-\$120 million will be spent this year in the province, and between 500-600 jobs will be created. This includes site preparation at both Voisey's Bay and Argentia, and renovations to the Thompson Student Centre at Memorial University to prepare the Inco Innovation Centre for opening in 2004.

April 30 marked the launch of the Department's new website, designed to be more comprehensive and 'user-friendly'. Both industry clients and the general public can now access more information, including databases on mineral occurrences, drillcore collections and mineral assessment reports. Also available are maps of mineral claims, permits and applications for exploration, and direct links to relevant sites, including regulatory requirements. Soon, users will be able to engage in online staking.

Mines and Energy is one of government's busiest and most dynamic departments, with an expert and experienced staff. Our natural resources have brought us international recognition, but our greatest natural resource - our people - bring us international respect. Our people, within the department, and within our resource industries, are responsible for the tremendous progress we are making.

## **Exploration Statistics**

Claims staked	2002p	2003f
Newfoundland Labrador	27,574 <u>5,552</u>	15,000 <u>5,000</u>
Total	33,126	20,000



Claims in	2002p	2003f
good standing		
Total -province	66,287	70,000



	2002p	2003f
Diamond drilling (n	1)	
Newfoundland Labrador	46,071 20,625	55,000 10,000
Total	66,696	65,000



	2002p	2003f
Expenditures(\$M)		
Newfoundland	18.9	13.0
Labrador	<u>31.3</u>	9.0
Total	50.2*	22.0

p - preliminary f - forecast

## **Gold Rush in the Botwood Basin**

Altius Resources Inc. began exploring in the Botwood Basin during the mid-1990s. In the autumn of 1997, it acquired the Moosehead property southeast of Bishop's Falls which currently is one of Altius' most promising prospects.

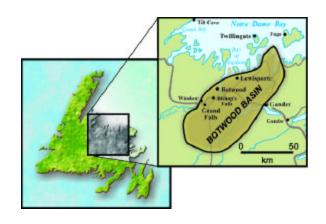
The Moosehead property represents the slightly deeper, mesothermal level of two gold mineralization models occurring throughout north-central Newfoundland. Increasingly, however, Altius recognized and targeted the shallower level, epithermal style of mineralization and this led to the staking of over 800 claims within the Gander river's watershed in a northeasterly oriented belt - the Mustang trend.

Similarities with the calcareous-sediment-hosted mineralization of the Carlin-trend gold camp in Nevada, USA, prompted Altius to contact major international gold producers. December 12, 2001, they announced a joint venture with Barrick Gold Exploration.

As the news spread about the presence of a major mining/exploration company on the Newfoundland scene, a staking rush on the Island took shape. At its peak, 10,500 claims were staked between February and May 2002, more than the entire previous year.

Staking initially took place in the Botwood Basin but soon other historical gold exploration areas throughout the Island were staked (Cape Ray, White Bay, the Baie Verte Peninsula, Green Bay, the Baie d'Espoir area, Gander Lake and the Avalon and Burin peninsulas). Within the Botwood Basin, Altius, in addition to their joint venture with Barrick, now also has joint venture agreements with Sudbury Contact Mines at the Moosehead property and with CanAlaska Ventures Ltd. along the northwest-trending Miguel trend.

Apart from Altius Resources Inc., other companies with a significant presence in the Botwood Basin include: Rubicon Minerals Corporation, Candente Resource Corp, Moydow Mines International Inc., CanAlaska Ventures Ltd., Black Bart Prospecting Inc., VVC Exploration Corp., Columbia Metals Ltd., Gallery Resources Limited, Linear Resources Inc., Cornerstone Resources Inc. and Grayd Resource Corporation.



<sup>\*</sup> a large portion of this value is due to advanced exploration at the Voisey's Bay Project.

## Do you know ....?

- In Canada, Newfoundland and Labrador is the largest iron ore producer, followed by Québec and British Columbia.
- Average earnings during 2002 in the Province's mining industry was more than \$1000 per week, one of the highest earning levels in the provincial economy.
- 85% of the world's refined gold supply is used in coins, jewelry and other ornamentation.



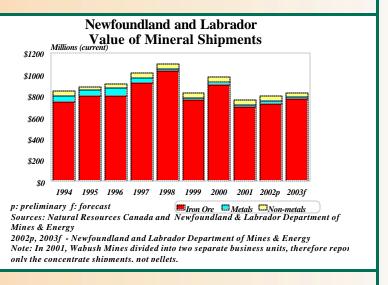
- In Canada, more than 50% of refined copper is used for electrical applications, mostly wire. Worldwide, over two thirds of copper is used in wire and cable.
- The largest single use of lead is in the manufacture of lead-acid storage batteries, a vital part of every automobile.
- The single greatest demand for nickel is in the production of stainless steels.



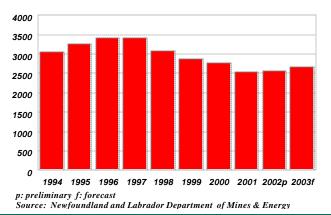
 Approximately 48% of worldwide zinc is used in coatings for iron and steel products to make them resistant to rust and corrosion.

## **Industry Update**

The mineral industry in Newfoundland and Labrador produces over a dozen mineral commodities that contribute significantly to our economy. Many of these are critical elements in the local construction industry, while others are sold in national and international markets. The value of mineral shipments in 2003 is forecast to be \$826 million, while direct employment is forecast to average 2,676 persons.



### Newfoundland and Labrador Mining Industry Average Employment



#### **Project Notes:**

In late 2003, Aur Resources hopes to begin construction of the Duck Pond basemetal project.

Beaver Brook Resources Limited currently is exploring options to reactivate operations at its antimony mine later this year.

Efforts to-date at the site of the former Hope Brook gold mine have resulted in a significant improvement in the quality of water discharged into the Cinq Cerf salmon river. A comparison of samples taken before rehabilitation commenced and those taken recently show an 85% improvement in quality. In 2003-04, the plan is to complete this project and effectively "close-out" the site.

For updated information on the mining industry please visit our website at <a href="https://www.gov.nl.ca/mines&en/">www.gov.nl.ca/mines&en/</a>

## **Mineral Incentive Program**

We are very pleased that the **Mineral Incentive Program** has been continued for 2003. Funding has been maintained at previous levels of \$2,230,000 despite the fact that over the past couple of years the programs have been under subscribed.

However, with the high level of claim staking and option agreements that have been signed over the past 12 months it is anticipated that this will be a year in which funding will be fully subscribed.

There are three programs available for individual prospectors, exploration companies and dimension-stone companies to assist them in their quest for the next major mining development in the province. They are;

The *Prospectors Assistance Program (PAP)*. This program provides all eligible prospectors with up to \$4000 for "grassroots" exploration and up to \$10,000 for exploration on "advanced" targets. In 2002-03, applications were approved totaling approximately \$298,000 in grant payments.

The *Dimension Stone Incentive Program (DSIP)*. This program provides individuals or independent companies with up to \$100,000 in 50/50 cost shared funding for trial quarry development and resource assessment. In 2002-03 three applications were approved totaling approximately \$203,000 in grant payments in 2002-03.

The *Junior Company Exploration Assistance Program* (*JCEAP*). This program provides junior exploration companies or individuals with up to \$100,000 in 50/50 cost shared funding for exploration on new and existing mineral targets. In 2002, 26 applications were approved for funding totaling approximately \$1,200,000 in grant payments.

These programs are due to expire on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2004, completing the five-year, \$22 million joint government and industry initiative that began in April 1999.

## **Program Notes**

- Exploration incentive programs fund \$2.2 million annually for industry and prospector assistance.
- Since 1999, approximately 650 prospectors have been supported, 10% of which have resulted in option agreements, attracting investment in the \$10-\$12 million range.



- The Department of Mines and Energy, in conjunction with the Bay St. George Campus of the College of the North Atlantic in Stephenville, held the 13th annual Prospectors Training Course between May 26th and June 8th.
- Over the past 13 years, a total of 276 students have completed the Prospectors Training Course, some from as far away as Germany.



• Students that complete the Prospectors Training Course are eligible to apply for status as *Genuine Prospectors* which enables them to stake up to 30 claims per year at no cost.





**Brian O'Brien** will conduct a 2-month field season, mapping the bedrock geology south of **Springdale**. This work will support exploration that host the Gullbridge copper deposit. This is the second year of a multi-year study intended to decipher the structure and stratigraphy of this complex geological belt.



**Sean O'Brien** will spend approximately 2 months mapping stratigraphic sections in the Musgravetown Group and adjoining rocks on the **Bonavista Peninsula**. This work will establish the stratigraphic sequence for these rocks and provide information on controls for sediment-hosted copper mineralization in the area. Final mapping and field checking will also be done on the **Avalon Peninsula** in preparation for publication of a map of the Holyrood and adjacent areas.



**Bruce Ryan** and **Don James** will conduct a 2-month field season in the eastern part of the corridor from **Nain** to the **Québec border**. Nain will be used as a base from which to run the helicopter-positioned ground traverses. The region includes parts of the Nain Plutonic Suite and crosses the extrapolated boundary between the Nain and Churchill geological provinces. The area is prospective for nickel deposits similar to that at Voisey's Bay.



Charlie Gower will carry out a 1-month field season in southeastern Labrador. This information will be included in new maps and digital databases to be published for the region. Southeastern Labrador has been the site of industry interest since the Voisey's Bay discovery because of a number of mafic intrusions with potential for nickel or PGE mineralization.



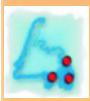
**Andrew Kerr** will spend 2 months on a new project designed to examine gold mineralization in the **White Bay** area in the context of the "Carlin-type" model derived from gold deposits of Nevada. The recent application of this model to exploration for gold mineralization in Newfoundland has attracted considerable attention from exploration companies and has led to a need to re-examine known mineralization. Part of the field season will be directed toward completing earlier work on the base-metal deposits of the Robert's Arm area.



Gerry Squires will carry out the second year of a central Newfoundland metallogeny project. The first part of the field season will be directed toward completing work on the base-metal mineralization of the Tally Pond belt near Grand Falls. The second part of the season will commence work on the epigenetic gold mineralization of the "Botwood Basin" in the Botwood - Grand Falls areas. This is an area that has recently become the target for increased staking as a result of speculation that it may contain potential for Carlin-type deposits.



Jerry Ricketts will examine the road corridor between Red Bay and Cartwright, Labrador. This project is aimed at the identification of granular-aggregate deposits and the assessments of these deposits for use in the construction industry. Results of this project will help road builders, contractors, consultants, etc. determine sources and quality of material available in a given area.



Martin Batterson and Dave Taylor will complete the fourth year of a multi-year project to complete surficial mapping and till geochemistry on the Bonavista, northern Burin and Avalon peninsulas. The 2003 field season will focus on the northern part of the Bay de Verde Peninsula and the area between Placentia and Whitbourne. This project will provide a quaternary geology framework for the evaluation of geochemical data collected in the field in support of mineral exploration. Also it will include mapping the distribution of Quaternary sediments and landforms, and ice-flow directional indicators to provide a summary of ice-flow events, the results of which will be a direct benefit to mineral-exploration activities, especially in drift-covered areas.

## **Profile of a Prospector**



One of this province's most active prospectors is Bill Mercer from the town of Badger. Bill, whose grandfather was a prospector in the Notre Dame Bay area in the early 1900s, loves the outdoors and has been interested in prospecting ever since his boyhood years. His career has included work as a miner in Thompson, Manitoba, and as geological assistant at Gullbridge Mines, near Gull Pond in central Newfoundland. Also, he has several formal prospector training courses to his credit, including the provincial government prospecting course which he earned from the College of the North

Atlantic in 1992.

Bill has been active in prospecting since the 1990s, both throughout central Newfoundland and on the Baie Verte Peninsula. He has successfully prospected for copper, lead and zinc at Little Joe Glodes Pond in volcanic hosted rocks, as well as nickel, copper and cobalt in mafic intrusions and precious and base metals in volcanic rocks near Powderhorn Lake. He also has discovered high-grade copper with associated cobalt and minor gold near Catamaran Brook, which he has called the Christopher property.

Bill made his most impressive discovery in May 2002. His high-grade gold discovery, now called the Golden Promise property, was made in an area to the southwest of Badger along the Exploits River. Bill had been prospecting and cutting firewood in this area for several years and had noted some quartz boulders that had assayed only slightly elevated values in gold. Last May, he returned to the area and sampled several large angular (> 1 tonne) quartz boulders, some of which returned values greater than 10 ounces per ton. He subsequently optioned this property to Rubicon Minerals Ltd., which immediately staked close to 1000 claims in the discovery area. Prospecting, trenching and diamond drilling have resulted in some very encouraging assay results and most industry watchers are anxious to see further drilling and exploration results from this exciting discovery.

In addition to the persistence and hard work in which he personally believes, Bill feels that it is vital for the provincial government to be supportive of the industry. He says "The mentoring by provincial government geologists and the financial support given to prospectors through the prospector grants program are key to encouraging the individual prospector to continue looking for what could be the next mine in the province". Bill also believes his strong faith has greatly helped him in all his pursuits. "I would like to thank my Lord for his help and I pray He will continue to bless Newfoundland and Labrador".

Bill Mercer was named "Prospector of the year" at the 2003 Baie Verte Mining Conference held in June. Congratulations Bill!

#### Matty Mitchell Prospectors Resource Room

- Assists in the education and professional development of prospectors
- Sample identification, free sample assays, and a wide range of rock sample suites and literature.
- Offers copies of the proposed new forest resource roads planned for 2003-2004 and several new papers on the latest research on gold.
- Spearheaded several industry government initiatives to help prospectors bring their properties to the attention of exploration companies.
- Participated in the province's delegation and display at the 2003 Cordilleran Roundup in Vancouver and the 2003 Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada Convention in Toronto.
- Located on the first floor of the Natural Resources Building, 50 Elizabeth Ave., St. John's, NL. Telephone (709) 729-2120. Email: <a href="https://www.geosurv.gov.nl.ca/matty/matty.html">www.geosurv.gov.nl.ca/matty/matty.html</a>

#### Norm Peters Prospectors Resource Room

- Dedicated to the promotion and support of the local prospecting and exploration community.
- Offers computer workstations with high-speed internet connections.
- Workstations also equipped with spreadsheet and word processing software.
- Priority "prospector workstations" will be given to individuals wishing to conduct online staking and database research.
- Conducting several prospecting seminars throughout the summer to provide instruction in the basic methods of rock and mineral identification, map orientation, sampling techniques, and claim staking.
- For more information, visit 151 Main Street, Springdale, NL, telephone (709) 673-4138, or email: mining@ezc.ca

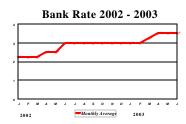
## **Average Metal Prices**

(US\$ per pound, except gold and silver - US\$ per troy ounce)

		Expected <sup>3</sup>
Actual		Q3 2003-
<u>April 2003</u>		Q2 2004
Metal		
Copper	\$0.72	\$0.78
Nickel	\$3.59	\$3.89
Zinc	\$0.34	\$0.39
Gold	\$328.21	\$340.00
Silver	\$4.49	\$4.87

#### Source:

"Metals Market Sentiment", May 2003, PricewaterhouseCoopers.



Voisey's Bay

Construction work in 2003 will include upgrading and expanding infrastructure at the construction camp, a communications system will be installed, land will be cleared at the site of the mill/concentrator, more roadways will be built and a permanent airstrip is scheduled to be completed. This summer, the Voisey's Bay Nickel Company (VBNC) expects to have as many as 500 people employed at the site.

In addition to the work in Labrador, new activity is taking place at Argentia to facilitate the construction of the biggest research and development project ever to take place in Atlantic Canada. The hydromet demonstration plant is scheduled to commence its design, engineering and construction next year and be operational in 2006.

The Inco Innovation Centre, to be constructed at Memorial University, will focus on education and research in mining, exploration and metallurgical processing techniques. Students will be engaged in Bachelors, Masters and Doctorate level programs related to the mining industry.



Source: Bank of Canada.

## **Appointments**

#### **Managing Director for VCNC**

Mr. Philip Du Toit has been appointed as the Managing Director, Voisey's Bay Nickel Company Limited (VBNC) effective May 1, 2003 assuming overall responsibility for all aspects of the Voisey's Bay project. Mr. Du Toit takes over the position from Stewart Gendron who retired earlier this year. He will be responsible for aligning all of the key groups working on various aspects of the project and for maintaining effective working relationships that VBNC has established with provincial and federal governments, aboriginal peoples and external contractors. Mr. Du Toit is a professional engineer with extensive experience in the mining industry in various parts of the world. He brings to VBNC a particularly strong strength in effective project development and leadership within diverse cultures.

#### **Director of Mineral Development for the Department of Mines and Energy**

Charles Bown has been appointed as the Acting Director of Mineral Development for the Department of Mines & Energy. For the past 4 years, Charles served as Director of the Voisey's Bay Project for the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador.

#### Mineral Industry Analyst in Labrador for the Department of Mines and Energy

Karen Moyles has been appointed Mineral Industry Analyst for the Department of Mines & Energy's Labrador office. Karen has worked for the past four years as an Occupational Health and Safety Officer with the Department of Labour in Wabush, Labrador. Her formal education includes an Environmental Studies B.A. from Carleton University, Ottawa, and an Occupational Health and Safety Technician Diploma from Algonquin College, Ottawa. She has attained experience in the mining sector performing health and safety inspections at the Iron Ore Company of Canada, Wabush Mines, Labrador West Quartzite Ltd., Voisey's Bay Nickel Company Ltd., and the TUC Quarry in Labrador. She was born and raised in Wabush, Labrador, and comes from a mining family as her father was a miner for 33 years.

## **Industry Loses Four Long-Time Supporters**



The Department of Mines and Energy is deeply saddened following the sudden passing of **Dan Bragg** at the age of 53. Dan completed field work along the new road to Cartwright on Monday, July 7th and had just settled on the ferry for the evening crossing from Cartwright to Goose Bay when, without warning, was stricken by heart failure.

Dan began work with the Environmental Geology Section in an entry level position during the 1979 field season working on the Inventory of Aggregate Resources. Starting in this capacity, Dan developed a recognized expertise in rock and granular materials used in construction, and established a Project Geologist position for himself with the department.

Dan was a gem and his life had many facets. He was loving and devoted to his family; he thoroughly enjoyed his work and professional career; he was active in his church; and he enjoyed a number of recreational pursuits in the performing arts. His life was rich and well balanced. He was honest and straight forward in all his dealings with people. His company was always a pleasure and will be sadly missed.



The Department of Mines and Energy lost a long-time friend and colleague on February 17, 2003 with the sudden passing of **Byron R. Hynes**, B.A., Ph.D. Byron was tragically killed in a car accident at the age of 54.

Byron began his career with the provincial government when he joined the Department of Mines and Energy in 1980 where he worked for 15 years before moving to the economic Analysis group of the Department of Industry, Trade and Technology. It was only in September 2002 that Byron returned to the Department of Mines and Energy, with the Industrial Benefits group. Byron had less than a year to retirement, at which time he planned to follow his favourite pass time, "travel".

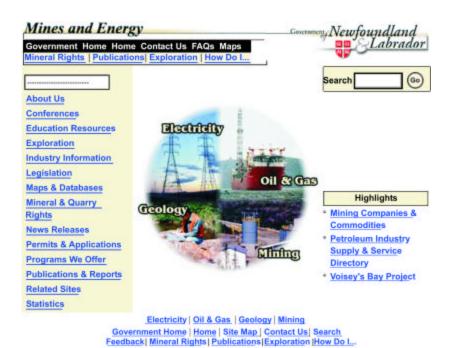
Byron was well liked and his devotion to the mining industry is greatly missed. Our sympathy is extended to the Hynes family, and his many relatives and friends.

**John R. Hurley Sr.** passed away following a sudden illness on July 1, 2003 at the age of 56. He was president of Hurley Slateworks Company Inc. and Newfoundland Pyrophyllite, a Division of Trinity Resources & Energy Limited. Our sympathy is extended to the Hurley family, and his many relatives and friends.

Gerry Pritchett, 55, passed away on January 14, 2003. Mr. Pritchett was president of both International Granite Corporation, which quarries gabbro ("black granite") and Cabot Granite Fabricators Inc., a manufacturer of monuments, and architectural and landscaping products. Our sympathy is extended to the Pritchett family, and his many relatives and friends.

## **New Mines & Energy Website**

In May 2003, the Department of Mines and Energy launched a new and improved website. This new site is designed to provide much more interesting and user-friendly information resources. It is hoped that the new format will enable users to become more familiar with the mines and energy sectors of our province. <a href="www.gov.nl.ca/mines&en/">www.gov.nl.ca/mines&en/</a>



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Photo Credits

## CIM Geological Photo Contest



To encourage students to explore the unique geology of our province, the Newfoundland Branch of the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy, and Petroleum (CIM) is sponsoring a Geological Photo Contest. The contest is open to all junior high and high school students (Grades 7-12) in Newfoundland and Labrador.

#### **Prize Categories**

(Maximum of 2 entries per person per category)

**Close-ups** - Close-up photos of fossils, rocks, minerals and small scale geological features.

Landscapes - Larger scale photos of major geological features.

#### **Prizes**

First, second and third place prizes will be awarded for each category.

Ist Place - \$100 2nd Place - \$75 3rd Place - \$50

All entries must be submitted by email on or before **September 30th, 2003** to **lisabenson@gov.nl.ca**.

For complete contest rules & regulations, visit the CIM Newfoundland Branch web site at www.gov.nl.ca/mines&en/education/cim

Examples of photos are also available at www.geosurv.gov.nl.ca/education/features/rocintro.html

V. Penning Ewents

2nd International Narrow Vein Deposits Symposium

October 6-9, 2003 Val d'Or, Québec

For more information please contact:

Serge Major

Tel: (514) 939-2710 ext. 1381 Toll Free: 1-800-667-1246 Email: 2major@cim.org

2003 International Symposium on Hydrometallurgy in Honour of Ian Ritchie

August 24 -27, 2003

Vancouver, British Columbia

This symposium is combining the 2003 TMS Fall Extraction and Processing Metallurgy Meeting and the 33rd Annual

Hydrometallurgy Meeting of the Metallurgy Society of the CIM.

For more information please contact:

Courtney Young Tel: (406) 496-4158 Fax: (406) 496-4133 Email: cyoung@metch.edu

CIM Field Conference - Ore Depostis at Depth:

Challenges and Opportunities

September 23-26, 2003

Timmins, Ontario

this conference is organized by Porcupine Prospectors and

Development Association in conjunction with The Geological Society.

For more information please see

www.fieldconference-timmins.com

or contact:

Damien J. Duff Tel: (705)267-8683

Email: dduff@falconbridge.com

3rd North Atlantic Mineral Symposium (NAMS)

August 29 -September 3, 2003 University College, Dublin, Ireland NAMS will be held in conjunction with the 21st International Geochemical Exploration Symposium (IGES), August 29 - September 3, 2003). NAMS is a biennial conference alternating between Ireland and Newfoundland and Labrador. The conference focuses on the mineral potential and mineral development opportunities of the North Atlantic region, as well as global issues affecting the mineral resource industry and how they affect this region. For more information please telephone (709) 729-5946, or contact:

Conference Organizers Tel: +353-1-677-7188

Fax: +353-1-664-3701

Email: nmeenan@conferencepartners.ie

Also see:

www.conferencepartners.ie/igesandnams2003

4th International Conference on Computer Applications in the Mineral Industries

September 8-10, 2003 Calgary, Alberta

For more information please see www.cami2003.com or contact:

Dr. Raj Singhal, Chairperson Tel/Fax: (403)241-9460

Email: singhal@telusplantet.net

Australian Nickel Conference

October 23-24, 2003

Perth, Australia

For more information please contact:

Fiona Crocker

Tel: +61-8-9321-0355 Fax: +61-8-9321-0426

Email: fiona@louthean.com.au

15th Annual Canadian Conference on Markets for Industrial Minerals October 22 -23, 2003 Sutton Place Hotel.

Vancouver, British Columbia Industrial Minerals 2003 is designed to provide a forum for producers, distributors, and consumers to discuss changes in supply and demand patterns.

For more information please contact: Blendon Information Services

Tel: (250) 391-8820 Fax: (250) 391-1787 Email: info@blendon.com

CIM Annual Meeting and Conference October 30 - November 1, 2003 St. John's, Newfoundland This is the Newfoundland Branch CIM 50th Annual Conference. For more information please contact:

Tony Burgess Tel: (709) 729-6445 Fax: (709) 729-3493

Email: tonyburgess@gov.nl.ca

Mines Branch 27th Annual Review of Activities

October 30, 2003

St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador The Annual Review of Mines Branch Activities and Open House will be held in conjunction with the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy, and Petroleum (CIM) conference. For more information please contact:

Norm Mercer Tel: (709) 729-6193 Fax: (709) 729-4491

Email: nlm@zeppo.geosurv.gov.nl.ca

Honourable Walter Noel



Minister of Mines & Energy

# Come Explore With Us ..

- Produces over a dozen mineral commodities
- About \$825 million in yearly mineral shipments
- Produces 63% of Canada's iron ore
- Voisey's Bay to produce 50,000 tonnes of nickel per year starting in 2006
- A developing dimension stone industry
- Grass-roots exploration attracts \$15 million per year



- Prospective mineral environments
- Geological diversity
  - Comprehensive geoscience databases
  - Online mineral & geoscience information
  - Prospector & Industry Assistance
    Programs
    - Competitive mineral tenure system
    - Strategic location

Adding Solid Value to a Wealth of Opportunities

# Be a Part of the Next Discovery

## **MINES BRANCH**

**KEY CONTACTS** 

Home Page http://www.gov.nl.ca/mines&en/