

MINFO

MINERAL INFORMATION



GOVERNMENT OF
NEWFOUNDLAND
AND LABRADOR

Department of
Natural Resources

Mines Branch

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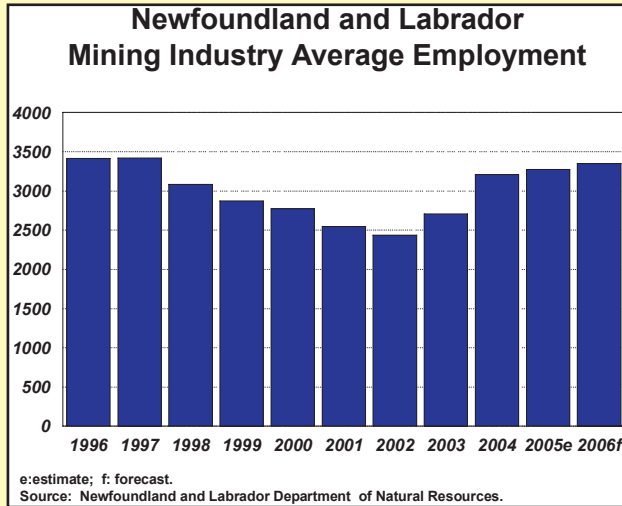
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MINING SECTOR UPDATE

The mining industry in Newfoundland and Labrador produces more than a dozen mineral commodities that contribute to both, our economy and quality of life. Some of the products produced by the industry range from aggregates used in road construction to iron used in structural steel; limestone used in agriculture to nickel used to produce stainless steel; and granite used to make counter tops, to copper wire used in electrical generation and distribution.

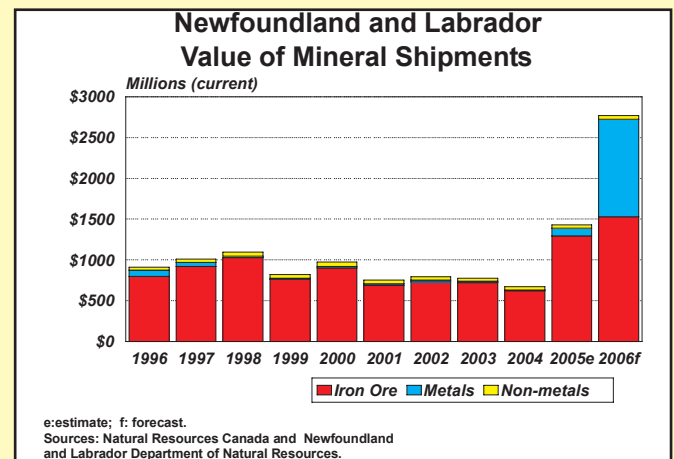


Direct employment in the Newfoundland and Labrador mining industry is projected to be approximately 3300 person years in 2006.

For more information on the mining industry in this province visit our website:

http://www.geosurv.gov.nl.ca/minesen/mines_commodities/

During the past five years there has been a 271% increase in the value of Newfoundland and Labrador's mineral shipments with 2006 shipments forecast at approximately \$2.8 billion, up from \$754 million in 2001, and up 100% from an estimated \$1.4 billion in 2005. In line with increases in global metal prices and local production, the level of exploration investment in the province is on the rise. Preliminary numbers indicate that in 2005 approximately \$45 million was spent in Newfoundland and Labrador on mineral exploration and deposit appraisal. This total is expected to increase to \$51 million in 2006.



VOISEY'S BAY PROJECT



In 2005, the Voisey's Bay Project passed several milestones. Open-pit mining from the ovoid commenced, Inco announced that it had produced first concentrate from the mill, the first shipment of concentrate occurred, the Inco Innovation Centre at Memorial University of Newfoundland and Labrador opened, and the Hydromet Demonstration at Argentia also officially opened.

In March 2006, the commercial nickel processing plant was registered for environmental assessment. VBNC has identified a site near Long Harbour for the commercial plant and is required to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for this site. Exploration activity is ongoing at Voisey's Bay and is producing results with "good potential". The company plans to continue drilling and exploring its properties.

DUCK POND PROJECT - BASE METALS

The Duck Pond base-metal project is located about 30 km south of the old Buchans mine in central Newfoundland.

Duck Pond has proven reserves of 4.1 million tonnes at an average grade of 3.3% copper, 5.7% zinc, 59 grams/tonne silver and 0.9 gram/tonne of gold.

The development remains on schedule for production in the fourth quarter of 2006. To date, the underground ramp has advanced over 1800 m, construction of surface facilities nears completion, the power line has been energized and mill equipment from Aur's decommissioned Louvicourt mine is on site. Most of the key senior operating staff are on site and total manpower, including contractors, is 130 people.

The reserves at Duck Pond are expected to support a 1800 tonne/day operation and produce 41 million pounds of copper, 76 million pounds of zinc, 536,000 ounces of silver and 4100 ounces of gold annually, for the period 2007-2014. The construction phase will employ an average 200 people for 18 months and daily mine operations will employ a total of 188 people.



REPORT ON ZINC

Canadian Zinc production began in British Columbia in the early 1900s. Today, zinc mines and plants in several provinces produce approximately 8% of the world's zinc. China, the largest producer, produces about 25% of the world's zinc.

With Aur Resources Inc.'s scheduled start-up of its metal (zinc-copper-silver-gold) mine in late 2006, Newfoundland and Labrador will once again be a zinc producer. Zinc was last mined in this province in 1990 when Newfoundland Zinc Mines Limited (Teck Corporation/Amex Inc.) closed its mine located at Daniel's Harbour.

Zinc ranks fourth in world metal consumption behind iron, aluminum, and copper. Zinc's primary use (approximately 40%-50%) is as a coating on iron and steel to protect against corrosion. Other important uses are in the manufacture of alloys (e.g., brass, bronze), and die-cast products. Zinc is also used in batteries, rubber products, paint pigments ceramic glazes, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals and chemicals.

On April 26, 2006, the International Lead and Zinc Study Group released its 2006 forecasts:

- 4.5% increase in global zinc mine output to 10.42 million tonnes.
- 4.3% increase in world refined zinc metal production, to 10.71 million tonnes.
- 4.8% increase in global usage of refined zinc metal, totaling 11.19 million tonnes.

Growth will be strongest in Asia: (India: 9.1%; China: 7.3%; Japan: 4.5%, Republic of Korea: 4.4%). In the United States, demand is expected to recover by 11.4% after falling sharply in 2005.

The London Metal Exchange (LME) cash price of zinc set a record price of US\$1.64/lb on May 10, 2006. This is approximately a 100% increase from the beginning of this year, and a twofold increase from the same time in 2005. Zinc's gain in 2006 is due to tight supply, and growing demand from the steel sector.

At the end of April 2006, UBS investment bank reported that inventories of refined zinc in LME warehouses were significantly lower than those at the end of 2005. Approximately two-thirds of the stocks were held in warehouses in New Orleans, which were damaged by Hurricane Katrina. UBS forecasted cash zinc prices of US\$1.654/lb in 2006, increasing to US\$1.85/lb in 2007.



REPORT ON NICKEL

Now that Voisey's Bay is in production, one may ask; where does the nickel get used? Stainless steel accounts for approximately two-thirds of primary (new) nickel consumption in the world. Other uses include nickel alloys, ferrous metallurgy, plating, rechargeable batteries, and coinage. Nickel is used in more than 300,000 products.

The price of nickel has soared in recent months. Some observers have attributed this to an increased demand and a restricted supply, which have caused a shortage of the metal. However, others believe that the price was driven by commodity fund investors and speculators.

Nickel consumption grew at almost 8% annually between 2002 and 2004 and reached a record level in 2005. This was partly due to a rise in stainless steel production. China's production of stainless steel which has more than doubled since 2000, and the increasing sales of hybrid vehicles are expected to elevate nickel demand. According to nickel producer, BHP Billiton, demand from Brazil, Russia, India, and China is expected to rise from 180,000 tonnes to 1.2 million tonnes in 2015.

On May 12th, 2006, the cash price of nickel reached a record of US\$10.12/lb, a 63% increase from the beginning of this year. Desjardins Securities in Montreal has forecast nickel to average US\$7.00/lb in 2006 and 2007. Inco has recently indicated that it now uses a long-term average of US\$3.90/lb in planning future operations.



REPORT ON GOLD

Gold has been a valued commodity since before recorded history. Archaeologists have discovered 5000 year-old gold jewelry in what is now southern Iraq, and ancient Egyptians buried their kings with elaborate gold masks, amulets and sarcophaguses. Gold has been used as currency for at least 3500 years with the shekel circulating in the Middle East at 1500 BC.

The preoccupation of alchemists to find a way of turning base metals into gold led to the serendipitous discovery of many new elements and laid the foundations of modern chemistry. The search for gold launched European explorers on some of the most challenging overseas expeditions and led to the populating of the New World by Europeans.

In the mid 1800s, British gold sovereigns and U.S. \$10 gold eagle coins were both considered legal tender in Canada. The first Canadian bank notes were partly backed by gold.

From 1854 until the beginning of the First World War, the value of the Canadian dollar was fixed in terms of gold. It was a practice that Canada and much of the industrialized world used for most of the 20th century until it was abandoned in 1971.

Currently, most of the 2500 tonnes of gold produced each year is used for jewelry. But as much as 20% finds its way into such industrial applications as telecommunications and computers, where the metal's high electrical conductivity is prized.

Newfoundland's first gold ventures operated in the Baie Verte and Sop's Arm areas in the early 1900s; the latest was the Hammerdown mine which closed in 2004. With the recent surge in the price of gold, it is hoped that the resultant increase in exploration will spawn the next generation of gold mines.

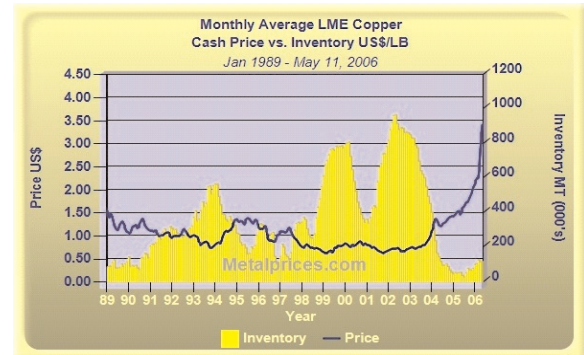
REPORT ON COPPER

Copper has been in use by mankind for 10,000 years. Today it is used in a wide range of domestic, industrial and high-technology applications. Building construction accounts for more than 46% of all copper consumed, with the average single family home requiring 439 pounds of copper. Approximately 80% of the copper used in construction is for plumbing and wiring. Copper is also one of the most recycled of all metals.

The LME cash price of copper set a new high of US\$3.91/lb on May 11, 2006. As of that date copper had gained approximately 90% this year, and had increased about six fold since 2001. This was due to strong demand, especially from China and India, and a tight global supply with concerns over disruptions.

According to the International Copper Study Group (ICSG), world copper mine production is forecast to increase from an estimated 14.91 million tonnes (Mt) in 2005 to 15.74Mt in 2006. World production of refined copper, both primary and secondary (from scrap materials) is forecast to increase from 16.42Mt to 17.81Mt during this period. World refined copper use is projected to increase from 16.46Mt in 2005 to 77.35Mt in 2006. A surplus of refined copper is expected to continue into 2007.

UBS Investment Bank's forecast for copper on April 30, 2006 was an average price of US\$2.647/lb in 2006, and US\$2.65/lb in 2007. On May 10, 2005 the Bank of Montreal forecast US\$2.75/lb for 2006 and US\$2.60/lb for 2007.



HISTORIC MINE SPOTLIGHT: TILT COVE MINE, PART II 1957-1967

Since copper was first discovered at Tilt Cove in 1857, mining took place in two phases. The first from 1864 to 1917 (see Minfo, Volume 11, No. 2, Fall 2005) saw upward of 5000 people living there. The community was reborn in 1957 and thrived until 1967 when, at peak, nearly 1000 people called Tilt Cove home. According to the 1991 census, Tilt Cove is now home to just 10 people.

Tilt Cove, a single industry town had no harbour to speak of; it was surrounded by steep hills and no road access to the neighbouring communities.

During Tilt Coves' first era, close to 1.5 million tons of copper ore was mined containing over 61,000 tons of copper and small quantities of nickel, gold and silver. In 1957, the mine reopened and produced close to another 500,000 tons of copper concentrate containing approximately 92,000 tons of copper with small amounts of gold, before it closed in 1967.

After the mine shutdown the first time in 1917, due to international market and military conditions as well as high shipping costs, the property lay idle until 1946. At that time, Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company of Canada Limited carried out further diamond drilling which led to Falconbridge optioning the property in 1951. Successful exploration on the property led Maritime Mining Corporation to purchase the property in 1954.

Maritime Mining rehabilitated the old workings and diamond drilling continued. Several new ore bodies were discovered leading to development and shaft sinking culminating with the mine reopening in 1957. During this period the community thrived, activities such as bowling, movies and shows entertained the people. In 1959-60, the shaft was deepened and exploration continued, but despite extensive exploration programs carried out in 1963 and 1964 reserves were not maintained and the mine was placed on a salvage basis. In that year, the company was reorganized and renamed First Maritime Mining Corporation Limited. In June 1967, ore reserves were exhausted, and the mine closed, ending the second and final stage of mining in Tilt Cove.



MINERAL INCENTIVE PROGRAM UPDATE 2006

The financial support for the Mineral Incentive Program has been increased this year with a total budget of \$2.5 M, up from \$1.628 M last year. As a result of this enhanced funding, the Prospectors Assistance budget has been increased to \$300,000 from \$250,000 and Junior Exploration Assistance budget is now at approximately \$1.8 M. There is also a new *Natural Stone Assessment* initiative in place which has a budget of \$250,000.

The *Prospectors Assistance* supports resident prospectors through non-refundable grants of up to \$4000 for traditional, grass-roots prospecting on crown lands or lands staked in the prospectors name. As well, this year prospectors can also apply for an extra \$2000 on their grants for air support (helicopter or float plane) to access remote properties that have no other means of access. Prospectors must outline a detailed sampling plan if applying for this funding.

The *Junior Exploration Assistance* supports independent junior exploration companies or individuals with non-refundable grants of up to \$100,000 for eligible exploration work on the Island and up to \$150,000 for eligible exploration work in Labrador on new and existing mineral targets. The funding is provided through a 50/50 cost sharing measure for exploration work within the province. As well, this year the department is allocating approximately \$500,000 toward non-drilling, grass roots projects such as ground and airborne geophysical surveys and regional geochemical surveys.

Under the *Natural Stone Assessment*, companies or individuals can receive non-refundable grants up to \$50,000 to conduct exploration and assessment on new or undeveloped natural stone (defined as raw stone, rough block, cut slabs or finished product) prospects. This will also include assessment of alternate uses for existing/inactive stone quarries (i.e., monument stone from slab stone quarries and vice versa). Funding is provided through a 75/25 (government/industry) cost-sharing measure for exploration and natural stone assessment work within the province.

As well, the Department, in conjunction with the Bay St. George Campus of the College of the North Atlantic (CONA) in Stephenville, held the annual 14-day Prospectors Training Course May 29th to June 11th of this year. The Department through the CONA campus in Happy Valley-Goose Bay also plans on holding a similar course in Labrador in early July of 2006.

For more information and application forms for these programs, please visit <http://www.nm.gov.nl.ca/mines&energy/programs/#financial>

PHASE ONE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS RELEASED ON FORMER BAIE VERTE & RAMBLER MINE SITES

On October 9, 2004, the Department issued a Request for Proposals for a Phase 1 ESA of the mine properties. On December 13, 2004, a contract was awarded to AMEC Earth and Environmental for the Baie Verte Mines property and to Davis Engineering and Associates Limited (now Rutter Engineering) for the Rambler Mine property. The reports were submitted on March 31, 2005.

Government is moving forward with a Phase II Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) for both the former Baie Verte and Rambler Mines properties. This decision is based on recommendations contained in the Phase I ESA studies completed for the department.

The recommendations for both sites, arising from the Phase I ESA, include taking measures under Phase II ESA to confirm the presence or absence of environmental contamination at the property and, in particular, sampling and testing of paint, asbestos, soil, water, and sediment on the site, as well as an assessment of the rehabilitation costs.

The Phase I ESA reports are accessible through the department's website and can be found at: <http://www.gov.nl.ca/mines&en/>

IOC SET A BLASTING WORLD RECORD IN 2005

On Wednesday December 21st, 2005 at approximately 3:28 pm the largest single bench blast in the Iron Ore Company of Canada's history was detonated at Luce Pit. A record of 5 million tonnes of material was blasted.

"The first production hole was drilled on November 1st, 2005 with loading completed on December 18th, 2005. The pattern consisted of 1693 production holes and was loaded with approximately 2400 tonnes of emulsion. The blast was primed with 3173 of Orica's i-kon™ electronic detonators, making it the world record for number of electronic detonators fired in a single blast."

This was a remarkable achievement considering that the blast was drilled and blasted during harsh winter conditions, and there were no safety incidents. The blast was so large that dust particles blocked the sun at one point (*Iron Ore Company of Canada Press Release, Another IOC Record for 2005, IOC Website, December 29, 2005*).



Preblast



Blast



Postblast

REPORT RELEASED INTO REMAINING RESERVES AT WABUSH MINES

On April 26, 2006, Natural Resources Minister Ed Byrne released the consultant's report, that government commissioned in January 2005, to assess the ore reserves at the Wabush Scully Mine as a result of union concerns over the mine's life. The consultant, Strathcona Mineral Services Limited of Toronto, concluded that there is no evidence of "highgrading" or mismanagement in the execution of the mine plan, and that the mine managers properly calculated the mineral reserve estimates in 2002 and 2003, to accurately reflect the amount of iron ore that can be economically mined. The report confirms the presence of sufficient iron ore reserves to support mining operations until 2013. The construction of a manganese reduction plant could prolong the life of the mine beyond 2013,

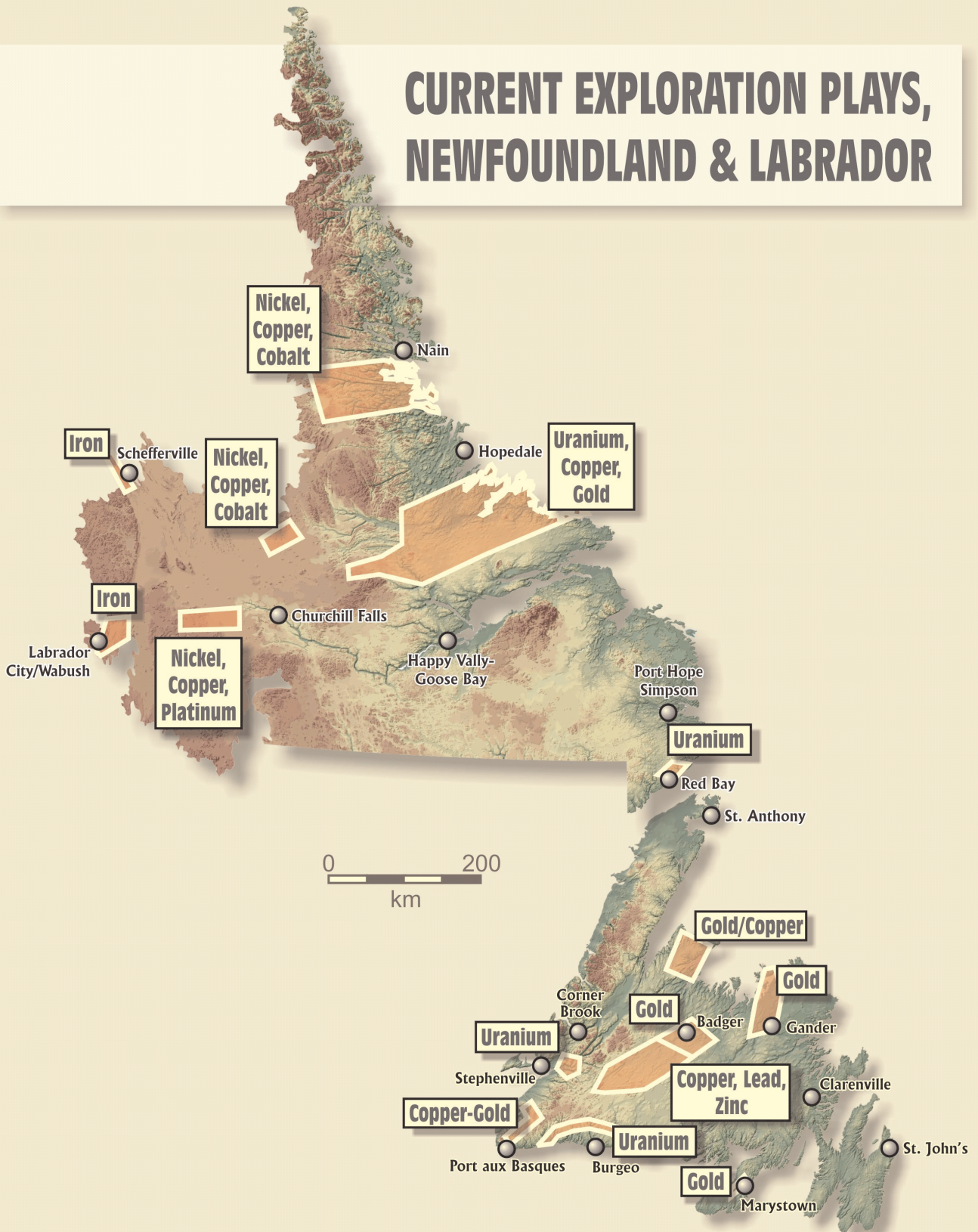
and possibly up to 2021. Cleveland-Cliffs, manager of the Wabush Mines joint venture, has been examining the possibility of installing a manganese reduction plant and the consultant is recommending that the remaining test work be expedited. If economically feasible, the project could allow the current blend of pellet products to be produced until 2021. Capital investment required is about \$40 million.

The next step now is to establish a process whereby the government, the union, the town council and the operators all work together to identify opportunities for investment and how to move forward to ensure the continued viability of the Scully Mine into the future.

The report can be found at

<http://www.nr.gov.nl.ca/mines&en/publications/wabush-memo-v3.pdf>

CURRENT EXPLORATION PLAYS, NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR



For detailed information, please visit:
<http://www.nr.gov.nl.ca/mines&en/statistics/exp-overview.stm>

GEOLOGICAL FIELD PROJECTS 2006

MINERAL DEPOSITS SECTION

Andy Kerr will be undertaking an examination of gold occurrences in the area of east-central Newfoundland between Badger, Gander and the coast. This will be conducted by a 2-person party from a base in Lewisporte. Field work will synthesize knowledge of the gold deposits of this region and develop models for further exploration. A brief visit will also be made to western Labrador to continue an examination of nickel and platinum-group-elements commenced last year, and to assist local prospectors and exploration companies. The overall length of the field season will be about 3 months.

John Hinchey starts a new project directed at base-metal mineralization in the Tulks valley area of central Newfoundland. The area is close to the Duck Pond base-metal deposit presently under development, and also contains the recent Boomerang zinc-lead-copper discovery, in addition to numerous other base-metal occurrences. Field work will synthesize knowledge of the new discoveries and develop models to help guide further exploration in the region. The project will have a 3-month field season and will be carried out by a 2-person party from a base camp near Victoria Lake.

REGIONAL GEOLOGY SECTION

Lawson Dickson will be completing a study of the siltstones and limestones of the Indian Islands Group and associated units in east-central Newfoundland during a 1-month period. This area is geologically more complicated than previously interpreted, and these rocks also host several interesting gold prospects.

Alana Hinchey will be initiating a new bedrock-mapping project on the various units of the Upper Aillik Group and associated basement rocks in the vicinity of Makkovik, Labrador. This area is geologically known to host mineral showings including uranium, molybdenum and other metals. The 3-month detailed-mapping study should provide information on the age and origin of these mineral prospects, and would be carried out by a 2- to 3-person party.

Ian Knight will be continuing his detailed mapping of the sedimentary rocks in western Newfoundland, this summer, north of Port au Port, and also in the Corner Brook area. The Port au Port area is a significant region for petroleum exploration and also industrial minerals such as limestone and dolostone. Ian will spend three months in the field this summer with a 2-person field party.

Brian O'Brien will be completing a field study of the volcanic and sedimentary rocks of the Roberts Arm Group. These host significant base-metal showings and the former Gullbridge mine. Later, Brian will start a project on the mineralized volcanic rocks of the Catchers Pond Group which may be correlatives of the Roberts Arm Group. Overall, this will be a 3-month field season.

Sean O'Brien, in cooperation with Dr. Hans Hoffman and Dr. Art King, will be briefly examining the geology of Precambrian fossil sites in the Catalina-Port Union area. The fossils are among the best preserved soft-bodied remains in the world. This study will indicate their diversity and distribution and could lead to the area's becoming a renowned geological ecotourism site.

GEOCHEMISTRY, GEOPHYSICS AND TERRAIN SCIENCES SECTION

Jerry Ricketts will conduct mapping of granular aggregate on the Avalon Peninsula and in selected areas extending to Clarendville. Sand and gravel is an important resource and delineation of new deposits is critical in this area of the province, faced with chronic shortages of suitable material. This will be a 2-month, 2-person project.

Martin Batterson and *David Taylor* will conduct a 2-week helicopter-supported project investigating till geochemistry in the northern Burin Peninsula/Fortune Bay area, supplemented by ground-based sampling on the Burin Peninsula. This survey is based on promising results obtained during the 2005 field season. Surficial mapping will be conducted in areas of the Avalon Peninsula already sampled for till geochemistry. Part of the field season will also be spent evaluating hazard mapping methods in the northeast Avalon area. The overall field season will be of 3 months duration.

John McConnell, and *Jerry Ricketts* will upgrade the density and quality of lake-sediment geochemistry in selected areas of Labrador in a 5-week helicopter-supported project. Three areas have been selected, based on regional lake-sediment anomalies and estimation of mineral potential. In southern Labrador, between Mary's Harbour and Red Bay, uranium is the main commodity of interest. In central Labrador, sampling will take place close to Wilson Lake, where previous studies identified the potential for base-metal, gold and uranium mineralization. The third area lies in the Labrador Trough, east and northeast of Schefferville, where sampling will investigate the potential for base-metal mineralization and PGE.

BECOMING A PROSPECTOR IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

Generally, any person who is out looking for economic mineral deposits is prospecting. This is true regardless of age or level of training. Finding a significant deposit normally takes copious amounts of know how, hard work and luck, and ones luck can be improved significantly with proper training and work ethic.

The department has recognized that a well trained prospecting community is a fundamental link in the chain that leads to future mineral development. Approximately ten years ago the department introduced the "Genuine Prospector" designation. Being a Genuine Prospector entitles an individual to stake 30 claims on up to 5 licences within a year without having to submit a \$50 security deposit for each claim, and is renewable after five years. To become a Genuine Prospector, an individual must be a resident of the province; be at least nineteen years old; be seriously intending to undertake mineral prospecting activities; and has either successfully completed a recognized mineral prospecting training program or can demonstrate supervised and/or independent prospecting activities within the 12 months prior to making the application.



The department helps foster prospector education by supporting a 14-day comprehensive training course in basic prospecting skills. The tuition-based course is delivered

annually in late spring through the provincial community-college system. Newly trained prospectors have discovered a considerable number of significant prospects and have optioned properties to private-sector companies for further exploration and development. Also, junior companies have recognized this program as a way to train new and existing employees effectively and inexpensively.

The department recognizes that prospecting can be expensive. As a result, it provides direct financial assistance to prospectors through Prospector Assistance grants as part of the Mineral Incentive Program. Funding of up to \$6000 is available to approved applicants to help cover the cost of prospecting related expenses, thereby encouraging more people to become involved in prospecting.

It is a great way to see the great outdoors and at the same time, try your luck at finding that next "big discovery" that can turn into a new world-class deposit.

PROFILE OF A PROSPECTOR

Interest in prospecting has been growing in Labrador over the past few years. Recognizing this, the Department of Natural Resources in co-operation with the College of the North Atlantic has conducted a two-week prospector training course in Happy Valley-Goose Bay this summer.

A Labradorian who completed the prospector training course in Stephenville last year is Royle Normore, who lives in Lanse au Loop on Labrador's southeast coast. Royle was born in a small cottage hospital in Forteau, near Lanse au Loop, his home for the past 43 years.



Royle, always had an interest in the outdoors and during his childhood he spent many eventful days combing the beaches and climbing the hills around his community looking for new adventures and collecting new

rock and mineral specimens to add to his collection. As a teenager, he spent months salmon fishing and guiding tourists from all over the world who marveled at Labrador's vastness and splendid beauty. He got to see much more of the coastline and inland regions of Labrador and his passion for collecting artifacts, carvings and rocks continued to grow adding to a vast collection in his home.

Royle thought seriously about pursuing the Sciences at university, hoping that eventually he could also pursue his prospecting interest on a part time basis. He dreamed of being able to stake some mineral claims and find some precious metals or something of value. Eventually, he chose to study and pursue a career in Business and Public Administration.

Last year, his dream came true and he completed the prospector training course and whenever time permits he has been exploring areas of southeastern Labrador for precious and base metals, gemstones and dimension stone.

To sum it up in Royle's own words, "Our area is unexplored geologically speaking and now is an excellent time to make choices to develop our resources. The opportunities for markets are endless with upcoming road links to North America through the Quebec Lower North Shore. Potential for the sale of dimension stone, base metals, gemstones, hydro electricity, tourism, and knowledge are knocking on our doorstep."

APPOINTMENTS

DR. JOHN HINCHEY was hired in October 2005 as a Project Geologist in the Mineral Deposits Section of the Geological Survey. He will be carrying out a study of base-metal mineralization in the Tulks Valley area of central Newfoundland where several important prospects and deposits are being explored and developed. John recently completed his Ph.D. at the University of Ottawa.

MR. TONY BURGESS was appointed in November 2005 to the position of Manager of the Mineral Industry Analysis Section of the Mineral Development Division. He assumes the responsibility for managing and coordinating the economic and business research analysis and statistics function of the branch. Previously, Tony worked as a long-term analyst with the branch.

MR. BOB MCGUIRE was appointed in November 2005 to the position of Manager of the Engineering Analysis Section of the Mineral Development Division. He assumes the responsibility for managing and coordinating mineral development policy through the administration of the Mining Act. Previously Bob worked as a Mineral Development Engineer with the Branch. Bob is presently on leave and Mr. John Davis has been appointed to the position for the interim.

DR. LAWSON DICKSON was appointed in February 2006 to the Position of Senior Geologist, Regional Geology Section of the Geological Survey. He assumes management responsibilities for the bedrock-mapping and related activities carried out by the Section. Previously, Lawson was employed as a long-term Project Geologist who carried out bedrock mapping and industrial-mineral studies in the province.

DR. ALANA HINCHEY is the newest recruit to the Geological Survey, having been hired in March 2006 as a Project Geologist in the Regional Geology Section. She will be initiating a new mapping project in the Makkovik area of Labrador this summer, focusing on the Upper Aillik Group. Alana recently completed her Ph.D. at Carleton University in Ottawa.

MS. TRACY BARRON was appointed Director of Communications in March 2006. She is responsible for all media and communications for the department and minister. Tracy was previously Director of Communications with the departments of Transportation and Works, Fisheries and Aquaculture, and Government Services. Prior to that, she worked in the media for 15 years, primarily for The Telegram and CBC.

MR. SEAN O'BRIEN was appointed in May 2006 to the position of Senior Geologist, Geoscience Publications and Information Section. He assumes management responsibilities for the promotion of the province's geological resources through the publications, information materials and client-service activities of the Section. Previously Sean was employed as a long-term Project Geologist who carried out bedrock mapping and gold deposit studies in southern and eastern Newfoundland.

DR. RICHARD J. WARDLE was appointed on June 19, 2006 to the position of Assistant Deputy Minister, Mines (Acting). Dick brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to this position that he acquired through his tenure with the department since 1976. Over these years Dick has worked as a project geologist, senior geologist and a Mineral Policy Consultant.

MR. DEREK CONNOLLY started work in the department June 21, 2006 as Manager of Communications and Marketing, replacing Ed Moriarty. He was formerly policy advisor with the Dairy Farmers of Newfoundland and Labrador.

HON. KATHY DUNDERDALE, MHA for the District of Virginia Waters, was appointed Minister of Natural Resources on July 5th, 2006. Minister Dunderdale was elected to the provincial government in 2003 and since that time has served as Minister of Innovation, Trade and Rural Development, and Minister responsible for the Rural Secretariat. Minister Dunderdale is pleased to be taking on this new portfolio, and is committed to working with the staff of the department on the exciting projects and initiatives happening throughout the province.

PHOTO CREDITS

Cover; Karen Moyles, Voisey's Bay Nickel Company Ltd, Aur Resources Inc, Dept. of Natural Resources, TUC.

Inside; Voisey's Bay Nickel Company Ltd, Aur Resources, Dept. of Natural Resources, Iron Ore Company of Canada

UPCOMING EVENTS

Resource Investors Forum 2006
September 12-13, 2006
Fairmont Newfoundland, St. John's, NL
Contact: Newfoundland and Labrador
Chamber of Mineral Resources
Tel: (709) 722-9542
Email: director@nlmnr.ca
Website: www.investorsforum.ca/

The Conference of Metallurgists (COM 2006)
and the 36th Annual Hydrometallurgy Meeting
October 1-4, 2006
Montreal, Quebec
Contact: Brigitte Farah, Metsoc
Tel: (514) 939-2710, ext. 1329; Fax (514) 939-9160
Website: www.metsoc.org
Email: bfarah@cim.org

Blendon 18th Annual Canadian Conference
on Markets for Industrial Minerals
October 17-18, 2006
Vancouver, British Columbia
Tel: (250) 391-8820
Email: info@blendon.com

CIM Newfoundland Branch
Annual Conference and Trade Show
November 2-4, 2006
Delta St. John's Hotel and Conference Centre
This year's theme: "Meeting Global Demand"
Contact: Lawson Dickson
Tel: (709) 729-2453; Email: wld@zeppo.geosurv.gov.nl.ca
Contact: Len Mandville
Tel: (709) 729-6439; Email: lenmandville@gov.nl.ca

30th Annual Review of Activities
Department of Natural Resources, Mines Branch
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
November 2, 2006
Delta St. John's Hotel and Conference Centre
Contact: Norm Mercer
Tel: (709) 729-6193; Email: normmercerc@gov.nl.ca

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Deputy Minister.....(709) 729-2766
Assistant Deputy Minister.....(709) 729-2768

Director, Mineral Lands..... (709) 729-6425
Director, Mineral Development.... (709) 729-5851
Wabush Office..... (709) 282-3949

Director, Geological Survey..... (709) 729-2301
Goose Bay Office..... (709) 896-5162

Geoscience Publications and
Information.....(709) 729-3159

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Information and statistics quoted are from data provided by government and /or industry publications: for details, the reader should direct their enquiries to the Mineral Development Division of the Department of Natural Resources.