

## FOREWORD

### ***Geological Fieldwork 2008***

The provision of new geoscience data about British Columbia is aimed primarily at increasing mineral tenure acquisition and mineral exploration activity in the Province. The **British Columbia Geological Survey** (BCGS) presents here the results of 2008 field surveys and geoscience research in a 34<sup>th</sup> edition of *Geological Fieldwork*. Most articles are contributions by Survey staff to the understanding of the geology, geochemistry and mineral deposits of the Province. The volume also includes contributions about collaborative research with other organizations and projects completed by other professional geoscientists.

### ***British Columbia Geological Survey Successes***

New mineralization was discovered during mapping programs in the Chezacut, Princeton, Quesnel and 100 Mile House areas, which raises significantly the mineral potential of several underexplored areas in the Province.

The Survey has developed a new client-friendly database called 'Property File' to provide access to more than 100 000 documents. These unique reports, maps and notes span more than 100 years of exploration. Currently available online are 5200 documents, including the Falconbridge collection and 3000 mine plans.

The BCGS completed its first surficial geology and till sampling program in more than a decade, in the region west of Williams Lake that has been impacted by the mountain pine beetle.

Our online interface MapPlace and its supporting site now exceed 11 000 web pages. This interface is used 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by the exploration community worldwide and plays an essential and growing role in attracting investment to the Province.

Geological mapping near Kitimat confirmed the presence of a 30 km long volcanic belt with new potential to host massive sulphide deposits.

The Survey has started work towards producing value-added database products that use customized algorithms and computer software to automate interpretations. Work is currently focusing on defining catchment basins for provincial regional geochemical samples.

In a year of unprecedentedly rapid market developments across the industry, Survey staff, including those in the Vancouver and regional offices, contributed up-to-date expertise to decisions at all levels of government, responded to client inquiries in confidence, and reported on industry activity in the Province.

The Survey released data for the Terrace region in an interactive digital format with files formatted for MapPlace, Google Earth<sup>®</sup> and GIS programs.

The Survey continued its Geoscience Student Training Program for mentoring geology students. In fiscal year 2008–09, we hired more than 30 geoscience trainees, many of whom will go on to professional careers in industry.

Survey geologists were organizers and presenters at workshops on the pine beetle affected region and till sampling, and led a field trip on Vancouver Island for industry participants.

*D.V. Lefebure  
Chief Geologist  
British Columbia Geological Survey*