

FOREWORD

Geological Fieldwork 2010

The **British Columbia Geological Survey (BCGS)** presents here the results of 2010 field surveys and geoscience research in the thirty-sixth edition of **Geological Fieldwork**. The articles profile some of the considerable staff expertise housed in the Survey. The provision of new geoscience data about British Columbia is a key activity of the BCGS that leads to mineral tenure acquisition and increased mineral exploration activity in the Province. 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 from the Geoscience and Natural Gas Development Branch of the Ministry of Energy and other professional geoscientists.

Late in 2010, the government of British Columbia reorganized the natural resource sector ministries. The BCGS moved to the new Ministry of Forests, Mines and Lands along with the Mineral Policy Branch, while the regional geologists and the remaining Mines and Minerals Division staff of the former Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources moved to the new Ministry of Natural Resource Operations.

British Columbia Geological Survey Successes

- The BCGS, in partnership with Geoscience BC, continued with the second year of a surficial geology and till geochemistry sampling program in the Colleymount map area southeast of Houston. The aim of the fieldwork is two-fold: to reconstruct the region's glacial and ice-flow history and assess the economic potential of covered bedrock.
- The second season of the North Coast project, jointly delivered with the Geological Survey of Canada (GSC), covered a map area of 30 by 50 kilometres. Mapping in 2010 focused on the southern end of the Alexander terrane near Klemtu. One highlight of this work is that the Grenville Channel fault is a mid-Cretaceous sinistral fault of regional extent (>150 km).
- The Iskut River project followed up on the 2009 summer program with mapping in the Hoodoo Mountain area north of the Rock and Roll volcanogenic massive sulphide deposit. This project is a partnership between Pacific North West Capital Corp., the University of Victoria, the GSC, and the BCGS.
- The new Kutcho Creek project is a two-year bedrock mapping program initiated by the BCGS in 2010 in partnership with the Geological Survey of Canada and Kutcho Mining Corp.
- The BCGS and the GSC began collaborating on a multi-year province-wide study of rare metals. This project falls under the renewed Targeted Geoscience Initiative program (TGI-4) of the GSC.
- 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 world wide and plays an essential and growing role in attracting investment to the province.
- Sixteen mineral resource assessments were completed to facilitate treaty negotiations and government land use planning.
- The Property File database now features more than 25,000 documents online.
- MINFILE continues to improve with 171 MINFILE occurrences updated and 20 new ones identified.
- Staff of the BC Mineral Development Office in Vancouver hosted international investor delegations and led the mining Asia Investment Mission in November.
- The BCGS initiated a new Emeritus Scientist program with two new members in 2010.
- In 2010, the BCGS restarted its 8 member Advisory Subcommittee after a 6-year hiatus. The subcommittee includes 4 industry representatives from Geoscience's BC Technical Advisory Committee and 4 independent industry members that together provide advice on the technical activities of the Survey.
- Survey geologists were key presenters at conferences and workshops around the province including Roundup, KEG, Minerals South, Minerals North, Smither's Rock Talk, and led multiple industry field trips to the North Vancouver Island, Nechako, and Merritt areas.
- The BCGS hosted a sold-out International Workshop on the Geology of Rare Metals in Victoria on Nov. 9th and 10th. The workshop was held in lieu of a fall BCGS Open House.

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