

## FOREWORD

### ***Geological Fieldwork 2011***

This is the thirty-seventh edition of **Geological Fieldwork**, a volume of high quality peer-reviewed technical papers that presents the results of field surveys and geoscience research conducted by the **British Columbia Geological Survey** (BCGS) in 2011. Collectively, these papers demonstrate the breadth of staff expertise and our many research partners highlight the organization's collaborative nature. The release of new geoscience data about British Columbia is a key activity of the BCGS and it leads to mineral tenure acquisition and increased mineral exploration activity in the Province. This activity, in turn, directly aids in the discovery of new mines that provide significant economic benefits to all British Columbians. Most articles are contributions by Survey staff to the understanding of the geology, geochemistry, and mineral deposits of the Province. The volume also includes several contributions from other professional geoscientists that contain new data of interest to the exploration community.

Early in 2011, the government of British Columbia reorganized the natural resource sector ministries again and the BCGS moved to the expanded Ministry of Energy and Mines (MEM) from the Ministry of Forests, Mines and Lands (MFML). This latter Ministry was merged with the Ministry of Natural Resource Operations (MNRO) to become the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (MFLNRO). The BCGS also underwent several staff changes in 2011 including the retirement of Dr. David Lefebure as Chief Geologist after many years of dedicated service. He was replaced by Dr. Stephen Rowins, who joined the BCGS in 2009 as the Director of Cordilleran Geoscience.

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

- The BCGS, in partnership with Geoscience BC, undertook a major bedrock mapping and mineral assessment project in the Dease Lake area. The project is part of the larger QUEST-Northwest initiative, a program launched by Geoscience BC in early 2011 to stimulate mineral exploration along the Highway 37 corridor.
- A series of five new 1:50 000 scale geoscience maps covering northern Vancouver Island were released.
- Release of the entire Regional Geochemical Survey (RGS) database of 61 425 samples as Geofile 2011-7.
- The third season of the North Coast Edges project, jointly delivered with the Geological Survey of Canada (GSC), focused on regional-scale mapping along the Grenville Channel between Porcher Island and Klemtu.
- The third year of the Iskut River Edges project followed up on previous summer programs with mapping in the Hoodoo Mountain area north of the Rock and Roll volcanogenic massive sulphide deposit.
- The second year of the Kutcho Creek project, a two-year partnership with the GSC and Kutcho Mining Corp. focused on mapping the western portion of the Kutcho assemblage.
- A multi-year province-wide study of specialty (rare) metals continued under the renewed Targeted Geoscience Initiative program (TGI-4) of the GSC.
- Started a TGI-4 project in collaboration with the GSC and the University of British Columbia targeting potential "orogenic" Ni-Cu-PGE systems in British Columbia.
- Our online interface MapPlace and its supporting site is used 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, by the global exploration community.
- The Property File database now features more than 31 100 documents online.
- MINIFLE continues to improve with 300 MINFILE occurrences updated and 100 new ones identified.
- Staff of the BC Mineral Development Office in Vancouver hosted international investor delegations and participated in the Asia Investment Mission to Hong Kong, China and India.
- Survey geologists were key presenters at conferences and workshops including Roundup, KEG, GACMAC, CIM, Goldschmidt, NWMA, Minerals South, Yukon Geoscience Forum, Minerals North, and the Smither's Rock Talk.

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