

Preface

Geological Fieldwork 2015

The 41st edition of Geological Fieldwork is a volume of peer-reviewed papers that present the results of geological research conducted by the British Columbia Geological Survey (BCGS) and its partners in 2015. The papers address various aspects of British Columbia's geology, with many highlighting the mineral wealth of the Province. The Geological Fieldwork publication is one way that the BCGS helps the minerals industry unlock this wealth by providing comprehensive, objective, and up-to-date geoscience information at no cost.

The BCGS undertook a wide variety of geoscience projects in 2015, many of which were done in collaboration with partners to maximize the benefits that come from combined staff and resources. Major partners in 2015 include the Geological Survey of Canada, the University of Victoria, and the Canadian Mining Innovation Council. The Survey also completed many smaller projects in collaboration with faculty and students from universities, with geologists from exploration companies, and with consultants from other geoscience agencies including Geoscience BC.

As is evident from the Table of Contents, this volume contains papers that range from regional mapping of magmatic arcs, to site-specific investigations of mineral deposits, to detailed studies of indicator minerals collected from samples of glacial till. The differing scales and diversity of these projects reflects the growing capacity of the Survey to tackle increasingly complex geological problems posed by the Canadian Cordillera. In 2015, collaboration between the BCGS and Geological Survey of Canada focused on two major programs: the second iteration of the five-year Geo-mapping for Energy and Minerals program (GEM 2) and the fifth iteration of the Targeted Geoscience Initiative (TGI-5) program. The GEM 2 program saw Survey geologists investigating the bedrock geology and crustal architecture of northern British Columbia to better understand the genesis and distribution of Jurassic and Triassic porphyry copper-gold-molybdenum deposits. The TGI-5 projects are largely at the planning stage, although the two-day "Symposium on Critical and Strategic Materials" held in Victoria in November will form the basis of a new TGI-5 project that will investigate these materials. The Symposium immediately followed the annual BCGS Open House and brought together an international group of research scientists and industry professionals to discuss materials of high economic or trade importance (hence 'critical') and those of importance to a nation's security (hence 'strategic'). The BCGS organized the Symposium, which was co-sponsored by the Pacific Section of the Geological Association of Canada (GAC-PAC) and the Geological Survey of Canada, and produced a 273-page proceedings volume of extended abstracts (BCGS Paper 2015-3).

January 2015 also marked the opening of the 'BC Pavilion' at the Vancouver Convention Centre, the new home of the Mineral Exploration Roundup. Designed by Survey staff to function as a one-stop venue for Roundup delegates, the Pavilion affords the Survey and its sister government agencies the opportunity to present program highlights and new geoscience information in addition to assisting delegates with permitting and tenure issues.

The BCGS's extensive rock and geochemical archive was moved in the fall of 2015 to a refurbished building on Victoria's waterfront. The new building is larger and easier to access. This will facilitate the more rapid retrieval of rock samples and geochemical pulps for future re-analysis projects.

Finally, 2015 will be remembered as another year of staff renewal with the addition of Bram van Straaten and Luke Ootes, who joined the BCGS as Project Geologists with expertise in copper and gold metallogeny, respectively.



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