Geological Fieldwork 1985

a summary of field activities and current research by the geological branch, mineral resources division

Paper 1986 – 1



Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources Hon. Stephen Rogers, Minister

British Columbia Cataloguing in Publication Data Main entry under title: Geological fieldwork. -- 1974-

(Paper, ISSN 0226-9430)
Annual.
Issuing body varies: 1974-1980, Geological
Division; 1981-, Geological Branch.
Subseries, 1979-, of: Paper (British Columbia.
Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources)

"A summary of field activities of the Geological Division, Mineral Resources Branch."

ISSN 0381-243X = Geological fieldwork

1. Geology - British Columbia - Periodicals. 2. Geology, Economic - British Columbia - Periodicals. 3. Mines and mineral resources - British Columbia - Periodicals. I. British Columbia. Geological Division. II. British Columbia. Geological Branch. III. British Columbia. Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources. IV. Series: Paper (British Columbia. Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources)

QE187.G46 1974 557.11'05

FOREWORD

In July 1985 British Columbia and Canada signed a \$10 million, five-year Mineral Development Agreement (MDA) to assist mineral exploration and development in the province. Under the terms of the agreement, \$7.2 million will be spent over the next five years to carry out geological, geochemical, and geophysical surveys. Due to the timing of the signing only \$380 000 was spent on field projects in 1985; mostly on expanding and providing full field support to existing Geological Branch field programs. Major field programs were undertaken in 1985 in the Alice Arm area (see Dawson and Alldrick) studying stratigraphy, structure, and controls of mineralization; in the Vavenby area (see Schiarizza) studying the northward extension and the massive sulphide potential of the Eagle Bay Formation; and in the Chilko Lake area (see McLaren) studying geology, geochemistry, and resource potential. In addition, the Regional Geochemical Stream Sediment program was boosted to cover two full 1:250 000 map sheets (see Boronowski and Johnson). Projects reported on in the volume that received MDA funding are identified in the text.

In the 1986 field season, MDA funding will greatly expand our field program, and we will initiate a program of regional 1:50 000-scale geological mapping.

Some 1985 field projects by Geological Branch staff on active exploration 'plays' will be reported on in the publication *Exploration in British Columbia*, 1985. Beginning with the 1985 volume, *Exploration in British Columbia* will be expanded in scope to include field descriptions by Branch geologists of selected mineral deposits that are undergoing exploration. Our aim is to publish this volume by the following June after each exploration year.

It is hoped that by timely publication of the annual volumes, Geological Fieldwork, A Summary of Field Activities and Current Research and Exploration in British Columbia, that the exploration industry and the interested public will be kept well informed on field and research projects undertaken by Geological Branch staff and on cooperative projects with the University of British Columbia and other universities in Canada.

This volume was edited and compiled by Bill McMillan. Bill's enthusiasm and dedication to this task is gratefully acknowledged.

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