



**BRITISH
COLUMBIA**

**Ministry of Employment and Investment
Energy and Minerals Division
Geological Survey Branch**

GEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK 1997

**A Summary of Field Activities
and Current Research**

PAPER 1998-1



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FOREWORD

Geological Fieldwork: A Summary of Fieldwork and Current Research, 1997 is the twenty-third edition of this annual publication. It contains reports of Geological Survey Branch activities and projects during 1997. The base budget of the Branch for the 1997-98 fiscal year was \$4.6 million, down from \$6.6 million the previous year. The Branch also received \$135 000 from the Corporate Resource Inventory Initiative to maintain the Mineral Potential database of the province and for mineral potential studies of the Cassiar-Iskut-Stikine planning area. In addition, a new Geoscience Partnership Program with external clients was initiated in 1997. Results of the Moyie Partnership are reported on in this volume.

The contents of this year's volume reflect the emphasis of Branch programs. Highlights were:

- Continuation of the Nechako Plateau NATMAP project, which is a collaborative effort with the Geological Survey of Canada and various universities. The focus of GSB work is the Babine porphyry belt with its important mineral potential;
- Regional geochemical sampling of the Mesilinka River Map Sheet (94C) in east central British Columbia;
- Year 2 of the multidisciplinary Eagle Bay Project which is utilizing surficial geology and geochemistry to look for clues for buried mineral deposits in the Adams Plateau area;
- The Moyie industrial partnership project which will result in new 1:50 000 scale compilation maps for areas underlain by the Aldridge Formation;
- The Devonian-Mississippian VMS project which continued to test potential extensions of strata that host the Kudze Kayah and Wolverine deposits in northern British Columbia; and
- The McConnell Range regional mapping project which extended existing coverage of the Toodoggone volcanic belt southward from the area of the Kemess deposit.

A variety of mineral deposits and deposit types are profiled in this year's volume, including a stratabound zinc deposit in the Caribou terrane, an epithermal gold deposit in northern-most British Columbia, nickel mineralization in the Turnagain Alaskan ultramafic complex, sediment-hosted gold mineralization near Watson Bar and mineral occurrences near Bella Coola. There is also a report on Tertiary mineralization in the Queen Charlotte Islands and results of a study of the Slocan camp, as well as three reports on mineral deposit studies and age dating from MDRU at the University of British Columbia.

The Mineral Potential project completed coverage of the Queen Charlotte Islands, hence the province is now completely covered at 1:250 000 scale. Much information from the project is posted on the Ministry Internet site (address: <http://ei.gov.bc.ca/geology>). The intent is to have geology, mineral potential estimates, MINFILE, mineral titles information and other data available on the Internet. Through the Map Guide viewer (downloadable at the site) data posted may be viewed and manipulated. The geology and some associated datasets may also be downloaded in Arc Export (EOO) format from the site.

The Branch is now employing print-on-demand technology for its geoscience publications. Material will also be posted on the Ministry Internet site for viewing or downloading. Production of Geological Fieldwork to the camera-ready stage has been done in Microsoft WORD by the authors using a template prepared by Brian Grant and updated by Dave Lefebure and Bill McMillan. Thanks are due to Dave Lefebure and Bill McMillan for editing and guiding the process, and Dorthe Jakobsen for administrative backup to ensure completion of this report on schedule.

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Geological Survey Branch

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