

# THE COMMITTEE OF PROVINCIAL GEOLOGISTS

## Chairman's Report, 1990

The Committee of Provincial Geologists met twice in the past year: on March 11 in Toronto, at the annual convention of the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada, and on August 27, during the Mines Ministers Conference in Winnipeg.

The Committee's brief to the Mines Ministers Conference in Sudbury in 1989 stressed the importance of cooperation between provincial and federal geological surveys. Ministers accepted the Committee's recommendation that federal and provincial geologists work toward improved coordination, and directed that a report on progress in this area be presented to Deputy Ministers at the 1990 conference. Major progress has been achieved in the past year on two fronts, as reported at the Winnipeg conference: the development of mechanisms for cooperation between individual provincial surveys and the Geological Survey of Canada, and the initiation of a National Geoscience Mapping Program (NATMAP).

Following the Sudbury meeting, discussions on cooperation in geoscience were held between the Geological Survey of Canada and most provincial and territorial geological surveys. These meetings reviewed activities proposed for 1989-1990 by both surveys for the individual province and territory, and discussed general mechanisms for federal-provincial cooperation. In some cases (Newfoundland, Manitoba, Alberta, British Columbia, Yukon) the meetings led to the development of draft principles for cooperation between the federal and provincial survey. The Alberta Geological Survey and the Geological Survey of Canada have finalized and signed principles of cooperation. Draft principles will be further discussed at the next round of meetings in the other provinces.

Representatives of the Committee of Provincial Geologists participated in the March 8-10, 1990 NATMAP Workshop convened by the Geological Survey of Canada in Toronto. The Committee participated as well in subsequent discussions on this coordinated approach to geological mapping in Canada at the National Geological Survey Committee meeting (March 13, 1990), and at the inaugural meeting of the NATMAP steering committee, held on June 25 at the headquarters of the Ontario Geological Survey. Good progress has been made in formulating the framework under which NATMAP could be implemented, and discussion of pilot projects to be delivered in 1991 is proceeding.

Other activities of the Committee in 1990 included publication of the *Provincial Geologists Journal*, continued liaison with the Prospectors and Developers Association, and cooperation with the Geological Survey of Canada, through the National Geological Surveys Committee, on a number of projects of mutual interest.

Volume seven of the *Provincial Geologists Journal* was published in March. In addition to the usual information on provincial and territorial geoscience organizations, programs, and expenditures, volume seven included a review of the status of geoscience information systems in Canadian geological surveys, and a compilation of geoscience map symbols used in Canada. These two papers report on projects initiated through the National Geological Surveys Committee. The Journal, as well, published an open letter from the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada, in which the Association outlines its concerns with access to land and the availability of geoscience information.

The Committee again participated in the annual Prospectors and Developers Association Convention in Toronto, organizing, with the assistance of the PDA, the Provincial Activities Session and geological displays in the "provincial room". Seven papers were presented at the Provincial Activities Session:

1. The Golden Fleece and Gold Exploration in British Columbia – Renaissance of an Old Prospecting Tool – P.F. Matysek, British Columbia Geological Survey Branch

2. The New Reality of Exploration and Development of Earth Resources in Alberta: Joint Work for Mutual Benefit and Information Transfer – J. Dixon, Alberta Research Council
3. Saskatchewan Diamonds - A New Reality – M. Gent\*, C.T. Harper, P. Guliov, and R. MacDonald, Saskatchewan Energy and Mines
4. Roles du Gouvernement du Quebec dans le processus de renouvellement des Reserves Minerale: Focus sur Chibougamau – R.Y. Lamarche, Ministere de l'Energie et des Ressources, Gouvernement du Quebec
5. Implications of the Southwest Nova Scotia Tin Domain for Tin Metallogeny in the Meguma Terrane, Nova Scotia – D.J. Kontak\*, G.A. O'Reilly, and A.K. Chatterjee, Nova Scotia Department of Mines and Energy
6. Volcanological Setting of the Brunswick Massive Sulphide Deposits, Northern New Brunswick – S. McCutcheon, New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources and Energy
7. Mineral Potential of Labrador: An Exploration Frontier for the 1990's – H.S. Swinden\*, R.J. Wardle, and P.H. Davenport, Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Mines and Energy

Discussion continued between the Committee and the PDA on a wide variety of subjects, including the requirements of the industry for access to geoscientific data, the public image of the mineral industry, and the availability of land for exploration.

The National Geological Surveys Committee, including representation from the Geological Survey of Canada as well as all of the provincial and territorial geological surveys, maintained subcommittees investigating standardization in various aspects of geoscience, including geoscience information systems, aeromagnetic surveys, and geological map symbols. Reports of these subcommittees are published in the *Provincial Geologists Journal* as they become available. The NGSC will also play a major role in the development of the National Geoscience Mapping Program (NATMAP), coordinating the activities of the NATMAP steering committee.

Dr. Jan Boon, who represented the Alberta Geological Survey on the committee since 1985, resigned in 1990. The committee thanks Jan for his active participation and wishes him well in the future. We welcome Dr. R.S. Harrison as the new representative of the Alberta Survey.

\*\*Denotes speaker