

GEOFILES - MICROFICHE PROJECT

by

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 Publications and Information Section

The Mineral Development Division maintains a geological and mineral resource assessment file system commonly referred to as the "geofiles". The geofiles presently consist of approximately 8,500 geological and geochemical reports, maps, journal articles and mineral assessment files, making them the largest and most comprehensive single collection of geoscience documents about Newfoundland and Labrador.

As a result of the high level of mineral exploration activity during the late 1970's - early 1980's throughout the province, the amount of new data submitted increased substantially. New information is now available on many of the old and also numerous new mineral occurrences in the province. Much more is now known about the geology and mineral potential of various regions both on the island and in Labrador.

The Mineral Development Division has also conducted a large number of field projects over the past few years. This has resulted in the publication of many new geological reports, maps and open files as well as the results of numerous geochemical surveys and surficial and aggregate resource studies.

Mining and exploration companies, prospectors, geotechnical and consultant firms, government agencies, universities, libraries and the general public are continually making use of the geofiles and requesting information from them. Requests have nearly tripled in the past few years.

During the past four years, the Publications and Information Section has been putting all the geofiles on microfiche. This provides a much more efficient system of maintaining the geofiles. Requests for information are processed more rapidly and easily, with relatively inexpensive charges for microfiche.

The microfiche project involves daily filming of batches of files. The files are cross-checked before filming for quality, content and reproducibility. Two microfiche originals are made and catalogued for each file. Filing follows the standard N.T.S. system. Duplicates can be copied from the original fiche upon demand. One set of

fiche originals is stored offsite at the Torbay Core Library for security and protection from fire.

Microfiche sets of geofiles covering all 1:250,000 N.T.S. blocks in insular Newfoundland are available at a total cost of \$1,122. Response to this project so far has been excellent, with several companies purchasing all available microfiche sets.

In 1983, some work was done on the Newfoundland General Series of geofiles. Microfiche duplicates are available for 226 (of about 1350) geofiles from this series.

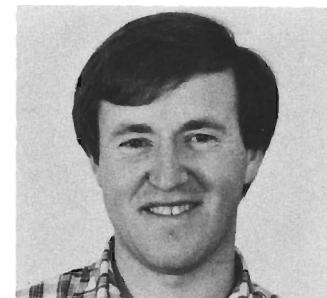
During 1983, we also started placing the mineral occurrence reports on microfiche and making them available. Presently, mineral occurrence reports for N.T.S. 2E, 12B and 12H in Newfoundland and N.T.S. 13K and 14C in Labrador are available. Further releases will be made as staff in the Mineral Deposits Section complete new N.T.S. areas.

For information, please contact Norman Mercer (709) 737-3159. We look forward to your comments and suggestions.

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