PREFACE

The 2012 edition of Current Research reflects the wide range of activities undertaken by the Geological Survey both in the field and in-house. New long-term funding for geoscience mapping, announced in Budget 2011, enabled the Geological Survey to carry out one new field project on the Island, while at the same time maintaining the high level of the ongoing projects; the upcoming field season will see additional new projects.

Field studies on the Island include a report on lithogeochemical signatures and copper mineralization in sediments in the western Avalon Zone; gold mineralization in the western margin of the Avalon Zone, in central Newfoundland, and at the Viking property in northwest Newfoundland; as well as geochronology studies of mineralized granites in southern Newfoundland. In Labrador, a review of the metallogenic models reflecting the rare-earth element deposit at Strange Lake in northwest Labrador was undertaken.

There was only one regional field-mapping project this year due to staff departures; other research staff were scheduled to write project-completion reports. The bedrock-mapping project detailed the stratigraphy and sedimentology of the Random Island map area in eastern Newfoundland. The Geological Survey of Canada in collaboration with the University of Ottawa have contributed a paper on the geology of Lundberg Zone, part of the historic Buchans Mine area.

A lake-sediment and water-sampling project was carried out in the Alexis River area of southeastern Labrador. A surficial-mapping and till-geochemistry study in support of the development of mineral-exploration strategies in a drift environment was carried out in the Carmanville–Wesleyville area. An aggregate-mapping project to find alternative sources of construction and road gravel in the Centreville–Wareham–Trinity area in western Bonavista Bay was carried out. The history of glacial Lake Shanadithit and its implications for drift prospecting are described. A new project started this year, funded mainly by the Office of Climate Change, Energy Efficiency and Emissions Trading (CCEEET), is a coastal monitoring project that looked at some of the vulnerable coastal localities and municipalities on the Island.

In-house projects reported on include an update on the Mineral Occurrence Data System (MODS) and also an update on the Core-Storage Program of the Mineral Lands Division.

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Director

Readers who would like to write a rebuttal to, or discussion of, any report contained in this volume are invited to submit it to the editor by November 1, 2012, to be considered for inclusion in Report 2013-1.