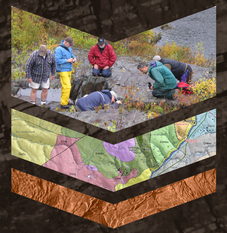
Natural Resources

Geology Matters 2012

Experts
on the ground



Opportunities
on the ground

Mineral Resources Branch

NOVA SCOTIA

Open File Illustration ME 2012-007

Gold: A Nova Scotia Treasure

A Public Exhibition Celebrating the Gold Mining Heritage of Nova Scotia

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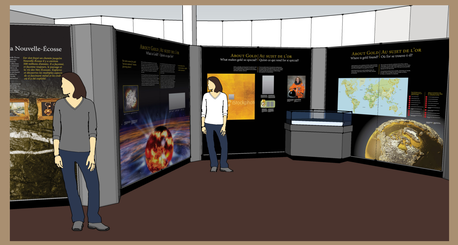
Few things affect humans as does gold. It has shaped societies and wars have been fought over it. Discovery of it has caused mass migrations. We adorn ourselves with gold and it serves as an anchor to our monetary systems. We search for it incessantly.

Gold: A Nova Scotia Treasure *is a public exhibition that will celebrate the impact gold has had, and still has, on Nova Scotia society. Not only has it had a profound impact on our mining history since its first discovery in 1860, it plays a role in many aspects of our daily lives. Like everyone else on this earth, we worship gold, horde it, reward ourselves with it and use it daily in so many common applications.*

Beginning in November 2012, ***Gold: A Nova Scotia Treasure*** *will be visiting museums and other venues about the province. Come check it out in person or visit the exhibition's website edition through the Virtual Museum of Canada website.*

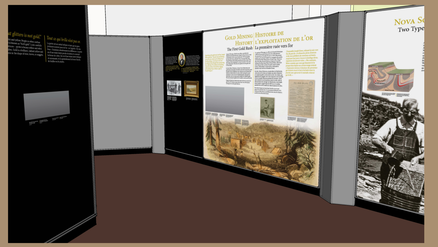
Coming to a Place Near You

Nova Scotia Museum of Industry, Stellarton: Mid-November - December 2012.
Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, Halifax: January 18 - April 2013.
Nova Scotia Museum of Industry, Stellarton: May - August 2013.
Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History, Halifax: September - December 2013.
Cape Breton University Art Gallery, Sydney: February - April 2014.
Sherbrooke Village, Sherbrooke (Tentative): May - September 2014.
N. S. Sport Hall of Fame, Halifax (Gold as Reward only): May - September 2014.
Moncton Museum, Moncton N.B.: September - December 2014.

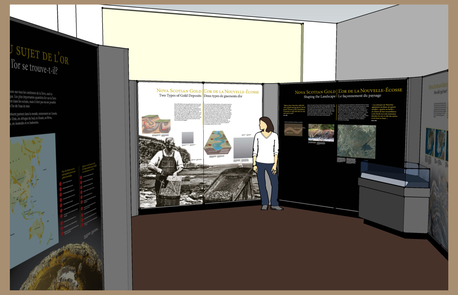


The exhibition provides a background on the natural history of gold, how it was created, where it's from and where it's found globally and in Nova Scotia.

Gold: A Nova Scotia Treasure is an initiative originated and headed jointly between the Nova Scotia Museum of Industry and the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia. The Steering Committe also has members from the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources, the Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History, and the Nova Scotia Archives and Records Management. The exhibition draws heavily on art works, artifacts, mineral specimens and historic photography contained within provincial government and private collections that relate to gold and gold mining. Nova Scotia's past gold mining heritage forms the centrepiece of the exhibit, but the exhibition also examines how gold mining, and gold in general, has impacted all aspects of Nova Scotia's culture.



Nova Scotia has experienced three separate gold rushes since the first discovery of gold was made at Mooseland, Halifax County in 1860. The exhibition examines our gold mining history by way of explaining each gold rush in turn and what factors contributed to each.



The difference between hard rock and placer gold mining is explained and the fact that both of these mining methods have been used in the province.

How the forces of nature and continental collision formed our province is explained. The formation of gold-bearing quartz veins is part and parcel of these geological processes and just where these veins occur in the province is shown.

Gold: A Nova Scotia Treasure
Website Version

Gold: A Nova Scotia Treasure will be presented both as a physical exhibit that travels throughout the province and also as a virtual exhibit with its own website address produced by way of a grant from the Virtual Museum of Canada. The website version of the exhibit will roughly follow the format of the physical exhibition, but will provide much more detailed information for those interested in really exploring the topics in depth.