

Geoscience Editing and Publishing

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Publications play an important role in delivering geoscience information for the Minerals and Energy Branch, educating the public, and conveying the professional image established by the branch. A publication is often the first chance we have to make an impression on someone who comes into contact with the Department of Natural Resources.

Staff of the geoscience editing and publishing group work toward the goal of consistent high-quality, timely, and cost-effective reporting on activities carried out by the Minerals and Energy Branch. All geoscientists in the Branch are required to publish accounts of their work. These accounts may be published as scientific reports, memoirs or maps, or they may best be communicated in less technical publications such as information circulars or newsletters. The Branch newsletter *Nova Scotia Minerals Update* is produced quarterly and distributed to approximately 1600 subscribers around the world. The newsletter and many other publications are also converted to HyperText Markup Language (HTML) or Acrobat® PDF and are available on-line as part of the Minerals and Energy Branch web site. These activities ensure that current geoscience information on Nova Scotia is readily available to enhance public awareness and to promote the mineral resources of the province.

The role of the geoscience editing and publishing group in the Geoscience Information Services Section can be roughly divided into two parts. The first part involves editing a manuscript (report, article or map) to the author's satisfaction, while at the same time applying the branch standards for style and content in the interest of our readers. Editor Doug MacDonald and contract editor Kathy Mills carry out this work for the Minerals and Energy Branch. The second part involves producing a published document. The editors work with word processing operators Barb MacDonald and Susan Saunders to produce publications.

Editing

In the Minerals and Energy Branch, all scientific publications must be reviewed by at least one scientist who has not contributed to the research being presented. This process is called peer review and finding a suitable reviewer is usually the editor's first task after receiving a manuscript. The editor assigns the manuscript to a

reviewer who is experienced in the field of study being presented by the author. The editor supplies the reviewer with detailed guidelines to direct the review toward the most critical scientific aspects of the manuscript. The reviewer's comments are then given to the author so that the manuscript can be revised in an effort to improve its scientific content. Open File Reports and Open File Maps are used to release information as soon as possible, and may be approved for publication after peer review, revision by the author and minimal editing.

Resubmission of the manuscript by the author after peer review initiates the next step in the editorial process, often called substantive editing. This step may require re-writing parts of the document, re-organizing sections, and generally suggesting ways that authors can improve the presentation of their research for the intended readers. The relationship between author and editor is most important during this phase of substantive editing.

Another aspect of the editorial process is often referred to as copy editing. This function requires careful attention to every detail in a document in order to meet the Branch publication standards. For the Minerals and Energy Branch, these standards reflect those used by the Geological Survey of Canada. Some standards, such as consistent capitalization, spelling and punctuation, are easily applied. Others may require much more time and effort, such as accurate citation and listing of references, and making sure that tables, maps and drawings meet the appropriate specifications.

Publishing

The final appearance of a publication is largely determined by the publication team, which includes an editor and a word-processing operator. In the age of computer-based publication, the job title 'word processing operator' is a throw-back to the days of the first machine to replace typewriters, the word processor. This function now consists of preparing camera-ready (or Internet-ready) manuscripts for publication, and involves words, figures, tables and other design elements that are electronically composed using a variety of publishing applications, such as Word®, WordPerfect®, Publisher® and Acrobat®. Manuscripts travel back and forth between the editor and the word

processing operator many times before they are ready to be published, either on paper or on-line.

The following publications were released in 2000:

Contribution Series

CS ME 2000-1 Petroleum system of the Carboniferous sediments of onshore Nova Scotia, by P. K. Mukhopadhyay, D. J. MacDonald, P. J. Harvey, R. C. Boehner and R. J. Ryan; *in* International Journal of Coal Geology, v. 43, p. 137-139.

CS ME 2000-2 Zn-Pb mineralization associated with a mafic dyke at Cheverie, Hants County, Nova Scotia: implication for Carboniferous metallogeny, by D. J. Kontak, K. Ansdell and D. A. Archibald; *in* Atlantic Geology, v. 36, p. 7-26.

Information Circular

IC ME 56 A users guide to the "One Window" process for mine development approvals, compiled by Mineral Development and Policy Section, 34 p.

IC ME 60 Properties Available for Option in Nova Scotia, January 2000, 55 pages.

Maps

Map ME 2000-1 Geological map of the Province of Nova Scotia, compiled by J. D. Keppie, scale 1:500 000.

Map ME 2000-2 Enhanced aeromagnetic and digital elevation map of eastern Nova Scotia, compiled by M. S. King, scale 1:125 000.

Newsletter

Nova Scotia Minerals Update, volume 17, numbers 1, 2, 3 and 4.

Open File Illustration

OFI ME 2000-1 Active mining operations in Nova Scotia, compiled by Mineral Development and Policy Section.

Open File Maps

OFM ME 2000-1 Land designation and ownership in Nova Scotia, compiled by D. B. Hopper, F. J. Bonner and B. E. Fisher, scale 1:500 000.

OFM ME 2000-2 Map of active mines in Nova Scotia, compiled by I. M. MacLellan, scale 1:1 000 000.

OFM ME 2000-3 Preliminary geological map of the Wolfville-Windsor area, Hants and Kings Counties, Nova Scotia (NTS 21H/01 and parts of 21A/16 C and D), compiled by R. G. Moore, S. A. Ferguson, R. C. Boehner and C. M. Kennedy, scale 1:50 000.

OFM ME 2000-4 Mineral resource land-use map of Nova Scotia, compiled by D. B. Hopper, F. J. Bonner, B. E. Fisher and A. N. Murphy. Released as 89 individual 1:50 000 scale NTS map sheets.

OFM ME 2000-6 Mineral rights disposition map for the Province of Nova Scotia, compiled by B. E. Fisher, I. M. MacLellan and A. S. Wenning, scale 1:500 000.

OFM ME 2000-7 Designated underground gas storage exploration areas in the Province of Nova Scotia, compiled by B. E. Fisher, I. M. MacLellan and A. S. Wenning, scale 1:500 000.

OFM ME 2000-8 Geothermal resource areas in the Province of Nova Scotia, compiled by B. E. Fisher, I. M. MacLellan and A. S. Wenning, scale 1:500 000.

Open File Reports

OFR ME 2000-1 NTS location, author and citation index to Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources, Minerals and Energy Branch assessment reports, 1996-1999, compiled by P. D. McCulloch, S. Marshall, N. A. Lyttle and J. S. Saunders, 1999, 116 p.

OFR ME 2000-2 Mineralogical analyses of till samples from northern Nova Scotia, compiled by R. R. Stea, 200 p.

OFR ME 2000-3 Limestones and dolomites of Nova Scotia, Part 3, Colchester and Halifax Counties, by D. A. Murray, 181 p.

Reports

Report ME 2000-1 Minerals and Energy Branch Report of Activities 1999, eds. D. R. MacDonald and K. A. Mills, 268 p.

Report ME 2000-2 Mining Matters for Nova Scotia 2000: Opportunities for economic development, ed. D. R. MacDonald, 42 p.