

Geoscience Editing and Publishing

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Publications play an important role in delivering geoscience information for the Mineral Resources 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 Mineral Resources 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 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 carries out this work for the Minerals and Energy Branch. The second part involves producing a published document. The editor works with desktop publishing technicians 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

geoscientist 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.

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 Mineral Resources 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 desktop publishing technician. This function 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 Microsoft Word® and Publisher®, Corel WordPerfect®, and Adobe Acrobat®. Manuscripts travel back and forth between the editor and the desktop publishing technician many times before they are ready to be published, either on paper or on-line.

The following publications were released in 2002:

Contribution Series

CS ME 2002-1 Fires Sweep Across the Mid-Cretaceous Landscape of Nova Scotia, by A. C. Scott, R. R. Stea, 2002; *in* *Geoscientist*, v. 12, p. 4-6.

CS ME 2002-2 Ar⁴⁰/Ar³⁹ Dating of Hydrothermal Biotite from High-grade Gold Ore, Tangier Gold Deposit, Nova Scotia: Further Evidence for 370 Ma Gold Metallogeny in the Meguma Terrane, by D. J. Kontak, D. A. Archibald, 2002; *in* *Economic Geology*, v. 97, p. 619-628.

CS ME 2002-3 Ice Etchings, by R. R. Stea, G. A. O'Reilly, 2002; *in* *Canadian Chemical News*, v. 54, p. 29-30.

CS ME 2002-4 A Petrological, Geochemical, Isotopic and Fluid-inclusion Study of 370 Ma Pegmatite-aplite Sheets, Peggys Cove, Nova Scotia, Canada, by D. J. Kontak, J. Dostal, T. K. Kyser, D. A. Archibald, 2002; *in* *Canadian Mineralogist*, v. 40, p. 1249-1286.

CS ME 2002-5 Late-stage Crystallization History of the Jurassic North Mountain Basalt, Nova Scotia, Canada. 1. Textural and Chemical Evidence for Pervasive Development of Silicate-liquid Immiscibility, by D. J. Kontak, M. Y. De Wolfe De Young, J. Dostal, 2002; *in* *Canadian Mineralogist*, v. 40, p. 1287-1311.

CS ME 2002-6 Petrology, Age, and Tectonic Setting of the White Rock Formation, Meguma Terrane, Nova Scotia: evidence for Silurian Continental Rifting, by L. A. MacDonald, S. M. Barr, C. E. White, J. W. F. Ketchum, 2002; *in* *Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences*, v. 39, p. 259-277.

Newsletter

Nova Scotia Minerals Update, volume 19, numbers 1, 2, 3 and 4.

Open File Map

OFM ME 2002-1 Geological Map of Central Musquodoboit (part of NTS Sheet 11E/03) Colchester and Hants Counties, by R. J. Horne and M. S. King, 2002, scale 1:20 000.

Open File Report

OFR ME 2002-1 Compilation of salt analysis from Domtar Inc. diamond-drill core, Kingsville, Inverness County, Cape Breton Island, by R. C. Boehner.

Reports

Report ME 2002-1 Minerals and Energy Branch Report of Activities 2001, ed. D. R. MacDonald, 221 p.

Report ME 2002-2 Mining Matters for Nova Scotia 2002: Opportunities for Economic Development, ed. D. R. MacDonald, 30 p.