



Mineral Titles *Information Update*

No. 3 – Historical Research on Mining Properties in British Columbia

Revision Date: November 4, 2015

The Ministry of Energy and Mines has provided valuable research information spanning 100 years on geology, mineral occurrences and mining activity in British Columbia. The following are some sources of this information, within the ministry and outside of the ministry.

MINERAL TITLES ONLINE (MTO)

MTO is an Internet-based mineral titles administration system that allows the mineral exploration industry to acquire and maintain mineral titles by selecting the area on a seamless digital GIS map of BC and pay associated fees electronically.

See: Tenure History Layer for a spatial view of historic mineral and placer tenure

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/mineral-exploration-mining/mineral-titles/mineral-placer-titles/mineraltitlesonline>

Ministry of Energy and Mines
Mineral Titles
300 – 865 Hornby Street
Vancouver, BC V6Z 2G3
Phone: 1-866-616-4999

TITLES REFERENCE MAPS

Historic mineral, placer and coal maps (PDF format) are available from the Mineral Titles Branch upon request. Please email Mineral.Titles@gov.bc.ca with your request by BCGS mapsheet number. These titles reference maps may span the years of 2003 – 2005.

<http://www.empr.gov.bc.ca/titles/mineraltitles/pages/titlereferencemaps.aspx>

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Vancouver, BC V6Z 2G3
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MINFILE

Computerized reference to known mineral occurrences. The database contains geological, location and economic information on over 12,000 metallic, industrial mineral and coal occurrences in B.C. This database is available on the Geoscience website:

<http://www.empr.gov.bc.ca/Mining/Geoscience/MINFILE/Pages/default.aspx>
<http://minfile.gov.bc.ca>

Ministry of Energy and Mines
Geological Survey Branch
5th Flr., 1810 Blanshard Street
Victoria, BC V8W 9N3
Phone: (250) 387-5261

or

Geological Survey Branch
300-865 Hornby Street
Vancouver, BC V6Z 2G3
Phone: (604) 660-3332

MINISTER OF MINES ANNUAL REPORTS

Annual reports of mining activity in B.C. from the year 1874 to the present. These reports may be viewed at major public libraries, the Ministry's library, and on the Internet at the following address:

<http://www.empr.gov.bc.ca/Mining/Geoscience/PublicationsCatalogue/AnnualReports/Pages/default.aspx>

James T Fyles Library
1st Flr., 1810 Blanshard Street
Victoria, BC V8W 9N3
By appointment only, Wednesday & Thursdays, 10AM – 4PM
Phone: (250) 952-0660

or

Geological Survey Branch
300-865 Hornby Street
Vancouver, BC V6Z 2G3
Phone: (604) 660-3332

MINISTRY PUBLICATIONS

Staff at the Geological Survey Branch produce a wide range of publications. These publications range from basic prospecting material to highly technical reports.

<http://www.empr.gov.bc.ca/MINING/GEOSCIENCE/PUBLICATIONSCATALOGUE/Pages/default.aspx>

Ministry Publications can also be purchased via the following web link:

<http://www.crownpub.bc.ca>

Crown Publications
PO Box 9452 Stn Prov Govt.
Victoria, BC
V8W 9V7
Ph: 1-800-663-6105 or (250) 387-6409
Email: crownpub@gov.bc.ca (for enquiries only)

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES

The Provincial Archives have historic reports, newspapers, and maps which may be useful in researching old mining properties. Use the online search catalogue to conduct your search. Contact BC Archives

directly for more information. Please note, some items may not be onsite.
<http://royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/bcarchives/>

BC Archives
675 Belleville St.
Victoria, BC
V8W 9W2

Ph: 250-387-1952 Toll Free (through Enquiry BC) 1-800-663-7867

From the Greater Vancouver area call 604-660-2421 and ask the operator for 250-387-1952.

From other areas in British Columbia, call 1-800-663-7867.

Email: access@bcarchives.bc.ca

GEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT WORK REPORTS

Technical reports are prepared by mineral title holders and describe work performed as a requirement for maintaining mineral titles under the *Mineral Tenure Act*.

Microfilming of assessment reports was discontinued on March 31, 1999. All reports are now available in a pdf (portable document format) file for viewing and printing online when the confidential period for each report expires. Please note that this site does not include 'Reports of Physical Exploration and Development'.

<http://www.empr.gov.bc.ca/Mining/Geoscience/Aris/Pages/default.aspx>

Ministry of Energy and Mines
Geological Survey Branch
PO BOX 9333 Stn Prov Gov't
5th Flr., 1810 Blanshard St.
Victoria, BC V8W 9N3
Phone: (250) 952-0390

or

Geological Survey Branch
300-865 Hornby Street
Vancouver, BC V6Z 2G3
Phone: (604) 660-3332

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CANADA

The Geological Survey of Canada produces a set of Memoirs, maps, statistics and technical reports on various mining topics. There is a library in their Vancouver office.

<http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/earth-sciences/>

Geological Survey of Canada
1500-605 Robson St.
Vancouver, BC
V6B 1H3
Phone: (604)-666-1147

REGIONAL MINING ORGANIZATIONS AND MUSEUMS

Some regional mining organizations have collections of data and information on mining properties in the area. There may also be information in local museums, historical societies (e.g. Mascot Mine tour run by the Snaza'ist Interpretive Center next to the Hedley Museum), existing mining corporations (e.g. Teck Cominco Interpretive Centre in Trail) and public libraries. There are various authors, such as N.L. Bill Barlee, who wrote many books on mining in British Columbia.

Some websites that may be of help:

<http://www.amebc.ca/resources-and-publications/usefullinks/regionalgroups.aspx>

http://www.msha.gov/TRAINING/MUSEUM/INTL/MDA_BC_Mining_Museums.pdf

<https://sites.google.com/site/hedleyheritagemuseum/>

http://propertyfile.gov.bc.ca/PDFTemp/fileid_36004.pdf