



Mineral Titles *Information Update*

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

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The Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation 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 and outside 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 titles

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

Contact information: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/mineral-exploration-mining/mineral-titles/contact-us>

MINFILE

A computerized reference to known mineral occurrences. The database contains geological, location and economic information on over 14,000 metallic, industrial mineral and coal deposits and occurrences in B.C. This database is available on the Geoscience website:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/mineral-exploration-mining/british-columbia-geological-survey/mineralinventory>

Contact information: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/mineral-exploration-mining/british-columbia-geological-survey/aboutbcgs/meredith-jones>

In the event of a discrepancy between this information and the provisions in the *Mineral Tenure Act* and Regulation, the provisions in the statute and regulations will apply.

Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon
Innovation
Mineral Titles

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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.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/mineral-exploration-mining/british-columbia-geological-survey/publications>

MINISTER OF MINES ANNUAL REPORTS

Annual reports of mining activity in B.C. from the year 1874 to 2005. These reports may be viewed at major public libraries, the Ministry's library, and on the Internet at the following address:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/mineral-exploration-mining/british-columbia-geological-survey/publications/annual-report-to-the-minister>

Contact information: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/research-monitoring-reporting/libraries-publication-catalogues/j-t-fyles-library>

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/>

Contact information: <https://royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/bc-archives/visit/contact>

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'.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/mineral-exploration-mining/british-columbia-geological-survey/assessmentreports>

Contact information: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/mineral-exploration-mining/british-columbia-geological-survey/aboutbcgs/norris>

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/>

Contact information: <https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/science-data/research-centres-labs/geological-survey-canada/17100>

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.

The Association for Mineral Exploration website contains a list of some of the regional associations in the Province:

<https://www.amebc.ca/communications/regional-outreach/>

<https://www.britanniamuseum.ca/>

<https://www.hedleymuseum.ca/>