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#### **Community Outreach:**

**Mineral Exploration and Introductory Training** 

# Nunavut Prospector Program and Introduction to Prospecting Course

Hugh MacIsaac, Resident Geologist

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#### **Outline**

- Prospecting in Nunavut
- Nunavut Prospectors Program (NPP)
  - 1. Information
  - 2. Lessons Learned
  - 3. Challenges
- Introduction to Prospecting Course (IPC)
- Application Steps
- Resources



## Minerals & Petroleum Resources Division Offices

- Hugh MacIsaac
  - Resident Geologist(Cambridge Bay)
- Harry Maksagak
  - Community Mining Advisor (Cambridge Bay)
- Mike Beauregard
  - Resident Geologist (Arviat)
- Paul Budkewitsch
  - Manager, Minerals (Iqaluit)



## **Prospecting In Nunavut**

- Prospecting is the search for new mineral deposits, or a re-evaluation of previously known mineral occurrences to find minerals of economic value.
- It involves ground-truthing of geology maps and mineral assessment reports, sampling and assaying.
- The mining industry relies on information gained through prospecting and geological studies.
- Nunavummiut participate in mineral exploration to support mineral development via the Government of Nunavut's *Parnautit* (Mineral Exploration and Mining Strategy).

#### **Parnautit**

- Is the Mineral Exploration and Mining Strategy for Nunavut.
- Education and Training are essential Parnautit components.
- The Introduction to Prospecting Course (IPC) is a key part of *Parnautit*.
- IPC introduces prospecting, rocks, minerals, gemstones, mining and exploration to community residents.



- EDT offers two hand-in-hand programs to support prospecting activities.
- Introduction to Prospecting Course (IPC) and
- Nunavut Prospector Program (NPP)







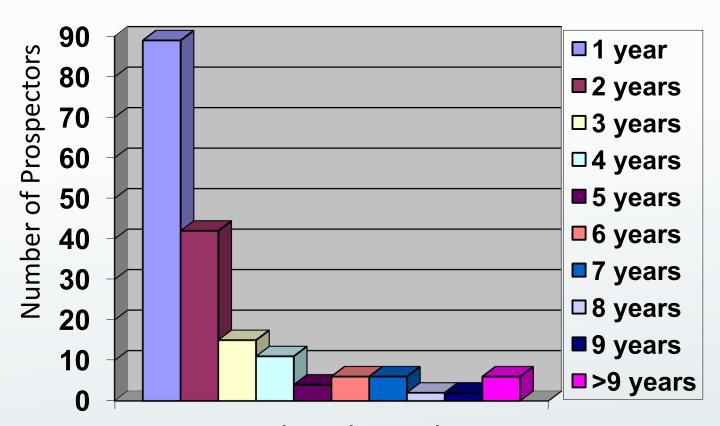
#### 1) Information

- Established in 1999 to increase community-based mineral exploration by individual prospectors, and to sustain awareness of mineral activity in Nunavut.
- Provides project-related financial support for Nunavut residents engaged in prospecting.
- Guidebook and Handout available on website to assist prospectors and applicants.
- https://www.gov.nu.ca/edt/programsservices/nunavut-prospectors-program-npp
- Information toll free #1-888-975-5999
- Community Economic Development Officers (CEDOs) in all Hamlets know about NPP Funding and IPC Training.

#### From 1999 to 2018

- Total funding = \$1,677,000
- Annual budgets ranged from \$100,000 to \$150,000
- 70% of annual budgets was utilized
- 368 Contribution Agreements (Grants) signed
- 186 prospectors and hundreds of assistants funded
- Participants from 23 out of 25 communities
- Average Contribution Agreement \$5,300





Over 20 years: This chart shows prospectors utilizing NPP funding one year and more.



#### NPP Prospectors by Region over 20 years:

- 82 in the Kivalliq Region (eastern mainland) (pop. of 6,466; 1.26% participation)
- **34** in the Kitikmeot Region (western mainland) (pop. of 4,349; 0.78% participation)
- **70** in the Qikiqtaaluk Region (Baffin Region) (pop. of 12,905; 0.54% participation)

#### **Totals 186 Prospectors**



#### And NPP Contribution Agreements for 20 years:

- 174 in the Kivalliq Region (eastern mainland) (pop. of 6,466; 2.69% participation)
- **58** in the Kitikmeot Region (western mainland) (pop. of 4,349; 1.33% participation)
- 136 in the Qikiqtaaluk Region (Baffin Region) (pop. of 12,905; 1.05% participation)

#### **Total of 368 Contribution Agreements**



#### NPP Prospector Results over 20 years:

- 186 NPP prospectors
- 6,100 project field days
- 3,468 samples taken
- 2,240 samples assayed
- 766 samples defined as mineral occurrences
- 1 Beluga Sapphire discovery in 2002
- Numerous Mineral Claims 5 currently active
- 188 acceptable NPP Final Reports
- 5 sample published NPP Prospector Reports online at: https://gov.nu.ca/edt/documents/prospectorreports

#### NPP Today:

- Program administered by Resident Geologists and Community Mining Advisors in Arviat and Cambridge Bay; Finance Office in Iqaluit.
- Now in its 21th year, the NPP has an annual operating budget of \$150,000.
- We are continuing with awareness with newly appointed CEDOs and Hamlet Staff.



- EDT is committed to supporting the development of a sustainable and viable mining industry in Nunavut through financial and technical assistance to local prospectors.
- The Nunavut Prospectors Program provides financial assistance of up to \$8,000\* to eligible applicants in support of increasing exploration activity in Nunavut. Extra funding for travel assistance may be considered.

To be eligible, the applicant must be:

- A resident of Nunavut for at least 1 year;
- 18 years or age or older;
- Hold a valid Prospectors Licence issued by the Mining Recorder; and
- Working knowledge of prospecting or have successfully completed the Introduction to Prospecting Course. Knowledge of the land and business experience are considerable assets.



<sup>\*</sup> conditions are outlined in the NPP Policy. gov.nu.ca/edt/documents/nunavut-prospectors-program-policy

#### **Application Requires:**

- Project planning, description & location
- Current Prospector's License and, if needed,
  - -Access Permit to Inuit Owned Lands
- Estimated project budget
- Note all applications/reports are kept confidential for three years.



- Once a NPP application is approved, a prospector must sign a Contribution Agreement (CA).
- Initial Payment: 75% of CA to the prospector.
- Remaining 25% is paid after the project is completed and a final report submitted and approved (receipts required).
- Any unused portion of funding is returned to the Government of Nunavut.



## **Prospecting In Nunavut**

#### 2. NPP Lessons Learned are

More one-on-one technical communication between Prospector and staff and to follow-up.

- Increase CA amounts based on experience and results.
- Community visits are important.
- Evolving style and content to improve course delivery.
- Provide a Guide on GN website.



#### 3. ABCs of Challenges That Lie Ahead

- Advertising / inform / encourage Nunavummiut
- Building skills and understanding of prospecting, mineral tenure and the mineral exploration and mining industry.
- Capacity building, community education and awareness.
- Develop and transfer skills learned from mineral exploration to other business opportunities.
- Encourage prospector participation at industry forums (e.g. Nunavut Mining Symposium and Yellowknife Geoscience Forum).

## Introduction to Prospecting

Mining with all of its employment opportunities begins with prospecting.







- Offered annually since 1999.
- Delivery of the course has been given on multiple occasions (3 to 6 times) in each community of Nunavut, to over 1100 participants.
- A Public Announcement is made in April indicating where the courses will be held during the upcoming year (usually June to July).
- To qualify for NPP, applicants must have prospecting experience or have taken the Introduction to Prospecting Course.



- Course consists of 5 evening sessions of 3 hours each plus one day in the field.
- Prospecting equipment and supplies are provided to participants.
- Certificates of Achievement are awarded to participants who complete the course.
- Qualified participants can apply for NPP Funding.



#### The Course details:

- Rock & Mineral Identification
- Geology & Geological Features
- Ore Sampling & Assays
- Prospecting Techniques & Terms
- Map Reading & Claim Staking



#### Classroom Instruction focuses in on:

- Classification of Rocks
- Properties of Minerals and Ores
- Bedrock and Surficial Geology
- Prospecting Techniques & Terms
- Many Targets, Few Mines
- Land Tenure in Nunavut
- Nunavut Prospector's Program (NPP)
- Use of GPS to record samples locations.



#### Classroom "Labs" include:

- Hands-on Rock & Mineral Identification
- Topographic Map and Geology Map Reading
- Satellite Imagery
- Navigation Exercises
- Targeting Mineralization
- Note-taking Methods
- Photographing Sites
- Claim Staking



 Community-Based Mineral Exploration & Training is a rewarding experience!





#### **Applying: Nunavut Prospector Program**

- Application forms are available on EDT website.
- gov.nu.ca/edt/documents/nunavutprospectors-program-application-form
- EDT accepts applications for each year until May 31.
- The Hamlet CEDO is the all-important local point-of-contact who can guide interested persons through the application process.



#### Resources

#### **On-line information for NPP:**

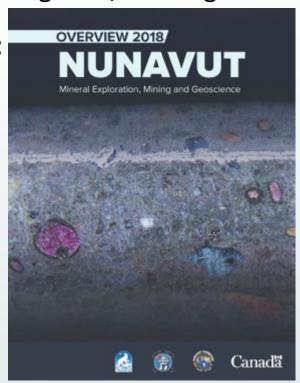
• gov.nu.ca/edt/programs-services/nunavut-prospectors-programnpp or visit gov.nu.ca/edt and click on the Programs/Funding tab.

#### **Other Information Sources for Applicants:**

nunavutgeoscience.ca

#### How mining companies help?

- Awareness of NPP and IPC.
- Prospecting-oriented mine tours for
- the public.
- IPC Course Materials are online at: www.gov.nu.ca/edt/documents/intro duction-prospecting





## Local prospecting is leading to new discoveries in our vastly under-explored Arctic.





