

NSPA Newsletter Fall 2017,

# PICK PAN AND SHOVEL



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Official Publication of the Nova Scotia Prospectors Association

- Web Site • [www.prospectors.ns.ca](http://www.prospectors.ns.ca)
- The Nova Scotia Prospectors Association is dedicated to promoting, educating and representing the interests of Nova Scotia Prospectors.
- The opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily represent the official views of the Nova Scotia Prospectors Association. Pick Pan and Shovel is published two times each year and will be made available free of charge to the membership.
- Editor Milton Fraser  
Fall 2017

## Events Calendar

Regular meetings will take place on the third Wednesday of each month at the Prospect Road Community Centre. (2141 Prospect Road ,Hatchet Lake

Sept 20 Regular General Meeting  
Oct 18 Regular General Meeting  
Nov.15 Regular General Meeting  
Dec Xmas party  
Jan17 Regular General Meeting  
Feb. 21 Regular General Meeting  
Mar.15 Regular General  
April AGM

Note: Most pictures have been eliminated from the e-mail edition, because of restrictions on e-mail length. They will be included in the on line edition on the NSPA website.

## Message From the Minister



I am happy to address Nova Scotia's prospectors in the Fall Edition of your newsletter, the Pick, Pan and Shovel. This has been an exciting year for prospecting and mining in Nova Scotia with the opening of the Donkin mine, Atlantic Gold's mine at Moose River Gold Mines, and the Dufferin mine.

The Dufferin mine started operation in July and the Moose River/Touquoy mine is scheduled to start in the fall of 2017. Once those gold mines are operating and successful, they're going to cast a favourable light on the exploration potential of the province and on the projects generated by our excellent prospectors.

Operating gold mines will also demonstrate that Nova Scotia is a low-cost jurisdiction, where projects are supported by modern infrastructure, qualified construction companies, and abundant talent. I'm confident that those two mines will be the first steps to unlocking some of our other gold deposits including Goldboro, Beaver Dam, Cochrane Hill, 15 Mile Stream, Tangier and Forest Hill. Producing metal mines will help to promote exploration interest in other mineral projects – tin and lithium in southwest Nova Scotia, zinc at Gays River and in Cape Breton, and in our industrial minerals.

We've made some important changes to the new Mineral Resources Act that will help promote Nova Scotia's business environment for prospectors by lowering exploration fees and reducing administrative burdens. Some of the changes include a two-year renewal for mineral exploration licenses; only requiring assessment reports to be filed every two years; modifying exploration work credits, and streamlining the resolution process for accessing private land. We're getting rid of the requirement for a Special License to explore for salt and potash, and we'll introduce a fair and competitive process for acquiring a license to explore for coal. Many of the changes in the new Act came about as a result of productive consultation with Nova Scotia's prospectors. We hope to have the new Mineral Resources Act and Regulations proclaimed in the near future.

The government continued its support for the Mineral Incentive Program in 2017-18, and I was happy to be in Stellarton at the DNR Core Library in July to announce the grants. The program provides funding for grass-roots prospecting to more advanced mineral exploration. The Program also provides marketing grants that enable prospectors to promote their mineral prospects at the Mineral Exploration Roundup and PDAC conferences, and

research grants that build partnerships between university researchers, prospectors and mineral exploration companies.

I'm looking forward to hearing about the successes of Nova Scotia's prospectors in 2017, and I wish you the best of luck on your projects.

Honourable Margaret Miller  
Minister of Natural Resources



## Presidents Message Fall 2017

Dear Prospectors & Associates

The year started out great, with the annual Spring Panning Clinic taking place in Waverley, on May 6th. It was a pretty good turn out, considering the torrential rain that was the forecast for the day. We thank Ken Mallett, for the 2nd consecutive year in allowing us to go to his claim for this event. We had a small crowd, a couple dozen there with us for the day. The panning clinic was put on by Fred Walsh where he both educated and entertained those that attended. We then went about prospecting on the claim looking for minerals. It was overcast with occasional drizzle which kept the black flies away but allowed a good time for everyone that attended. We finished the day with a delicious BBQ of hamburgers, hotdogs, drinks & cookies. Thanks Fred, we always appreciate all that you do, especially your cooking skills.

John Wightman & I have attended several meetings with the DNR. They are making some exciting changes that will be coming into effect and will benefit the mining and prospecting community in Nova Scotia. We encourage all members to come to the monthly meetings for updates on what is happening and to see how these changes can benefit both us as prospectors and the economy of Nova Scotia.

NS Prospecting Association had it's booth set up at the annual Gem & Mineral Show in Parrsboro, on Aug. 18-20, 2017. A big thank you to Fred & Stacey who continue to graciously give their time and continued interest, to represent the group and man the booth for us. Fred also does panning clinics throughout the weekend, which are enjoyed by all those who attend this busy event.

It has been a dry hot summer and I am looking forward to catching up with everyone and sharing our prospecting knowledge and experiences. In September, we will be returning to our regular monthly meetings. They take place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at the Prospect Community Center and start at 7:00 pm. Hope to see everyone there. Don't forget to checkout our website; <http://www.prospectors.ns.ca> for regular updates on meetings and events.

Best regards,

b

Matt Abel,  
President

# **Adventures in Claim Reporting:**

Ron Mills, NSDNR

I recently had a prospector that lost a claim because of a slight oversight in missing a requirement when he went to renew. We all know there are fees to stake claims. But do you know all of the things you need to file to renew? There are 6 things altogether.

On the anniversary, claims must be renewed and a renewal fee paid but, one must submit 6 things: 1.) a report detailing the work carried out over the last year, 2.) a map detailing work and working locations, 3.) a journal of daily activities on the claim, 4.) pay the renewal fee, 5.) a properly filled out renewal application, and 6.) submit a form detailing expenses incurred on the claim. The report and any maps must be in a very proper format detailed in regulations attached to the Mineral Resources Act.

1. Your Report: Your report can be a prospector's statement, which is a cookie-cutter fill-in-the-blanks type form available through the Mineral Titles Registry but a real report will garner you more credit. Ron Mills has a template for a gold property report that he can email to you, making the job relatively simple.
2. Your maps: These should have UTM locations for your borders, and any interesting findings or sample locations on your map(s). You will need at least two, one to locate the property within N.S. and at least one other detailed map of the claim. Maps must have a north arrow (that points up!!), a bar scale, place names and roads, arrows leading off the map saying how far to nearest towns, stream names, etc. Maps are most often the biggest thing wrong with reports.
3. Your journal: This can be as detailed as you want or just a single line per day saying where you went and what you did each day.

4. Your renewal fee: Must be submitted with the documentation.
5. Your renewal application: You must, “apply”, to renew (Who knew??!)!
6. Your Form 10: This is a statement outlining how much you spent on your claims.

Remember, once claims are staked, each staked block in a claim group must have an equivalent expenditure of \$200 spent on it during the year to be eligible for renewal. Therefore, a group of 10 claim blocks must see an equivalent of \$2,000 worth of work, a 20 block group of claims, \$4,000. A party's commitment goes up per block as terms go on. Dates are very important here. If any of the fieldwork or paperwork such as the renewal forms, maps, reports, renewal payments, etc, is not filled out properly or filed on time, the claims immediately revert back to the Crown and cannot be re-staked by the previous party for 3 months, although others not attached to the party that has lost the claims may stake them. This is a very brief overview. There are many other regulations as well.

All over the world, this is how the mineral exploration industry is overseen by governments. Claims are administered this way with certain deviations from the above description such as the expected level of financial commitment, the staking exercise itself might vary, the costs may be less or much greater, some differences in the paperwork depending upon the jurisdiction but, it is essentially structured the same way. A contract is formed by prospectors or companies with governments promising claims will be explored to a certain level of expense by a certain date. If the contract is broken the claims revert back to the government to lease out once again to another party.

Some activists argue that a little Nova Scotian landowner's voice is lost in this process. But the fact is that large tracts of our province are owned by a few wealthy parties and very large corporations. To allow landowners to own mineral rights would be akin to the people of Nova Scotia handing over these provincial mineral assets, owned today by all Nova Scotians collectively and available for anyone to stake, to these few privileged parties, often who do not even live in this province. There are a few jurisdictions that administer mineral rights

in such a way. Those places have mining sector wealth reserved to the very wealthy and the remaining industry is largely dysfunctional.

Ron Mills, Geologist, NSDNR.

## Panning Clinic



The clinic was held in very wet conditions at Waverley on May 6<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to Ken Mallett Fred Walsh and all who made the event possible.

## Parrsboro Gem and Mineral Show

The Gem show this year went off very well, with over 4000 in attendance. The rock talk was everywhere and all had fun. I would like to especially thank Bill Boudreau for his help with the panning, which is always a great draw. Also with great thanks to Adrienne Cogswell and



Allan MacKinnon who spent the three days with us at the booth. My wife Stacey who is always there to help me has made this one of the best shows ever. Also great to see all the prospectors who dropped in to see us , and all the great people who love the rocks as we do



Nova Scotia Prospectors Association

## Application for Membership

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_ For Membership  
year: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY - ESPECIALLY E-MAIL ADDRESSES!!! IF  
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS IS NOT LEGIBLE,  
YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE ANY E-MAILS FROM THE NSPA!!!!

Name:

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Family Member:

Name/s \_\_\_\_\_

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Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

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City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell : \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail

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DUES \_\_\_\_\_

**(\*\*Note: Membership year is Jan 1 - Dec 31\*\*)**

Annual Membership = \$30.00 Family Membership (age  
18+) = \$35.00 Full-Time Student Membership = \$10.00

Please make your payment payable to:

Nova Scotia Prospectors Association

Mail To:

Sue Crooks – 65 Amaranth Crescent,  
Dartmouth NS B30 4L1

[membership@prospectors.ns.ca](mailto:membership@prospectors.ns.ca)

