

“NSPA Newsletter Spring 2019”

PICK PAN AND SHOVEL



Official Publication of the Nova Scotia Prospectors Association

- Web Site 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 Prospector's 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, Spring 2019

Regular meetings will take place on the third Wednesday of each month.

April 27	AGM Waverley Legion
August	16,17,18 Gem Mineral Show
Sept 18	Regular General Meeting
Oct 10	Regular General Meeting
Nov.21	Regular General Meeting
Dec	Xmas party
Jan 15	Regular General Meeting
Feb. 19	Regular General Meeting
Mar.18	Regular General
April	AGM

Possible Events Calendar 2019-2020

NSPA AGM will take place April 27 at the Waverley Legion 2234 Rocky Lake Drive between 1:00 and 4:00 PM. As usual all offices are open for election. President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Program, Refreshment, Membership and News Letter Editor plus various Board members will be elected.

XRF Certification Course: Wednesday, 17 April at Hampton Inn, Dartmouth Crossing, 65 Cromarty Drive, Dartmouth B3B 0G2. Pre registration is required. Registration fee is \$ 195 payable with registration Instruction cost is 350 per person. The necessary form may be found in the Andrew Noblett (andrew@elementalcontrols.com) ph.905 282 9974x126 copied to the NSPA membership.

Tourquoy Mine NSPA Tour: Friday 10 May. Participants are asked to be at Security by 9:30 with safety gear including long sleeve shirts and full length pants.

Mineral Resources Development Fund

The Department of Energy and Mines is pleased to announce that applications and proposals are now being accepted for the 2019 - 2020 Mineral Resources Development Fund (MRDF). The MRDF has seven funding streams that support prospecting, exploration, research, marketing, innovation, outreach, education and more.

Forms and important information can be found at: <https://novascotia.ca/natr/meb/mrdp.asp>. The deadline for applying for some of the funding streams is no later than **4:00 pm, May 6, 2019**.

Above notice is the content of an email from DNR Librarian, Tracy Lenfesty to prospectors.

Message from Energy and Mines Minister
Derek Mombourquette



The minerals sector is an important part of Nova Scotia's economy and one of the keys to our future prosperity. It's the source of well-paying jobs in many of our rural communities, and revenue that benefits every Nova Scotian. I'm pleased to recognize the significant contributions of Nova Scotia's prospectors in discovering and promoting our mineral deposits.

Last year was an exciting one for the province's prospectors. More than 26,000 new claims were staked in 2018 and 10,000 claims were renewed. That compares with 8,000 new claims and 7,000 renewals in 2017. Field expenditures by the industry are estimated to be \$17.3 million in 2018, \$19.4 million in 2017, and \$5.3 million in 2016. Those numbers reflect a vibrant and growing industry which Government supports in many ways.

In 2019-20, we're investing an additional \$800,000 to the Mineral Resources Development Fund. This year, \$1.5 million will be available to help in the search for new mineral discoveries, move projects closer to production and attract investment into Nova Scotia. I appreciate how important the Fund is to Nova Scotia's prospectors, and I'm happy to acknowledge the contributions of prospectors in shaping the Fund.

Besides investing in the mining industry, and the geoscience work of the department, we also extended the motive fuel tax rebate to the mining and quarry industry.

With the new Mineral Resources Act and its regulations now in effect, we're making it easier to do business by reducing costs and cutting administrative burden for prospectors. The new Act and regulations also ensure responsible development and provide better enforcement.

My department looks forward to continuing to work with prospectors and others in the sector to responsibly develop our mineral resources for the benefit of all Nova Scotians.

I wish you all the best of luck with your exploration projects.

Honourable Derek Mombourquette
Minister of Energy and Mines

Presidents Message Spring 2019



President Matt Able

Dear Prospectors & Associates

Our annual general meeting (AGM) is taking place on April 27, 2019, from 1-3 pm at the Waverly Legion, located at 2234 Rocky Lake Road, Waverly, Nova Scotia. Last year we took a vote and it was passed that our monthly meetings will now

take place at this location. I look forward to seeing our current members and meeting anyone new that is interested in joining the group, at this year's AGM. This is your chance to nominate or, to be nominated to take on one of the Officers & Directors positions available. This gives everyone an equal opportunity to get more involved with the group and to vote on who you would like to see in these positions.

I would like to welcome our members old and new to attend our monthly meetings. These take place on the 3rd Wednesday evening of the month. We do occasionally have cancellations due to weather conditions or guest speaker conflicts. I would encourage you to check before heading out to these meetings, by going online to check out events on our members website at www.prospectors.ns.ca. We also have a Facebook page, [**Nova Scotia Prospectors Association**](#) that can be checked for event dates and changes. Thank you to George Johnston who posts and keeps these up to date to keep us all informed.

We regularly have great guest speakers at our meetings, that help to keep us up to date and informed on mining issues and geology findings throughout Nova Scotia. This year to date, we had Geologists, Dr. Peter Rogers (ColGrupo_Ex) and Tim Bourque (Atlantic Gold Corp) present slide show and information sessions at our February and March 2019 monthly meetings. Thanks goes out to our CEO John Wightman for continuing to organize and arrange these speakers for us.

We have been working hard to improve our communication to the group members, regarding upcoming events and meetings, including changes to same. I thank Ken Mallett for sending various emails out that help organize, remind and/or inform us about these events and our scheduled presenters.

We still need a lot of help with our aged website. It is not user friendly and many things are outdated and can no longer be

changed. I would ask members interested in renewing their memberships to do this at our monthly meetings in person, or by sending a cheque in the mail; to NSPA membership, 65 Amaranth Crescent, Dartmouth, NS B2W4C1, as opposed to using Paypal on our website. This does not always work properly, it does not collect the adequate members contact information to keep you informed or confirm payment, and Paypal deducts a portion of the minimal \$30 yearly membership charged by the group.

Best regards,

Matt Abel,
President, NSPA





NSPA Meeting in Progress

NSPA Value

The newsletter could be a major asset for promoting the NSPA. This hasn't been a major objective of the paper, and I must accept responsibility for this shortcoming. The Pick, Pan and Shovel should, from time to time, point out the benefits of NSPA membership.

The monthly meetings are generally useful because of information provided. They are also opportunities to exchange information re prospecting, conditions, problems, possible solutions etc.

Panning clinics are usually held each year. This allows new prospectors to learn how to pan properly as well as exchange information on general prospecting topics. Fred Walsh has been a mainstay at panning clinics and the Parrsboro gem and mineral show for years.

The NSPA is able to provide access to costly equipment such as the XRF machine to NSPA members.

The NSPA can be a major political/social voice for prospectors. The Mining Association of Nova Scotia (MANS) is an advocate for mineral development and in many cases the NSPA and MANS have similar objectives. However, the objectives do not always coincide so the NSPA needs to be ready to advocate on behalf of prospectors. When views must be expressed on an issue it is usually helpful to have more than a single organization support a particular viewpoint.

The NSPA has been an educational agent for earth sciences with varying degrees of effort and success over the years. Perhaps action is warranted in this area. In any case the NSPA has proved to be a valuable organization that deserves our support.

Boston Richardson Mine

Anaconda Mining is very confident about future development of gold mining in the Goldboro area, thus it may be an appropriate to examine the evolution of a previous mine from the region. Prospecting had taken place long before Howard Richardson found a body of low-grade ore. This became known as the Richardson Belt. This belt was worked for 375 000 tons of ore and 50 000oz gold by the mid 1920s.

The Richardson Gold Mining Company under the direction of C F Andrews prepared for mining operations in 1892. Thirty-one men erected buildings and a 15 stamp mill that became a 20 stamp mill. This mill began operations in 1893. By July a shaft was sunk 90 feet. Changes were made to increase efficiency.

The shaft on the south dip reached 156 feet by 1895. Andrews continued to direct the work and in 1896, a 1 200-foot trestle was constructed from the shaft to the mill and 20 new stamps were added.

By 1897 A B Fox became manager with 65 employed. A shaft on the south side reached 195 feet and the north side shaft 125 feet. A third shaft was started on the east. All 3 shafts would be worked from a single shaft house.

The following year saw 75 men employed and 2479 oz. of gold retrieved. The new east shaft reached 260 feet and the south shaft 240. Progress was hampered by rock falls. The company began to use a Wilfley concentrator to treat tailings. In 1895 150 tons of concentrate were saved and greater efforts were made to recover gold from the tailings.

Shaft construction continued the main inclined shaft reached 400 ft. and another northern shaft was started west of the first north shaft. Safety concerns were somewhat addressed when

old workings were re-timbered and large pillars were left to support the roof.

In 1900 the mine employed 96 men and the main shaft reached 530 feet. The company was using 2 Wilfley concentrators and planned to add 2 more. An air compressor capable of running eight drills was in use.

In 1901 the main shaft reached 620 feet and twenty more stamps were added. The mine was now using 60 stamps.

In 1902 the main shaft reached 760 feet and 3459 oz. of gold obtained from 29000 tons of ore. Attempts were made to treat tailings with a cyanide plant imported from BC. The process proved unsatisfactory and a bromo-cyanide process was tested.

In March 1903, a cave-in disabled the main shaft. The company enlarged the main shaft to 19x6 feet to make it a 3-compartment shaft and sunk to 410 feet. At this point a station was made and levels were driven on north and south sides of the saddle. More Wilfley concentrators were used. The bromo-cyanide process was used and 30 stamps were in operation. The innovative operators used Plaster of Paris to make a model of mine development.

Operations continued and by 1906 underground legs from the 400 foot level reached over 1 000 feet. Ore was intentionally left broken up underground as a reserve.

In 1907 another shaft was sunk 475 feet with north and south levels each roughly 250 feet long were created Exploration continued but in 1908 operations ceased for a time for financial reasons. The New England Mining Company worked the Richardson Mine in 1909.

The New England mining Company operated the mine in 1909 with about eighty-five men. The mine continued successful operations until 1911 when little work was done. The Metals Mining and Smelting Corp. took over the site to extract gold from tailings.

In the Goldboro area some 14 mines operated and total production reached 140 000 oz. Production ceased in 1941.

(Basic reference: Malcolm *Goldfields of NS* 1929)