

YUKON EXPLORATION & GEOLOGY 2008

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FRONT COVER PHOTOGRAPH: The mega-tors of Britton Ridge, east of Wellesley Lake, southwest Yukon. Photo by Lesley Dampier.

PREFACE

Yukon Exploration and Geology (YEG) continues to be the main publication of the Yukon Geological Survey (Energy, Mines and Resources, Yukon government). This is the 31st volume of the series.

YEG 2008 contains up-to-date information on mining and mineral exploration activity, studies by industry, and results of recent geological field studies. Information in this volume comes from prospectors, exploration and government geologists, mining companies and students who are willing to contribute to public geoscience for the benefit of the scientific community, general public, and mineral and petroleum industries of Yukon. Their assistance and patience is sincerely appreciated.

After nine years as Chief Editor, Diane Emond has stepped down and has taken a leave of absence from the Yukon Geological Survey to pursue a diploma in Practical Nursing. Diane began as a staff geologist for the Exploration and Geological Services Division in 1983. She has been a mentor and a wonderful colleague; her enthusiasm, strong work ethic and positive nature will be greatly missed. We wish Diane all the best in her future endeavours. This year our editing team consisted of Lauren Blackburn, Lara Lewis and I. I thank my co-editors for their dedication, patience and hard work; they were truly committed while under great pressure. We would also like to thank the Translation Bureau, Public Works and Government Services Canada for translating the French abstracts. Appreciation is also extended to Maurice Colpron and Rachelle Dufour of the Yukon Geological Survey (YGS) for their able assistance in the review of French translations of abstracts.

Wynne Krangle and Peter Long of K-L Services continue to provide excellent service in putting this publication together, including editing suggestions, design of diagrams, volume layout, and working under the pressure of a tight deadline. Sherry Tyrner of the Queen's Printer once again ensured that the printing process went smoothly.

This year saw the loss of several more colleagues and dear friends. We would like to dedicate this year's Yukon Exploration and Geology to all those geologists, prospectors and colleagues who are no longer with us today but who will always remain in our memories.

We welcome any input or suggestions that you may have to improve future YEG publications. Please contact me at (867) 667-8701, or by e-mail at leyla.weston@gov.yk.ca.

Leyla Weston

PRÉFACE

Yukon Exploration and Geology (YEG) continue d'être la publication principale de la Commission géologique du Yukon (Énergie, mines et ressources, gouvernement du Yukon). Ce volume est le 31^{ème} de la série.

YEG 2008 contient une mise à jour sur l'exploitation et l'exploration minière, les études réalisées par l'industrie et les résultats des travaux géologiques exécutés récemment sur le terrain. L'information est fournie par des prospecteurs, des géologues du secteur privé ainsi que du gouvernement, des sociétés minières et des étudiants qui souhaitent en faire bénéficier la communauté scientifique, le grand public, ainsi que les industries minières et pétrolières du Yukon. Nous apprécions leur aide et leur dévouement.

Après neuf ans au poste de rédactrice en chef, Diane Emond a pris un congé de la Commission géologique du Yukon pour poursuivre un diplôme d'infirmière. Diane a commencé sa carrière en tant que géologue avec la Division de l'exploration et des services géologiques en 1983. Elle fut pour moi un mentor et une superbe collègue de travail; son enthousiasme, son éthique de travail, et son optimisme nous manqueront beaucoup. Cette année notre équipe de rédaction comprenait Lauren Blackburn, Lara Lewis et moi-même. Je tiens à remercier mes corédactrices pour leur engagement, leur patience et leur bon travail; elles se sont vraiment dévouées à leurs tâches malgré la pression des échéances. Nous remercions le Bureau de la traduction, Travaux publics et Services gouvernementaux du Canada, pour la traduction française des résumés. Nous remercions également Maurice Colpron et Rachelle Dufour de la Commission géologique du Yukon pour leur aide avec la révision des traductions françaises.

Wynne Krangle et Peter Long de K-L Services ont une fois de plus fourni un excellent service de production, incluant des suggestions de révision, la conception de diagrammes et la mise en page tout en respectant les échéances serrées. Sherry Tyrner de l'Imprimeur de la Reine a, pour sa part, veillé au bon déroulement de l'impression.

Plusieurs de nos collègues et bons amis sont décédés en 2008. Nous dédions ce YEG 2008 à tous ces géologues, prospecteurs et collègues qui ne sont plus avec nous aujourd'hui mais qui persistent dans nos mémoires.

Pour tout commentaire ou suggestion afin d'améliorer les futures publications du YEG, vous être priés de communiquer avec moi par téléphone au (867) 667-8701 ou par courriel à l'adresse suivante: leyla.weston@gov.yk.ca.

Leyla Weston



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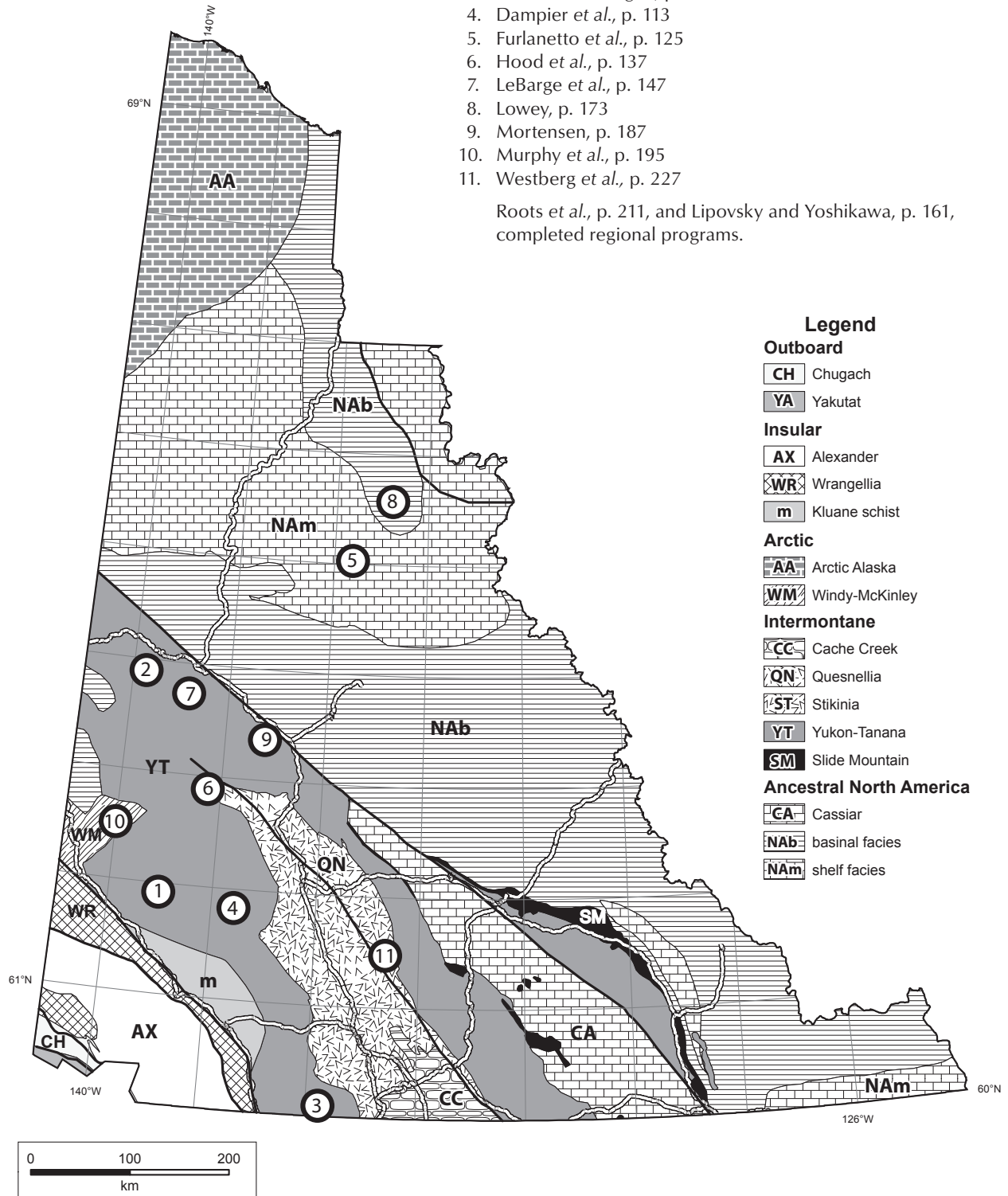
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2. Calmels and Froese, p. 85
3. Church and Clague, p. 99
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9. Mortensen, p. 187
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11. Westberg *et al.*, p. 227

Roots *et al.*, p. 211, and Lipovsky and Yoshikawa, p. 161, completed regional programs.





Prospector J.P. Ross

1948 TO 2008

John Peter Ross, known among friends as J.P., died suddenly at his home in Whitehorse, Yukon in early May, 2008.

J.P. was a Yukon resident for nearly 35 years. He was a dedicated member of the Yukon Prospectors' Association, where, at the time of his death, he was vice-president.

Before coming to the Yukon, he graduated from McGill University in 1970 with a Bachelor of Science in chemistry and a minor in biology. He began his Yukon career at the United Keno Hill Mines' mill at Elsa where he worked on five different occasions.

Inquisitive, he began exploring the northland as soon as he set foot in the Yukon. He read prodigiously and interviewed prospectors and miners who sparked his interest in pursuing independent mineral prospecting as a primary vocation in 1985. A smart business person, his new-found career began to flourish. In 1995, the Yukon Prospectors' Association selected John Peter Ross as Prospector of the Year. The award, based on a prospector's successes in uncovering new mineral discoveries, recognized his good fortune in finding the Killermun Lake gold property in the Ruby Range-Aishihik area in the vicinity of Haines Junction.

J.P. liked being out alone where there were no pressures, and he enjoyed listening to the sounds of silence. "There's a certain music in nature — the wind, rock avalanches, bears at 3 a.m., gurgling streams and wind in the grass. Even the stars seem to have a sound to them."

He will be missed by his prospecting friends. Besides his vast interest and knowledge on an eclectic array of subjects, J.P. shared his information willingly, indeed an extraordinary trait for a person operating in the highly competitive prospecting and exploration business where most people keep their secrets close to their vest.

J.P. was definitely his own person. His staunch individualism earned him rite of passage into Jim Robb's illustrious Colourful Five Percent club.

Jane Gaffin



George W. Gilbert

1925 TO 2008

George Gilbert passed away in Whitehorse, February 14, 2008, at the age of 82. He was a man of many professions, all of them self-taught.

George was a geologist, hard-rock miner, prospector, naturalist, as well as a government inspector of mining, fisheries and land use. He was a published author and self-described rock-hound. He counted amongst his friends not only regular folk, but those who served in high office such as Ed Schreyer, Governor General of Canada; James Smith, Commissioner of Yukon; and various heads of state and scientific organizations from across the world.

Born in Vancouver, British Columbia, in 1934 George moved with his family to the Cariboo mining town of Wells when it was just being established. He joined the Air Force near the end of World War II and served two years, returning to work at the Cariboo Gold Quartz (CGQ) mine in 1946. George eventually became the manager of the CGQ mine.

In 1967, when the CGQ mine ceased operations, George moved to Whitehorse to take on the position of Newmont Mining's resident geologist. While with Newmont, George and his prospecting crews explored many grassroots properties and mineral deposits in Yukon, including those in the Kluane Ranges and the Bonnet Plume area.

In 1970, George joined Keno Hill Exploration Ltd. and managed several exploration programs for three years before joining the Geology Division of the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development in the mid-1970s. He eventually became the Chief Mining Inspector of the Placer Mining Division, where he remained until he retired in 1989. He maintained his contacts with the mining industry and former colleagues throughout his retirement, even attending the annual Yukon Geoscience Forum two months before his passing.

George was a loving father and friend and will be greatly missed by all of his family, his colleagues and friends, and anyone who ever had the pleasure of his company. *Bill LeBarge*



*George inspecting claims.
(Photo by Robin Armour)*



*George prospecting.
(Photo by Robin Armour)*



*Part of Ishpa Glacier, British Columbia
(Courtesy of "Kicked by a dead moose" (G. Gilbert))*

