

export markets. Exports of zinc and lead in ores and concentrates also declined due to the recession.

In the Atlantic provinces lead production increased 7.3% to 73,440 tons (66 624 t) and zinc production increased 24% to 230,868 tons (209 440 t) in 1975. Brunswick Mining and Smelting Corporation Limited in New Brunswick was the Maritimes' largest producer. Newfoundland Zinc Mines Ltd. commenced production June 29, 1975 at its zinc property near Daniels Harbour, Nfld. and is expected to produce about 40,000 tons (36 000 t) of zinc annually.

In Quebec zinc production decreased 5.5% to 131,015 tons (118 855 t). Mining companies associated with Noranda Mines, Limited produced most of the zinc in Quebec. Mattagami Lake Mines Limited, the largest producer, mined 87,118 tons (79 032 t) in 1975. Normetal Mines Ltd. and Joutel Copper Mines Limited closed in 1975 due to ore exhaustion. However, La Société minière Louvem Inc. commenced zinc production at its former copper property near Val d'Or producing 33,963 tons (30 811 t) during the year. Lemoine Mines Ltd. near Chibougamau completed construction at its zinc-copper mine late in 1975 and began production early in 1976. Only 1,597 tons (1 449 t) of lead was produced in Quebec in 1975.

In Ontario zinc production decreased 22.7% to 371,339 tons (336 873 t). Texasgulf Canada Ltd., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Texas Gulf, Inc., which operates Canada's largest zinc mine at Timmins produced 276,814 tons (251 121 t) of zinc in 1975 compared to 302,702 tons (274 607 t) in 1974. The other major mines, Mattabi Mines Limited and Geco Mines Limited also recorded a substantial drop in production because of lesser volumes of lower grade ore being mined. The Sturgeon Lake joint venture operated by Falconbridge Copper Limited commenced production in February 1975 producing 24,753 tons (22 456 t) of zinc during the year. Lead production in Ontario declined 26.7% to 7,426 tons (6 737 t).

In Manitoba and Saskatchewan zinc production increased 2.9% to 77,641 tons (70 435 t). Mine production at Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Co., Limited declined to 33,697 tons (30 569 t) as the company continued a program of new mine development to offset mines being phased out of production. Sherritt Gordon Mines, Limited increased production at the Ruttan Lake and Fox Lake mines with a total of 67,023 tons (60 802 t) in 1975.

In British Columbia zinc production increased 27.6% to 109,372 tons (99 221 t) and lead production increased 25.5% to 76,447 tons (69 352 t). Production at Cominco Ltd.'s Sullivan and H.B. mines returned to normal levels following a four-month strike in 1974. Elsewhere in the province, the Annex mine of Reeves MacDonald Mines, Limited was closed due to ore exhaustion and Western Mines Limited slightly decreased lead and zinc production in 1975.

In the Yukon Territory lead production increased 39.0% to 138,234 tons (125 404 t) and zinc production increased 45.5% to 126,878 tons (115 102 t). Anvil Mining Corp. Limited, Canada's largest lead producer, returned to normal production levels in 1975 following a one-month strike in 1974. Kerr Addison Mines Limited and Aex Minerals Corporation Limited which jointly own the Grum lead-zinc-silver deposit near Faro undertook a major feasibility study in 1975 of this deposit which contains over 30 million tons (27.2 million t) of ore.

In the Northwest Territories lead production decreased 10.5% to 75,777 tons (68 744 t) and zinc production decreased 22.6% to 146,696 tons (133 080 t). Pine Point Mines Limited, which was the sole producer of lead and zinc, produced a lesser tonnage of lower grade ore. Discussions continued with the Government of Canada concerning development of the Polaris property of Arvik Mines Ltd. on Little Cornwallis Island. The Polaris orebody contains an estimated 25 million tons (22.7 million t) of ore grading 18% zinc-lead. Mineral Resources International continued construction at its Strathcona Sound zinc-lead-silver deposit on Baffin Island to be put into production in 1976. The ore reserves are estimated at 6.9 million tons (6.3 million t) grading 15.5% combined lead-zinc.