

be obtained separately by lease or grant from the provincial authority. Mining activities may be classified as placer, general minerals (or veined minerals and bedded minerals), fuels (coal, petroleum and gas) and quarrying. Provincial mining regulations under these divisions are summarized in the following paragraphs.

In most provinces where placer deposits occur, regulations define the size of placer holdings, the terms under which they may be acquired and the royalties to be paid.

General minerals are sometimes described as quartz, lode, or minerals in place. The most elaborate laws and regulations apply in this division. In all provinces except Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, a prospector's or miner's licence, valid for one year, must be obtained to search for mineral deposits, the licence being general in some areas but limited in others; a claim of promising ground of a specified size may then be staked. In British Columbia a licence is required only for staking and any number of dispositions may be staked under one licence. A claim must be recorded within a time limit and payment of recording fees made, except in Quebec where no fees are required. Work to a specified value per year must be performed on the claim for a period up to 10 years except in Quebec, where a development licence may be renewed on a yearly basis; in Manitoba and Saskatchewan no work commitment is required in the first year of the claim. The maximum life of a prospecting licence in Nova Scotia is six years continuous from the date of issue, after which the operator is expected to go to lease with a productive deposit. In Quebec and Nova Scotia a specified cost of work must be performed; any excess amount expended may be applied to subsequent renewals of the development licence. The taxation applied most frequently is a percentage of net profits of producing mines or royalties. In Saskatchewan, subsurface mineral regulations covering non-metallics stipulate the size and type of dispositions that may be made and the required expenditures for work to maintain the disposition in good standing, provide for fees, rentals and royalties, and set out the rights and obligations of the holder.

Coal, petroleum and natural gas. In provinces where coal occurs, specifications include the size of holdings, conditions of work and rental under which they may be held. In Quebec, the search for petroleum and natural gas may be carried out under an exploration licence followed by an operating lease; the exploration licence covers a period of five years and an area of not over 24 282 ha (hectares), whereas the operating lease extends over a 20-year period and an area not less than 202 ha or more than 2023 ha. In Nova Scotia, mining rights to certain minerals, including petroleum, occurring under differing conditions may be held by different licensees. Provision is sometimes made for royalties. Acts or regulations govern methods of production. In the search for petroleum and natural gas, an exploration permit or reservation is usually required; however, in Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia leases usually follow the exploration reservation or permit when a discovery of oil or gas is made. In Alberta, exploration costs are applicable in part on the first year's lease rental; in Manitoba they may be applied to the lease rental for a period up to three years; in British Columbia credit is given for up to the first 24 months rental; and in Saskatchewan credit is initially given for up to three years rental, having regard to the amount of excess credit established. In other provinces, discovery of oil or gas is usually prerequisite to obtaining a lease or grant of a limited area, subject to carrying out drilling obligations and paying a rental, a fee, or a royalty on production.

Quarrying regulations define the size of holdings and the terms of lease or grant. In Nova Scotia, sand deposits of a quality suitable for uses other than building purposes and limestone deposits of metallurgical grade belong to the Crown; gypsum deposits belong to the owner of the property. In New Brunswick, quarriable substances (ordinary stone, building and construction stone, sand, gravel, peat and peat moss) are vested in the owner of the land; a shore area lying outside Crown land may be subject to the Quarriable Substances Act; and no person shall take or remove more than 0.383 m³ (cubic metres) of a quarriable substance from Crown land or a designated shore area without a permit or lease. On Quebec public lands and on those granted to individuals after January 1, 1966, the stone, sand and gravel, like other building materials, belong to the Crown; quarries located on land granted to individuals before 1966 belong to the