

aims to identify and promote projects that lend themselves to quick and tangible results in the development of Quebec's mineral resources. It will carry out, or have carried out, studies on marketing, financing, transportation, development and exploitation techniques, profitability and any other essential parameter affecting the development of mineral resources.

Ontario. The objective of the Mines Division of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources is to provide an optimum continuous contribution to the economy of Ontario by stimulating and regulating the utilization of available supplies of minerals by resource products industries. The Mines Division is composed of four branches in Head Office: the Mineral Resources Branch, the Geological Branch, the Mines Engineering Branch and the Mineral Research Branch.

The objective of the Mineral Resources Branch is to ensure the orderly development and utilization of provincial non-renewable resources. It is essentially a strategic planning group composed of four sections: Industrial Minerals (including the administration of the Pits and Quarries Control Act), Metallic Minerals, Petroleum Resources and Commodity Analysis.

The Geological Branch's objectives are to encourage an optimum level of exploration activity and rate of mineral discovery through geological, geophysical and geochemical surveys of the province, the publication of maps and reports on mineral occurrences in Ontario and the education of prospectors and others in mineral exploration. Assessment work files are administered by this Branch. It is also responsible for the administration of the Mineral Exploration Assistance Program, a program designed to stimulate exploration in the Red Lake, Geraldton—Beardmore, Kirkland Lake and Cobalt areas. One third of the cost of exploration to a maximum of \$33,000 is provided to small- and medium-sized companies to explore in these areas.

The Mineral Research Branch is composed of the Assay Laboratory in Toronto and the Temiskaming Testing Laboratory in Cobalt. The Assay Laboratory provides assay and analytical services and conducts mineralogical investigations to aid in the discovery and development of mineral deposits. Its services are available to the mining industry and public at large. The Temiskaming Testing Laboratory situated at Cobalt operates a bulk sampling and assay laboratory to assist the producers of the area in marketing their silver-cobalt ores.

The Mines Engineering Branch administers Part IX of The Mining Act which calls for regular examination of all operating mines, quarries, sand and gravel pits and certain metallurgical works with a view to ensuring the health and safety of employees as well as the public. Regional geologists and mines engineers provide advice or support to the line organization of the Ministry. The Lands Administration and Surveys and Mapping Branches of the Lands Division handle matters dealing with the recording of mining claims, assessment work, etc. and the preparation of title to mining lands.

Manitoba. The Mines Branch of the Manitoba Department of Mines, Resources and Environmental Management offers the following services: recording the staking and acquisition of Crown mineral rights and other relative material associated with minerals, compiling assessment information and inspecting mineral rights dispositions; compiling geological data pertinent to mineral occurrences, issuing reports and maps covering geological and geochemical surveys, operating an analytical and assay laboratory to assist prospectors and geologists in the evaluation of mineral occurrences and the classification of rocks and minerals; giving engineering approval of mining works and inspecting mining operations regarding the health and safety of employees, controlling in-plant environmental and safety regulations related to mining and quarrying operations, training mine rescue crews and inspecting mine rescue facilities; inspecting oil well drilling sites, abandonment and reworking and maintaining records of each operation.

Saskatchewan. The Mineral Lands Branch of the Department of Mineral Resources is responsible for the disposition of all Crown minerals and maintains records respecting areas let out by lease, permit, drilling reservation, claim or claim block. Recording offices, located at Regina, La Ronge, Uranium City and Creighton, assist the public in determining the lands available and accept applications.

Officers of the Mines Safety Branch of the Department of Labour under the authority of The Mines Regulation Act, make regular examinations of all mines to ensure proper conditions for the health and safety of the men employed. Safety education, particularly in the form of first aid and mine rescue instruction, is also part of the work of this Branch. All Branch of-