

Independent Geoscience Technical Advisory Committee

Activity Plan 2023-2026

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Chairperson's Message

I am pleased to present this Activity Plan for the Independent Geoscience Technical Advisory Committee, a category 3 entity under the **Transparency and Accountability Act**. The plan covers the period April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2026.

The Independent Geoscience Technical Advisory Committee is a geoscience-focused committee that provides advice to guide the programs of the Geological Survey of Newfoundland and Labrador. The plan outlines the Committee's intended activities for the next three years in carrying out this role.

The plan has been prepared in consideration of Government's Strategic Direction relevant to the mining sector, and in accordance with requirements of the **Transparency and Accountability Act**.

My signature below is on behalf of the Independent Geoscience Technical Advisory Committee and is indicative of the committee's accountability for the preparation of the plan, as well as the achievement of its stated objective.

Sincerely,



Dorothea Hanchar, Geological Survey of Newfoundland and Labrador

Overview

In recognition of the importance of seeking industry advice and understanding industry needs when planning the work of the Geological Survey of Newfoundland and Labrador (GSNL), the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador committed to establishing the Independent Geoscience Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) in **Mining the Future 2030**, as part of an integrated, multiyear plan.

The TAC serves in an advisory capacity to the GSNL, providing science-based recommendations on geoscience-project selection and methods, advising on the annual priorities and operational plans of the GSNL, as well as identify areas for future geoscience project selection in order to ensure the work of the GSNL meets both the mineral industry's needs and the demands for critical minerals to support marketing of Newfoundland and Labrador and enhance exploration investment.

TAC voting members are researchers, resource managers, and exploration geoscientists drawn from industry and academia representing a range of interests and fields of expertise.

As of March 31, 2023, the Board members were:

- Alex Smith, Assistant Deputy Minister, Mines Branch
- Dorothea Hanchar, Director, GSNL
- Wouter Bleeker, Geological Survey of Canada (GSC) Liaison (Ex Officio)
- Peter Dimmell and Roderick Smith, Mineral Industry Representatives
- Stephen Piercey, Academic Representative

The TAC receives operational support from the Department of Industry, Energy and Technology, and does not have a stand-alone budget. Members serve without remuneration, but may be reimbursed, on request, for travel expenses associated with attending meetings.

Mandate

The mandate of the TAC is to:

- Provide advice on the annual priorities and operational plans of the GSNL to ensure the industry's perspective is considered;
- Undertake an annual planning and review exercise of proposed and on-going projects to enhance the GSNL outcomes and to identify opportunities to leverage industry support;
- Provide advice and recommendations on regions / commodities for GSNL programs in order to enhance exploration companies' opportunities to focus on areas of higher potential and to make informed decisions regarding their exploration plans;
- Provide advice to GSNL on the plans and implementation strategies of proposed federal geoscience programs and funding;
- Apprise GSNL of emerging exploration trends and issues as they pertain to exploration for new mineral deposits and critical minerals; and
- Provide feedback on how the program can increase mineral industry awareness of GSNL project activities and results.

Vision

The Geological Survey of Newfoundland and Labrador's annual priorities, operational plans, programs and services are well informed by, and responsive to, industry.

Primary Client

The primary client of the TAC is the GSNL, which receives feedback on its annual priorities, operational plans, programs and services.

Strategic Issue

Advise the GSNL on Priorities of the Mineral Industry

The priority of the TAC for the period April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2026 is focused on providing advice to guide the programs of the GSNL, advising on the annual priorities and operational plans of the GSNL, and identifying areas for future geoscience project selection to help ensure the work of the GSNL meets:

- the mineral industry's needs,
- the demands for critical minerals to support marketing of the province, and
- enhance exploration investment.

The following objective and indicators have been established by the TAC and will apply to each year covered by the planning period. Performance results will be made available each year in an annual report, for the fiscal years 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26, as required under the **Transparency and Accountability Act**.

Objective

By March 31 each year, the Independent Geoscience Technical Advisory Committee will have met and provided advice on the annual priorities and operational plans of the Geological Survey of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Indicators

- Advised the Geological Survey of Newfoundland and Labrador and recommended areas for future geoscience project selection.
- Reviewed and provided feedback on the Geological Survey's annual work plan.

Annex A - Strategic Direction

A strategic direction is the articulation of a desired physical, social, or economic outcome that would normally require action by, or involvement of, more than one government entity. The following strategic direction has been identified by Government for this planning cycle and is relevant to the operations of the TAC.

Developing Innovation and Opportunity in Our Mineral Exploration and Mining Sector

Outcome: Position Newfoundland and Labrador as a globally competitive, top tier jurisdiction for mineral exploration and development.

