



**Geoscience BC**

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# **GEOSCIENCE BC INTRODUCTION & RESEARCH UPDATE OVERVIEW**

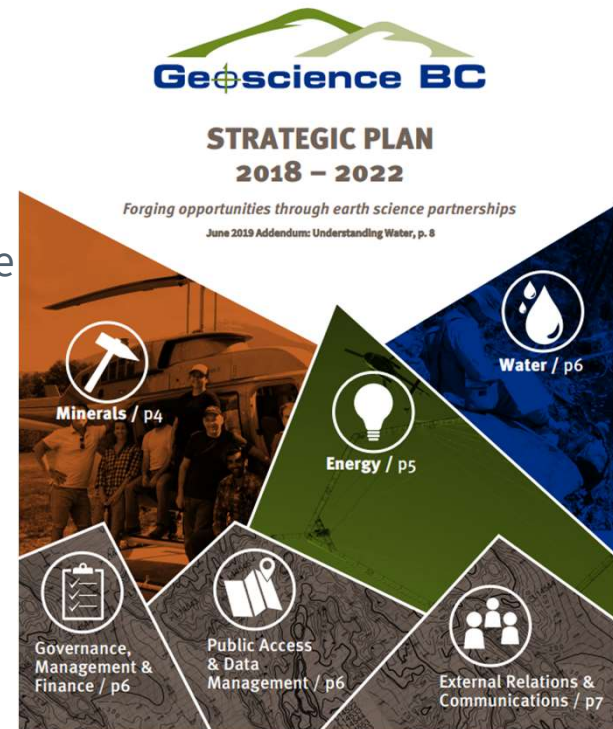
**CARIBOO REGIONAL DISTRICT BOARD**

**March 5, 2021**



## ABOUT GEOSCIENCE BC

- We are part of a successful ‘made-in-BC’ coordinated approach to public geoscience.
  - To add value and augment British Columbia Geological Survey and Geological Survey of Canada.
- We generate independent, relevant, public earth science research and data about British Columbia’s minerals, energy and water resources.
  - To advance knowledge, inform responsible development, encourage investment and stimulate innovation.
- We collaborate with the resource sectors, academia, communities, Indigenous groups and government.
  - We are a not-for-profit society incorporated in 2005.
  - Our current 5-year Strategic Plan runs from 2018-2022.



# WHO WE ARE



## Minerals



## Energy



## Water

### Identifying New Natural Resource Opportunities

Advancing Science & Innovative Geoscience Technologies

Facilitating Responsible Natural Resource Development

Enabling Clean Energy

Understanding Water

Governance, Management  
& Finance

Public Access &  
Data Management

External Relations  
& Communications

## COMPLETED & CURRENT PROJECTS

Strategic Research Area	Completed Research Projects	Current Research Projects
Minerals	137	19
Energy – Oil & Gas	24	12
Energy - Geothermal	11	1
Water	25	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>39</b>

- Geoscience BC has funded 236 projects since 2005, of which:
  - 197 are completed; and
  - 39 are currently underway or planned.
- Several past minerals research projects in Cariboo Regional District
  - e.g. TREK, QUEST;
  - Have brought new mineral exploration investment to the area.

## GEOSCIENCE BC RESEARCH FUNDING

- Last core provincial funding: \$5 million one-year bridge funding for Geoscience BC announced by Minister Michelle Mungall, May 2019.
- Standing Finance Committee recommends continued funding.
- February 23, 2021: Renewed request submitted to Minister Ralston include six research themes:
  - Funding **Geoscience BC \$6.5 million for fiscal year 2021/22**;
  - Establishing a sustainable **long-term funding mechanism** for Geoscience BC, with an annual investment of \$5.5 million for fiscal years 2022/23 and 2023/24; and
  - Providing a **sustainable level of base funding for the British Columbia Geological Survey** so that it can continue to collaborate with partners to deliver its complementary mandate and work with Geoscience BC to leverage further federal government support.





**Geoscience BC**



**CENTRAL INTERIOR COPPER-GOLD RESEARCH (CICGR)**

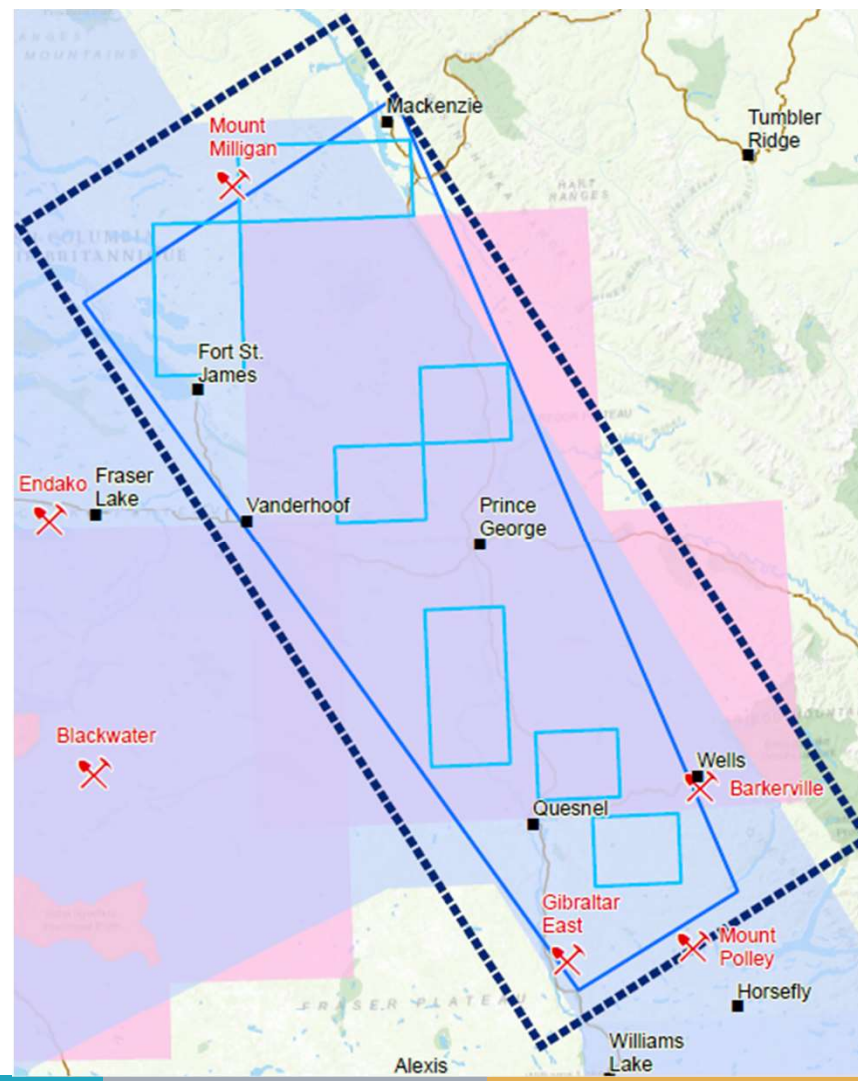


## CICGR – WHAT IS IT?

**The question:** What is beneath the till between Mount Milligan and Gibraltar mines?

Quesnel terrane:

- Runs northwest-southeast across the province.
- Significant copper-gold deposits, but not discovered in this area.
- ‘Gap’ between Mount Milligan and Gibraltar mines.



# CICGR – WHAT IS IT?

## How CICGR answers the question

- Major series of public earth science research projects
- Coordination with government: Geological Survey of Canada and BC Geological Survey
- Planning and engagement:
  - Geoscience BC Technical Advisory Committee and Board
  - Communities (NCLGA) and minerals sector (AME and MABC)
  - Indigenous groups
- \$2.9 million committed to date, 50,700 km<sup>2</sup> area of interest

- Improved understanding of geology
- Focus mineral exploration and investment
- More informed natural resource decisions



## CICGR: WHAT TO EXPECT

For every \$1 spent on Geoscience BC minerals research, there is \$6.60 invested in mineral exploration\*

### Example: Search Phase III Project

- 2017 geophysical survey (by helicopter)
- 9,600 km<sup>2</sup> - Kemess Mine to northwest of Mackenzie
- Included and considered industry, First Nations & community input through meetings and workshops
- All data made public; announced at AME's Roundup 2018 conference
- New staking: 64 new or expanded minerals tenures acquired in six months
- New mineral exploration programs started in 2018; industry agreements with First Nations

\*since 2005 to September 2018. Assessment Report Index System (ARIS) reports mentioning Geoscience BC: \$211.9 million. Geoscience BC minerals research: \$32.1 million

# CICGR: INITIAL RESEARCH PROJECTS

## Central Interior Copper-Gold Research: Surficial Exploration Project

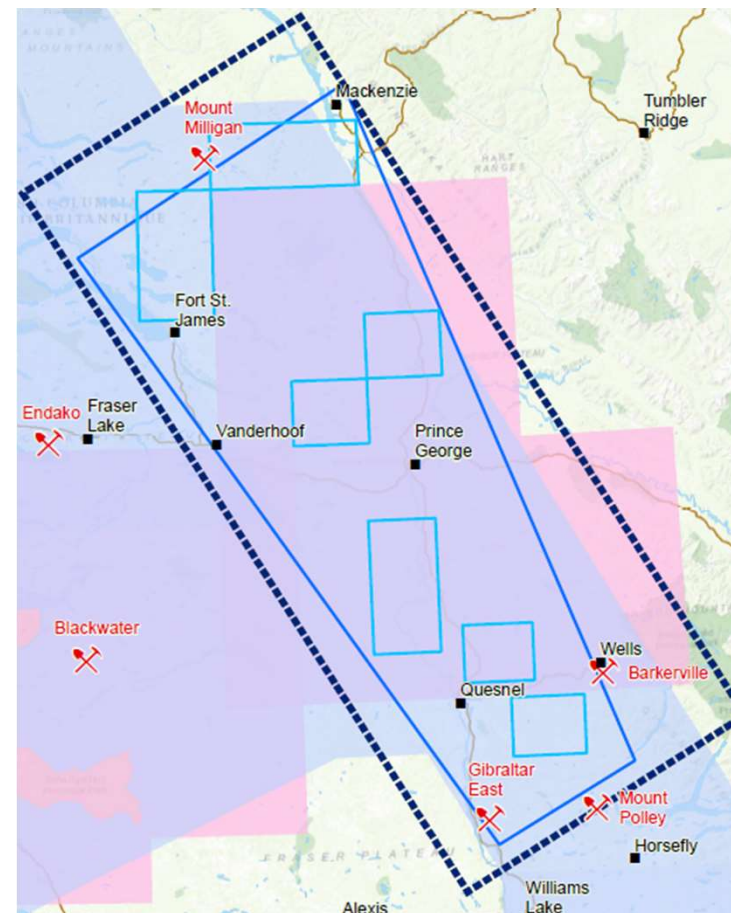
- Generating new data about the layers of sediments deposited by glaciers (e.g. till).
- Provide a framework that can be used to trace till samples and geochemical anomalies back to their source.
- Goal: identify areas of potential mineral exploration interest.
- Ongoing fieldwork in 2021.
- **Initial till maps and geochemistry due late April 2021.**
- Final mapping, data and report due **March 2022.**



# CICGR: INITIAL RESEARCH PROJECTS

## Identification of New Porphyry Potential Under Cover in Central British Columbia

- Using existing public geophysical data to identify, map and model prospective copper-gold deposits and related rocks.
- Goal: identify areas of potential mineral exploration interest.
- **New geophysical maps and report due August 2021.**



## CICGR: NEXT PROJECT

- Planned overburden drilling program to confirm and provide more detail on mineral potential.
- ~50 drill holes in CICGR area.
- Sample and confirm thickness of overburden; sample bedrock.
- Potential legacy wells for future monitoring and research.
- Overburden drilling program in planning stages
  - Permitting, consultation, COVID restrictions.





**Geoscience BC**  
**THANK YOU**

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