

Nunavut Prospectors Program

Basic Information



Department of Economic
Development and
Transportation





Nunavut Prospector's Program

The Nunavut Prospector's Program (NPP) was established to increase community-based mineral exploration and help sustain mineral activity in Nunavut. The program provides project-related financial support to Nunavut residents engaged in prospecting in the Territory.

Who Is Eligible For A NPP Contribution?

To be eligible for funding under the NPP you must be:

- A resident of Nunavut.
- Eighteen (18) years of age or older.
- In possession of a valid Prospector's License.
- Able to demonstrate a working knowledge of prospecting and claim staking, or have completed the Government of Nunavut's "Introduction to Prospecting in Nunavut" course or an equivalent.

Before completing the NPP Application form you should have:

- A Nunavut Prospecting Licence - available in person or by mail at the Mining Recorder's office of Indian & Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) in Iqaluit
- A map outlining your project area. Make sure the map has the UTM or Latitude/Longitude coordinates on corners of the area you plan to prospect
- A preliminary discussion with the Resident Geologist about your project.
- Determine whether your project area is on Inuit Owned Lands (IOL). If it is on IOL, obtain the appropriate access permits from the Regional Inuit Association (RIA).
- Organize a basic plan for your project, see below for guidance.

Organizing Your Project

There are many good reasons to want to prospect an area, such as having seen unusually coloured rocks or having seen quartz veins you feel are worth investigating or maybe your traditional knowledge suggests that there might be something interesting there. It is a very good idea to research the Nunavut Minerals (NUMIN) database to find places with known mineral showings. For the beginner, these known locations are a good place to start. And, NUMIN Gateway to find assessment reports about the showings or claims. The Resident Geologist can assist with NUMIN showings and geology maps. Once you have narrowed down where you would like to prospect. Here are a few simple guidelines to help you through this step.

- a) Provide the reasons why you choose this area.

- b) Choose a name for your project for identification purposes (e.g. Ulu Creek Project)
- c) Outline and label the area of interest with map coordinates on a 1:50,000 scale topographic or “Claim Map”. A claim map can be ordered from the INAC Mining Recorder’s office or you can use Google Earth as well.
- d) Label the outlined prospecting area on the map with Latitude/Longitude coordinates. Label the map with the NTS map sheet name, number and scale. Also label the map with your name and prospecting project name.
- e) At this point, it would be a good idea to review your proposed project with the Resident Geologist, who can give you advice and help you fill out the application forms if you require assistance.

PLANNING YOUR PROJECT

A first priority should be to determine the status of the land you wish to prospect, namely, whether it is Crown Land or Inuit Owned Land. To determine the status, you need to:

1. Contact your local Regional Inuit Association (RIA) or look at the Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. (NTI) map called “Inuit Owned Lands in Nunavut”. You can obtain the NTI map from most Hamlets or directly from NTI.
2. If your project is on “Crown Land” you need to obtain a “Claim Map” of the area from INAC Mining Recorder’s Office in Iqaluit. A Claim Map will show you where there are existing claims, if any, in your project area. If there are claims in your project area, then you need to revise your project area to fit outside of the claimed area, or choose a new project area.
3. If your project area is on “Surface Rights Only Inuit Owned Land”, you need to obtain an “Access to Inuit Owned Lands” permit from the RIA to prospect or stake claims. Make sure the permit allows you to stake claims. Once you have the permit, you should order a Claim Map from the Mining Recorder in Iqaluit to see if there are claims in or around your project area.
4. If your project is on “Surface and Subsurface Inuit Owned Land”, you will have to contact the RIA for permission to prospect and carry out exploration work. This is the same process as for “Surface Rights Only” lands. You will also need to contact NTI in Cambridge Bay to get the “mineral rights” for your project area. NTI allows prospectors to gain the mineral rights on small sections of their lands, so you will need to tell them how much area you plan to prospect or explore for minerals. In this case, you do not need to stake claims on the NTI land.

It is important to remember that checking existing land status (called “tenure”) is essential for all prospectors, whether NPP supported or not. The resident geologist has land tenure that can be viewed on Google Earth™ mapping service.



FIELDWORK

Keep a Daily Diary

As a condition of the NPP, you are required to keep a “daily log” of what you have done while prospecting. You should be particularly careful to describe the traverses or routes you made while prospecting and record the locations and descriptions of samples you have taken. Also, mention what days your assistant(s) or partner(s) were with you.

Collecting Samples

You should have at least 25 photocopies of the Sample Description Sheet, with you to fill out as you take samples. Ideally you would collect at least 20 samples during a project, and send the more interesting-looking ones to be assayed at the end of the prospecting season. Remember to fill out a Sample Description Sheet for every sample you take, regardless of whether it is a grab sample, a stream sediment sample or anything else.

Recording Your Traverses

A traverse is the path or route taken across the land during a day of prospecting. Usually the traverse is made with the help of a compass or GPS, map and knowledge of the land, while examining the rocks for signs of economic mineralization. Prospecting traverses can also be done along a shoreline by boat. Although you may be very familiar with the land you are prospecting it is very important you record on a map the route you take as it is easy to forget your traverse route after even a short while. Therefore, as you prospect, you need to plot every traverse onto your base map, and mark the location of every sample you take on the base map as well.

YOUR FINAL REPORT

Preparing Your Final Report

A project Final Report is a requirement under the terms of the NPP and must be completed before a Final Payment can be made. The following are required in the Final Report.

- The name of the project
- The location of the project (NTS map sheet name and number)
- Work performed including significant assay results
- The start and end dates of fieldwork and relevant information on any claims staked
- Conclusion summarizing what was found and what you think the mineral potential is for your project area
 - Recommend whether future prospecting or exploration work in the project area should continue and the reason(s) why exploration should continue
 - A summary of the cost of the project describing how much money was spent and what the money was spent on (See list of eligible/ineligible expenses below). It is important to remember, that nearly all expenses claimed require copies of original receipts, except for your daily food allowance.

ADDRESSES

This is a list of address that prospectors can use to obtain information, supplies, or services. The list is by no means complete and is meant as a guide only. Prospectors should add to this list as their contact grow.

Resident Geologists

Minerals & Petroleum Division
Department of Economic Development &
Transportation
Government of Nunavut
Toll Free 1-888-975-5999
Email: minerals@gov.nu.ca

Community Mining Advisor

Minerals & Petroleum Division
Department of Economic Development &
Transportation
Government of Nunavut
P.O. Box 289
Arviat, Nunavut
Canada, X0C 0E0
Tel. (867) 857-3167
Fax (867) 857-2380
E-mail: otagalik@gov.nu.ca

Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.

P.O. Box 76
Cambridge Bay, Nunavut
Canada, X0E 0C0
Tel. (867) 983-2517
Fax (867) 983-2723
www.tunngavik.com
ntilands.tunngavik.com/maps/

Kivalliq Inuit Association

P.O. Box 340
Rankin Inlet, Nunavut
Canada, X0E 0G0
Tel. (867) 645-2810
Fax (867) 645-3855
www.kivalliqinuitassociation.com

Kitikmeot Inuit Association

P.O. Box 360
Kugluktuk, Nunavut
Canada, X0E 0E0
Tel. (867) 982-3310
Fax (867) 982-3311
www.kitia.ca

Qikqtani Inuit Association

P.O. Box 219
Iqaluit, Nunavut
Canada, X0E 0H0
Tel. (867) 979-53911
Fax (867) 979-1643
www.qia.ca

Mining Recorders Office

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
969 Qimugjuk Building PO Box 100
Iqaluit, Nunavut
Canada, X0A 0H0
Tel. (867) 975-4281
Fax (867) 975-4286
Email: landsmining@aadnc-aandc.gc.ca

Canada-Nunavut Geoscience Office

1106 Ikaluktuutiak Drive
PO Box 2319
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0
Tel. (867) 975-4529
Fax: (867) 979-0708
Email: serge.basso@canada.ca
www.cngo.ca

Geological Survey of Canada

601 Booth Street
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada, K1A 0E8
Toll Free: 1-888-252-4301
Tel. (613) 995-4342
Fax (613) 943-0646
www.gsc.nrcan.gc.ca

Nunavut Geoscience

NUMIN website
www.nugeo.ca

Example of a Prospector's Diary

NTS sheet # 66A08,

Traverse #1

June 2, 2018

Sample # 2018MB-01

Sample Location – 390 432 E. 7434 150 N

Today I prospected the north part of Half Way Hills. I stopped at two outcrops to sample and take notes. I was not able to sample one outcrop because the rock was too hard and I did not have my heavy sledgehammer. I will try to come back if there is enough time.

NTS sheet #66A08,

Traverse #2

June 3, 2018

SE of Half Way Hills; sampled a large outcrop; rusty at east-end.

Sample 2018MB-02 – from rusty zone – took a rusty rock sample with lots of pyrite (10%)

Chalcopyrite (2%) & maybe Pyrrhotite 1% (?)

June 4, 2018 – did not prospect; rained for most of the day.

Example of a Travers map

