Saskatchewan Geological Survey

Student Information Session

2025

Saskatchewan

What is the SGS?

Part of Saskatchewan Ministry of Energy and Resources

- Provide *regional* geological context to facilitate the responsible exploration and development of the Province's resources
- Support regulation of responsible production/exploration within government
- Create publically available maps, scientific reports, data sets of Precambrian bedrock, Phanerozoic and glacial geology, and geophysical data
- Review and manage industry mineral assessment work

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What do we do?

The Saskatchewan Geological Survey is responsible for investigating, compiling and maintaining information on the geology, and mineral and petroleum resources of the province.

What does that look like?

Minerals Geoscience Unit

- Northern mapping projects in the Canadian Shield
- Geophysical research

Geoscience Information and Modelling Unit

- GIS work, including 3D modelling
- RPAS (drone) programs
- Mineral assessment work
- Resource evaluation
- Education and outreach
- Publication Editing

Sedimentary Geoscience Unit

- Phanerozoic stratigraphy and mapping to investigate the resource potential of commodities, such as, oil and gas, critical minerals (i.e., helium, lithium, potash, rare earth elements, etc.) and hydrogen.
- Geohazard assessment
- Fieldwork for commodities south of the Canadian Shield
- Education and outreach

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Why Work with the Saskatchewan Geological Survey?

Three main strengths we offer:

1. **Experience**

- First-hand application of techniques learned in school
- Extended time in field vs shift-work creates more time to sharpen skills

Owen Kenkel – Enviro. Biology Student at U of S

“ Working as a junior field assistant with the Saskatchewan Geological Survey has been the most valuable learning opportunity of my academic career. Despite not being a major in the geological sciences, my involvement has provided me with experience doing field research, has taught me things about geology, and has reinforced my interest in achieving my goal of performing research of my own. Additionally, I had the privilege of experiencing the beauty of Saskatchewan's boreal forest. I would recommend this position to anyone who is interested in exploration and field research, and to anyone with a love of the outdoors.”

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Why Work with the Saskatchewan Geological Survey?

Three main strengths we offer:

2. **Mentorship**

- Abundant 1-on-1 time with experienced geologists
- We realize that most students go on to work in industry – We're keen on making sure you're well trained for your future career endeavors

Dillon Johnstone - Precambrian Research Geologist at the Saskatchewan Geological Survey

"Working as a Junior Field Assistant with the Saskatchewan Geological Survey was pivotal in shaping my career in Precambrian geology. The role expanded my knowledge, equipped me with essential technical skills, and instilled confidence in my aspirations as a geologist. This experience opened doors to further industry opportunities, graduate school and, ultimately, led me back to the Survey as a full-time Precambrian Research Geologist, bringing my journey full circle."

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Why Work with the Saskatchewan Geological Survey?

Three main strengths we offer:

3. **Reputation**

- Surveys world-wide are known to provide excellent experience for their students
- Industry knows that an ex-survey student is likely to be a good candidate

Jason Craven – Exploration Manager – NexGen Energy

“Two summers with the Survey formed the solid foundation that has supported my entire career. The exposure to challenging teamwork in remote settings combined with highly technical information served to propel my skill sets in the exploration industry. I can’t say enough about how much I learned about geology and myself along the way”

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Student Allocations for Each Position:

Northern Saskatchewan

9 Junior Geological Assistants

Regina Subsurface Lab

2 Junior Geological Assistants

1 of which is a field back-up

Regina Downtown Office

2 Junior Geological Assistants

1 of which is a field back-up

La Ronge Precambrian Lab

1 Junior Geological Assistant

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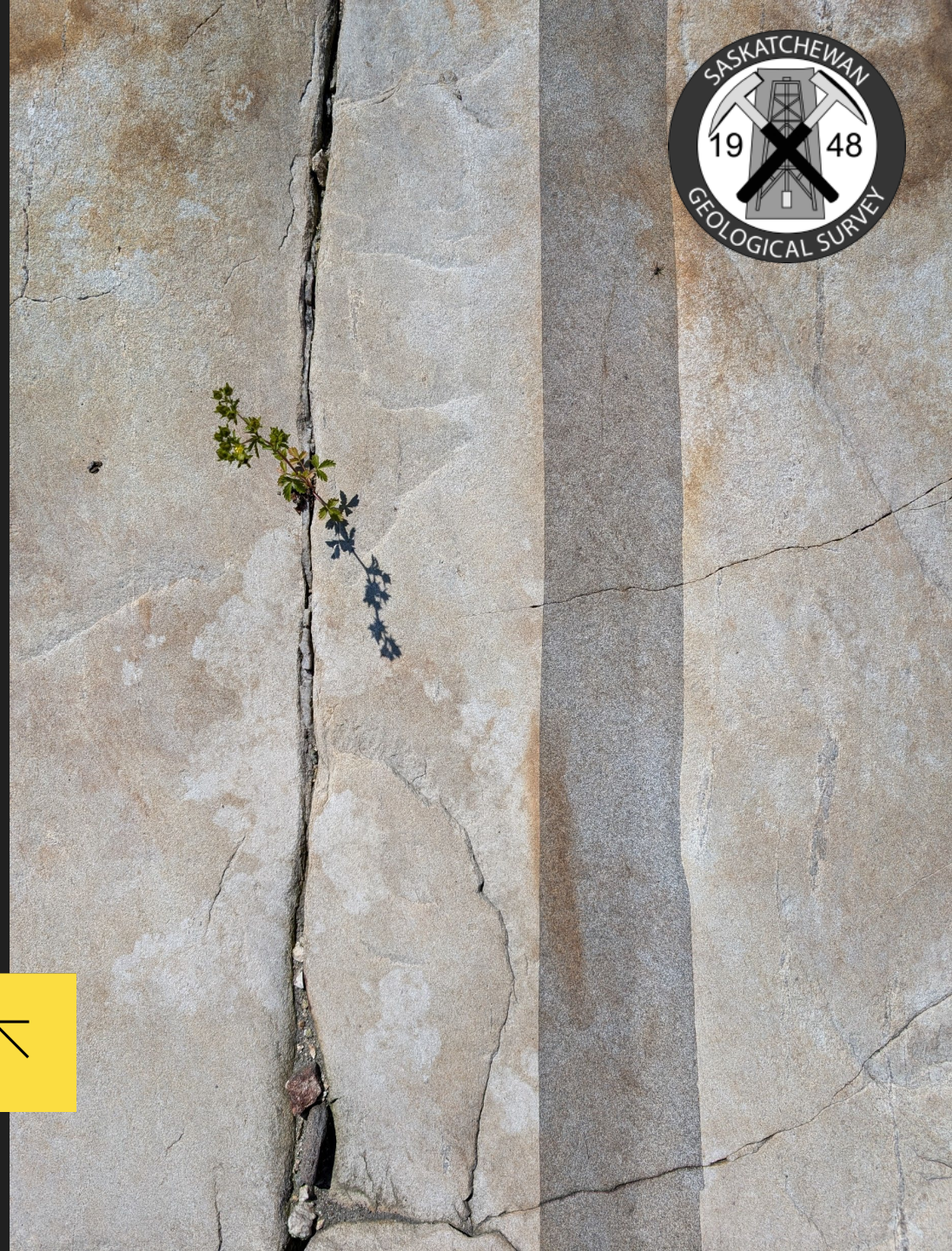
Job Basics - Requirements

Junior Office/Lab	Junior Field	Senior Field
Full time student or within 1-yr post graduation		
Legally entitled to work in Canada		
Completed/currently taking at least one 1st year geoscience or GIS course		≥ 3rd year geoscience/ courses (typically more)
No relevant experience necessary; on-the-job training		Relevant experience at the Junior level

Junior (2026)	Senior (2026)
$22.295/hour	$24.079/hour



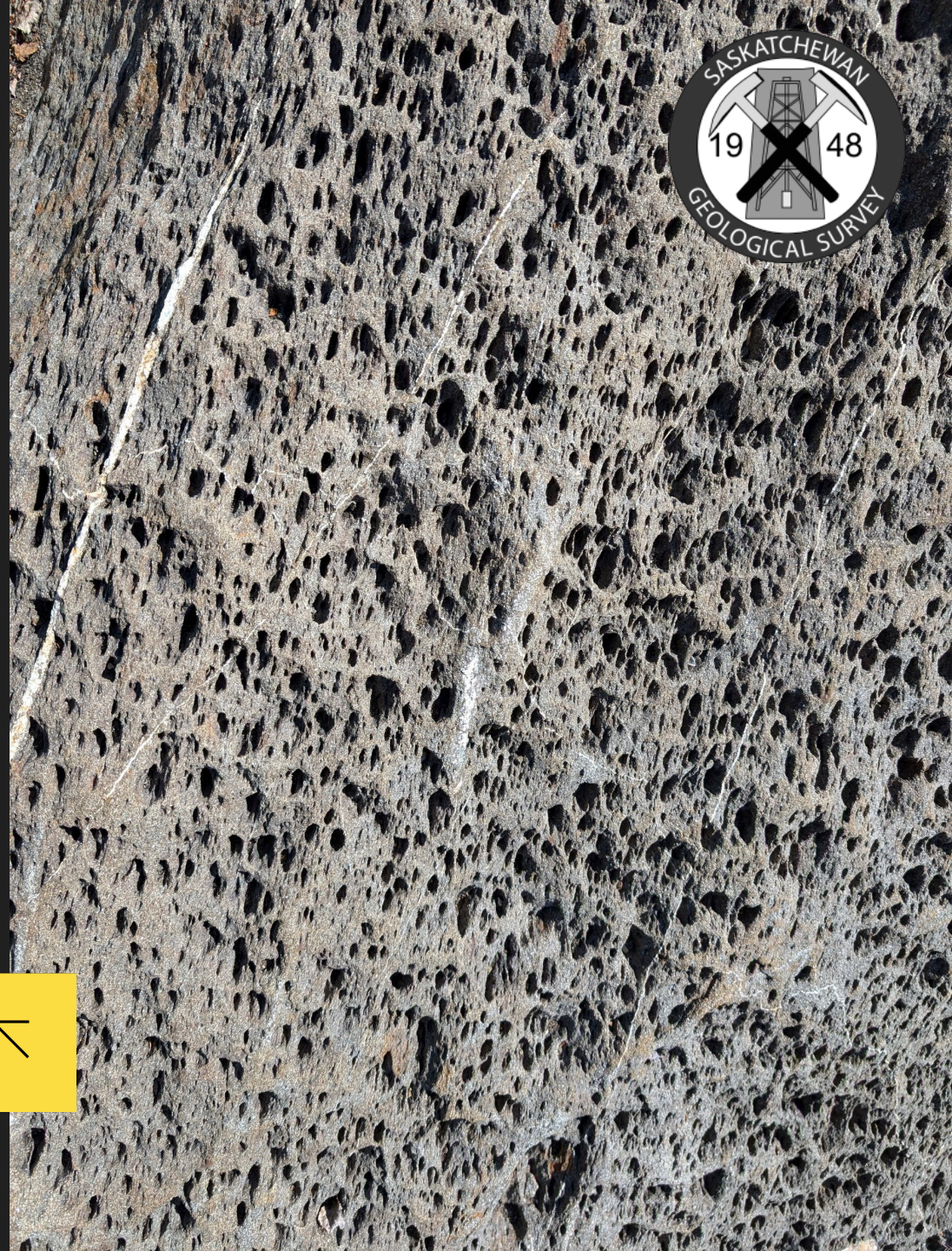
Job Basics – Additional Requirements/Preferences

Additional field qualifications
Above average to excellent health: strenuous work in isolated conditions
Able to hike: 4-8 km/day, no trail, 40 lb. pack, varied weather
Able to swim (preferred)
Driver's license (preferred)
***Pleasure Craft Operator Card ~ $50**
***Canada Firearms Possession and Acquisition License ~ $220**
****Wilderness First Aid* - May 27-29, Regina - expenses covered**

Additional office/lab qualifications
Own accommodation (Regina or La Ronge)
Familiarity with software: Excel, ArcGIS, databases, programming
Willingness to do some fieldwork (preferred)

** Can get once offered the job*

*** Provided by the Survey*

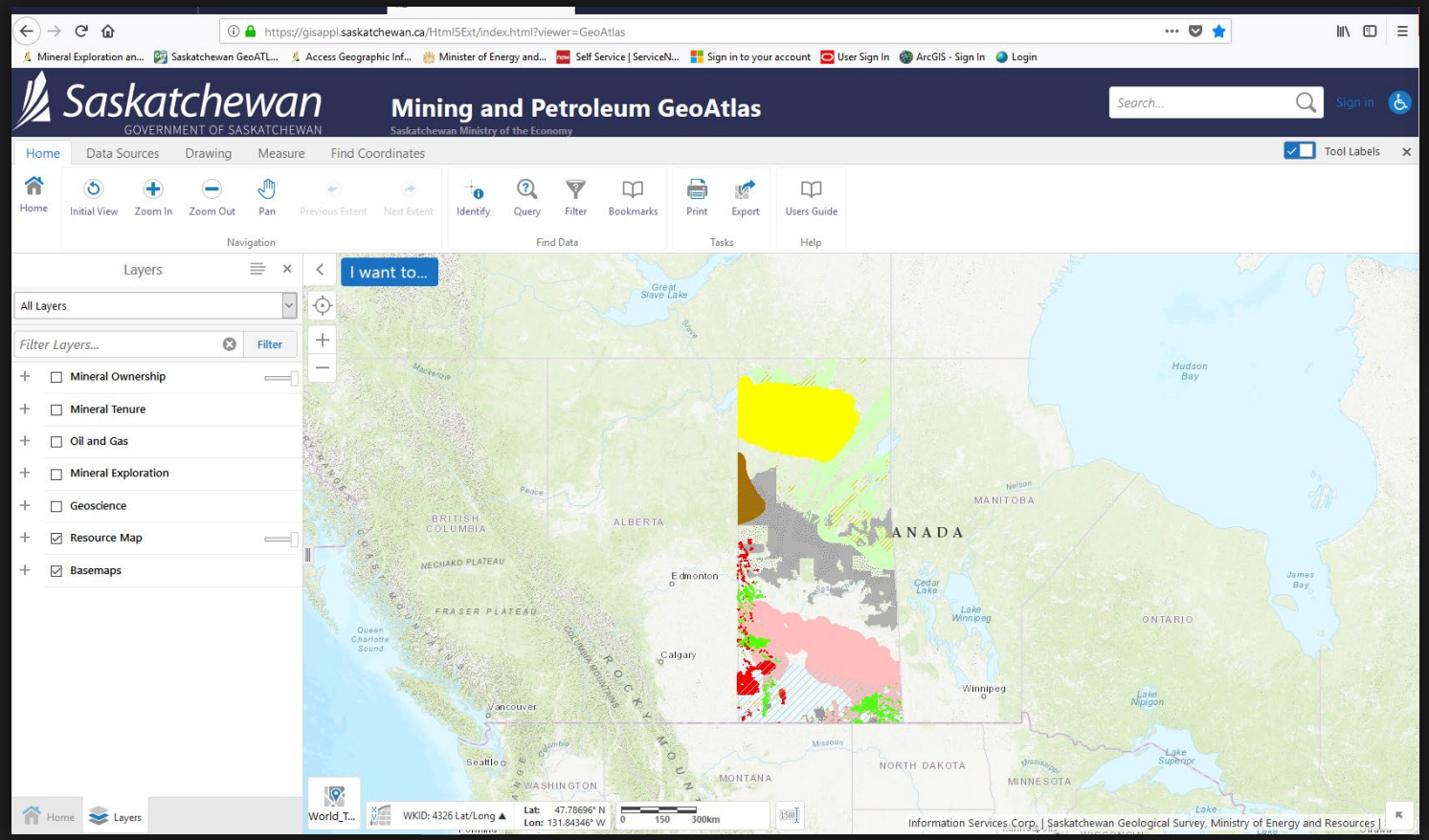


Job Basics - Schedule

Field	Office/Lab
8 hrs/day	
6 days/week	5 days/week
Work & paid for EDO every 3 weeks	EDO every 2 weeks
Work & get time + half on stat holidays	*Some will need to be available for fieldwork**
Northern Project Allowance: $6/day	
Transportation, accommodation, food, geological gear provided	

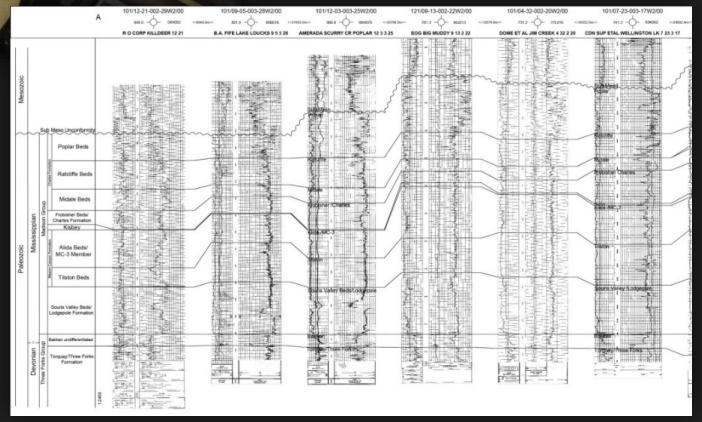
** We will inform you when the offer is made if you are a field back-up*

Office Duties – Downtown Regina



- ✓ Data entry & organization
- ✓ Data mining
- ✓ Map & document digitization
- ✓ Update GIS layers
- ✓ Filing, scanning and archiving
- ✓ Drone-related fieldwork
- ✓ Field support/back-up

Subsurface Lab Duties

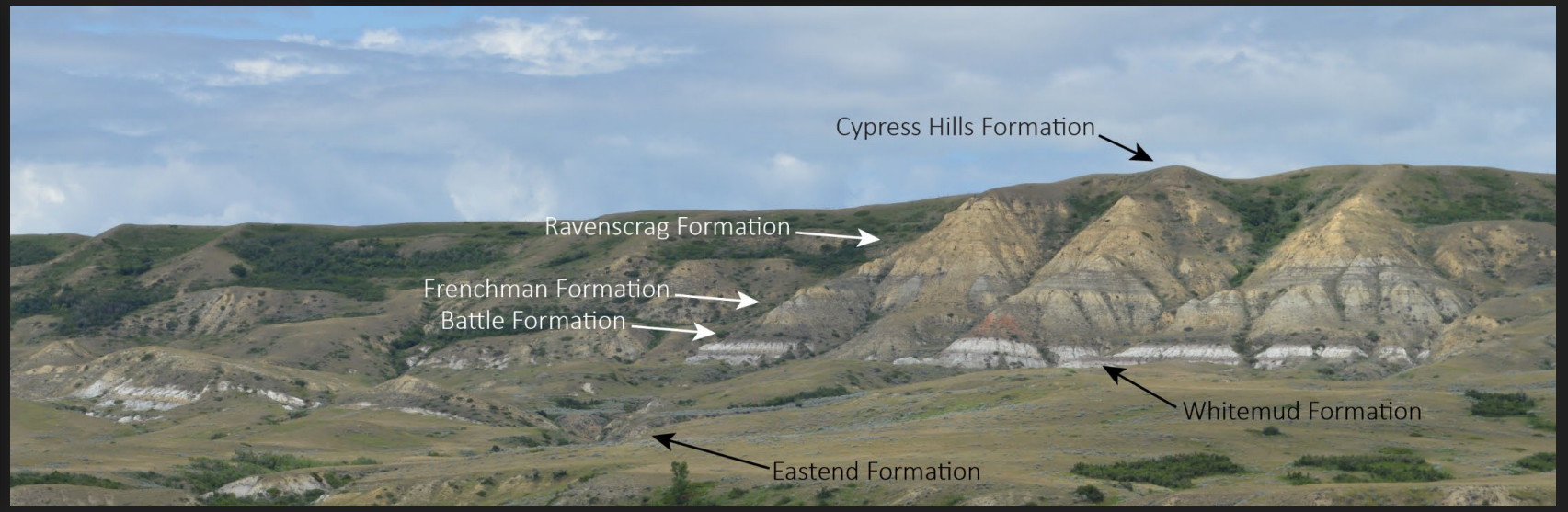


ArcGIS
AccuMap
Log Sleuth
geoSCOUT
Adobe Suite
Neuralog

- ✓ Core logging
- ✓ Stratigraphic and geophysical correlations
- ✓ Work with specialized software
- ✓ GIS-based projects
- ✓ Filing, scanning and archiving

Subsurface Lab Duties – Southern Fieldwork

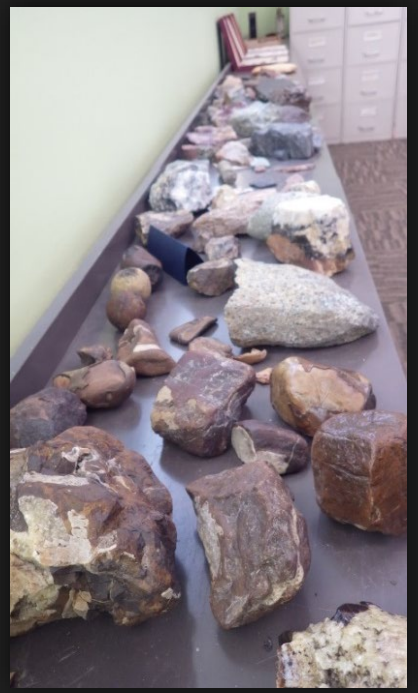
- ✓ Fieldwork base projects
- ✓ Field support/back-up



Precambrian Lab – La Ronge

Precambrian Lab – La Ronge

- ✓ Manage core
- ✓ Prep core
- ✓ Help industry clients
- ✓ School tours/outreach
- ✓ Industry site visits



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Northern Fieldwork

Northern Fieldwork – Getting there

Conditions can vary from this:

Northern Fieldwork – Getting there

To this:

Northern Work: Getting There

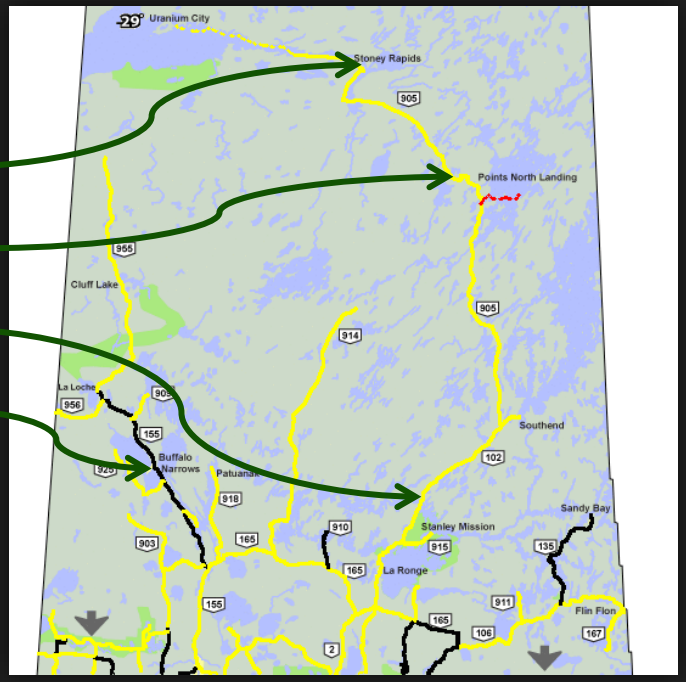
Many locations in the north serve as a starting point to the field season

Stony Rapids

Points North Landing

Missinipe

Buffalo Narrows



Northern Fieldwork: Getting There

More often than not, float planes are used to mobilize camp

Northern Fieldwork: Getting there

Deep Bay, Reindeer Lake

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Northern Fieldwork: Getting there

Northern Fieldwork: Setting up camp

Once the plane leaves, camp building begins.

Northern Fieldwork: Setting up camp

Canvas “prospector” tents used for kitchen and office

Northern Fieldwork: Setting up camp

Each person gets their own personal tent. Usually a 4-person size

Northern Fieldwork: Setting up camp

Northern Fieldwork: Setting up camp

Cold pits can be dug down to frost to provide additional fridge space

Northern Fieldwork: Setting up camp

Northern Fieldwork: Camp Amenities

Office Tent (prospector style)
- Desks
- Electricity
- Field equipment
- Fans

Kitchen Tent (prospector style)
- Stove and oven
- Fridges/freezers
- Coolers
- Electricity
- Fans

Personal tent
- Cot and foam mattress
- Anything else you bring

Boats
- 15-20HP Zodiacs
- Canoes

WiFi
- Starlink
- Don’t expect cell service

Toilet
- It’s a hole.
- Wood frame and actual toilet seat
- Located far enough away from camp for privacy

Dock
- Depends on location
- May have a beach instead

Bathing
- Most go in the lake
- Solar-heated shower bags

Northern Fieldwork: A Day in the Life – Fieldwork Day

7:00 am – Breakfast

8:00 am – Gather at Boats

8:00 am – 12:00 pm – Fieldwork

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm - Lunch

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm – Fieldwork

6:00 pm – Supper + Misc. camp tasks

Free time in evenings until bed

Northern Fieldwork: Health and Safety

“No job is so important that we cannot take the time to do it safely”

Our number one priority is to return from the field safely, and in the same condition as we entered it in

Some ways we ensure this:

- Never working alone
- Training
- Practice – boating, bear deterrents
- Experienced supervisors
- Acknowledging limitations, and working within them

Northern Fieldwork: Health and Safety – Wilderness First Aid Training

Course provided to all students going, or potentially to the field

Northern Fieldwork: Health and Safety

Northern Fieldwork: Health and Safety

Emergency Response Plan specific to each camp

Forest fire monitoring
Fire station in camp
First Aid kits

Wildlife Deterrents:

- Bear bangers – taken on traverse
- Bear spray – taken on traverse
- Shotgun - kept in camp - used only as last resort. Very rarely does this get used

Water filtration

Communication

- Starlink WiFi in camp
- Garmin InReach Satellite Communicator + GPS – in camp and taken on traverse
- Satellite Phone – In camp and taken on traverse

Northern Fieldwork: Health and Safety

Mental health is taken seriously, and supervisors always have an “open door” policy to encourage conversations if needed

We understand that fieldwork and relative isolation can be mentally difficult to some, but getting through things together can make all the difference.

Northern Fieldwork: Getting Around - Water

Northern Fieldwork: Getting Around - Air

Northern Fieldwork: Getting Around - Hiking

Northern Fieldwork: Getting Around - Hiking

…lots of hiking

Northern Fieldwork: What will you learn?

Geology Related

- Navigation + Orienteering
- Field Note taking
- Recognizing, Measuring, and Recording structural features
- Paleocurrent Measurements
- Mineral and Rock ID
- Geophysical instrument use – Magnetic Susceptibility, Spectrometer
- Recognizing, measuring and recording Ice Flow Indicators
- Sediment description
- Sampling protocols
- Core logging and Prep work
- Data entry

General

- Living in a camp
- Teamwork in a small group
- Hiking skills
- Boating skills
- Living with co-workers – interpersonal skills that get used more than any other listed

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Northern Fieldwork: What you will learn

Geological data collection – mineral ID, structural measurements, ice flow indicators, etc.

Mentorship is always available

Northern Fieldwork: What you will learn

Sampling till

Northern Fieldwork: What you will learn

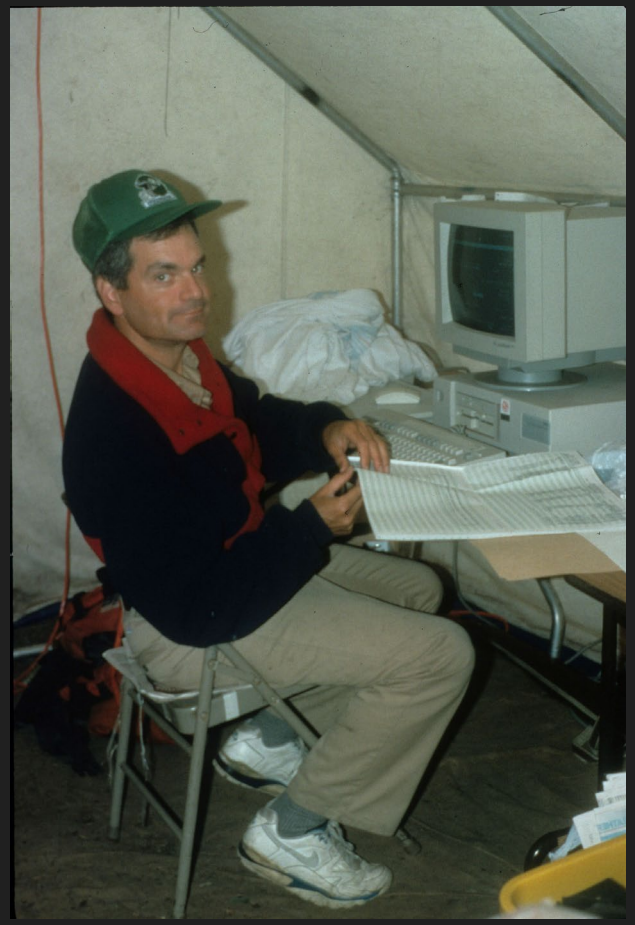
Repairs and maintenance

Northern Fieldwork: Over the Years

Same, but different:

Northern Fieldwork: Over the Years

Same, but different:



Northern Fieldwork: Camp Day Duties

- Refuel generator
- Dishes
- Wash towels
- Garbage
- Inventory
- General cleaning
- Filter water

Northern Fieldwork: Camp Life - Laundry

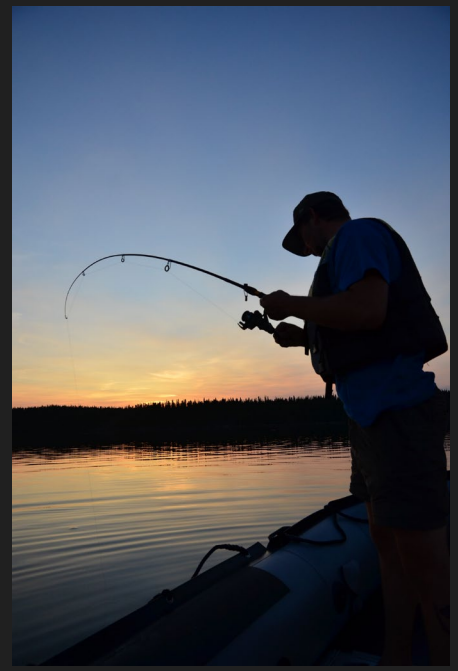
Northern Fieldwork: Camp Life – Time to Get Creative

Enjoying camp rests on individual's mindsets:

- Be creative
- Lean into the idea of camp
- Take advantage of your location
  - People on the same lake as you may be spending thousands of dollars a week to be there

Northern Fieldwork: Camp Life – Time for Hobbies

Photography, fishing, bushcraft, reading, music, board games, movies, exercise



Northern Fieldwork: Weather and Scenery

Northern Fieldwork: What you will need

The Survey provides much of the gear required for field work; however, you will need to get:

Work Items

- Hiking boots x2
- Socks
- Gaiters
- Rain gear
- Toque and gloves
- General work clothing
  - Long sleeve shirts
  - Durable pants (not jeans)
  - Hat

Examples of Recreation Items People Commonly Bring

- Fishing rod
- Books
- Laptop/movies
- Camera
- Board games
- Musical instruments

Camp Items

- Sleeping bag (-20 C)
- Pillow
- Towel
- Toiletries
- Comfortable camp clothing
- Warm sweater/jacket

- The SGS ***provides*** items such as your tent, backpack, geological equipment (hammer, compass, etc.), PPE, first-aid kits, bug spray and sunscreen

- If selected for a position, a full list will be provided

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Northern Fieldwork: Flora and Fauna

Northern Fieldwork: Flora and Fauna

IMPORTANT:

- Application deadline is January 15th, 2026 @ 11:59:59
- Interviews take place early February
  - Sign up sheet posted in department
- Employment: early/late May – late August
  - *Exceptions made for field school*
- Looking to hire ~**18** students
  - Depends on provincial budget
- Letter of Offer between early March and early April
- Be **flexible** with placements
  - You may be hired by one geologist but you may work on many different projects, especially in the office/lab
- **Mandatory** First Aid course May 27-29th in Regina

Questions after the presentation? *Drop us a line* at:

sean.lobb@gov.sk.ca
306-787-3379

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Apply Here: