
**The Far East – Canada’s Atlantic Provinces –
opportunities and challenges**

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Mining opportunities in the Atlantic Provinces are driven primarily by their location, on the coast or accessible to the sea with good infrastructure, power, and roads and a generally mining-friendly and knowledgeable population. Recent exploration and development have been driven primarily by the rush for iron ore in Labrador’s Labrador Trough where resources/reserves in the order of billions of tonnes have been defined and are under advanced production and advanced exploration/development, generally in concert with users in China, India, and Korea.

Other mineral production includes nickel/copper at Voisey’s Bay in Labrador, base metals in the Bathurst camp of New Brunswick, potash in New Brunswick, gold, copper/gold and antimony on the island of Newfoundland, and industrial minerals, mainly gypsum, in Nova Scotia. Significant advanced exploration/development projects include uranium and REE in Labrador, and base metals and gold/silver in all the Atlantic Provinces.

Challenges for development include the ongoing demand nationally for skilled workers for all projects, and

an increased recognition of limited infrastructure such as rail and power availability and other infrastructure, which may affect the development of iron ore deposits in western Labrador and a REE deposit in northern Labrador.