

# INTRUSION-RELATED DEPOSITS

**Mineralization associated with and/or hosted by plutonic or intrusive igneous rocks.**

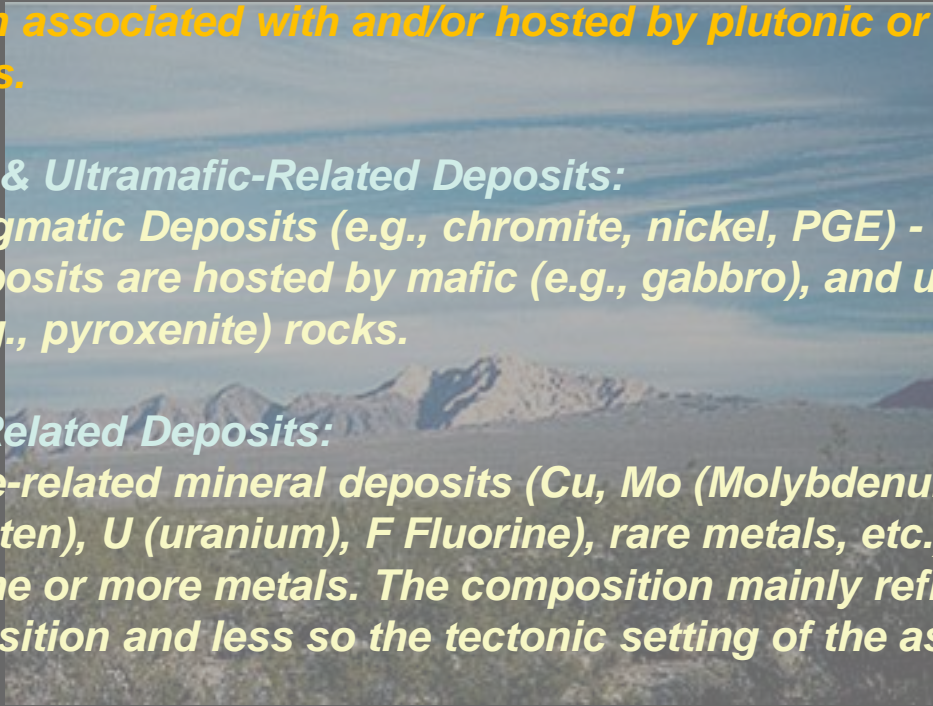
## **Gabbro- & Ultramafic-Related Deposits:**

- 1. Magmatic Deposits (e.g., chromite, nickel, PGE) - these deposits are hosted by mafic (e.g., gabbro), and ultramafic (e.g., pyroxenite) rocks.**

## **Granite-Related Deposits:**

**Granite-related mineral deposits (Cu, Mo (Molybdenum), Sn (Tin), W (Tungsten), U (uranium), F Fluorine), rare metals, etc.) occur as ore bodies with one or more metals. The composition mainly reflects the chemical composition and less so the tectonic setting of the associated igneous rocks.**

- 1. Granophile Metal Deposits (e.g., Sn, W, F, Mo, U, rare metals including REEs) – these deposits are associated with light coloured granitic rocks; includes pegmatites.**
- 2. Porphyry Copper & Molybdenum Deposits (e.g., Cu, Mo and Au) – these deposits are associated with felsic intrusive rocks (porphyries).**



# **MAGMATIC DEPOSITS**

*Deposits in which the ore minerals have crystallized directly from a magma.*

*Generally found in mafic or ultramafic igneous rocks, typically layered complexes.*

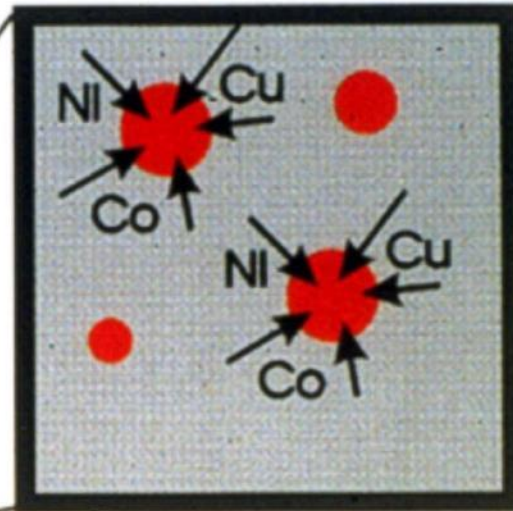
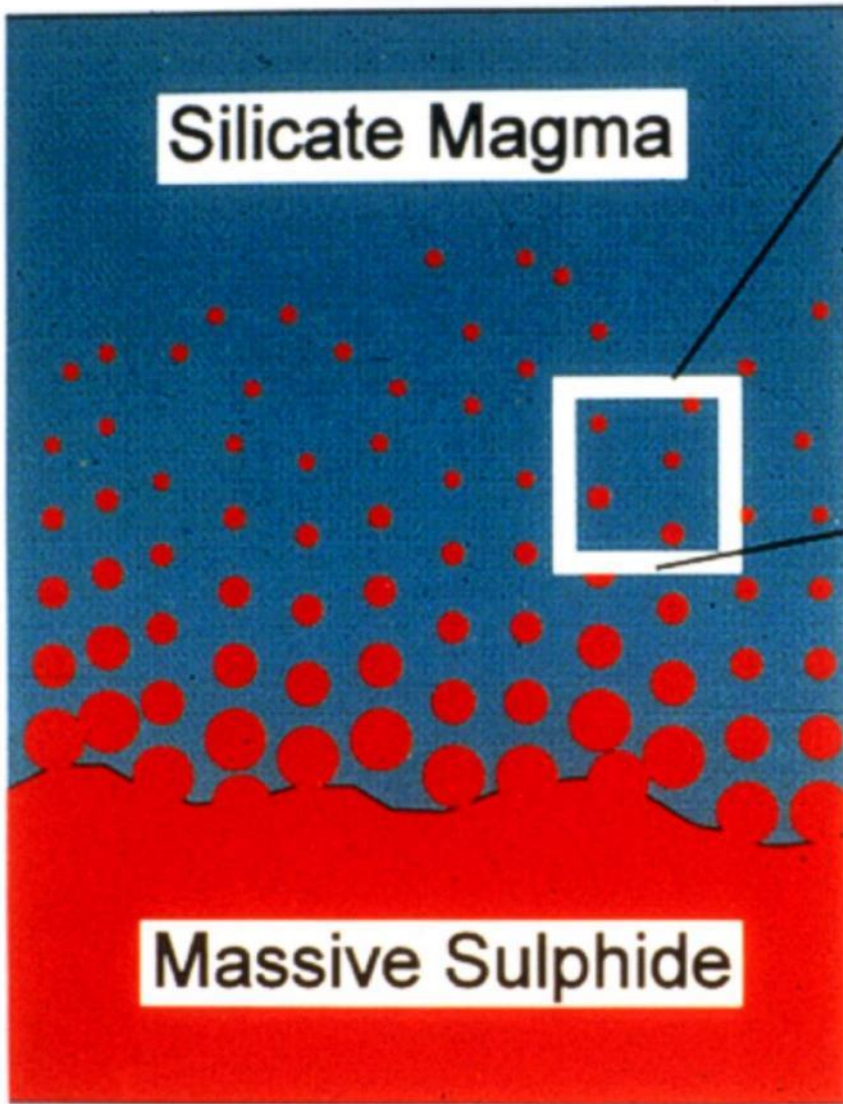
*Three major deposit types:*

- i) Nickel-Copper Deposits*
- ii) Chromite Deposits*
- iii) Platinum Group Elements Deposits*

*Minor amounts of Cr and PGE are also recovered from eluvial or alluvial (placer) deposits.*

**Discovery Hill,  
Voisey's Bay**

Gravity Settling



R-VALUE :

Ratio of Silicate Magma to Sulphide Liquid it can exchange metals with.



Small



Large

# **MAGMATIC NICKEL-COPPER DEPOSITS**

## **(+/- PGE)**

Northern Lights  
Voisey's Bay

**BACKGROUND:** *Most important source of nickel.*

**ENVIRONMENT:** *They occur in:*

*Plutonic Rocks (form deep in the crust).....*

*a) layered plutons ... typically very old (Precambrian), and generally hosted by gabbroic-troctolitic rocks (e.g., Sudbury and Voisey's Bay).*

*b) ultramafic rocks in old ocean floor (ophiolite) settings (e.g., NL, Quebec);*

*c) orogenic (rift-related) gabbroic and ultramafic intrusive rocks (e.g., Retty Lake in the Quebec Labrador Trough).*

*Extrusive Rocks (form on the surface from lava flows).....*

*Komatiitic (ultramafic rocks) flows or sills, mainly Precambrian (e.g., Kambalda, possibly Florence Lake, Labrador); spinifex textures are a distinctive feature. (PGE as a secondary by-product).*

**ORIGIN:** *Form by magmatic processes - as a magma chamber begins to crystallize, nickel (+/-copper and PGE) become concentrated and combine with sulphur to form massive sulphides.*

## **NICKEL-COPPER (cont'd)**

**STYLE:** *Stratiform, blanket-shaped bodies consisting of massive to stringer, net-textured sulphides located in the basal portions of both the layered intrusions (troctolite-gabbro-norite common host; occur locally in ultramafic rocks-pyroxenite, peridotite) and the ultramafic flows. Ophiolitic-hosted mineralization consists of veins, pods, lenses, sometimes focused along faults.*

**MINERALOGY:** *Pyrrhotite, pyrite, pentlandite, chalcopyrite and possibly significant PGE (platinum, palladium, iridium, etc.), e.g., Noril'sk.*

**ALTERATION:** *None; however, sulphides may form large gossans.*

### **DISTRIBUTION AND SIZE:**

*Newfoundland... A few small occurrence associated with ultramafic rocks in ophiolitic settings (e.g., Tilt Cove); possibly associated with layered intrusions in the Grenville, and central Newfoundland.*

# NICKEL MINERALIZATION, NORIL'SK-TALNAKH

Layered series of intrusive and host rocks	Geological column	Intrusive rocks	Sulphide ores
Volcanogenic and sedimentary metamorphic rocks			Stringer-disseminated ores, veins of massive sulphide
Upper gabbro layered series		Contact gabbro-dolerites, anorthosites, leukocratic anorthitic gabbro	Rare sulphide dissemination
		Chromite-bearing taxitic gabbroic rocks	
Main layered series		Prismatic granular gabbro-dolerites and diorites	Disseminated ores with ovoid and interstitial sulphide aggregates
		Quartz-bearing olivine-free gabbro-dolerites	
		Olivine-free and olivine-bearing gabbro-dolerites	
		Olivine gabbro-dolerites	
		Olivine-biotites gabbro-dolerites	
Lower gabbro layered series		Picritic gabbro-dolerites, plagioclinites, clinopyroxenites, froctolites	Disseminated ores with xenomorphic stringer-like sulphide aggregates
		Plagiochromitites	
		Taxitic olivine gabbro dolerites	
Sedimentary metamorphic rocks		Olivine-free gabbro-dolerites, contact dolerites	Homogeneous and zoned massive sulphides



**NOTE: Tilt Cove produced about 100 tonnes of nickel in the 1870's  
= about 20% of the world production at that time!**

**Labrador ..... Nain Plutonic Suite (e.g., Voisey's Bay - 150 million tonnes); Pant's lake Intrusion; Michikamau Intrusion**

**Florence Lake greenstone belt e.g., Baikie Prospect; ultramafic volcanic and intrusive rocks.**

**Gabbroic -ultramafic sills in the Labrador Trough.**

**Massif-type anorthosite plutons (e.g., Harp Lake intrusion)**

**PROSPECTING METHODS:**

**Geological**                      **Look for gossans and sulphides, ultramafic rocks weather reddish brown.**

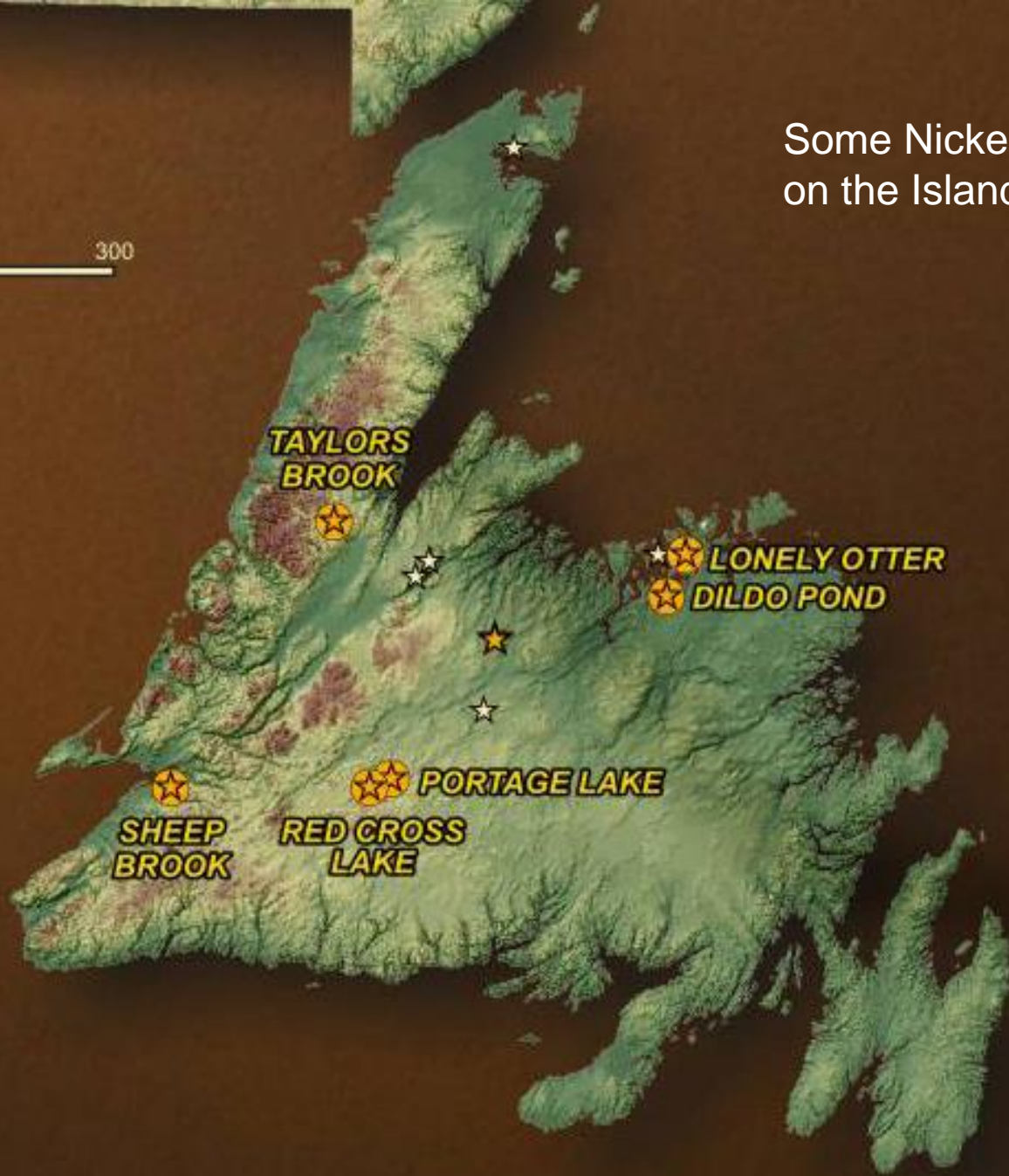
**Geophysical**                      **Pyrrhotite gives good mag response; EM for shallow deposits- disseminated ores in intrusive rocks will not respond to EM but may respond to IP. Komatiitic ores respond to EM.**

**Geochemical**                      **Ni, Cu, Cobalt and PGE are good indicators.**

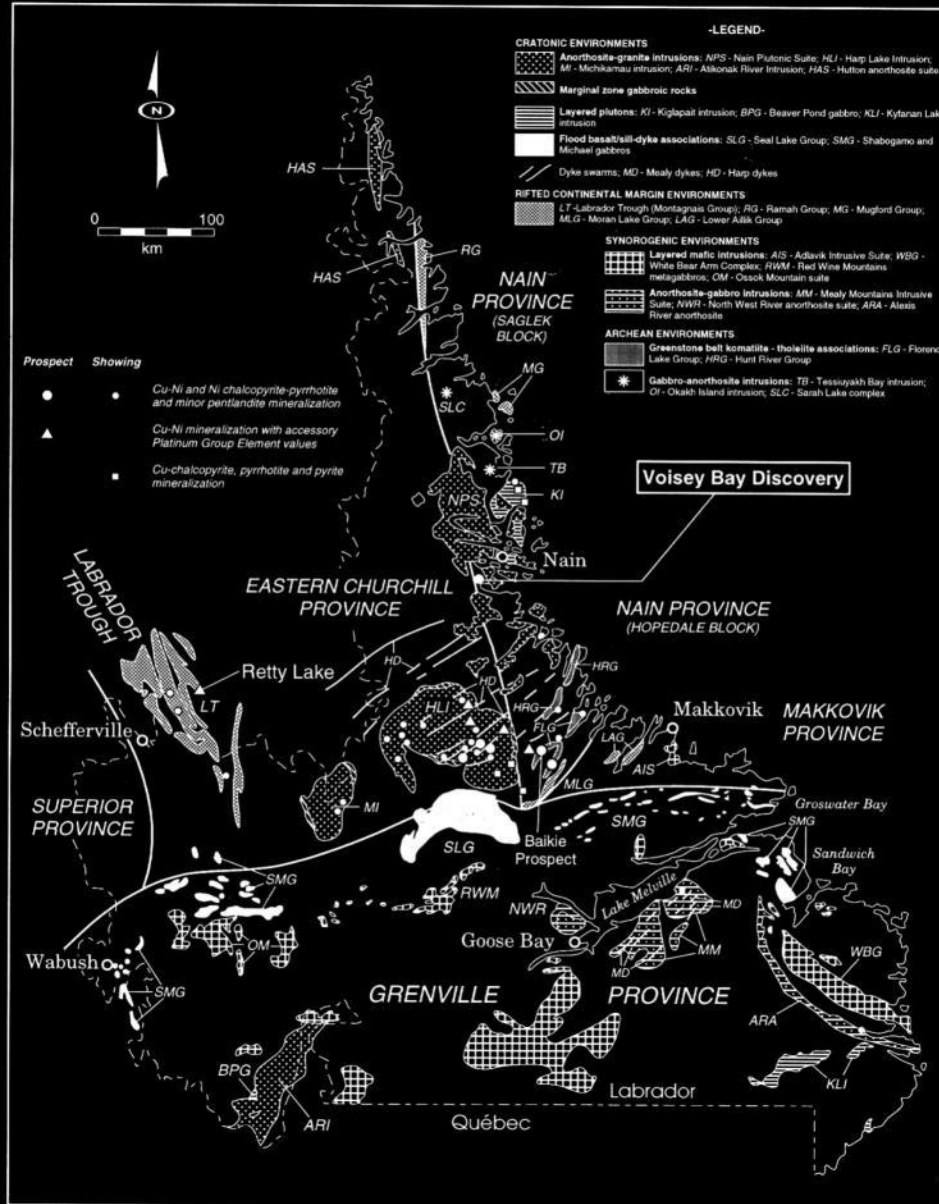


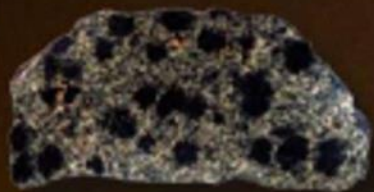
Some Nickel properties  
on the Island

200 300

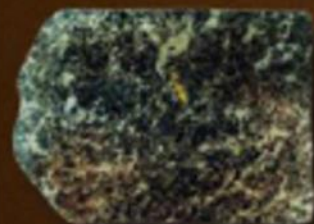


# MAFIC MAGMATIC ASSOCIATION AND POTENTIAL NI-SULPHIDE ENVIRONMENTS OF LABRADOR

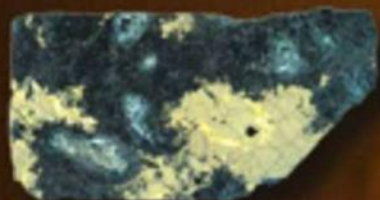




Leopard texture, mineralized gabbro or troctolite; Pant's Lake Intrusion - Labrador



High grade Nickel; Taylor's Brook Option - Newfoundland



Breccia ore; Voisey's Bay Deposit - Labrador



- ★ NICKEL PROPERTIES AVAILABLE FOR OPTION
- ◆ NICKEL PROPERTIES OPTIONED
- NICKEL PROSPECTS AND SHOWINGS

## VOISEY'S BAY Ni-Cu-Co MINE



Cores from Voisey's Bay Deposit - Labrador

# Ultramafic Outcrop



Layered Troctolite-  
Olivine Gabbro  
Red Cross Lake



Layered Troctolite:  
Voisey's Bay



# Banded Pyroxenite-Peridotite



# Komatiitic Flow – Florence Lake Group

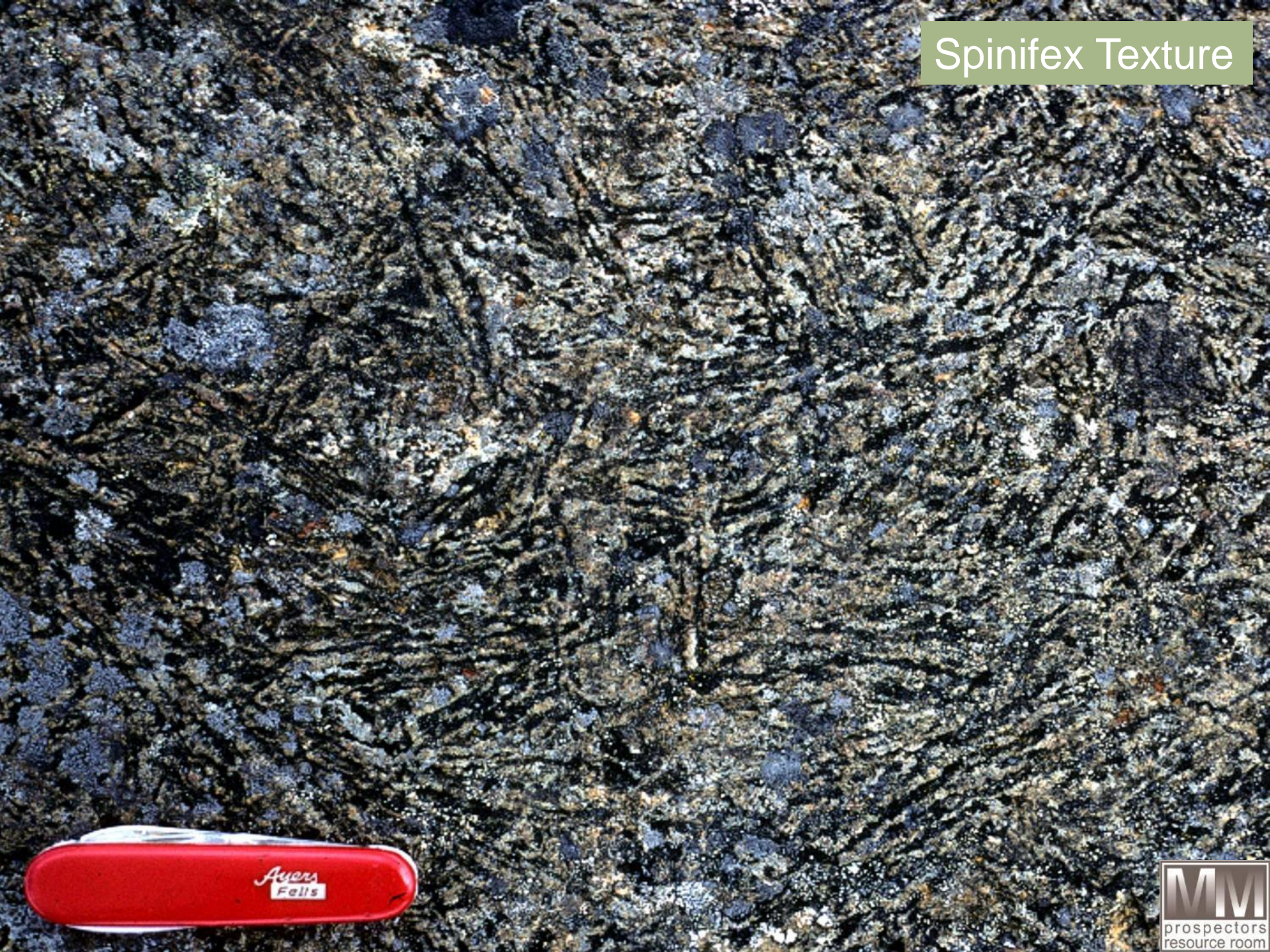




Spinifex Texture



# Spinifex Texture



# Discovery Hill: Voisey's Bay



# Massive sulphide pod: Okak Showing



# Sulphides in Troctolite



# Voisey Bay Ore



**DRILL CORE**  
**VOISEY BAY DEPOSIT, LABRADOR**  
**NICKEL-COPPER-COBALT ORE**

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Voisey's  
Bay Ore



Voisey's Bay Disseminated (Net) Ore  
(Leopard Texture)





Copper and Nickel: Baikie Showing  
Florence Lake Group



## **CHROMITE DEPOSITS (+/- PGE)**

**BACKGROUND:** *Chromite is mined almost exclusively from massive to heavily disseminated segregations in ultramafic or mafic igneous rocks. 75% of the world production comes from South Africa. Uses include stainless steel and nonferrous alloys; it really is an industrial mineral.*

**ENVIRONMENT:** *Two deposit types*

- i) Stratiform: (Bushveld-type)...intercratonic layered intrusive complexes (e.g., Bushveld and Stillwater) accounts for 90% of known reserves; generally of Precambrian age. PGEs may be the primary product (PGE-enriched chromitites).*
- ii) Podiform: (Alpine-type)...ophiolite complexes associated with orogenic belts, account for 55% of world production, generally Paleozoic or younger.*

Podiform Chromite in Peridotite



## CHROMITE DEPOSITS (cont'd)

### STYLE:

- i) **Stratiform:** blanket shaped or sheet-like accumulations, in the lower parts of layered ultramafic to mafic igneous intrusions; individual chromite layers vary from <1 cm to >2m thick and may extend for kilometers. They are usually associated with ultramafic rocks.
- ii) **Podiform:** disseminated and narrow layers 1 to 40 cm thick, lenticular or pod-shaped deposits that range from a few kilograms to several million tonnes. This style is discontinuous with no lateral extent. Almost exclusively in the ultramafic rocks, being most abundant in the tectonites, especially dunitic tectonites.

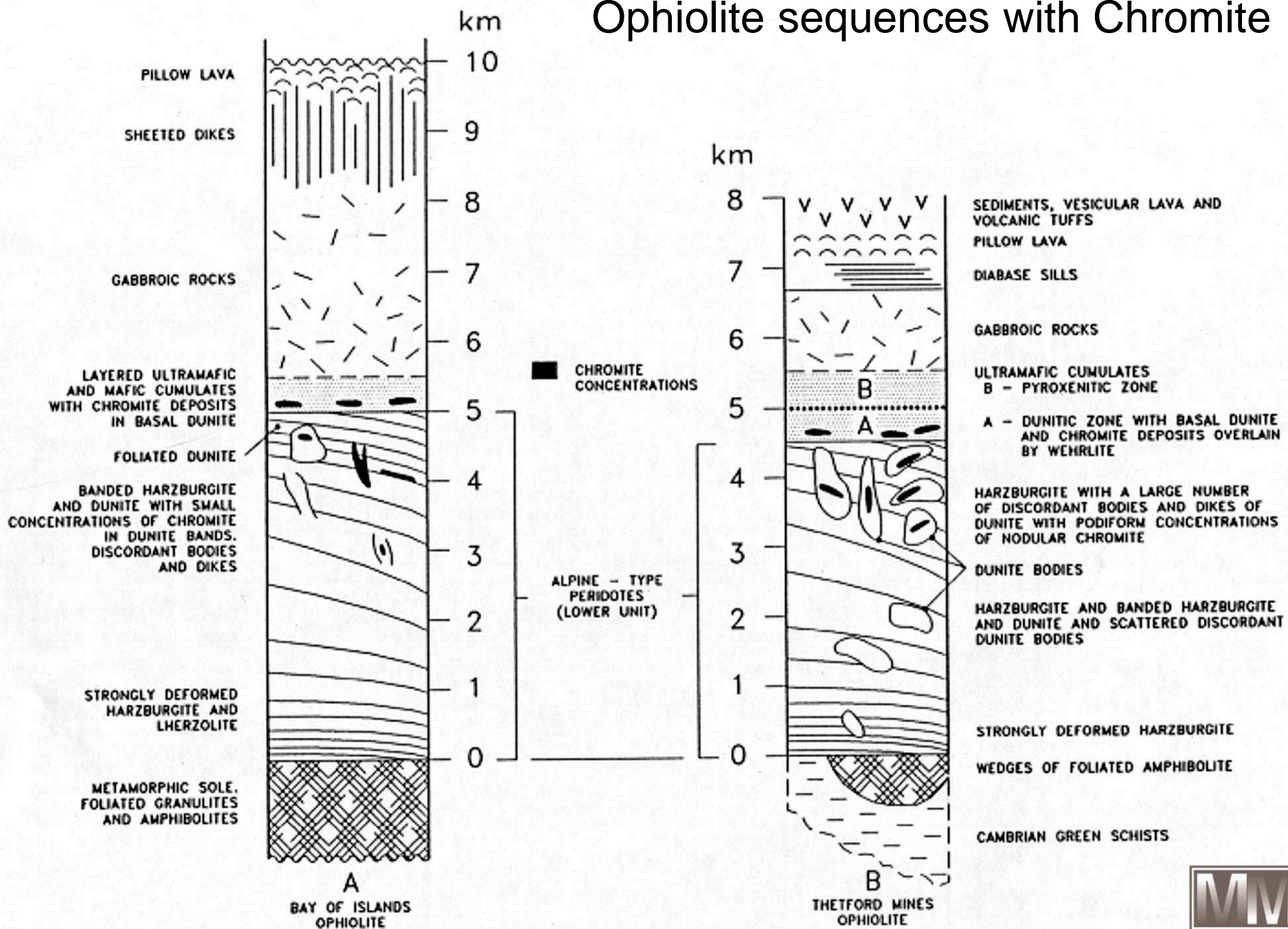
### MINERALOGY:

**Chromite** ((Mg, Fe)Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>) is the only mineral of chrome. Stratiform deposits may have associated PGEs (platinum, palladium, iridium, etc.).

### ALTERATION:

None; however, ultramafic host rocks typically weather reddish-brown.

# Ophiolite sequences with Chromite



## **Chromite (cont'd)**

### **DISTRIBUTION:**

***Newfoundland....Numerous small podiform deposits associated with the Cambro-Ordovician ophiolites sequences.Largest are Springer Hill and Bluff Head in the Lewis Hills Massif; marine placers occur in western Newfoundland.***

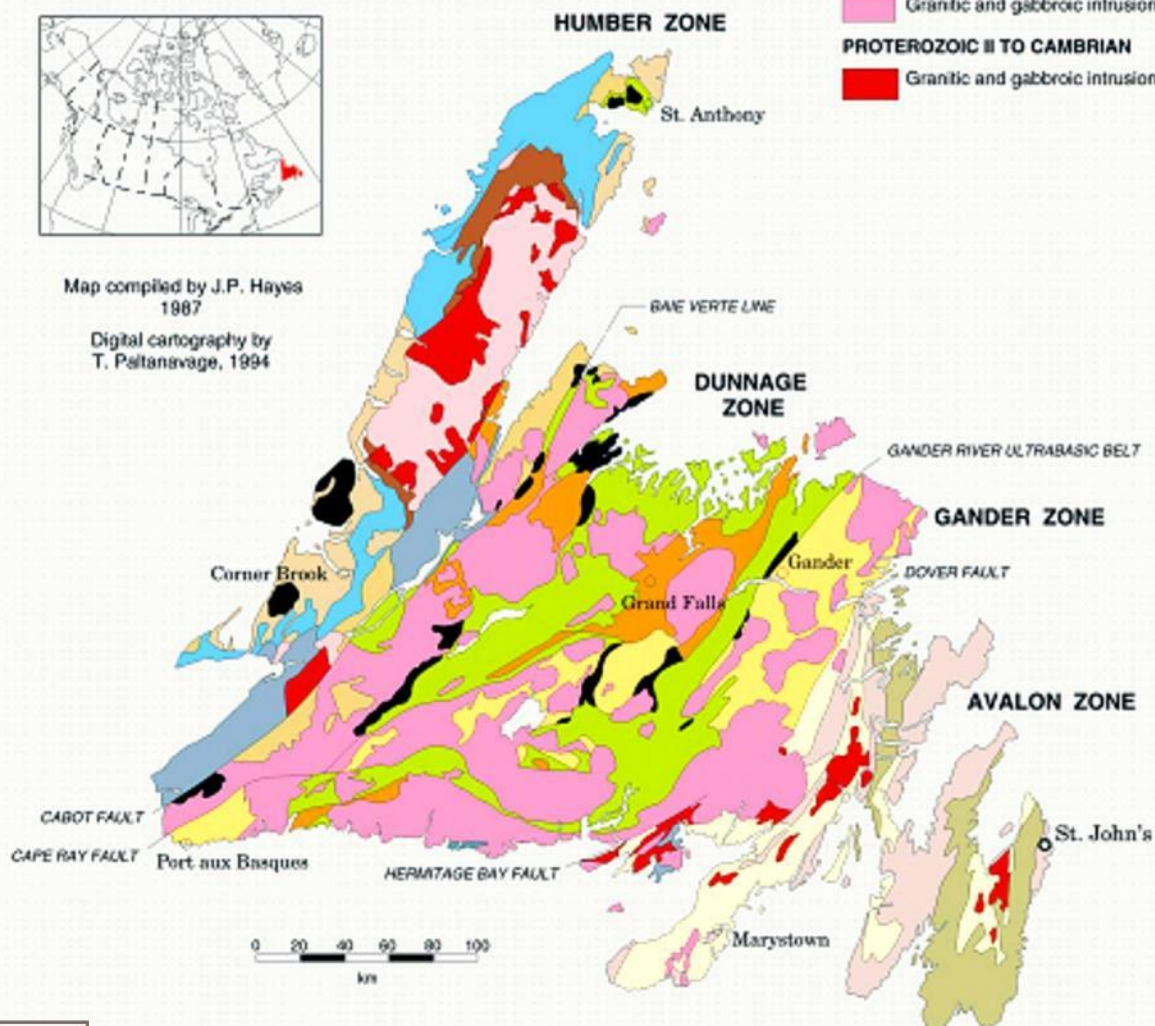
***Labrador.....Large layer intrusions offer the best potential.***

# GEOLOGY OF THE ISLAND OF NEWFOUNDLAND



Map compiled by J.P. Hayes  
1987

Digital cartography by  
T. Peltanavage, 1994



## INTRUSIVE ROCKS

### ORDOVICIAN TO DEVONIAN

Granitic and gabbroic intrusions

### PROTEROZOIC II TO CAMBRIAN

Granitic and gabbroic intrusions

## DEVONIAN TO CARBONIFEROUS

Subaerial, lacustrine fluvial and deltaic clastic sedimentary rocks; minor limestone

## SILURIAN

Shallow marine and subaerial clastic sedimentary rocks; volcanic and volcanoclastic rocks

## DUNNAGE ZONE

### CAMBRIAN TO SILURIAN

Marine clastic sedimentary rocks; island-arc volcanic and volcanoclastic rocks

### CAMBRIAN TO ORDOVICIAN

Ophiolitic mafic - ultramafic rocks, pillow lava and related intrusions

## GANDER ZONE

### CAMBRIAN TO ORDOVICIAN

Clastic metasedimentary rocks and migmatitic equivalents

## HUMBER ZONE

### PROTEROZOIC III TO ORDOVICIAN

Autochthonous and parautochthonous clastic and metasedimentary rocks

Platform limestone and dolostone; includes clastic sedimentary rocks

Allochthonous sedimentary, mafic volcanic and minor metamorphic rocks

Basal clastic and carbonate sedimentary rocks; includes mafic volcanic rocks

### PROTEROZOIC II and III

Orthogneiss, paragneiss and amphibolite

## AVALON ZONE

### PROTEROZOIC III TO ORDOVICIAN

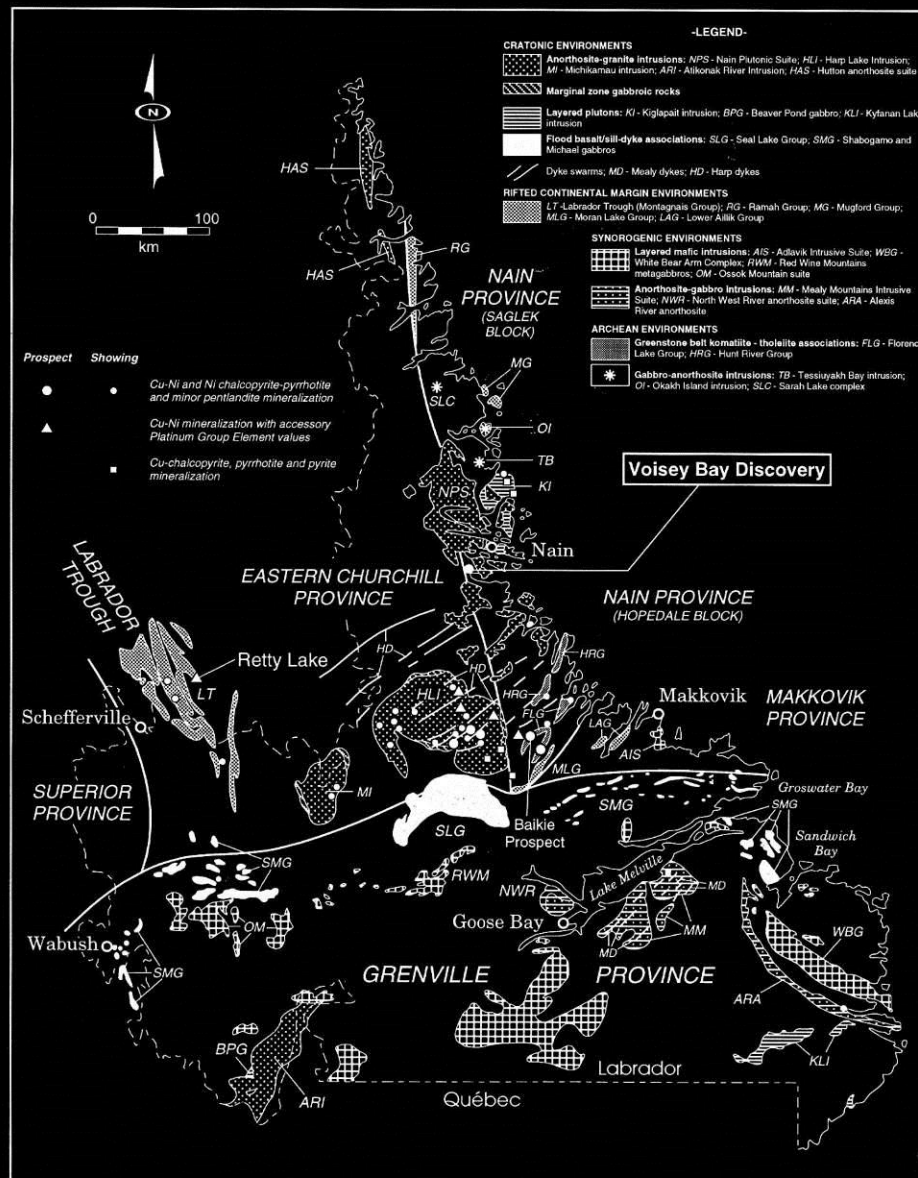
Subaerial and marine clastic sedimentary rocks; minor limestone

### PROTEROZOIC III

Marine and deltaic clastic sedimentary rocks

Mafic and felsic volcanic and volcanoclastic rocks

# MAFIC MAGMATIC ASSOCIATIONS AND POTENTIAL NI-SULPHIDE ENVIRONMENTS OF LABRADOR





## **Chromite (cont'd)**

### **PROSPECTING METHODS:**

**Geological:** *Gossans formed by oxidation of sulphides; ultramafic rocks weather reddish-brown / brown. Peridotite host for podiform mineralization; pyroxenite and gabbro hosts for stratiform mineralization.*

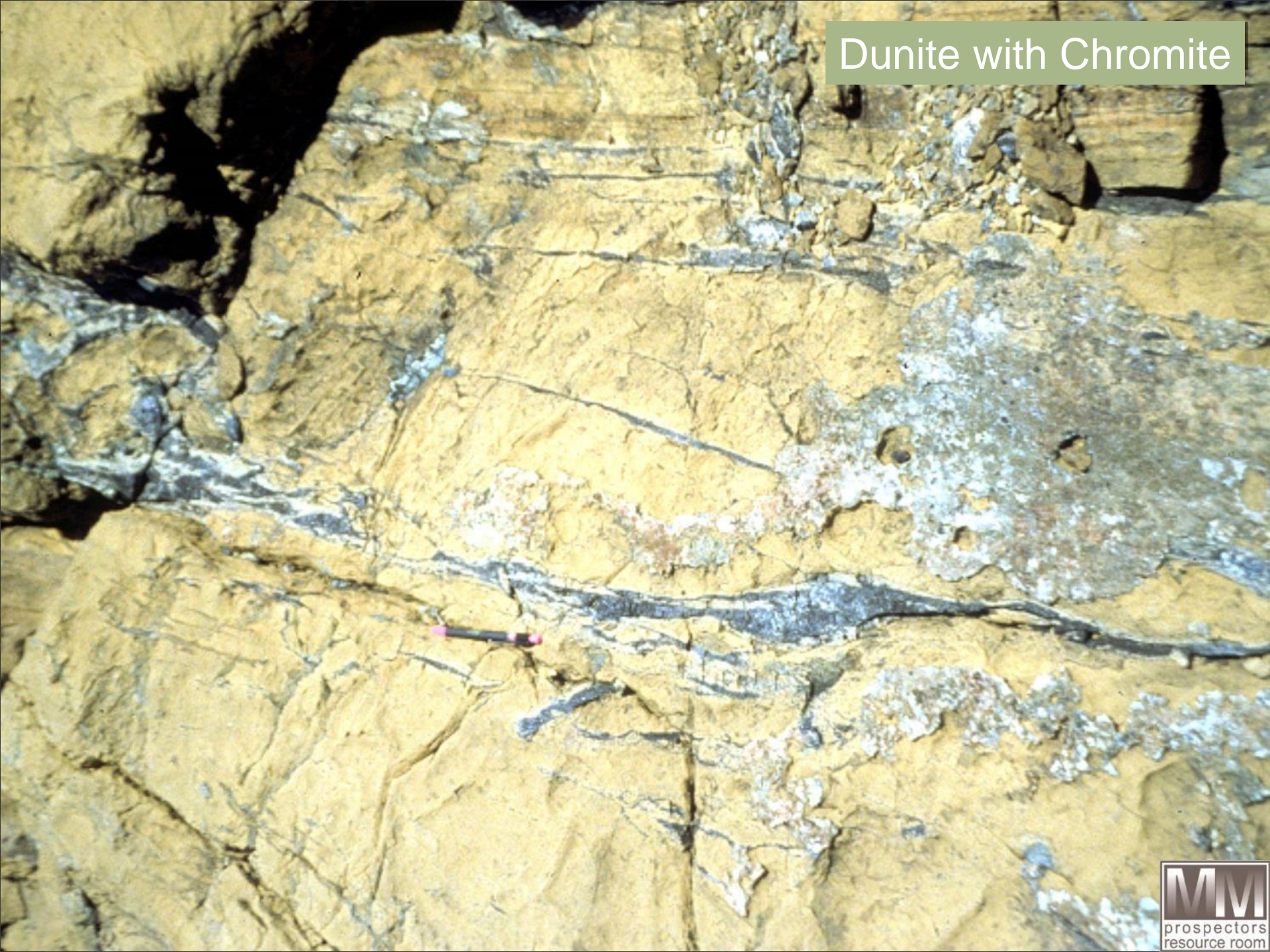
**Geophysical:** *Does not respond geophysically; however, associated sulphide may be responsive.*

**Geochemical:** *Cr, Ni, Cu, Co anomalies; panned concentrates from streams or tills*

Ultramafic  
Outcrop  
Bursey's  
Hill, Gander



# Dunite with Chromite



# Chromite in Ultramafic Rock



# PLATINUM GROUP ELEMENT (PGE) DEPOSITS

**ENVIRONMENT:** *Similar environments and host rocks as chromite and nickel-copper. (Platinum refers to an element, a mineral and a mineral group. Three main deposit types (only concerned with magmatic here):*

## 1. MAGMATIC

- i) Associated with stratiform chromite mineralization in layered intrusions. In many cases as the primary product associated with both sulphide (Merensky Reef, Platreef, J-M Reef, Great Dyke) and chromitites (UG2 Reef).*
- ii) Associated with Ni-Cu mineralization in both layered plutons (Sudbury, Noril'sk ), and extrusive rocks (komatiites) (Kambalda, Thompson); associated with sulphides and is a by-product.*
- iii) Alaskan-type...zoned, concentric ultramafic to mafic intrusions of dunitic composition. High grade, low tonnage deposits; occurs as a primary product and is associated with chromitite and sulphides.*

### **2. ALLUVIAL**

*i) Placer: platinum was discovered by the Spanish in stream beds with detrital gold in Columbia in mid-16<sup>th</sup>-century (the Rio Platino del Pinto). As the unknown metal has an extremely high melting point, it was regarded as useless and hindrance to the refining of gold, and was called platino meaning silver of poor quality. Most commonly spatially associated with ultramafic/mafic complexes of the Alaskan-type examples, Columbia, Urals.*

*ii) Paleoplacer: only known significant deposit is the auriferous-uraniferous conglomerates of the Witwatersrand.*

**3. HYDROTHERMAL:** *formed from epigenetic fluids and associated with shear zones cutting mafic/ultramafic host rocks with alkaline porphyry, copper-precious metal deposits and with late diagenetic flow of metal-bearing brines in carbonaceous sediments.*

## **PGE (cont'd)**

**ORIGIN:** *Magmatic processes; placer; deuteritic alteration; epigenetic fluids*

**MINERALOGY:** *PGE (platinum, palladium, iridium, Os, Ru, Rh): pyrrhotite, pyrite, pentlandite, chalcopyrite and Au.*

**ALTERATION:** *None; however, associated sulphides may form gossans.*

### **DISTRIBUTION:**

**Newfoundland:** *Layer plutons in central NL, such as the Red Cross Lake intrusion, and those in the Grenville of Western NL.*

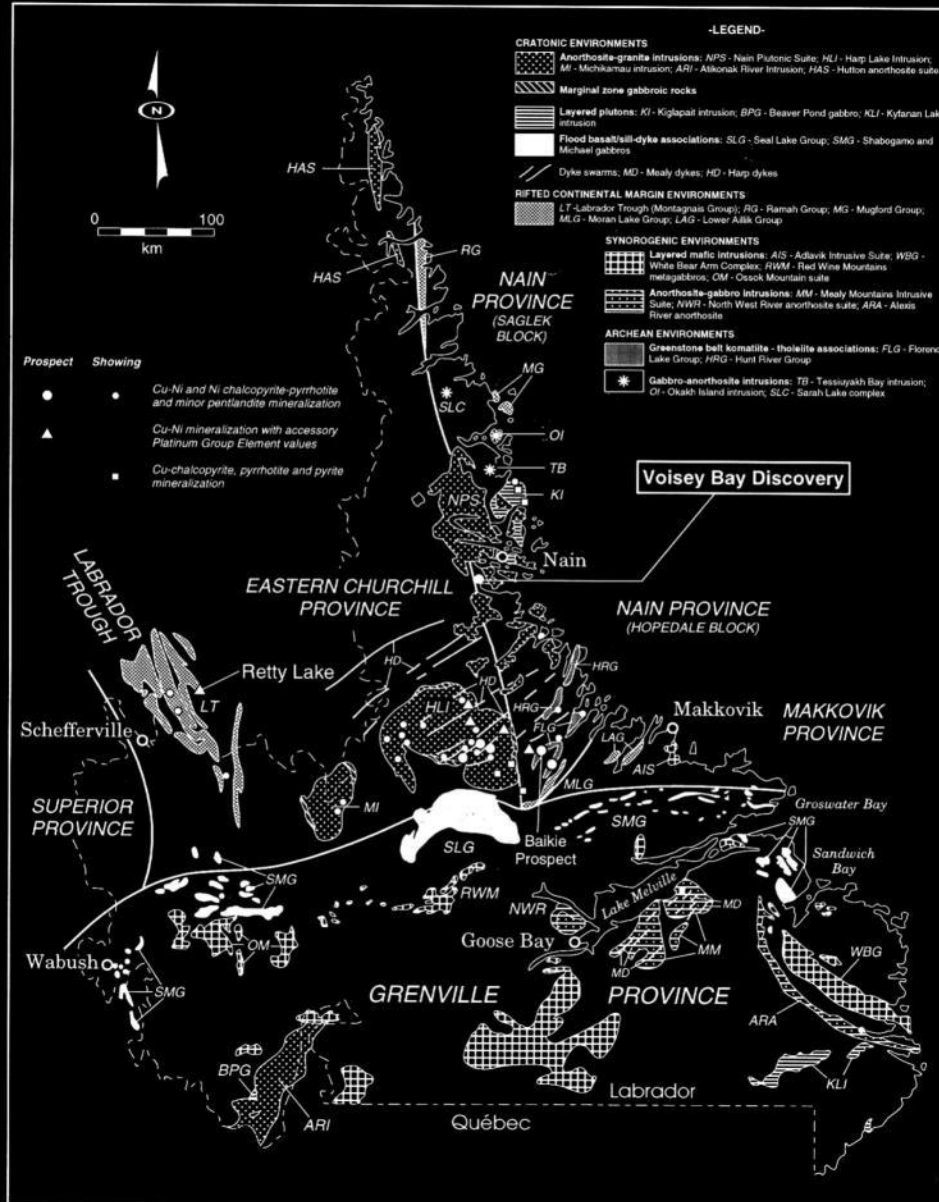
**Labrador:** *i) Massif-type anorthosite plutons in the Nain, Churchill and Grenville provinces, e.g., Harp Lake Intrusive Suite.*

## ***PGE Distribution in Labrador (Cont'd)***

- ii) Layered gabbroic plutons such as the Kiglapait Intrusion. Others include gabbros associated with the Nain Plutonic Suite, Harp Lake, etc.*
- iii) Massive to weakly layered plutons. Examples include gabbro and norite intrusions within the Grenville and include the Shabogamo, Red Wine Mts and White Bear Arm intrusive suites.*
- iv) Gabbro and ultramafic sheets and sills, includes high level intrusions located within or adjacent to supracrustal sequences, e.g., Labrador Trough sills (Retty Lake), basaltic rocks of the Seal Lake Group, ultramafic sills in Archean greenstone belts.*
- v) Archean layered anorthosite-gabbro-ultramafic intrusives. Sheet-like bodies in reworked Archean rocks of the northeastern Churchill Province and the Nain Province*
- vi) Hornblende gabbro-diorite-monzonite intrusions, e.g., Adlavik Intrusive Suite of eastern Labrador.*



# MAFIC MAGMATIC ASSOCIATION AND POTENTIAL NI-SULPHIDE ENVIRONMENTS OF LABRADOR



## PGE (Cont'd)

### Prospecting Methods

**Geological:** Gossans formed by oxidation of sulphides; ultramafic rocks  
Weather reddish-brown / brown.

**Geophysical:** Associated sulphides; pyrrhotite gives a good mag response;  
Komatiitic ores respond to EM; disseminated ores in intrusive rocks will not  
Respond to EM, but may respond to IP.

**Geochemical:** Ni, Cu, Co and PGE anomalies; panning.

# Platinum

