Content Guide for EOSC118

Provincial Summary: Exploration and Mining in British Columbia 2014

This 37-page document reviews mining, mineral exploration, and mineral production in British Columbia for 2014. It is published by the BC Government and documents all such activities across the province, as reported by the operating companies. You'll notice that the general structure of the document correlates with the last 5 phases of the Mineral Resources Pipeline. It starts with production from current mines, discusses the development of major projects, lists the major exploration projects in BC, and talks about the government-led initiatives that broaden the geoscience framework for the exploration industry. There is a great deal of information in this document, and you are not expected to remember all of the details! Figures and their captions often carry a good deal of information as well. Through this document you are expected to gain a better appreciation for the amount and distribution of mining in BC, the main commodities that BC produces, and the roles that the BCGS and GeoscienceBC play. You are not expected to memorize the details about each mine! We'll focus on the first page of text, the tables and a few figure captions.

Use the discussion board on Connect to pose questions, since the questions that you have are probably in the minds of another one of your fellow students.

Use the following questions to help you through the article:

1. What are BC's most important mine products by value? What was the estimated value of mineral production in 2014? (did that surprise you?!) coal, 3.36b
2. How many mines are currently in operation in BC? Is this what you expected?
   a. What are the main divisions used to subdivide/categorize these mines? (Hint: See Tables 1, 2 and 3) Coal(9), Copper, Industrial minerals(29), Gold, Aggregates(1000), Ag, Mo, Zn, Pb.
   b. How many mines are in each category? 11 metal mines
3. Using Table 1, which region has the largest number of mines? thompson okanagan Cariboo
   a. How many mines produce gold? 7
   b. How many of these have gold as the main commodity? 2
   c. What proportion of active mines are classified as "Porphyry Deposits"? 7/11
4. Using Table 2, which operator produces the most coal? Teck Coal Lt
   a. Where are the majority of the province's coal mines?
5. Using Table 3, how many gemstone mines in BC do we have? 23
   a. Which gemstone(s) are being mined? jade, diamond
6. How many proposed mines are currently being evaluated by the Environmental Assessment Office? 32
7. Using the map on page 17, are there more mines or more exploration projects in BC? project
8. Using the information from questions (and excluding aggregate mines), what are the relative numbers of (a) active mines, (b) proposed mines, and (c) exploration projects? 34 project? 32 proposed, check #2
9. What is the core responsibility of the BC Geological Survey (BCGS)?

documenting,
assessing and archiving British Columbia's geology and related
mineral and coal resources