

# Gold in Saskatchewan

## Deposit Types

Economic gold mineralization has been found primarily in two types of deposits in Saskatchewan's Precambrian Shield: **orogenic gold** deposits and **volcanogenic massive sulphide (VMS)** deposits. The majority of deposits are structurally-controlled orogenic gold deposits, associated with quartz-carbonate veins along major faults and shear zones. Significant gold has also been found in association with copper and zinc in VMS deposits that are hosted by Paleoproterozoic volcanic rocks.

## Mining History

Gold has been produced as the primary commodity from 11 orogenic gold deposits in the Goldfields, La Ronge, Laonil Lake and Flin Flon areas, **resulting in over 2 million ounces** (oz) of gold production to date. The majority of this has been from the Seabee gold operation at Laonil Lake, which has produced more than 1.7 million oz of gold since 1991. The operation remains active today and has recently experienced several consecutive years of record annual production. Gold has also been produced as a by-product of base metal mining from several VMS deposits in the La Ronge and Flin Flon areas of Saskatchewan. The largest of these, the Flin Flon deposit, straddled the Saskatchewan-Manitoba border and was mined between 1930 and 1992. The Saskatchewan portion of the Flin Flon mine yielded over 3.5 million oz of by-product gold, making it **Saskatchewan's largest-ever gold producing operation.**

## Strong Potential

Saskatchewan has a long history of gold production and holds several key geological ingredients for significant deposits. Despite this potential, it is estimated that Saskatchewan has accounted only for about 1% of national exploration expenditures for precious metals over the past 20 years.\* There remains great opportunity for gold discoveries.

\*Natural Resources Canada data

## For more information

Gary Delaney, PhD, P.Geo., Chief Geologist

Ministry of Energy and Resources, Government of Saskatchewan

Email: [gary.delaney@gov.sk.ca](mailto:gary.delaney@gov.sk.ca)

*Saskatchewan Mining and Petroleum GeoAtlas*

[www.saskatchewan.ca/GeoAtlas](http://www.saskatchewan.ca/GeoAtlas)

Morelli, R.M. and MacLachlan, K. (2012): *Saskatchewan Gold: Mineralization Styles and Mining History*; Saskatchewan Ministry of Energy and Resources, Report 262.



Seabee Mine, SSR Mining Inc.



Native gold in core from Santoy Gap, Seabee Gold Operation

