

**DESCRIPTIVE NOTES**

**Regional Overview**  
The Dawson map is composed of three major physiographic divisions: the Southern Ogilvie Mountains to the north and northeast; the Klondike Plateau to the south and southwest; and the Yukon Trench, which separates the two mountain belts. The Klondike Plateau is composed mainly of Precambrian and Paleozoic sedimentary rocks which are locally overlain by Quaternary deposits. The Southern Ogilvie Mountains are composed of Paleozoic sedimentary rocks which are locally overlain by Quaternary deposits. The Yukon Trench is a narrow, linear depression which separates the two mountain belts. It is composed of Quaternary deposits and is the site of the Yukon River and its tributaries.

**Surficial Deposits**  
Surficial deposits in this area can be divided into two major groups: (1) alluvial deposits, which occupy approximately 70% of the area; and (2) glacial deposits, which occupy about 30% of the area. The primary source of these deposits is the Yukon River and its tributaries. Alluvial deposits include sand, silt, and gravel, and are typically found in the valley floors and along the river banks. Glacial deposits include till, moraine, and outwash, and are typically found on the higher slopes and plateaus.

**Glacial Deposits**  
Glacial deposits are grouped into three categories: glacialfluvial, glacial, and glaciolacustrine. Glacialfluvial deposits are the most common and are composed of sand, silt, and gravel, and are typically found in the valley floors and along the river banks. Glacial deposits include till, moraine, and outwash, and are typically found on the higher slopes and plateaus. Glaciolacustrine deposits are composed of sand, silt, and gravel, and are typically found in the valley floors and along the river banks.

**Glacial History**  
The pre-glacial landscape of the Yukon Territory and in particular the Klondike Plateau was very different from the present. The Yukon River and its tributaries were the primary drainage system. The Klondike Plateau was a high, flat expanse of land, and the Yukon Trench was a narrow, linear depression. The glacial history of the area is complex, and is still the subject of ongoing research.

**Ennekaic Geology**  
A great variety of glacial deposits are found in the Dawson area, including pre-glacial gravels (White Chert), alluvial deposits, and glacial deposits. These deposits are the result of glacial erosion and deposition. The glacial history of the area is complex, and is still the subject of ongoing research.

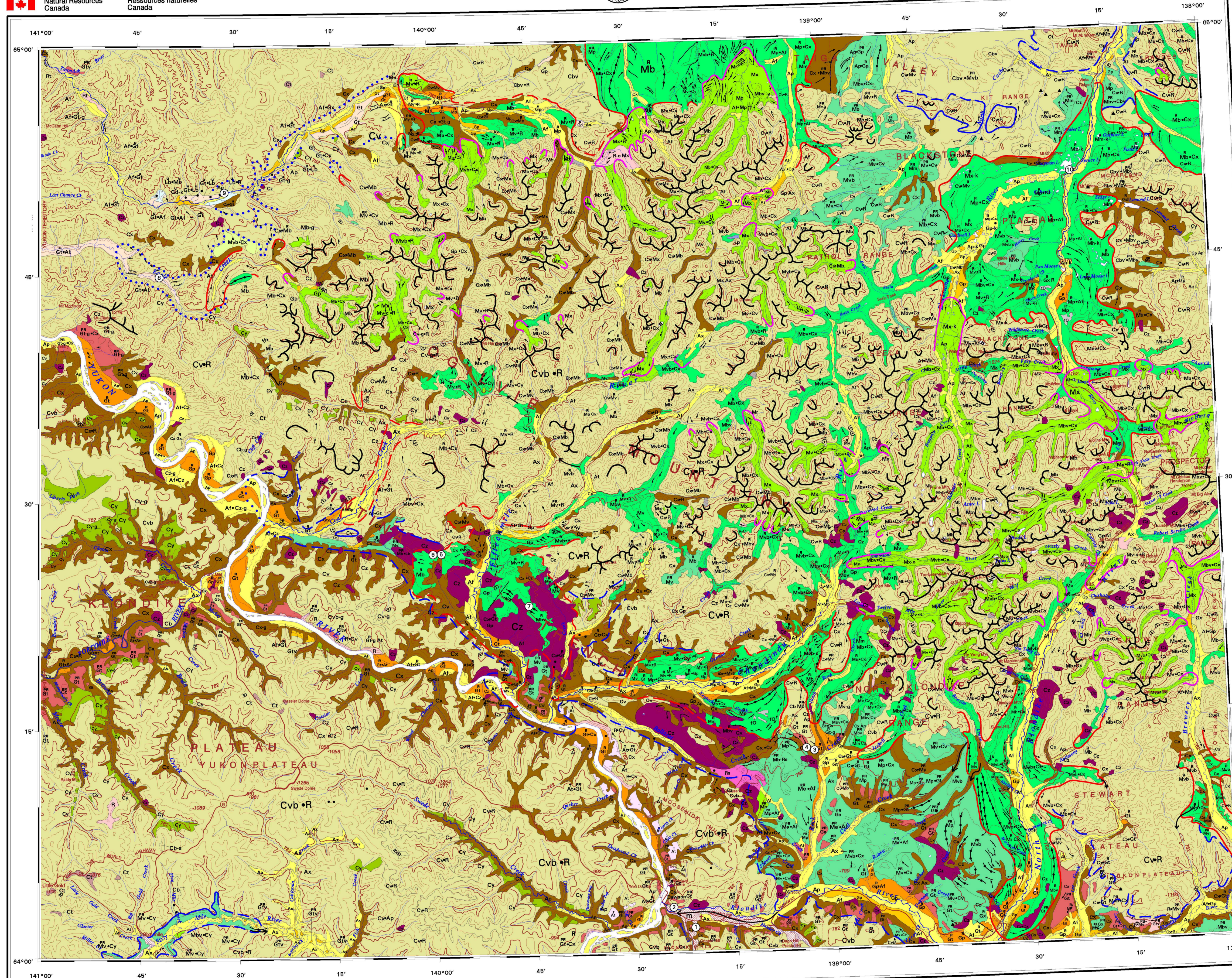
**Acknowledgements**  
This project was funded by the Canada-Yukon Economic Development Agreement. Special thanks go to the Yukon Geological Survey for their assistance in the field and valuable stratigraphic information. The Yukon Geological Survey is a branch of the Geological Survey of Canada.

**References**  
Frost, D. L. and J. R. 1986. Sedimentology of a high level terrace placer gold deposit, Dawson, Yukon. *Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences*, 23, p. 1325-1332.  
Green, L. H. 1972. Geology of Ashcroft, Laramie Creek, and Dawson map areas. Geological Survey of Canada, Memoir 564, 127 p.

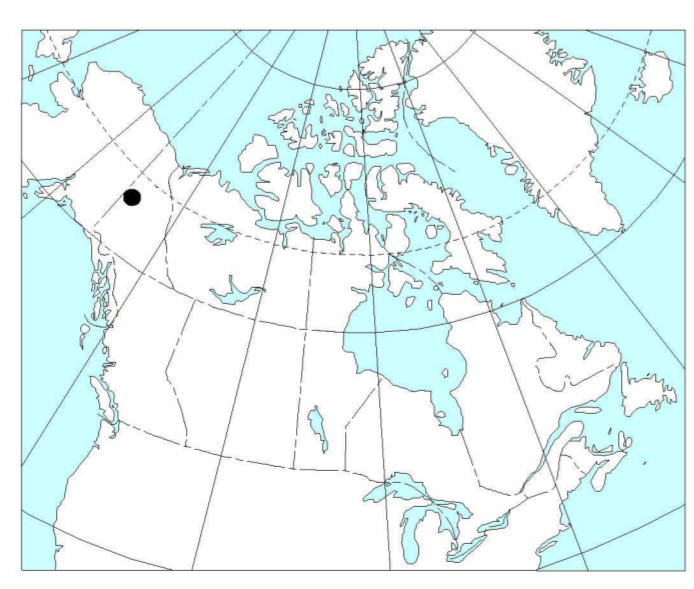
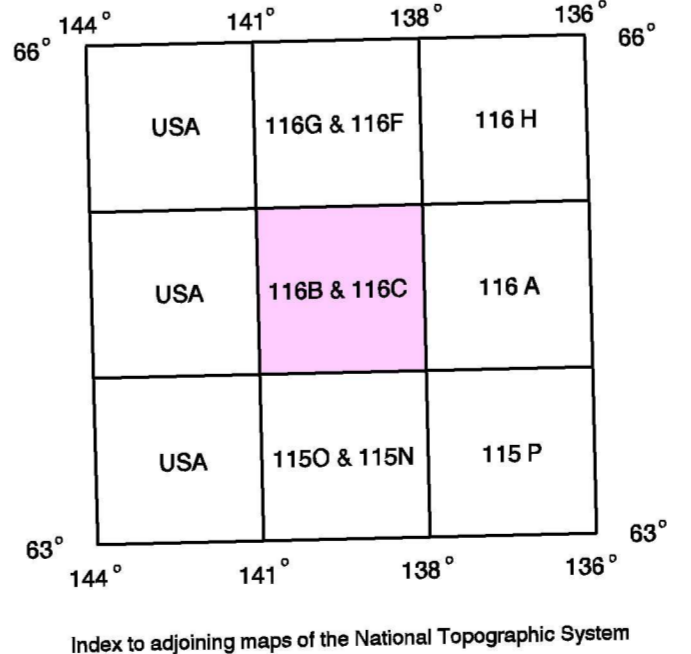
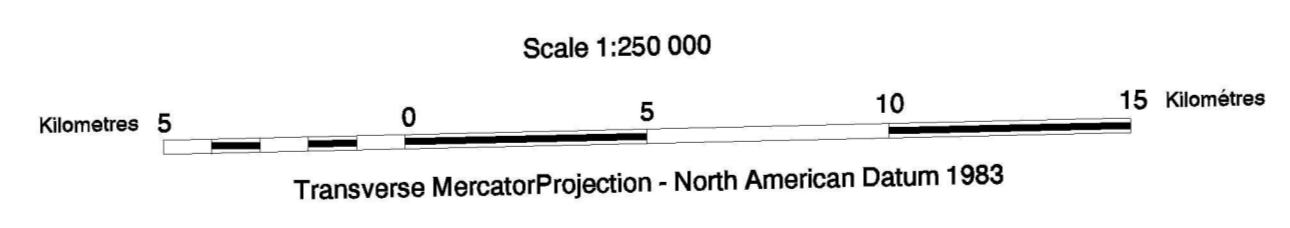


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**SURFICIAL GEOLOGY**  
**DAWSON**  
YUKON TERRITORY



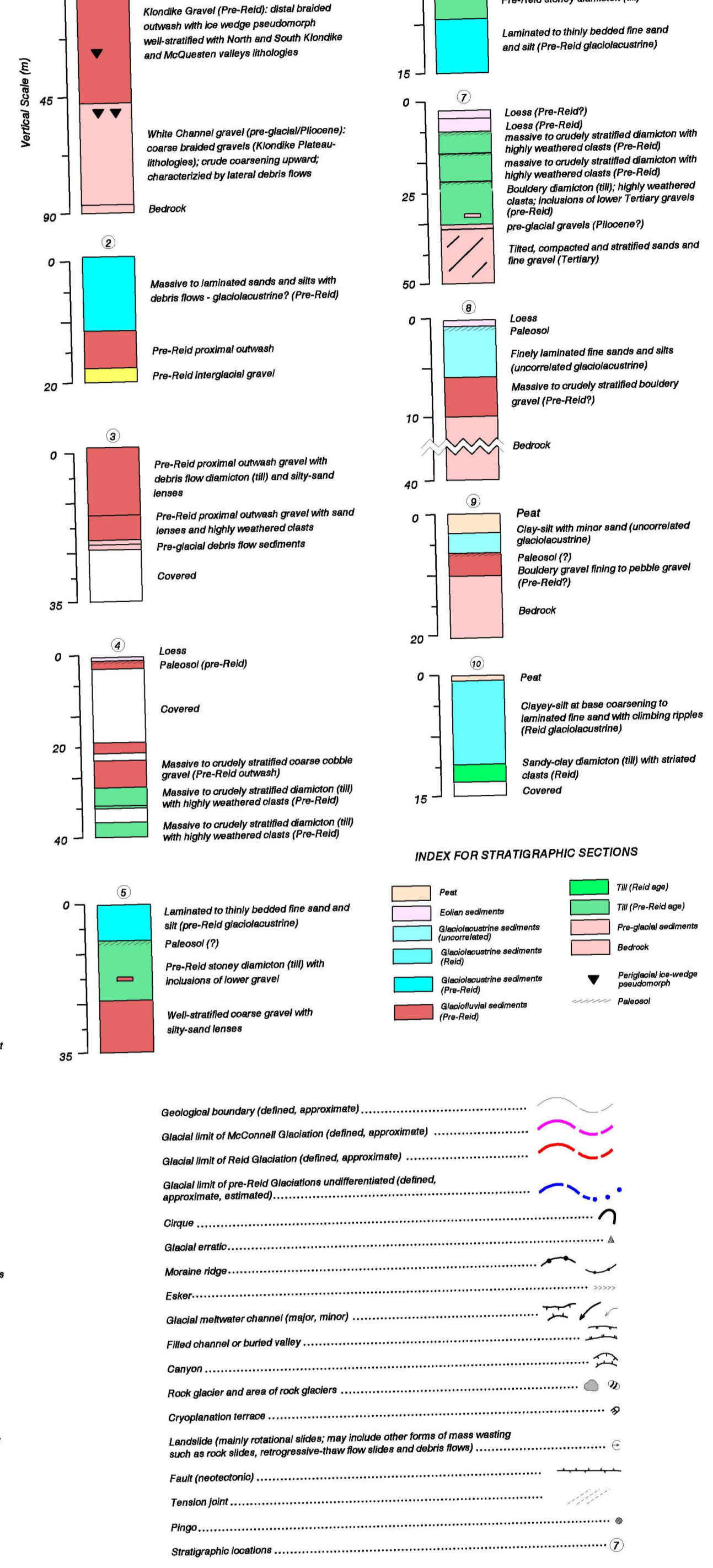
Canada

**LEGEND**

- ANTHROPOGENIC**  
R - In situ, consisting of gravel and silt, up to 2 m thick.
- QUATERNARY HOLOCENE**  
IO - Alluvial: consisting of woody silt, peat, < 2 m thick.
- QUATERNARY HOLOCENE**  
Ap, Al, M, M<sub>1</sub> - Ap: Alluvial: coarse sand and gravel with minor silt and sand in association with modern drainage. ... M: Alluvial: coarse sand and gravel with minor silt and sand in association with modern drainage. ... M<sub>1</sub>: Alluvial: coarse sand and gravel with minor silt and sand in association with modern drainage.
- QUATERNARY HOLOCENE**  
Cv, Ca - Cv: Colluvium: coarse sand and gravel with minor silt and sand in association with modern drainage. ... Ca: Colluvium: coarse sand and gravel with minor silt and sand in association with modern drainage.
- QUATERNARY HOLOCENE**  
Cp, Cl, Gl, G<sub>1</sub> - Cp: Glacialfluvial: fine to gritty silty sand, 2-12 m thick. ... Cl: Glacialfluvial: fine to gritty silty sand, 2-12 m thick. ... G<sub>1</sub>: Glacial: coarse sand and gravel with minor silt and sand in association with modern drainage.
- QUATERNARY HOLOCENE**  
M<sub>2</sub>, M<sub>3</sub>, M<sub>4</sub> - M<sub>2</sub>: Alluvial: coarse sand and gravel with minor silt and sand in association with modern drainage. ... M<sub>3</sub>: Alluvial: coarse sand and gravel with minor silt and sand in association with modern drainage. ... M<sub>4</sub>: Alluvial: coarse sand and gravel with minor silt and sand in association with modern drainage.

- PLEISTOCENE-PLEISTOCENE UNDIFFERENTIATED**  
C<sub>1</sub> - In situ, consisting of gravel and silt, up to 2 m thick.
- PLEISTOCENE-PLEISTOCENE UNDIFFERENTIATED**  
C<sub>2</sub> - In situ, consisting of gravel and silt, up to 2 m thick.
- PLEISTOCENE-PLEISTOCENE UNDIFFERENTIATED**  
C<sub>3</sub> - In situ, consisting of gravel and silt, up to 2 m thick.
- PLEISTOCENE-PLEISTOCENE UNDIFFERENTIATED**  
C<sub>4</sub> - In situ, consisting of gravel and silt, up to 2 m thick.

**STRATIGRAPHIC SECTIONS**



- INDEX FOR STRATIGRAPHIC SECTIONS**  
1 - 10
- PREFIXES, COMBINED MAPS UNIT, AND MODIFYING PROCESSES**  
C<sub>1</sub> - In situ, consisting of gravel and silt, up to 2 m thick.  
C<sub>2</sub> - In situ, consisting of gravel and silt, up to 2 m thick.  
C<sub>3</sub> - In situ, consisting of gravel and silt, up to 2 m thick.  
C<sub>4</sub> - In situ, consisting of gravel and silt, up to 2 m thick.



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Geology by A. Duk-Rodion (1995-96)  
Geological digitization and cartography by: S.J. Hinds, GeoMechanics Consulting  
Any revisions or additional geological information known to the Geology of Canada should be forwarded to the Geology of Canada.  
Base map of the map area published by the Survey and Mapping Branch in 1997.  
Copies of the topographic edition of this map may be obtained from the Canada Map Office, Department of Energy, Mines and Technical Surveys, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0G8.  
Mean magnetic declination 1995, 30° 42' E, decreasing 12.1' annually.  
Readings are in metres above mean sea level.