

DESCRIPTIVE NOTES

PHYSIOGRAPHY
The map area (N 56 39-38) lies north of the Arctic Circle within the northern portion of the Wedge province, approximately 200 km west of Repulse Bay. The area is characterized by a high degree of relief, with a maximum elevation of 500 m, and is characterized by a high degree of relief, with a maximum elevation of 500 m, and is characterized by a high degree of relief, with a maximum elevation of 500 m.

CLIMATE AND VEGETATION
The map area lies in the Northern Arctic Ecozone, a region of continuous permafrost (Burgess et al., 2003). The map area is characterized by a high degree of relief, with a maximum elevation of 500 m, and is characterized by a high degree of relief, with a maximum elevation of 500 m, and is characterized by a high degree of relief, with a maximum elevation of 500 m.

BEDROCK GEOLOGY
The map area lies within the domain of the Charley Province (Dyer et al., 2003). These units include: (1) a central domain of N-E-SW trending belt of Archaean gneiss and schists; (2) a western domain containing metamorphic rocks and gneiss; (3) a southern domain of gneiss (Burgess et al., 2003).

ICE MOVEMENT INDICATORS
Five indicators were used to measure ice flow direction: (1) bedrock microforms; (2) ice-rafted clasts; (3) ice-rafted boulders; (4) ice-rafted pebbles; (5) ice-rafted cobbles. These indicators were used to measure ice flow direction: (1) bedrock microforms; (2) ice-rafted clasts; (3) ice-rafted boulders; (4) ice-rafted pebbles; (5) ice-rafted cobbles.

Phase 1
Phase 1 ice movement was northward over the entire CEP area.

Phase 2
Phase 2 incorporates two distinct, but likely contemporaneous, ice movement directions: Phase 2a and 2b. The northwestern portion of the CEP study area (N 56 39-38, 39-40, 40-41, and 41-42) ice movement Phase 2a to the northwest, towards Charley Bay. The northwestern portion of the study area (movement Phase 2b) to the northeast, towards Charley Bay.

Phase 3
Phase 3 records ice movement primarily towards the north and north-northeast. Ice movement indicators associated with this phase are found only south of the Charley Mountains, which include all of the Walker Lake and Langford Lake, and northern portions of Kowenicki Lake and Hudson Bay (N 56 39-38, 39-40, 40-41, and 41-42).

Phases 4a, b, and c
At the 'Howling Wolf' site (Fig. 2), indicators were measured on a horizontal ridge. Northward ice movement indicators are present on the ridge, but southward ice movement indicators are present on the slope. This indicates that ice movement was northward over the ridge, but southward on the slope.

DISCUSSION
The timing of the Laurentide ice sheet (LIS) at the deep Gulf of Bothia resulted in the separation of the LIS into two separate ice sheets: the Laurentide and the Baltic-Icelandic. This structural change caused the shifting of the LIS margin. The timing of the LIS margin is uncertain, but it is believed to have occurred between 18,000 and 16,000 years ago.

Phase 4
Phase 4 records a period when ice movement became increasingly influenced by topography. This resulted in a complex pattern of ice movement, with ice flowing in different directions depending on the local topography.

DESCRIPTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS
R-Bedrock
Detailed descriptions of a significant area extent to be mapped as an individual map polygon were reported in Burgess et al. (2003). The bedrock units are described in the legend and are mapped on the map. The bedrock units are described in the legend and are mapped on the map.

T-Till
Till is a material deposited in an unsorted, matrix supported sediment with grain sizes ranging from clay to boulders. It is a material deposited in an unsorted, matrix supported sediment with grain sizes ranging from clay to boulders.

G-Glacioluvial
The composition of glacioluvial deposits varies from well-sorted sands to poorly sorted boulders. Clasts are typically massive to well-sorted. Deposits may occur in patches, but are usually well-sorted and massive.

L-Glaciolacustrine
Glaciolacustrine deposits are normally well-sorted, and occur in comparison from ice contact sand. Deposits of these materials are primarily located above the shore line of present-day lakes. Clasts are commonly observed in bedforms.

M-Moraine
Moraine deposits are normally well-sorted, and occur in comparison from ice contact sand. Deposits of these materials are primarily located above the shore line of present-day lakes. Clasts are commonly observed in bedforms.

A-Aluvium
Alluvial deposits result from non-glacial related fluvial processes. Differentiating between distal glaciolacustrine (bedform) and alluvium present difficulty in this study. Bedform areas are the present-day fluvial systems (even at maximum spring runoff) are low, the majority of fluvial deposits were reported as glaciolacustrine.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS
I would like to thank my Master's supervisor, Brent Ward, for his guidance in field mapping techniques, and Edward Lyle for his assistance in the laboratory. I would also like to thank the staff of the Geological Survey of Canada for their assistance in the field and in the laboratory.

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Figure 1. Schematic diagram of ice-movement phases in the study area (Walker Lake area, N 56 39-38). I) Inferred location of the ice margin for phase 2a, when ice movement was 'trapped' towards Charley Bay. II) Inferred location of the ice margin for phase 2b, when ice movement was 'trapped' towards Charley Bay. III) Position of the ice margin for phase 3, which corresponds to the position of the Charley Mountains. The Charley Mountains indicate the position of the ice margin at ca. 8 ka (Dyer et al. 2003). Phase 1 was not detected in the map area. Phase 4 (Howling Wolf) is not shown on this diagram. The location of the Kowenicki Ice Divide was generalized from Aylsworth and Shill (1985) and Dyer (1984).

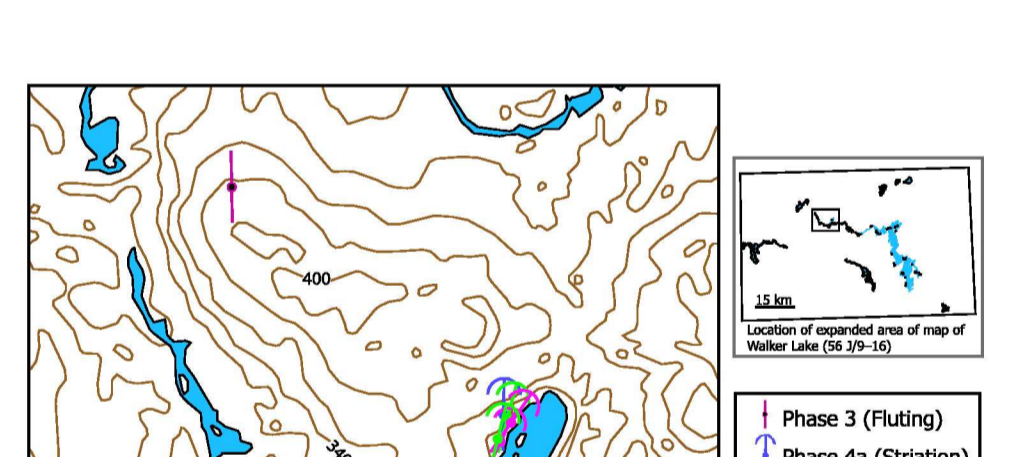
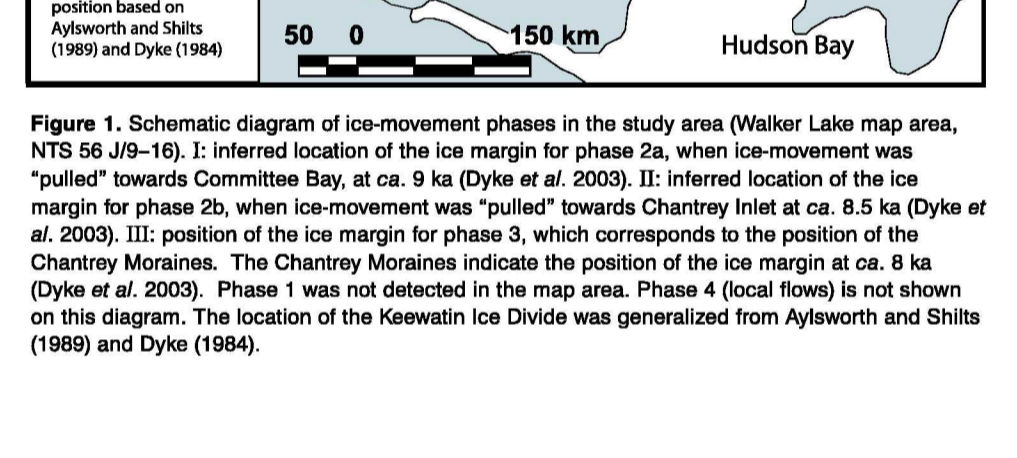
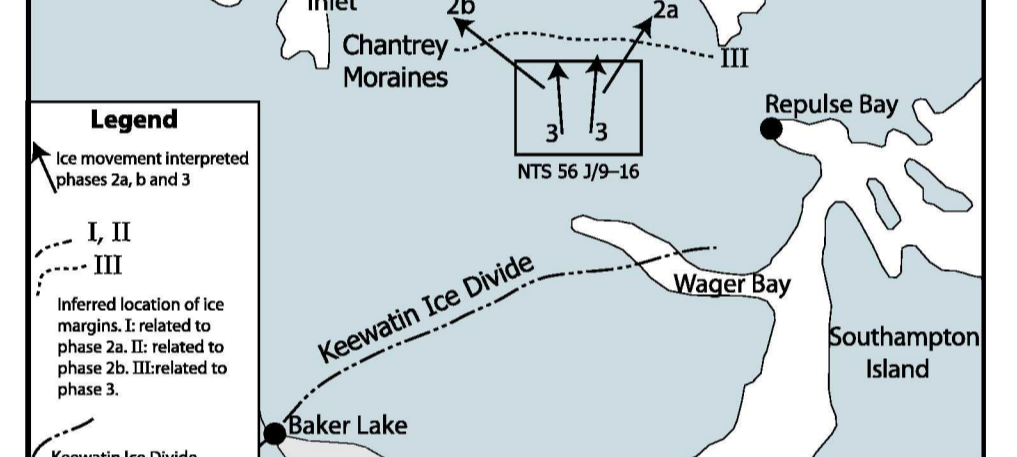
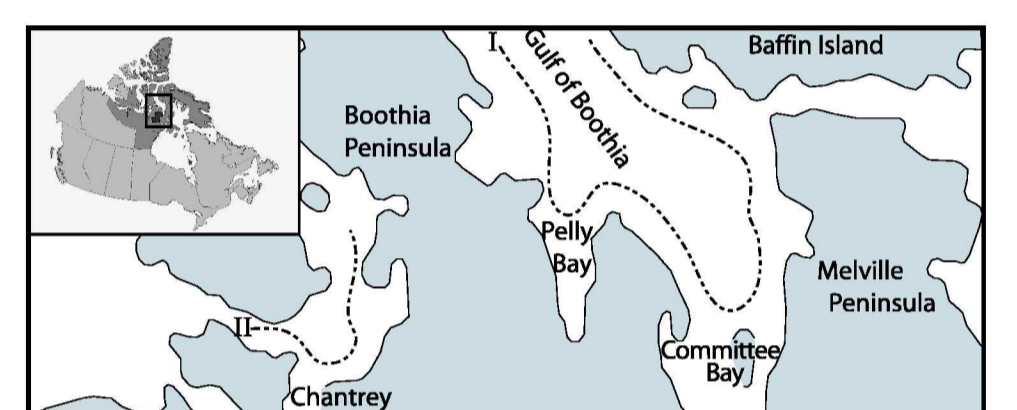
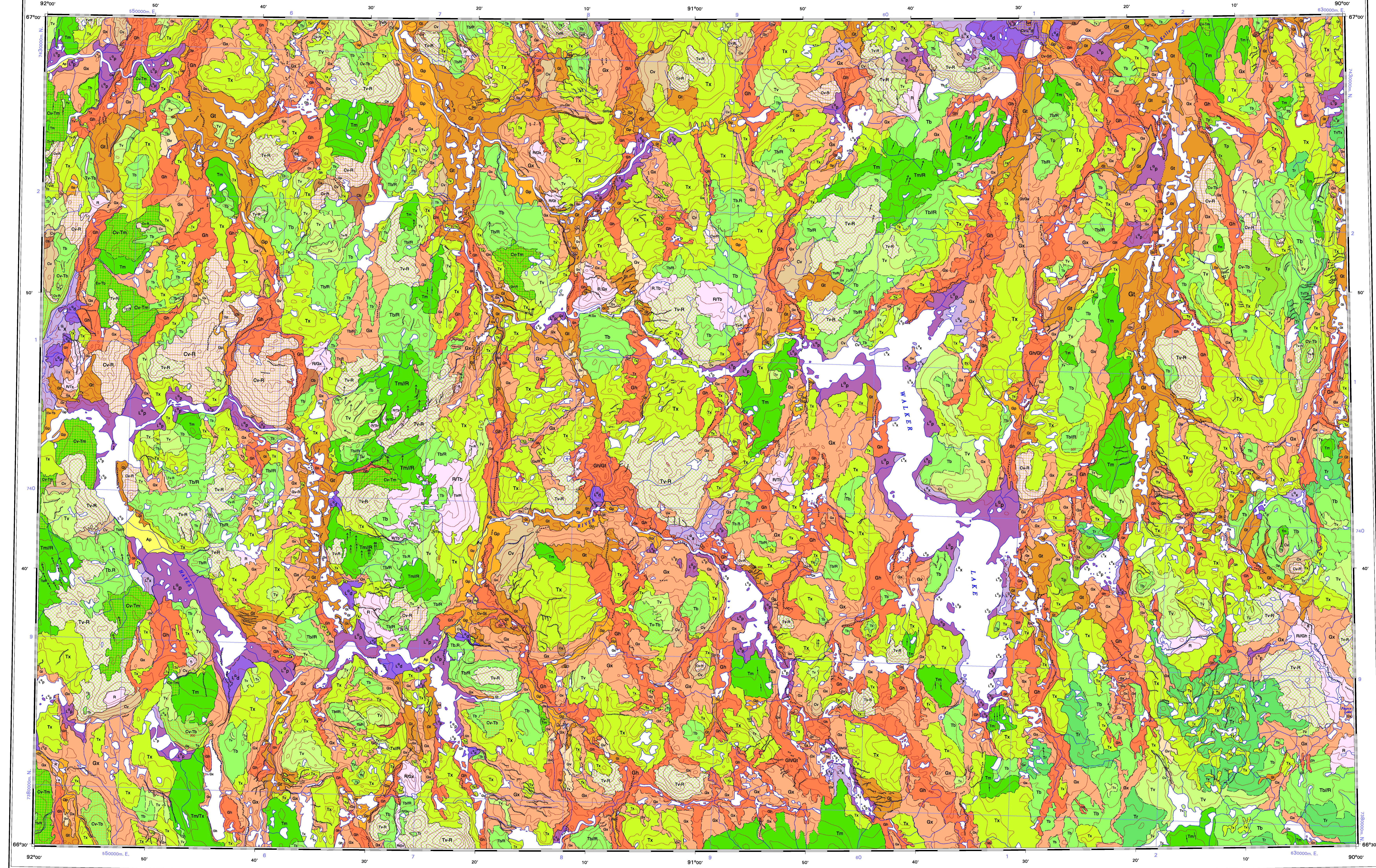


Figure 2. Ice-movement data from Howling Wolf site (Fig. 2). Earlier phase (2 and 3) are parallel with the ridges. Later phase (4a, b, and c) are towards the northeast, likely the result of topographic control. No movement data from phase 1 is present in this area. Elevations are in metres.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS
I would like to thank my Master's supervisor, Brent Ward, for his guidance in field mapping techniques, and Edward Lyle for his assistance in the laboratory. I would also like to thank the staff of the Geological Survey of Canada for their assistance in the field and in the laboratory.



OPEN FILE 4280
SURFICIAL GEOLOGY
WALKER LAKE
NUNAVUT

Author: D.J. Utting
Geology by D.J. Utting, 2001-2002
Geological compilation by D.J. Utting and E.C. Little, 2001-2003
Co-ordinated through the auspices of the Committee Bay TUI Project
Digital data prepared by D.J. Utting and K. Simamura
Digital cartography by J.L. DeWaele, Earth Science Sector Information Division (ESS Info)

Any revisions or additional geological information known to the user would be welcomed by the Geological Survey of Canada.
Digital base at the scale of 1:250 000 from data compiled by Geomatics Canada, modified by ESS Info.
Due to the differences between the geological mapping scale and the available digital topographic scale, some inconsistencies between geological units and topographic features may be observed. The geological units should be considered accuracy generalized.
Proximity to the North Magnetic Pole causes the magnetic compass to be erratic in this area. Mean magnetic declination 2004, 14°50'W, decreasing 11.6" annually. Readings vary from 12°17'W in the SW corner to 17°12'W in the NE corner of the map.
Elevations in metres above mean sea level.

Scale 1:100 000 / Echelle 1/100 000
Unusual Transverse Mercator Projection
North American Datum 1983
© Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada 2004
Projection Système universel métrique de Mercator
Système de référence géodésique nord-américain, 1983
© Le Majesté de la Reine en chef du Canada 2004

Legend:
Geological boundary (defined, approximate, inferred)
Crag-and-tail
Fluting
Escher (flow direction known, unknown)
Abandoned channel, minor (flow direction known, unknown)
Roche moutonnée

Recommended citation:
Utting, D.J. 2004. Surficial geology, Walker Lake, Nunavut. Geological Survey of Canada, Open File 4280, scale 1:100 000.

LEGEND
Notes regarding complex units: For these complex units that contain several (e.g., Tm/R), only possibilities have been mapped. Where features are observed as a minor component forming patches over another unit, the "T" is used to denote the underlying unit. Where features are interpreted as stratigraphically overlying a dominant surficial unit (e.g., Gx/Tx), the "T" is used to designate the underlying unit cover overlying the primary unit. The "T" is used to denote the underlying unit cover overlying the primary unit. The "T" is used to denote the underlying unit cover overlying the primary unit.

QUATERNARY
POST-GLACIAL ENVIRONMENT
Ev Eolian veneer: Well sorted silt and sand deposited by wind, less than 1 m thick or discontinuous sheets. Slope 0 is used when eolian veneer overlies another unit.
Ap Alluvial plain: Predominantly sands and gravels. May be locally overlain by or include lacustrine silt, clay, and minor sand and gravel; all deposited in abandoned channels and along floodplain margins. Typically forms plain with approximately 1 m of present stream level. Thickness ranges from 1 to 5 m.

PERIGLACIAL ENVIRONMENT
Cv Colluvial veneer: Colluvial material less than 1 m thick; or discontinuous sheets of colluvial materials. Hatch 0 is used when colluvial veneer overlies another unit.
Cb Colluvium blanket: A mass of colluvial material with a thickness greater than 1 m.
Ca Colluvium apron: Stratified deposits and poorly sorted sand and gravel. Deposit forms a wedge-shaped, slope-toe complex of debris fans and outfilled deposits derived from bedrock and glacial debris. Thickness up to 10 m, thinning at head and toe of deposit.

GLACIAL ENVIRONMENT (WISCONSINAN)
L₁P Glaciolacustrine plain: Well stratified clay, silt, and clay deposited in lakes drained by glacial ice or as a result of high lake levels during deglaciation. Distally deposited glaciolacustrine sediments typically underlie plains or gently rolling terrain. Primarily deposited glaciolacustrine sediments may underlie ridges, hummocks, or other forms caused by subsequent meltwater.
L₂P Glaciolacustrine delta: A scarp or flow with a low-relief margin of cross-stratified sand and rounded boulders deposited into a glaciolacustrine environment. Thickness ranges from 1 to greater than 10 m.
L₃P Glaciolacustrine - undifferentiated: Glaciolacustrine complex - units are too small to be represented on the scale of mapping. Consists primarily of glaciolacustrine units, but may have relatively small patches of alluvial, colluvial, and/or glacioluvial materials. Thickness ranges from 1 to greater than 10 m.

GLACIOFLUVIAL DEPOSITS: Well stratified to massive sand, gravel with minor silt and clay deposited by meltwater flowing away from, or in contact with, glacial ice. These sediments can range from well to poorly sorted. Strata are commonly delineated due to a pronounced coloration from the meltwater of deglaciation ice.
Gv Glacioluvial veneer: Glacioluvial material less than 1 m thick may occur in patches or as a gravel lag over rock. Hatch 0 is used when glacioluvial veneer overlies another unit.
Gt Glacioluvial terrace (footwall): A scarp or flow with a low-relief margin of moderately to well sorted, cross-stratified sand and rounded gravel elevated above. Thickness ranges from 1 to greater than 20 metres.
Gp Glacioluvial plain (outwash): Low-relief materials to moderately well sorted, cross-stratified sand and rounded gravels. Thickness greater than 1 m.
Gh Hummocky glacioluvial (ice-contact): Complex arrangement of slopes extending from rounded depressions, to irregular conical mounds and includes water ridges. Composed primarily of poorly sorted sand and gravel. Is greater than 20 m thick.
Gx Glacioluvial - undifferentiated: Glacioluvial complex - units are too small to be represented on the scale of mapping. Consists primarily of glacioluvial units, but may have relatively small patches of alluvial, colluvial, and/or glaciolacustrine sediments.

MORAINAL SEDIMENTS (Tm): Degravelled (granite to boulder size clasts suspended in a poorly sorted sand) to sand matrix either deposited directly by glacial ice or redeposited directly from glacial ice as sediment gravity flow and/or glaciolacustrine sediments.
Tv Till veneer: Till less than 1 m thick; occurs in patches over rock and is interspersed with rock outcrop in some cases eroded in form niche microforms. Deposits are thin enough (1 m) to reveal the underlying surface morphology. Hatch 0 is used when till veneer overlies another unit.
Tb Till blanket: Surface morphology conforms to underlying bedrock topography. May include crag-and-tail, and/or fluting. Some areas have large foot polygons and above rates. Thickness generally ranges from 1 to 5 m.
Tp Till plain: Surface morphology forms a plain with < 2 m of relief. Generally massive underlying topography. Some areas have large foot polygons and above rates. Thickness greater than 5 m.
Tm Rolling till plain: Surface morphology forms gently rolling plains with 1 to 3 m of relief may exhibit fluting. Generally massive underlying topography. Some areas have large foot polygons and above rates. Thickness greater than 5 m.
Tr Ridge and complex: Surface morphology parallel ridges with amplitude less than 10 m and wavelengths less than 20 m. Orientation is commonly transverse to glacial ice-movement. Composed of till and glaciolacustrine materials. Thickness is variable, but is usually less than 10 m.
Tx Till - undifferentiated: Till complex - units are too small to be represented on the scale of mapping. May contain relatively small patches of alluvial, colluvial, glacioluvial and/or glaciolacustrine sediments.

PRE-QUATERNARY
R Bedrock - undifferentiated: Cross-reference with Committee Bay Project, bedrock component.