

## Geological Provinces (Nunavut)

---

### Abstract

A geological province is an extensive region characterized by rocks and structures of varying types and ages. Canada has seventeen geological provinces consisting of a shield, platforms, orogens and continental shelves. Nunavut includes four of the geological provinces: Innuitian Orogen, Arctic Platform, Hudson Bay Lowlands, and Bear Province. Knowledge of the territory's geology facilitates mineral exploration.

---

The Arctic continental shelf is formed of little deformed sediments and volcanics mainly of the Mesozoic and Cenozoic age. The Innuitian orogen consists of mountain belts of deformed and metamorphosed sedimentary and volcanic rocks intruded by granitic plutons.

The Arctic Platform and Hudson Platform are both formed of thick flat-lying Phanerozoic strata. The Churchill province which is part of the Canadian Shield embraces the orogenic belts that were produced 900 to 1800 million years ago. Knowledge of the territory's geology facilitates mineral exploration.

---

### Map Sources

#### Geological Provinces

Geological Map of Canada - Map D1860A [CD-ROM]. 1997. Ottawa, Ontario: Geological Survey of Canada, Natural Resources Canada.

### References

Canada. Geological Survey of Canada. 1981. *Geology and Canada*. Adapted from *Prospecting in Canada* 4th edition by A.H. Lang, published in 1970.

Geological Society of America. *The Geology of North America*, 1988-1997. 11 vol.

Nunavut Implementation Commission. 1995. *Footprints in New Snow: A comprehensive Report from the Nunavut Implementation Commission to the Department of Indian and Northern Development, Government of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated Concerning the Establishment of the Nunavut Government*. Iqaluit, Northwest Territories. 263 pp.

Wheeler, J.O. 1996. *About the Geology of Canada*. Geological Survey of Canada.

## **Related Web sites (1999 – 2009)**

### **Federal Government**

Natural Resources Canada. Geological Survey of Canada

[http://gsc.nrcan.gc.ca/index\\_e.php](http://gsc.nrcan.gc.ca/index_e.php)

The GSC is Canada's premier agency for geoscientific information and research, with world-class expertise focusing on geoscience surveys, sustainable development of Canada's resources, environmental protection, and technology innovation.

