

# GEM2

## New regional geology and mineral occurrences of the South Rae in Northwest Territories from GEM2: implications for continuation of the Boomerang, Black Bay and Axis-Thye Lake trends



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Natural Resources  
Canada

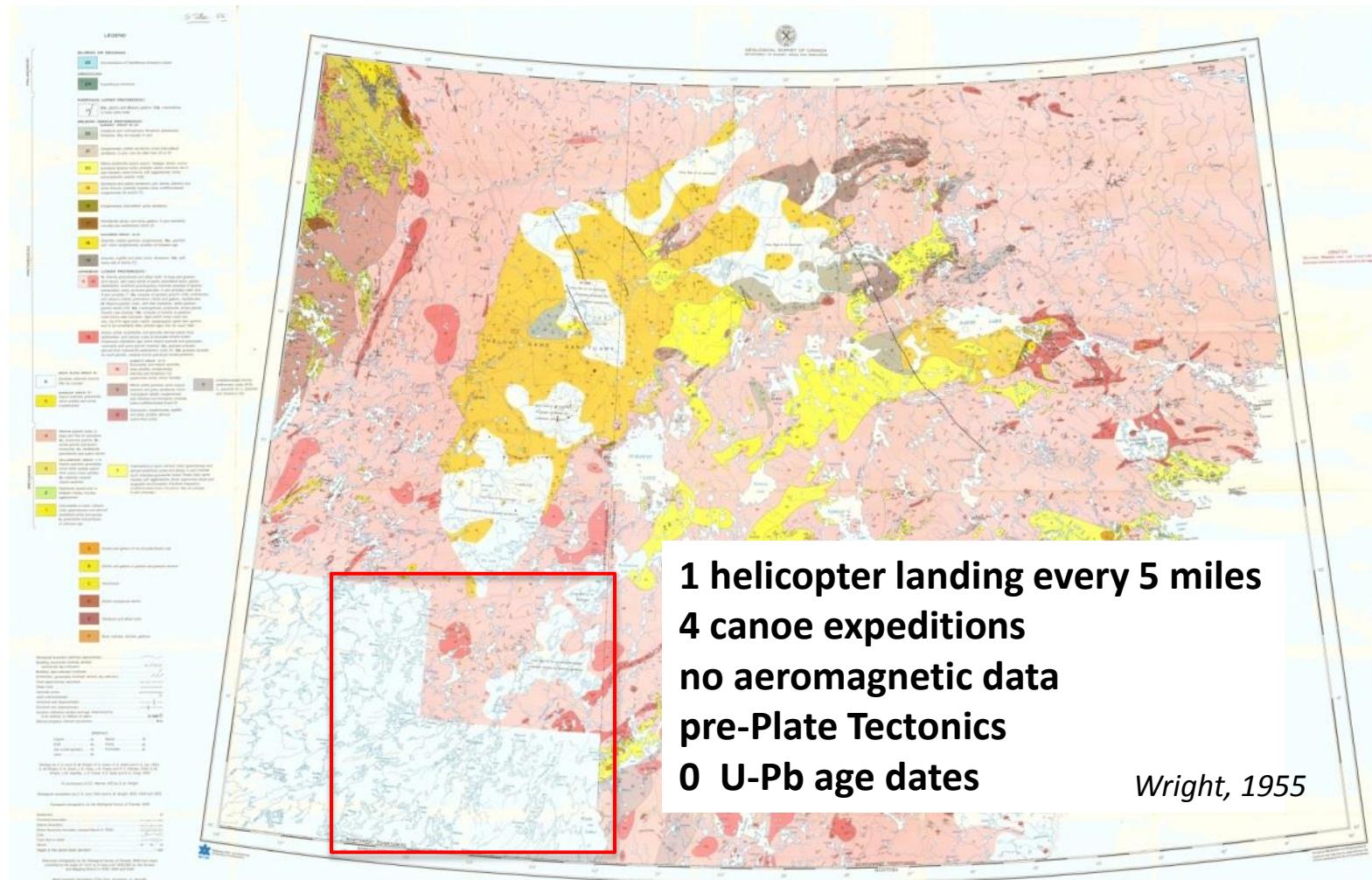


SFU



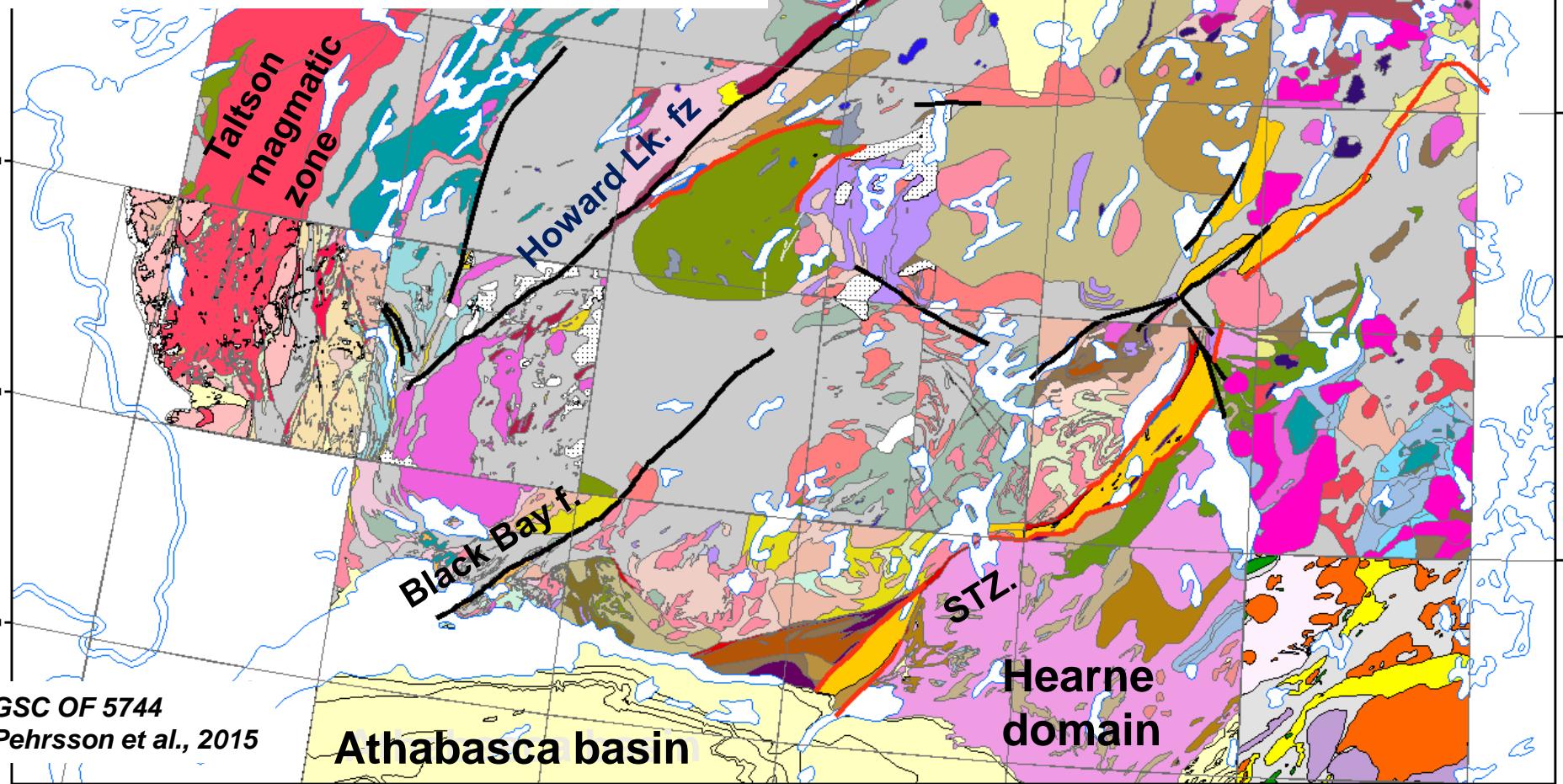
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# South Rae, NWT: Last unmapped part of the Canadian Shield



# Starting point.....

Can the domains and bounding structures of N Sask be continued into NWT?



# GEM 2 Framework mapping: 2012, 2015-16

High resolution aeromagnetic data, lake sediment and surficial surveys

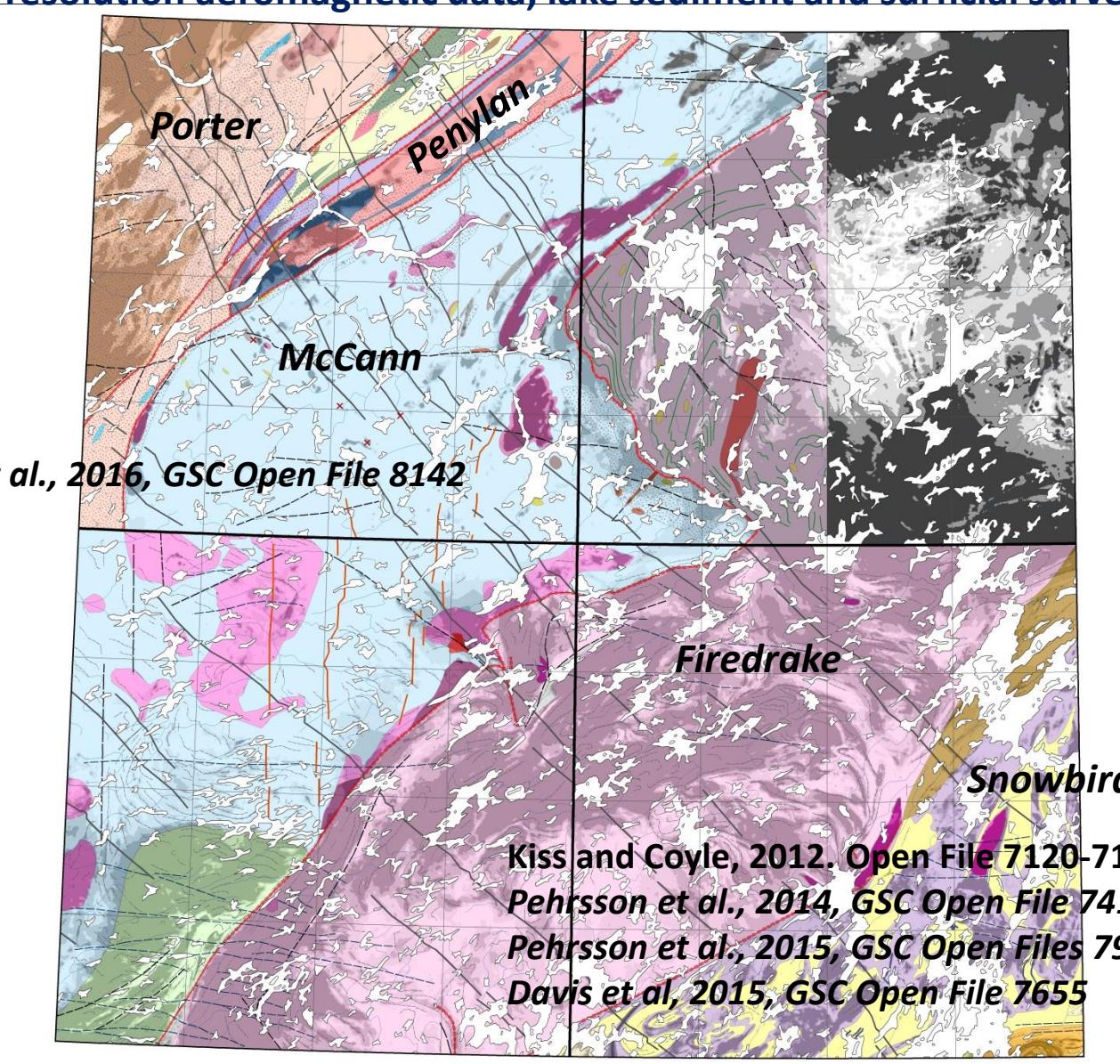
**75G**

**75H**

*Percival et al., 2016, GSC Open File 8142*

**75B**

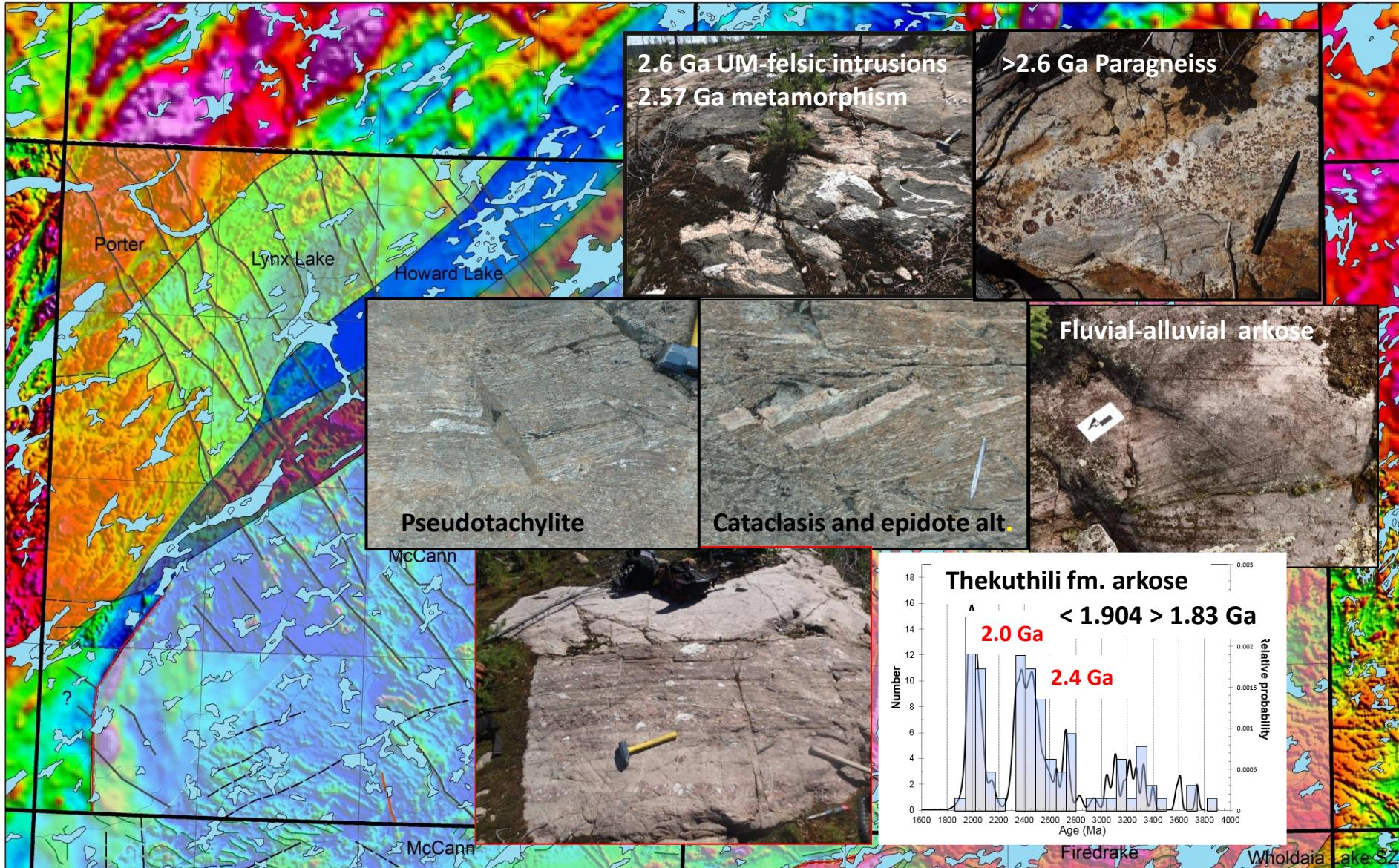
**75A**



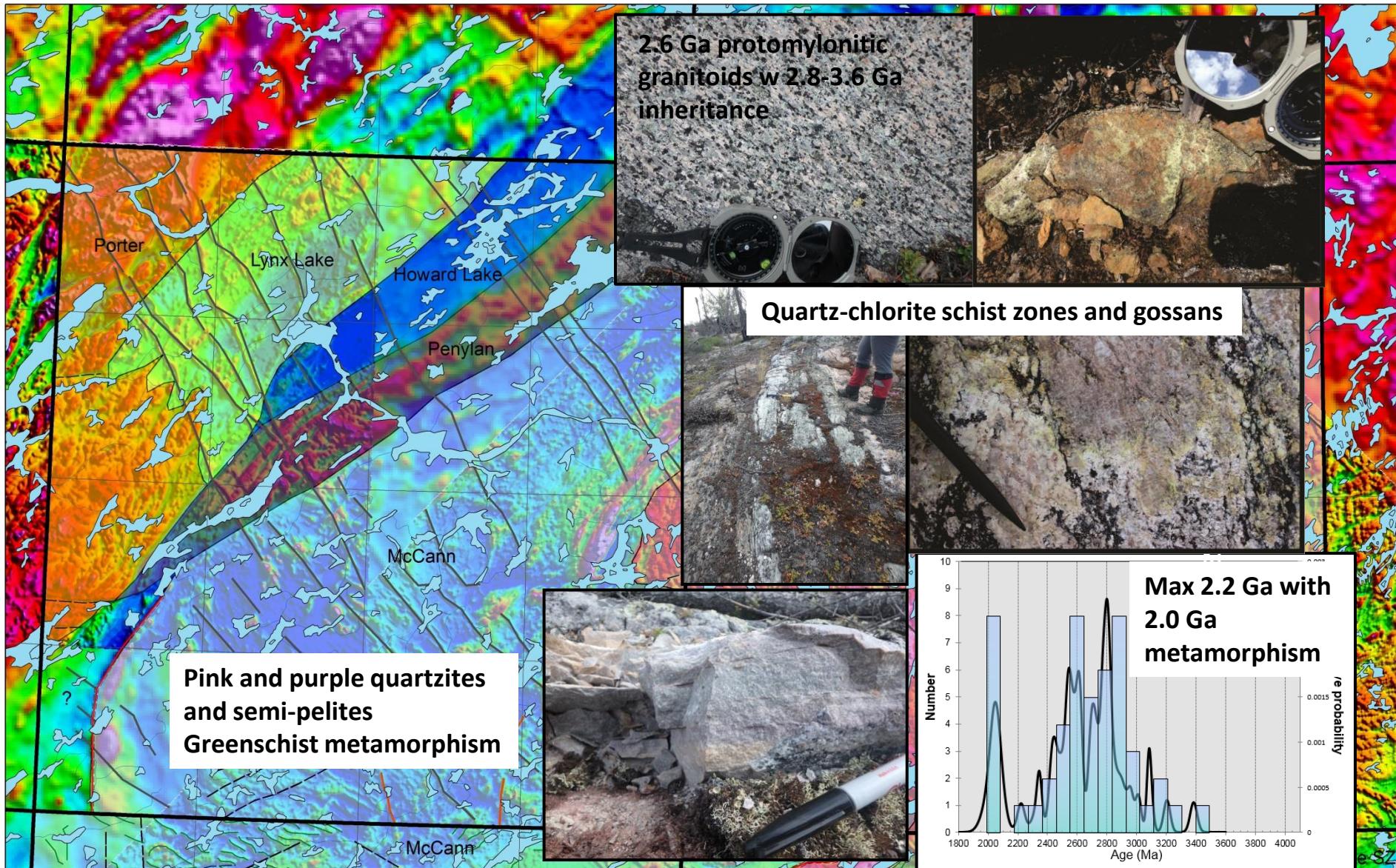
Natural Resources  
Canada

Canada

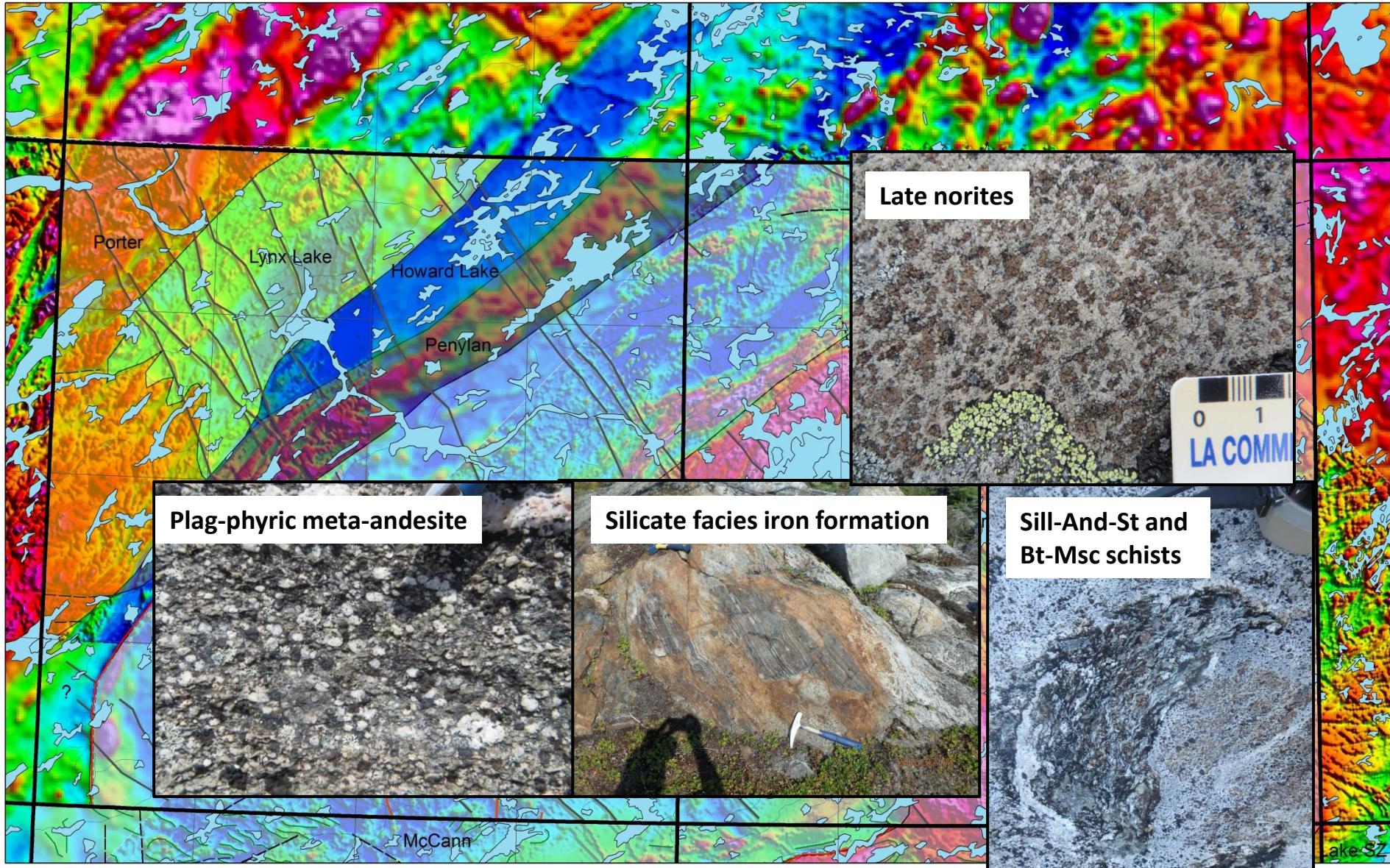
# Porter domain



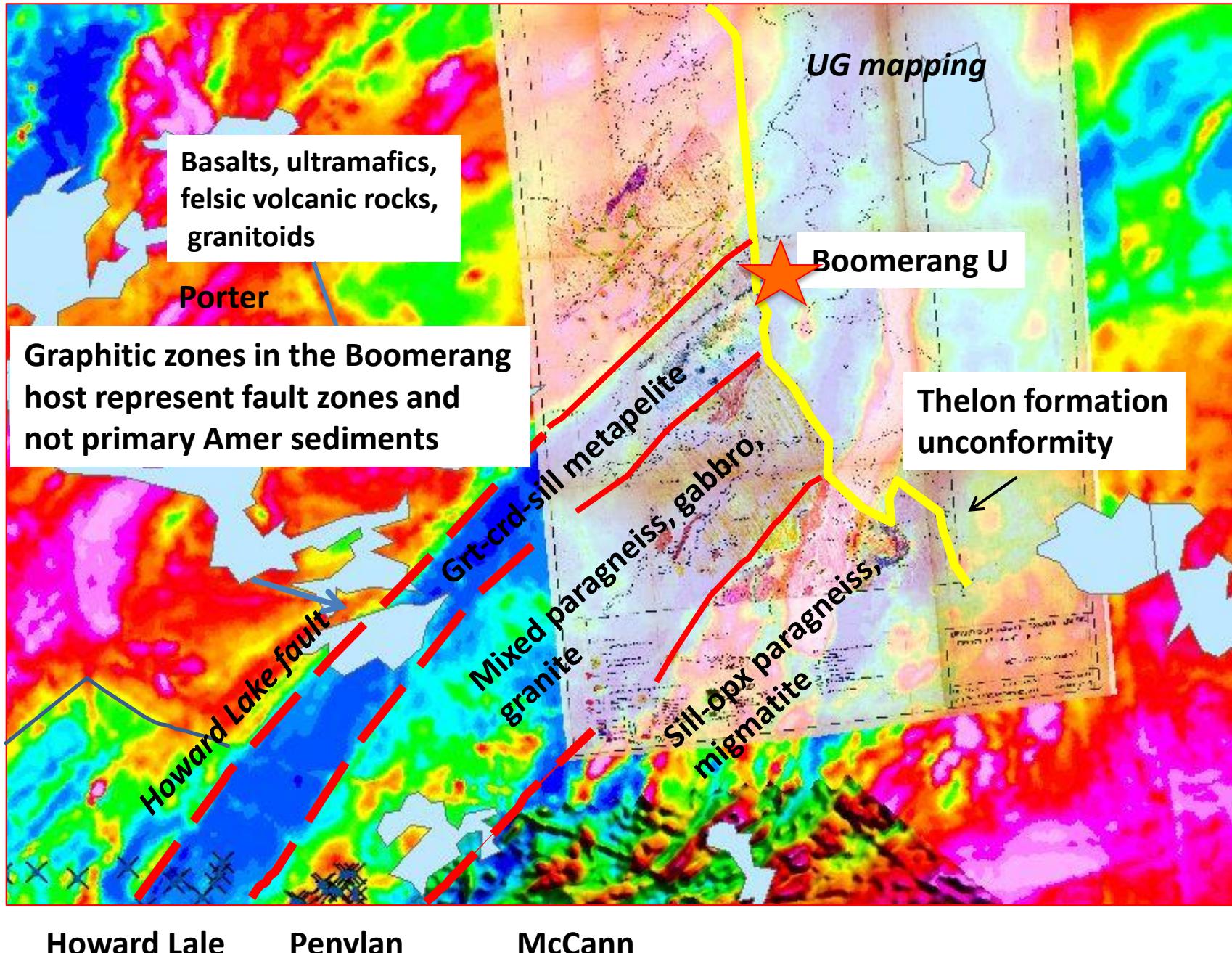
# Lynx domain



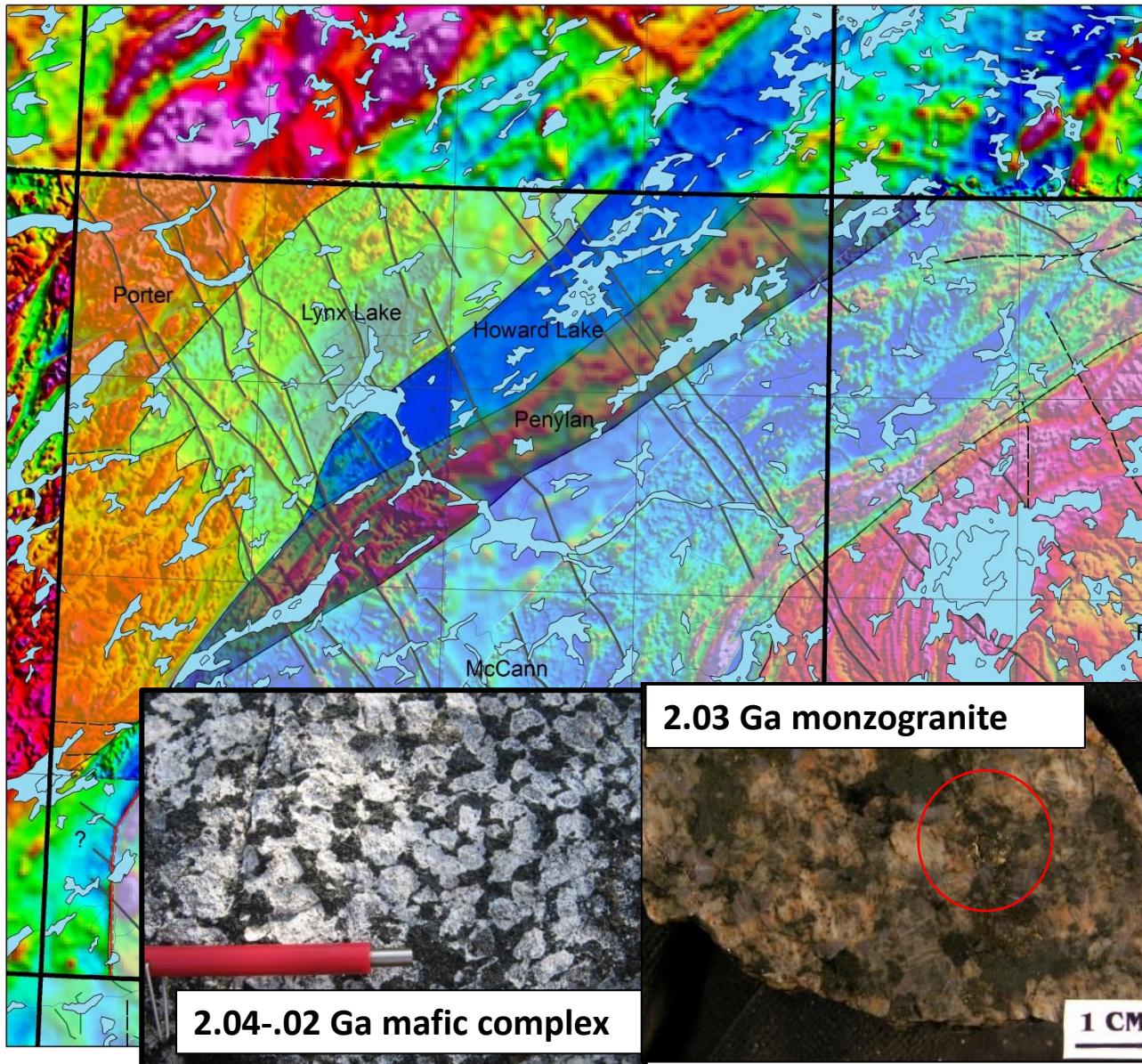
# Howard Lake domain



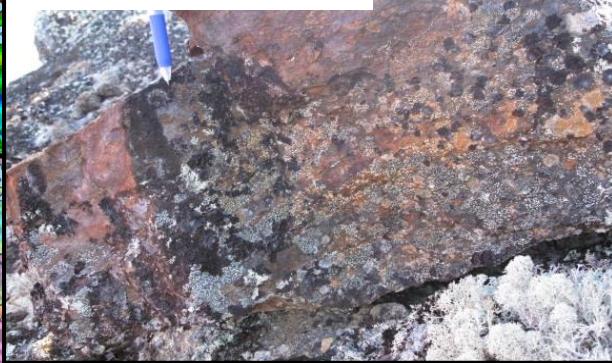
# Continuation of the host to Boomerang



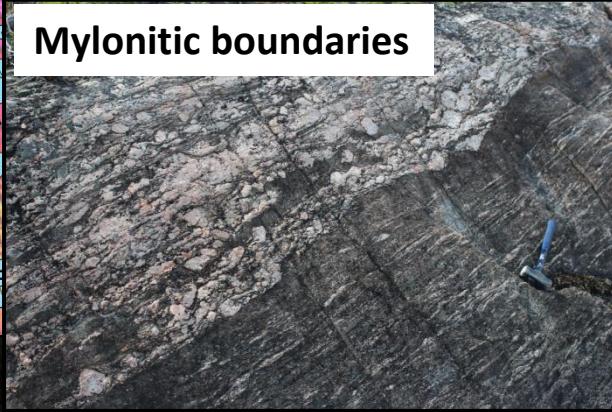
# Penylan domain



Ultramafic layers



Mylonitic boundaries



Distinct fault bounded slice  
with high pressure  
metamorphic assemblages

1 CM

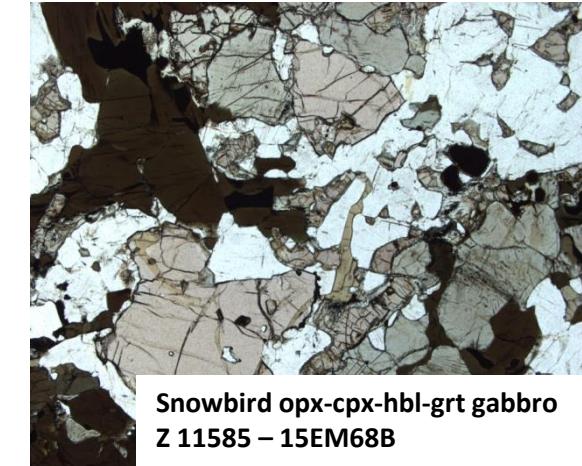
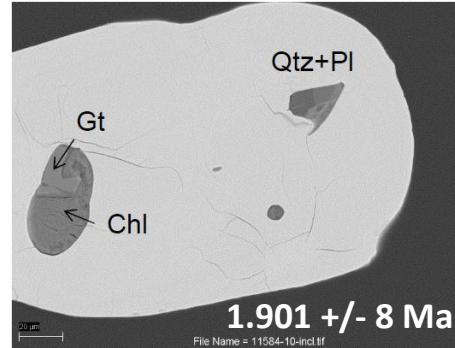
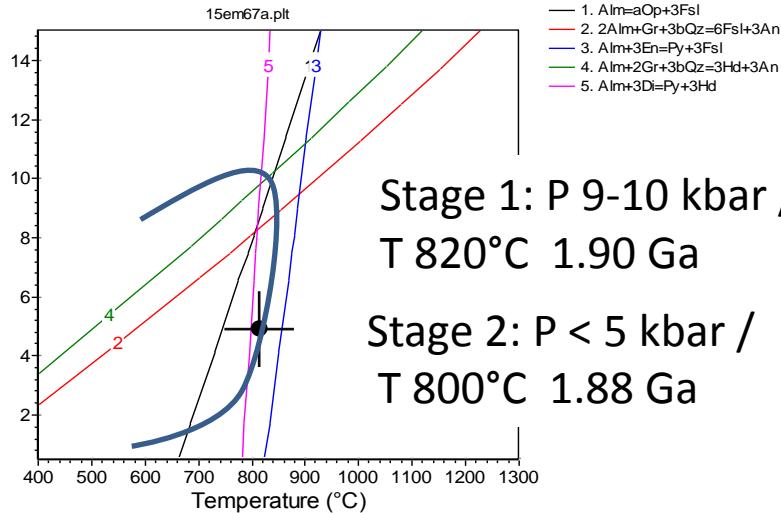
Firedrake

Wholdala

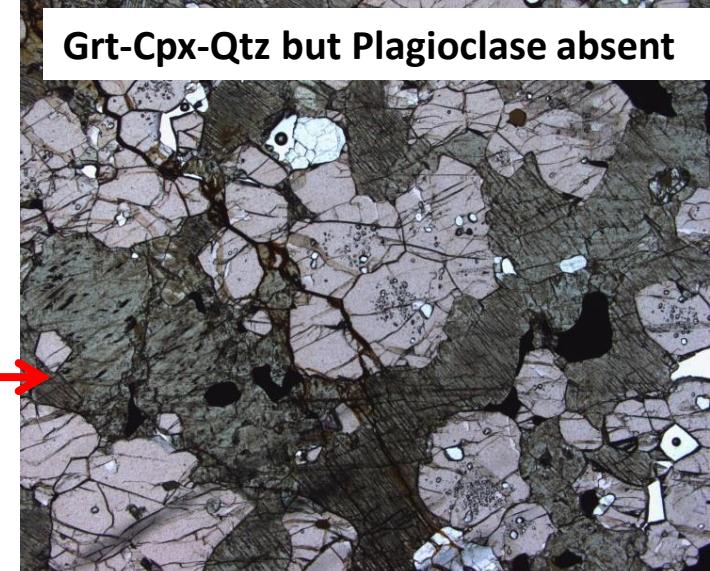
Lake SZ

# Snowbird orogeny : regional hi P

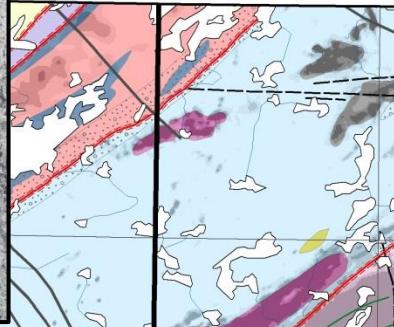
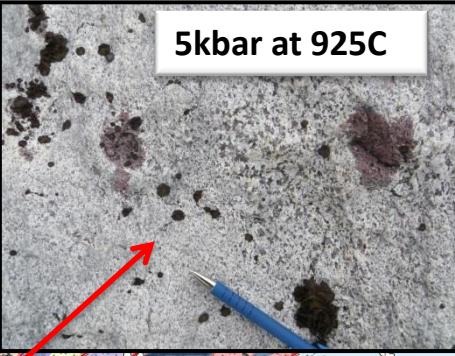
Near Isothermal decompression.....



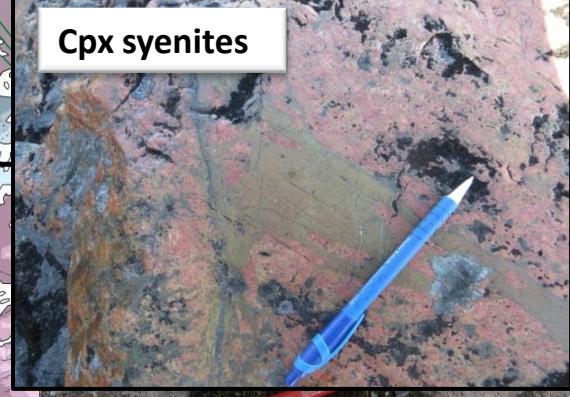
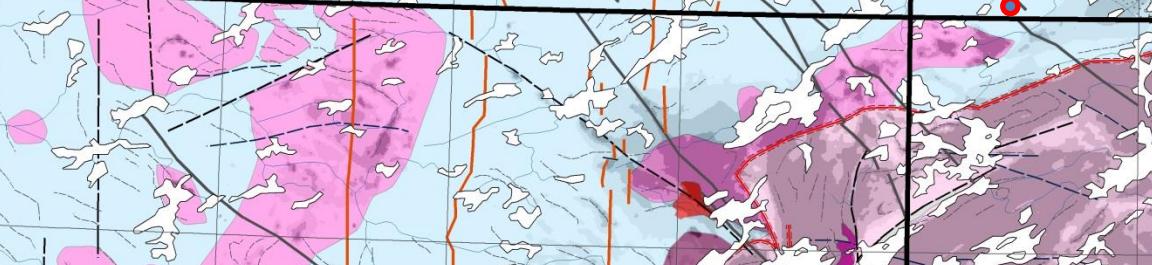
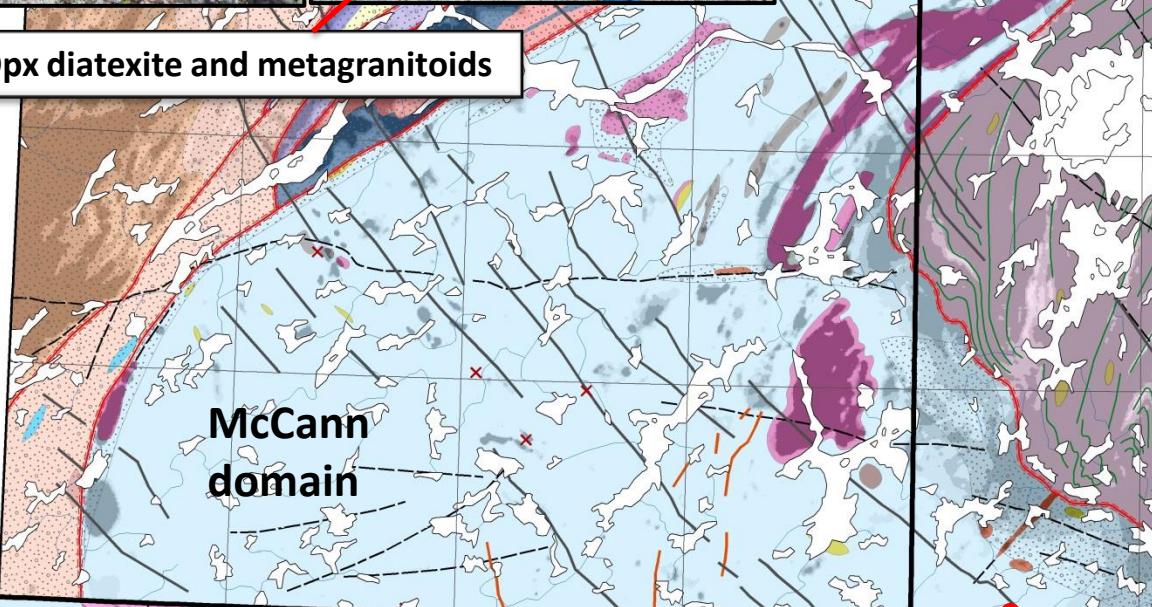
Amphibole-plagioclase thermometry (Holland & Blundy 1994): edenite + albite = richterite + anorthite  
 empirical Ti-in-amph (Otten 1984) Schmidt (1992) and Anderson & Smith (1995) barometry



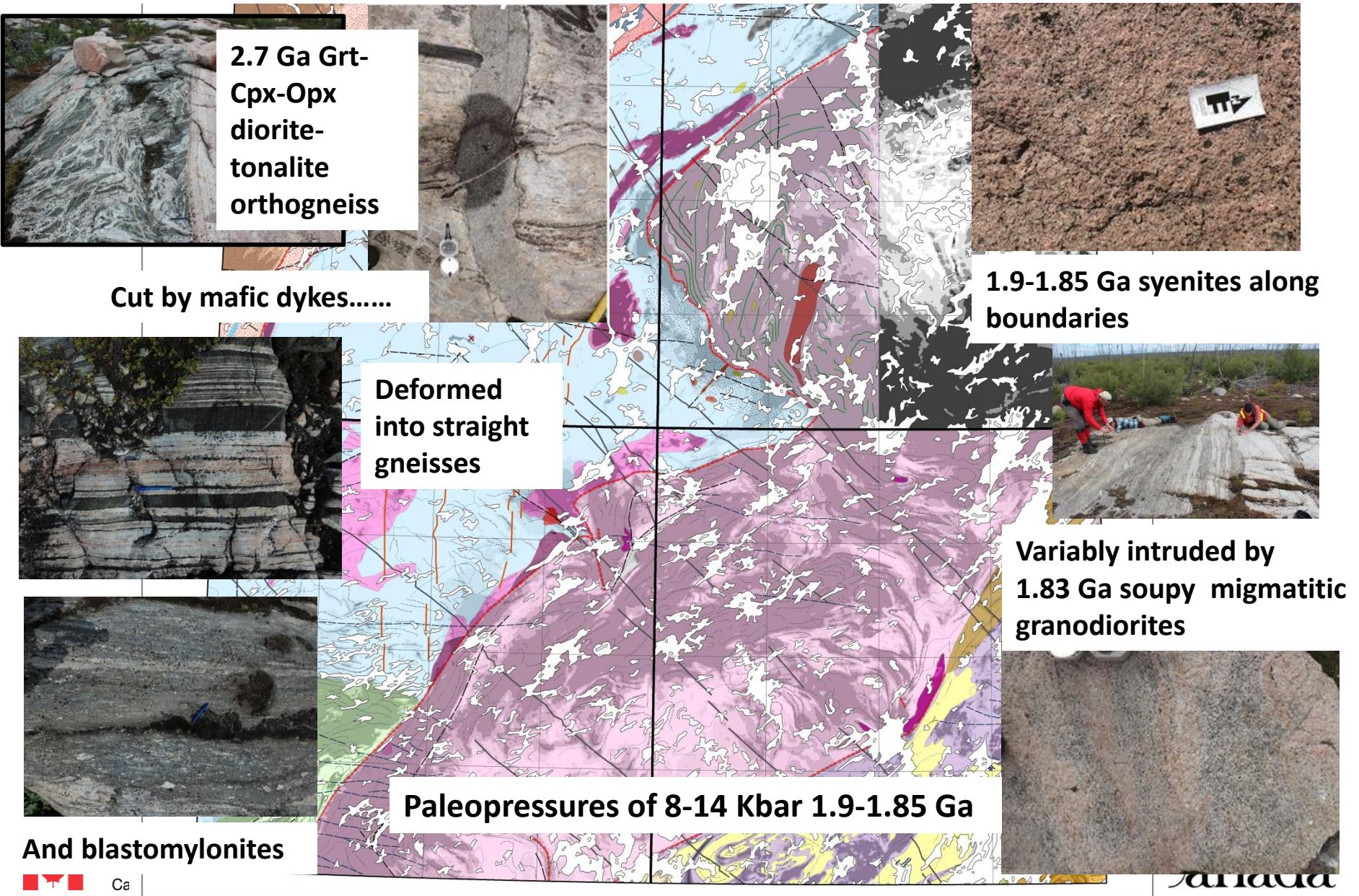
# McCann domain



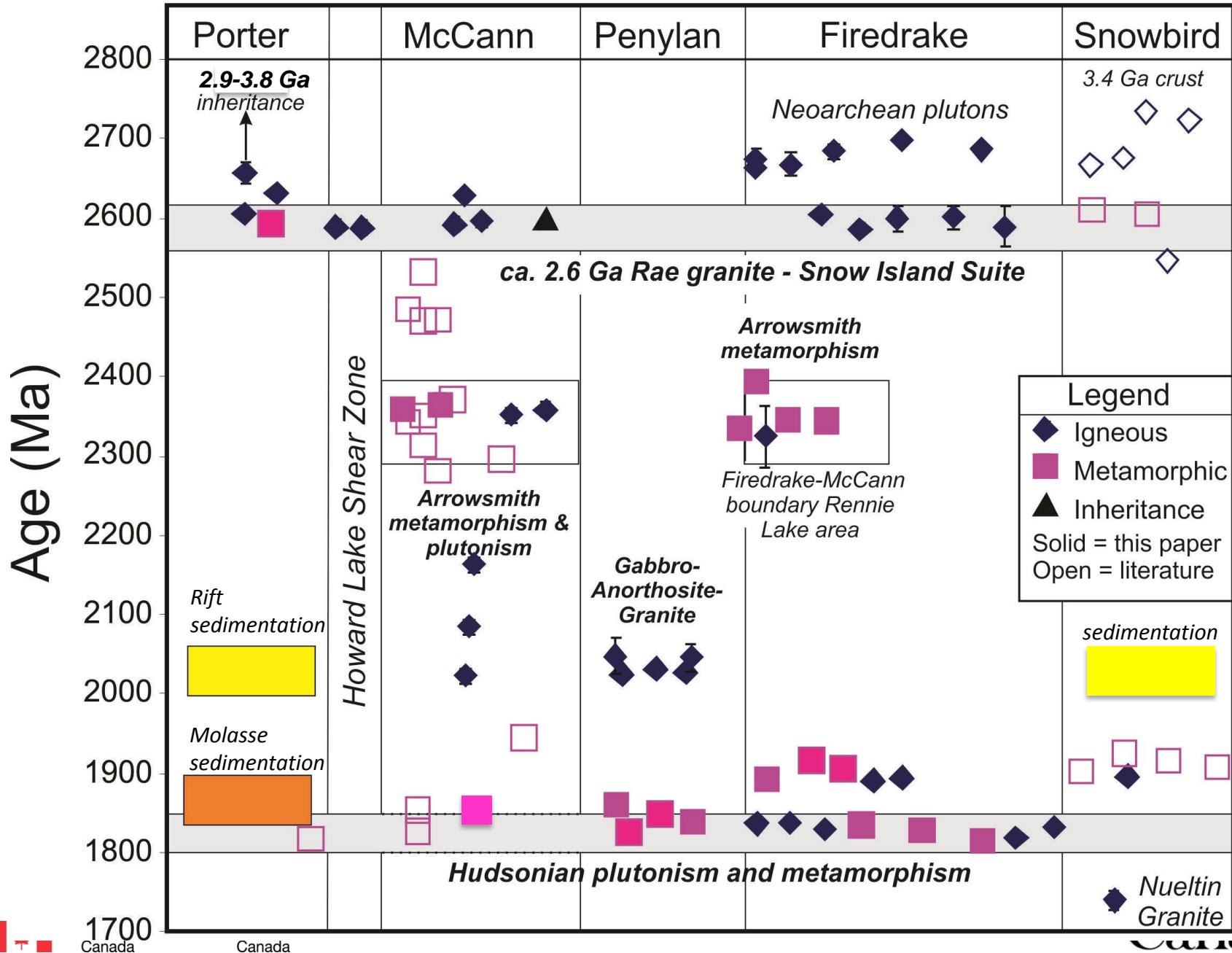
Grt-Opx diatexite and metagranitoids



# Firedrake domain: Train North

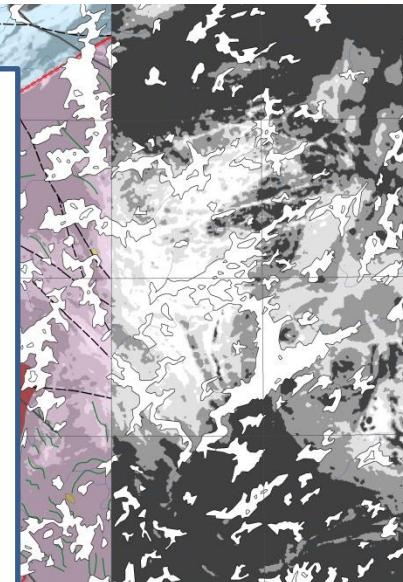
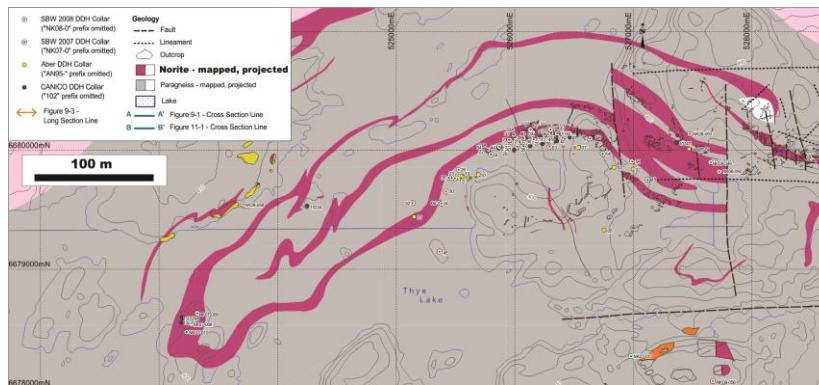
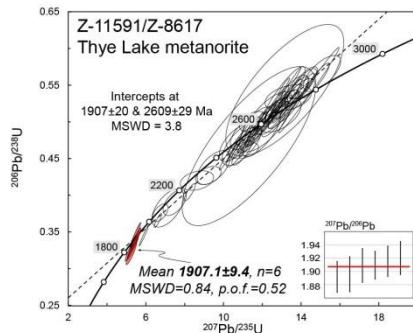


# Domain subdivision: geophysics, mapping and supporting geoscience

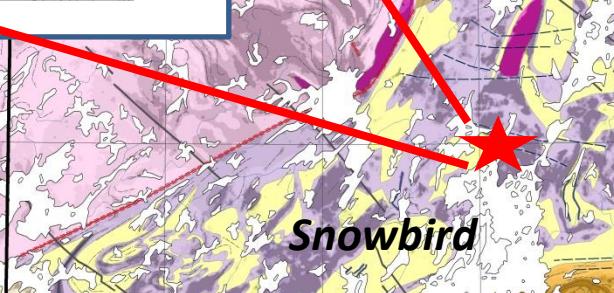
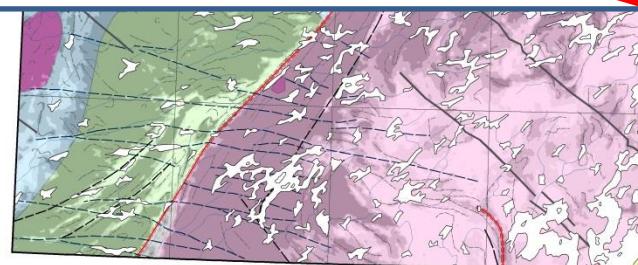


# Snowbird domain: Dodge North

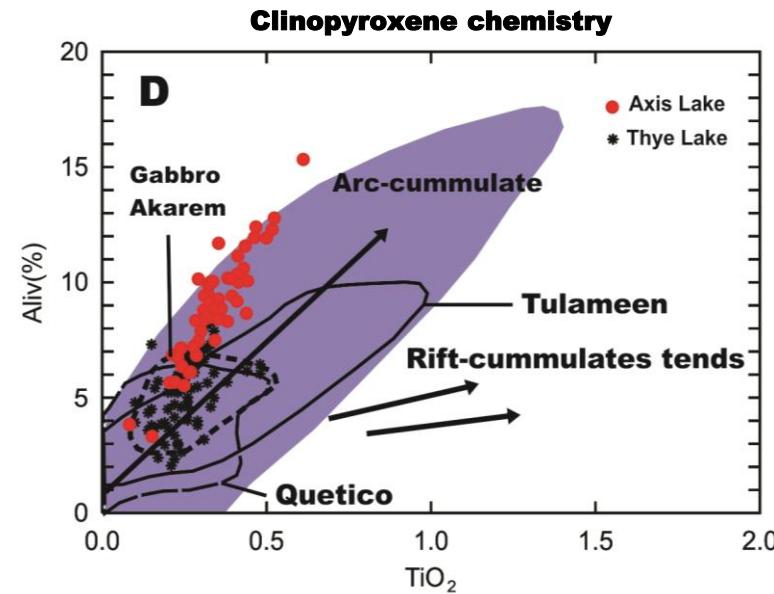
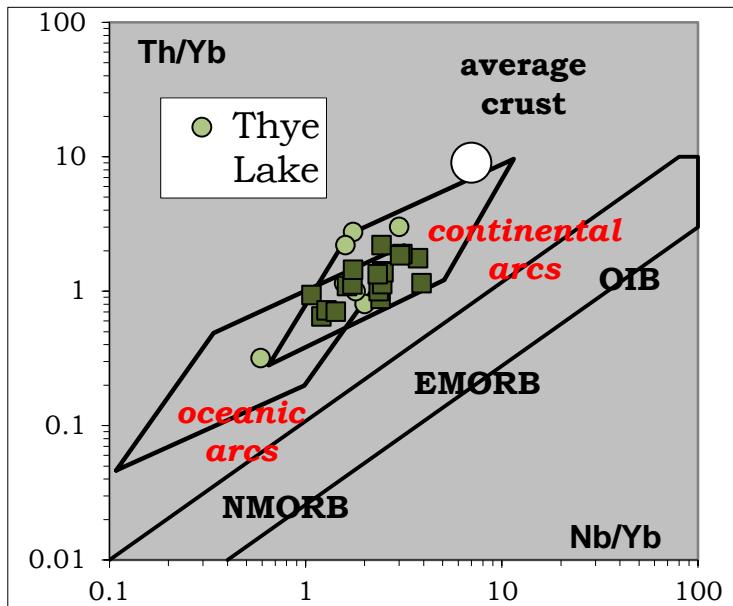
**Thye Lake: largest undeveloped Ni-Cu-PGE deposit in NWT**



Snowbird

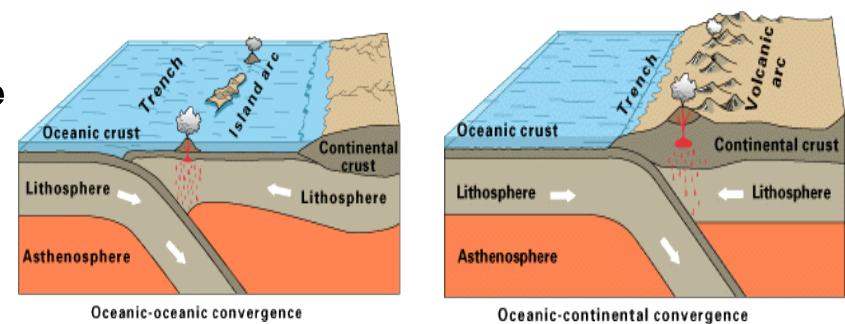
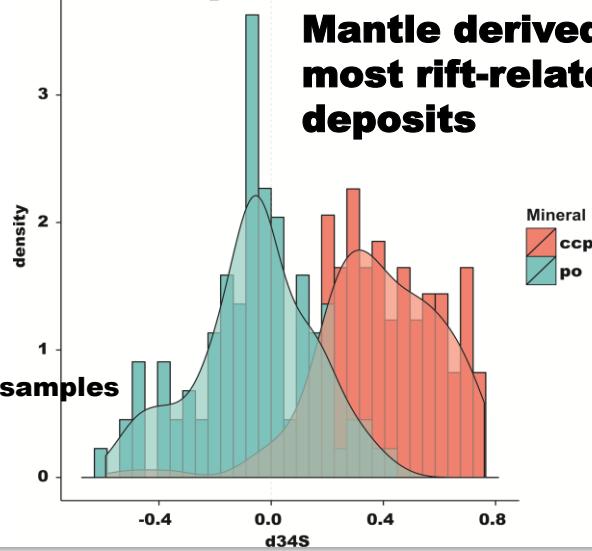


# Thye and Axis Lake: Archean Alaska-type deposits



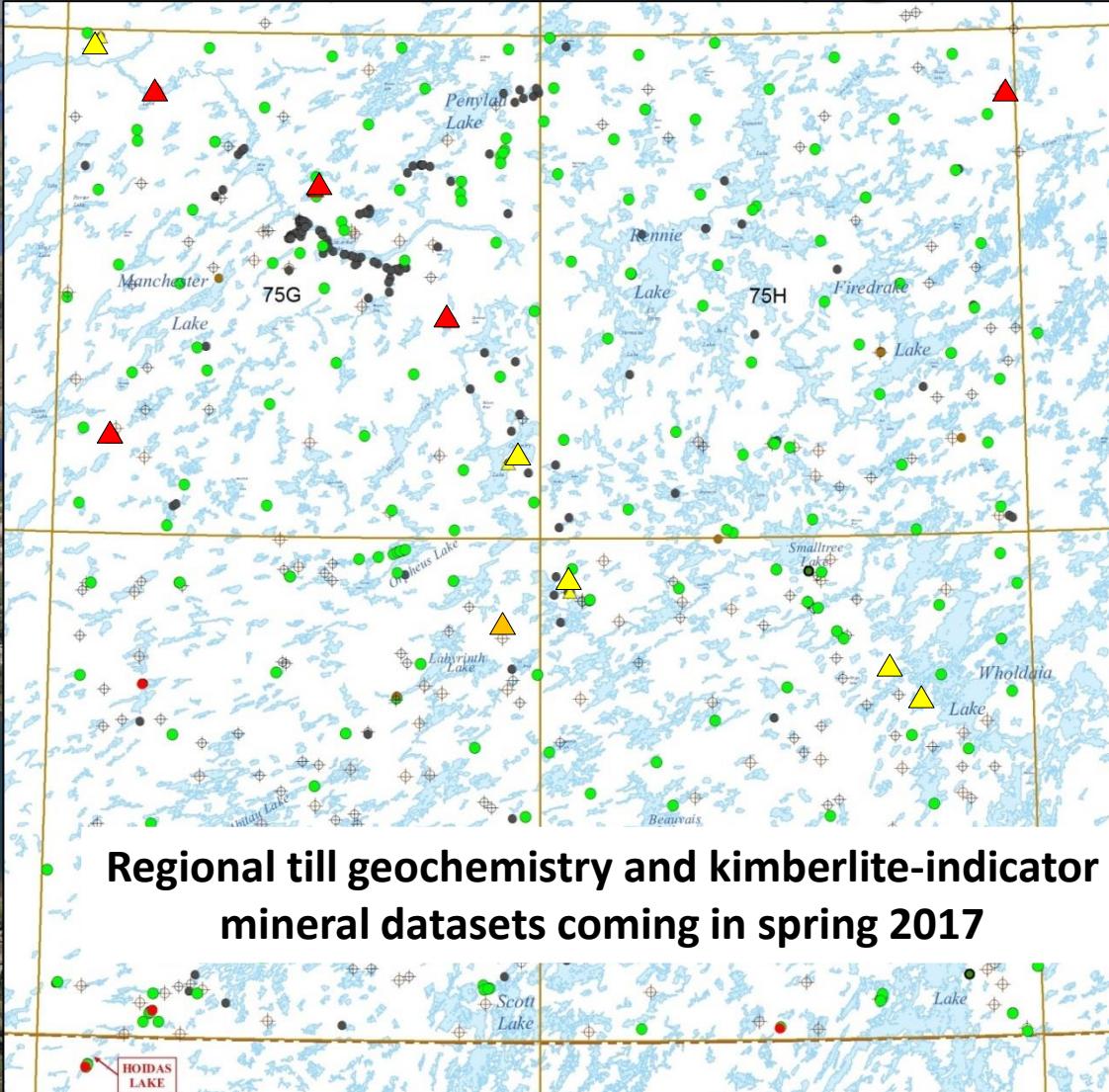
## In-situ S isotopes

Mantle derived S, unlike most rift-related deposits



**Alaska-type (Quetico, Giant Mascot), convergent margin type**

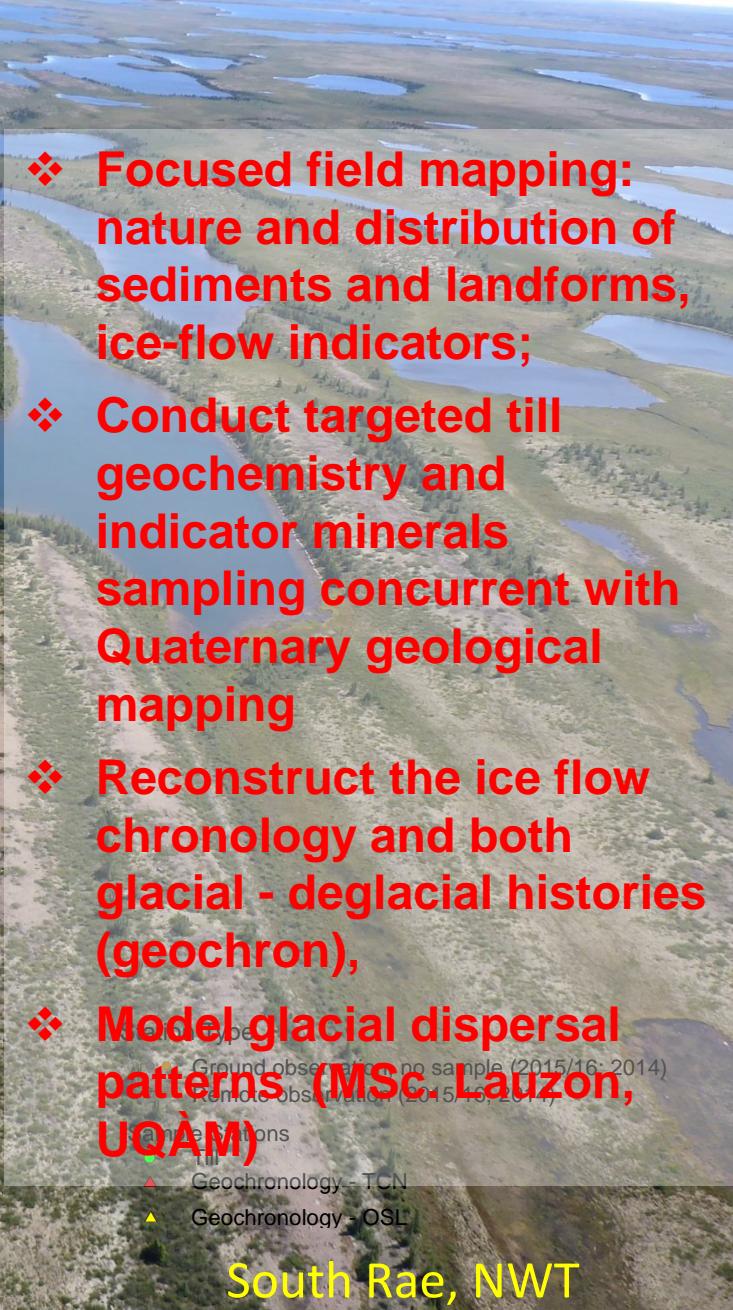
# Surficial Geological Investigations



• Regional till geochemistry and kimberlite-indicator mineral datasets coming in spring 2017

- 660 stations (all)
- 200 till samples
- 195 ice movement indicator sites
- 420 ground observations
- 11 geochron samples

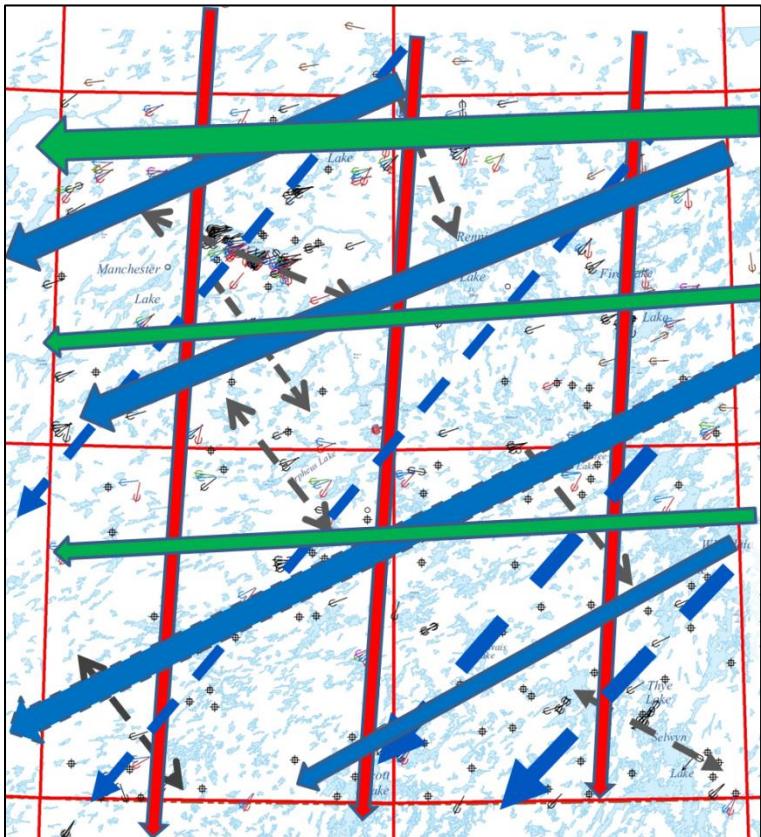
- ❖ Focused field mapping: nature and distribution of sediments and landforms, ice-flow indicators;
- ❖ Conduct targeted till geochemistry and indicator minerals sampling concurrent with Quaternary geological mapping
- ❖ Reconstruct the ice flow chronology and both glacial - deglacial histories (geochron),
- ❖ Model glacial dispersal patterns (MSc. Lauzon, UQAM)



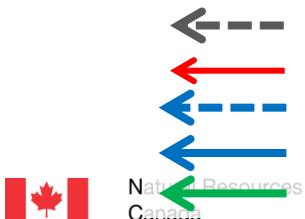
South Rae, NWT

# Ice-flow Chronology

Deglacial ice flow shifts in clockwise rotation – migrating ice divide

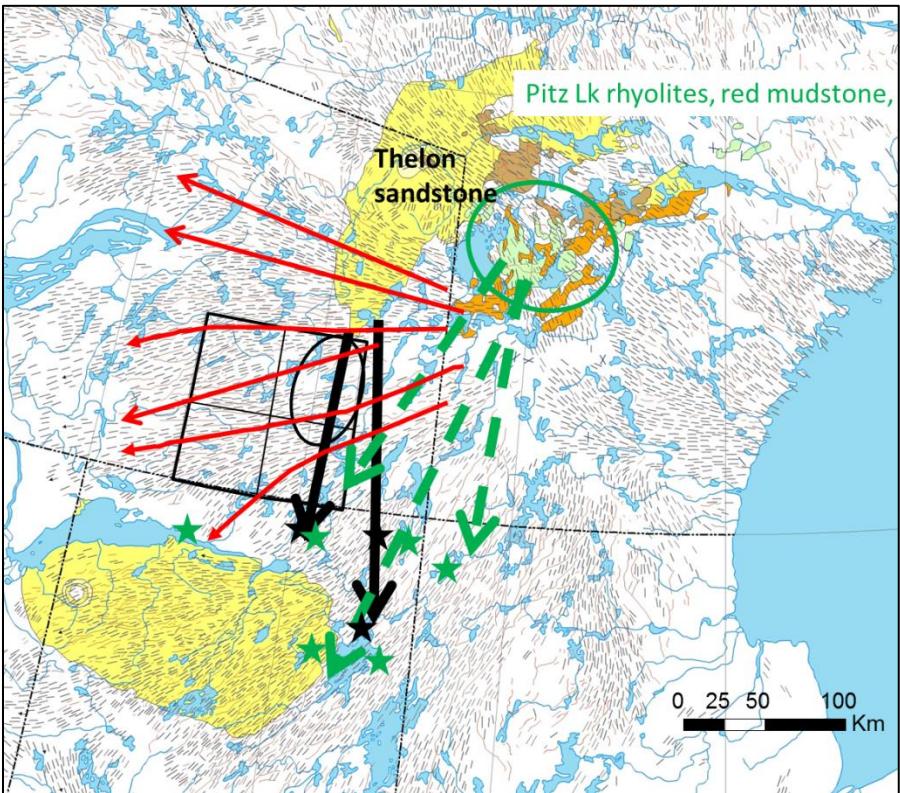


Preliminary Ice Flow Chronology



# Dubawnt Supergroup erratics:

Evidence of long transport and glacial dispersal by southward flow



# Ice Marginal Lakes

Cumulative area inundated by sequential lakes over time as ice margin retreated

Highest strandlines

○ ~430-445±5m asl

Below 410m



= extensive winnowing and reworking of sediments (till) on low relief terrain

## Surficial activities:

*Campbell et al., 2016, GSC Open File 8143*

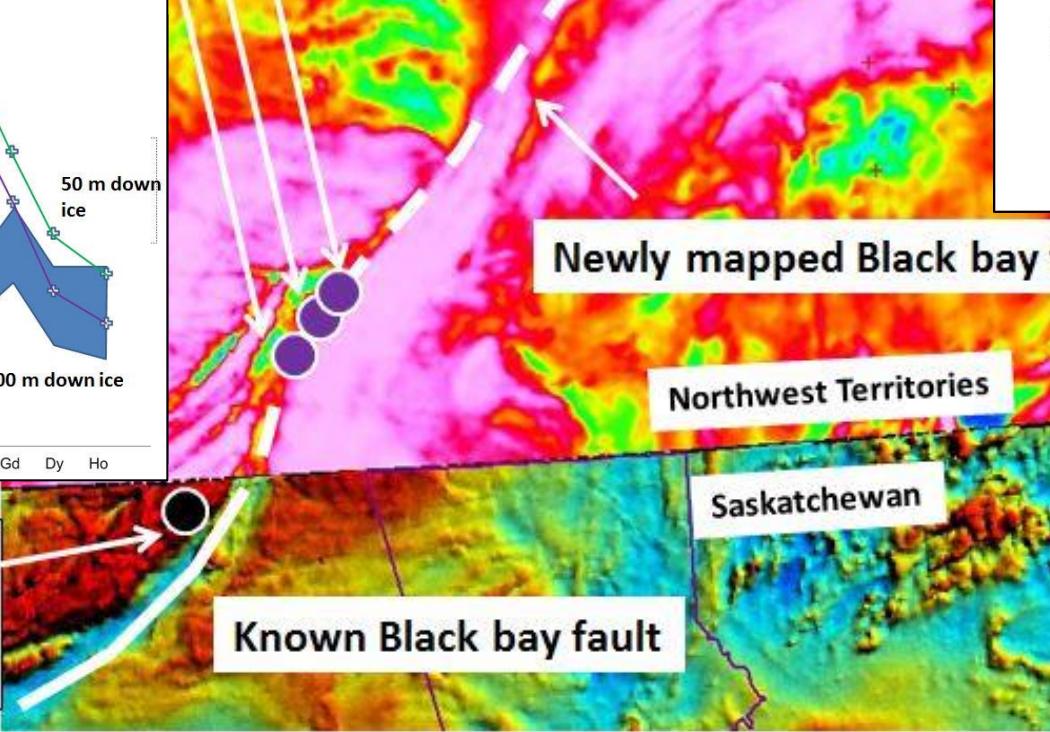
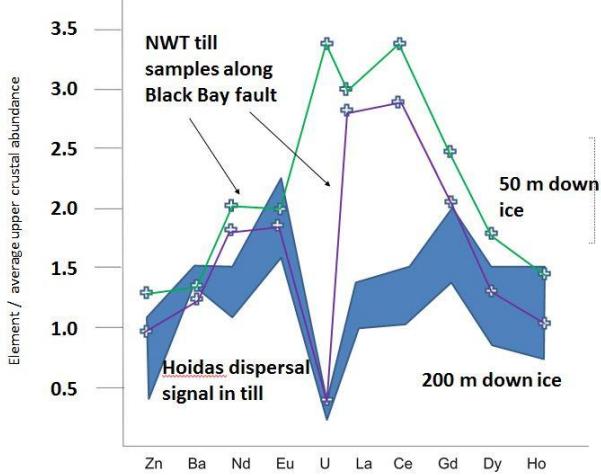
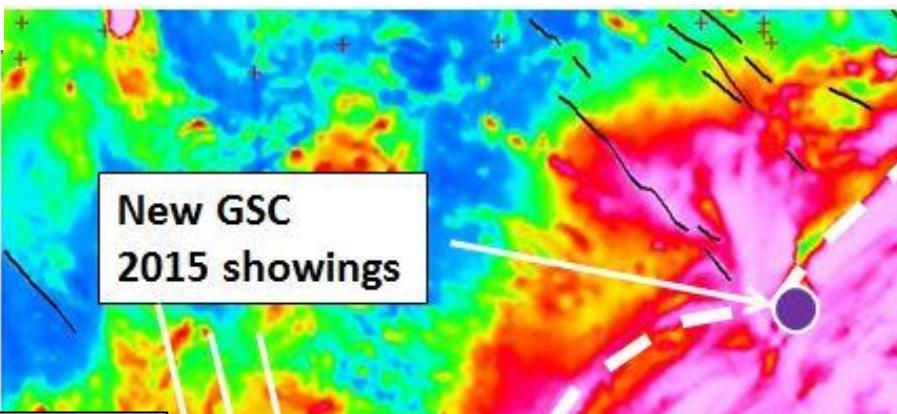
Scott LK

Selwyn LK

- Drainage divide
- 440 m asl
- 430 m asl

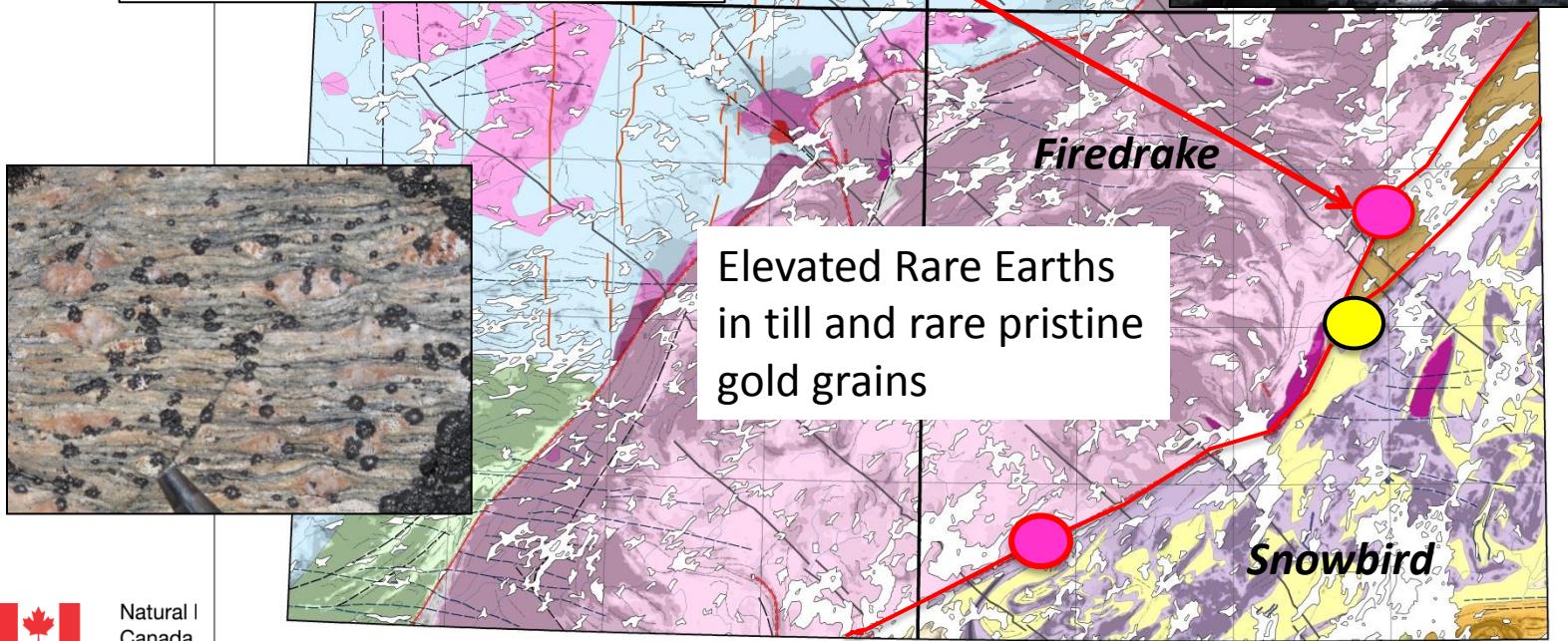
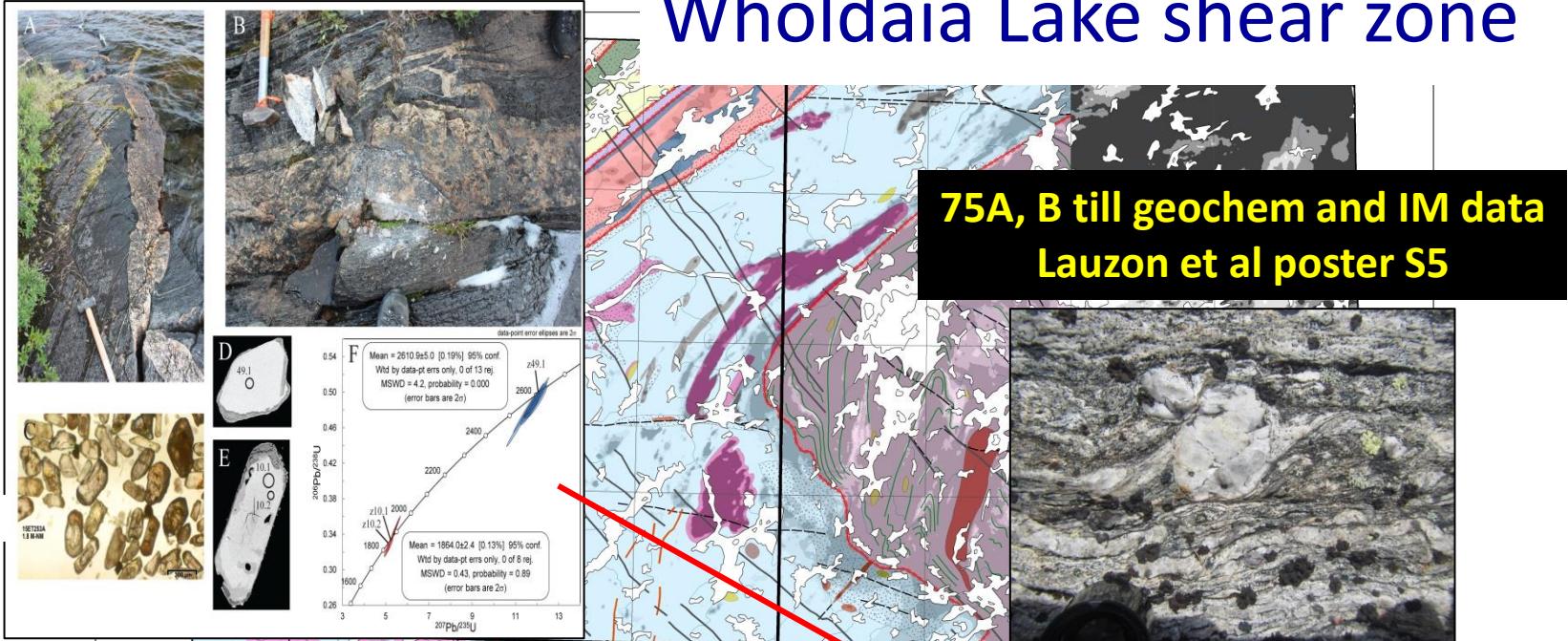
# Late shear zones accommodate uplift of the youngest parts of the high P block and localized intrusion of mineralized alkalic magmatic rocks

Diopside hyalophane veins



# Wholdaia Lake shear zone

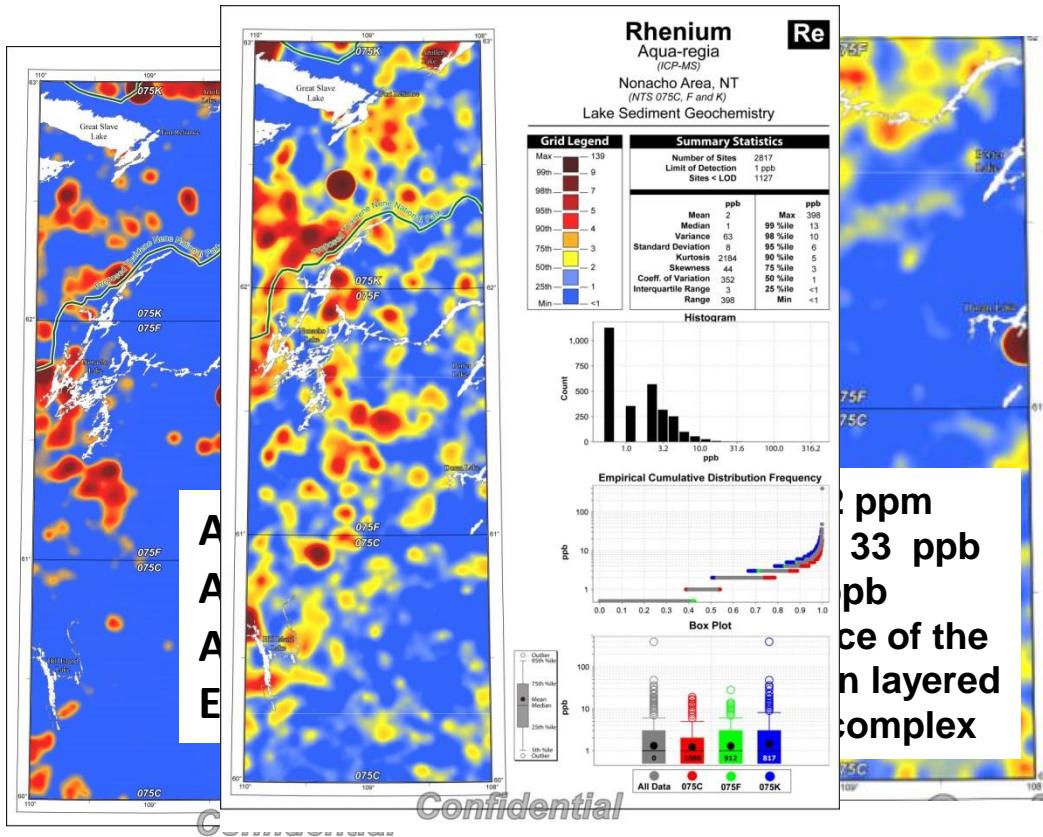
Wholdaia L



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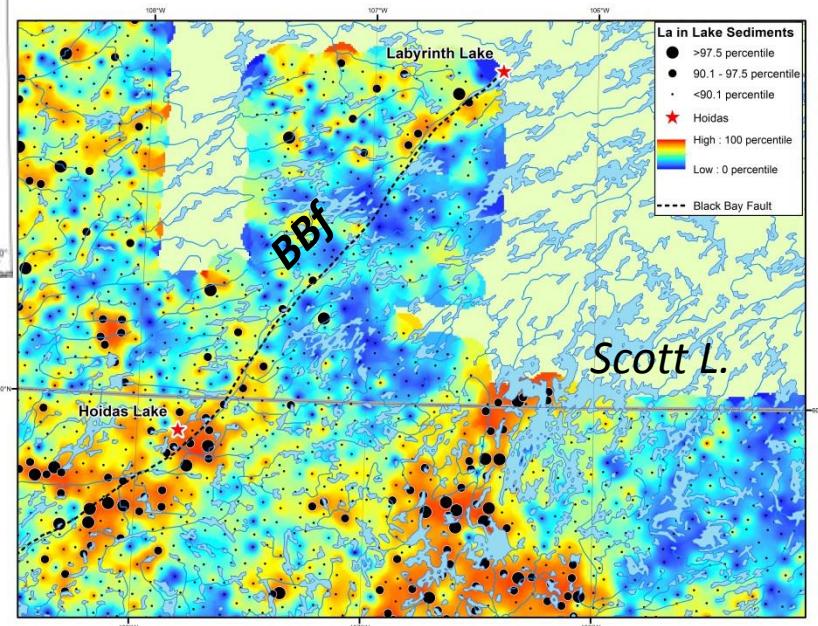
nada

# New 75A and 75K lake sediment surveys



McCurdy et al. poster S7

Black Bay fault zone and Scott Lake areas are the focus of Elevated La, Ce, Th in lake sediments and surface waters



McCurdy, M. et al. 2016. Regional lake sediment geochemical data, Nonacho Basin – East Arm of Great Slave Lake Region, Northwest Territories (NTS 75-C, NTS 75-F and NTS 75-K); Geological Survey of Canada, [Open File 8010](#)

McCurdy, M., et al., 2016. Geochemical data for lake sediments and surface waters, Abitau Lake area, Northwest Territories (NTS 75-B); Geological Survey of Canada, [Open File 8082](#)

*Just released!*



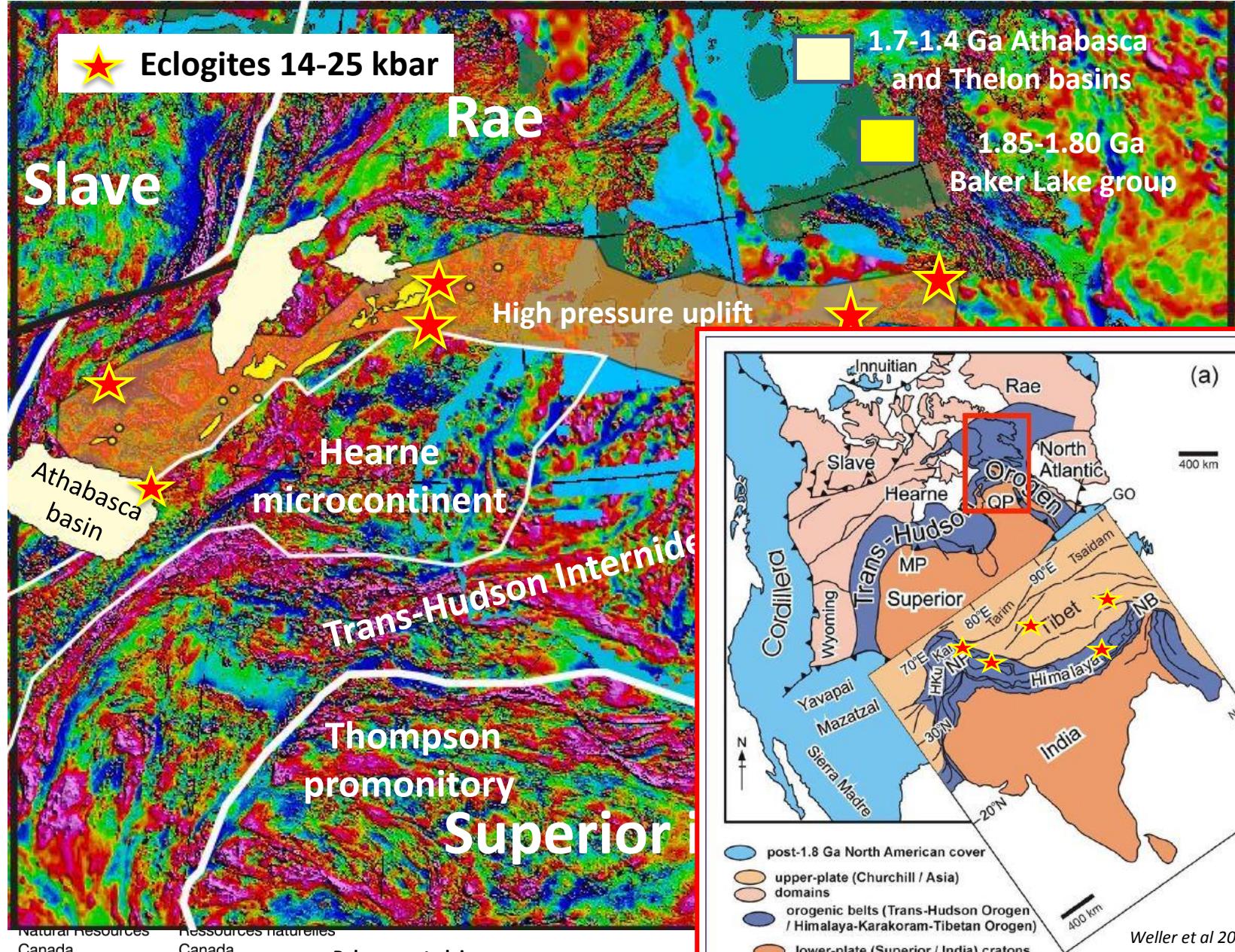
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Canada

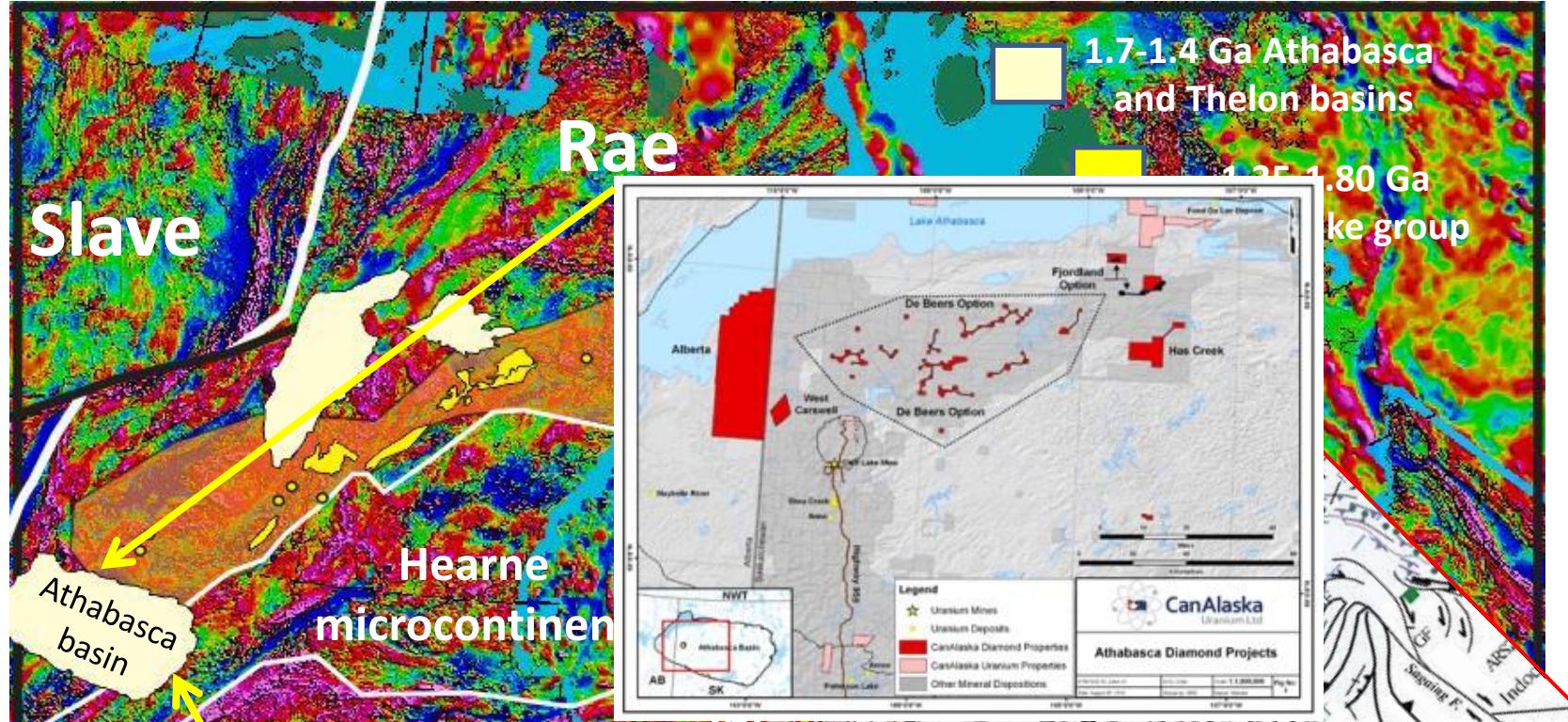
Canada



# High pressure metamorphism: plate morphology control?



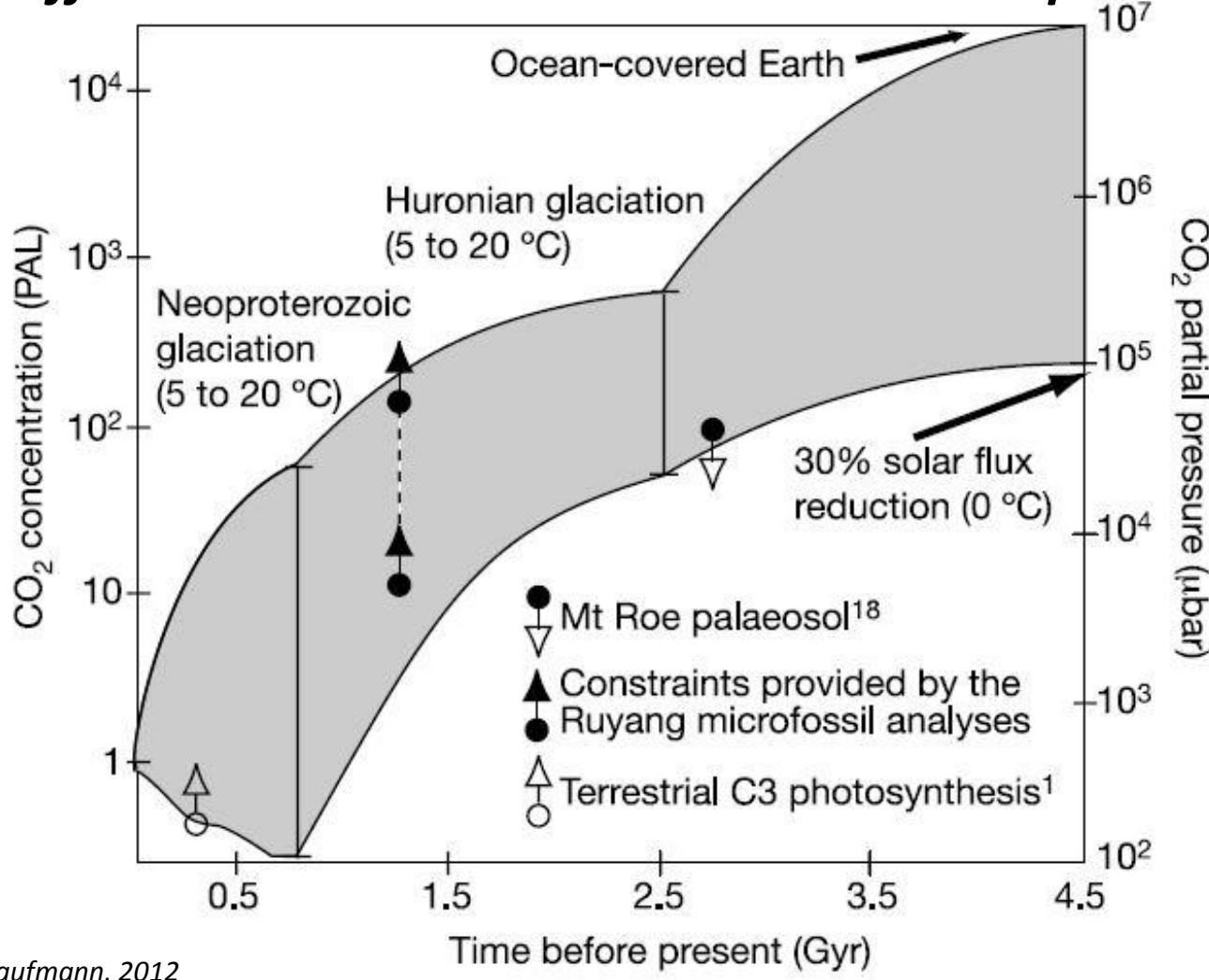
# Metallogenetic implications for Diamonds and Uranium



- New diamond staking rush in Saskatchewan: over 550,000 ha staked, DeBeers investing up to \$20Md
- Focus is over an area of Athabasca basin directly above the deep crustal break we propose lies at the SE end of the high pressure uplift. This structure may aid kimberlite localization

## Examples of exhumation mechanisms of orogenic crust.

### *Efficient erosion in 1.8 Ga CO<sub>2</sub>-rich atmosphere?*



Kaufmann, 2012

London

Thanks to our RAP students: Ben Neil, Anna Haiben, Nigel Bocking,  
Blake Mowbray and Glenn Robinson

Helicopter Transport Services, Transwest Air, Scott's General Store,  
Discovery Mining Services

Communities of Stoney Rapids, SK and Lutselk'e, NWT

