

# REPORT OF ACTIVITIES 2021



## Minister's Message

As Minister of Agriculture and Resource Development, it is an honour to introduce the *Report of Activities 2021*, a comprehensive update on key geoscience projects and activities over the past year.

Exemplary geoscience is the bedrock of exploration and mining activity in the province, and drives important investment in the sector. I applaud the commitment and hard work of the Manitoba Geological Survey (MGS). In particular, I want to extend my appreciation to the MGS for their productivity and professional delivery of a record number of publication releases this past year, during challenging and unprecedented times.

This year's 10 reports presented in the *Report of Activities* illustrates the wide range of geoscience applications, commodities, and regions around the province addressed by the MGS. The dedication and new collaborations with a large number of university partners in Manitoba and across the country by the MGS are evident. As part of their fieldwork, geoscientists are 'on the ground' experts whose knowledge and connection with industry and exchange of local geoscience information, priorities and collaborative opportunities is of great value to ongoing sector growth and development.

In 2020-21, MGS staff actively participated in the co-development of the Pan-Canadian Geoscience Strategy (PGS) with the Geological Survey of Canada and Canadian geological survey organizations to provide positive direction for the future of the sector. I endorse this collaborative initiative and thank the MGS for their contributions to this essential federal-provincial-territorial effort. The long-term vision of the PGS to "provide geoscience information for the responsible development of Canada's geological resources, and to serve the public good" will help us explore options for advancing public geoscience collaborations in Manitoba and neighbouring jurisdictions.

Manitoba is home to rich natural resources and various critical minerals, which positions the province for minerals sector growth to support green industry development.

The Manitoba Critical Minerals team, including representation from the MGS, supports the national Critical Mineral Task Force on critical minerals and the battery supply chain. Key minerals and critical metals mined in the province include zinc, nickel, silver, copper, gold and cesium, with historical production and reserves of lithium. Most of these commodities are a direct focus of the reports in the *Report of Activities 2021*.

Manitoba's other significant mineral resources with high potential include platinum-group elements, rare-earth elements, uranium, titanium, vanadium, chromite, silica, tungsten, graphite, diamonds and potash. Many of these are part of current MGS geoscience studies, helping to guide the MGS in providing relevant geoscience information and to focus and de-risk exploration and decision-making.

I invite you to reach out to our talented MGS team and geologists to discuss their findings and talk about your needs, in an effort to move forward in making the most of our shared potential and opportunities.

Looking at our minerals sector, alongside the growing demand for critical minerals and key mineral resources, and recognizing our tremendous people, we have everything it takes to succeed and support investment in Manitoba. Let's move forward with confidence.

*Original signed by*

Honourable Ralph Eichler  
Manitoba Agriculture and Resource Development