



Cindy Blancher-Smith, MNM, John Mason,
Roger Poulin, OPA President



Congratulations John Mason!

John started with the Ministry in the 1970's and progressed through the Resident Geologist program becoming the Resident Geologist for the Beardmore Geraldton area for a number of years. His progression continued to become Manager of the Resident Geologist Program for Northwestern Ontario.

In Beardmore –Geraldton he became known for his excellent advice to prospectors and junior companies that resulted in numerous options and new gold discoveries.

While doing the tasks of Resident Geologist John became part of a well known partnership...known as John and Bernie (Bernie Schneider's another famed Resident geologist) they became the ultra promoters of Ontario as a location for exploration. There were trips to the Roundup in Vancouver and various PDAC's. At these events they continued to hook up prospectors and Junior Explorers.

In the 1988 when the Mining Act was being "Modernized" John lead the Assessment changes that moved us from day's work to a dollar based system. These were stressful but fulfilling times! When the Government

decided to “Modernize” the Mining Act again in 2009, John was there again to provide wisdom and direction!

In spring 2011, John was seconded to the City of Thunder Bay which was coming to grips with exploration and mining being an economic driver. He retired in the Fall of 2011 from MNDM and continued with the position within the Thunder Bay Community Economic Development Commission to guide the development of a Mining Readiness Plan!

We are pleased to honour John for his devotion to prospecting, prospectors, Juniors Companies and Northern Ontario. He has been responsible for getting prospectors engaged in prospecting, stimulating the economy of numerous northern towns and promoting Ontario as a place to explore!