

Synopsis of British Columbia Mining Laws.

HOW TO LOCATE MINERAL CLAIMS.

Every person over eighteen years of age, and every joint stock company shall be entitled to all the privileges of a free miner, on taking out a free miners' certificate, the cost of which is \$5.00 a year.

Any Gold Commissioner or any Mining Recorder can issue free miners' certificates.

A free miner can locate and hold mineral and placer claims, under the mining laws in force at the time, during the continuance of his certificate, but no longer.

A mineral claim must not exceed 1,500 feet long by 1,500 feet wide, and must be marked by two legal posts, numbered one and two, placed as nearly as possible on the line of the lode or vein, and not more than 1,500 feet apart.

The line from one to two is the location line, and the claim may extend any number of feet to the right and to the left of said location line, provided the total distance on both sides does not exceed 1,500 feet.

A legal post marked "Discovery Post" must also be placed on the lode where it was discovered.

On No. 1 post must be written:

1. "Initial Post."
2. The name of the claim.
3. The name of locator.
4. Date of location.
5. Approximate bearing of No. 2 post.
6. Length and breadth of claim.
7. Number of feet to the right and number of feet to the left of location line.

On No. 2 post:

1. Name of claim.
2. Name of locator.
3. Date of location.

The line from one to two must be distinctly marked by blazing trees, cutting underbrush, or planting posts.

RECORDING MINING CLAIMS.

All records must be made at the Mining Recorder's office of the mining division in which the claim is situated.

An affidavit that mineral has been found in place on the claim must be made by the applicant, or someone in his behalf cognizant of the facts, and filed with the Recorder.

A mineral claim must be recorded within fifteen days after location, if within ten miles of the office of the Mining Recorder. One additional day is allowed for every additional ten miles.

The locator must furnish the Mining Recorder with the following particulars, in addition to the affidavit above mentioned, at the time the claim is recorded, paying a fee of \$2.50 for recording claim and 25 cents for filing affidavit:

RECORDING MINING CLAIM.

1. Name of claim.
2. Name of locator.
3. Number of location, Free Miners' Act.
4. Where the mine is situated.
5. Direction or bearing of location line.
6. Length and breadth of claim.
7. Number of feet to the right and number of feet to the left of location line.
8. Date of location.

ANNUAL WORK.

To hold a mineral claim, work to the value of one hundred dollars must be done on the claim each year from date of record.

An affidavit made by the holder, or his agent, giving a detailed statement of the work done must be filed with the Gold Commissioner or Mining Recorder, and a certificate of work obtained from the Gold Commissioner or Mining Recorder, and recorded

(fee \$2.50) before the expiration of each year from the date of record.

The holder of adjoining mineral claims may, subject to filing a notice of his intention with the Gold Commissioner or Mining Recorder, perform on any one or more of such claims all the work required to entitle him to a certificate of work for each claim.

Any money or labor expended in constructing a tunnel to develop a vein or lode will be deemed to have been expended on such vein or lode.

In lieu of the above annual work, the holder of a mineral claim may pay to the Mining Recorder the sum of one hundred dollars, get a receipt and record the same, each year from date of record.

(Placer mining laws and laws in reference to hydraulic gold claims in next issue.)

CERTIFICATE OF IMPROVEMENTS FOR CROWN GRANT.

To obtain a certificate of improvements to a mineral claim the holder must have done work on his claim to the value of \$500; had the claim surveyed and marked out by a provincial land surveyor, whose field notes and plan must be immediately forwarded to the Lands and Works Department; posted notice on claim and in Mining Recorder's office for sixty days; filed copy of surveyor's field notes and plan with Mining Recorder; inserted copy of notice in *British Columbia Gazette* and in some newspaper published in the province and circulated in the district, for sixty days after posting notice on claim; and filed with Mining Recorder affidavit of himself, or his agent, in the required form and to the effect that the above conditions have been complied with.

CROWN GRANTS.

Applications for Crown grants must be made to Gold Commissioner within three months from date of certificate of improvements.

The holder of a certificate of improvements, on making application for Crown grant, must enclose certificate of improvements and the Crown grant fee of \$5.00.

The holder of a certificate of improvements, which has been duly recorded, in respect of a mineral claim *outside* the railway belt, is entitled to a Crown grant of such claim on payment of Crown grant fee, \$5.00, and making application as above; but in respect of a claim within the railway belt, a further payment of \$5.00 an acre is required. Or: Any lawful holder of a mineral claim can obtain a Crown grant by paying to the Government of British Columbia the sum of \$500 in lieu of expenditure on claim, after having complied with all the provisions relating to certificates of improvements except such as have respect solely to work required to be done on the claim.

TABLE OF FEES FOR REFERENCE.

For every free miners' certificate (for each year).....	\$5 00
Every substituted certificate.....	1 00
Recording any claim.....	2 50
Recording every certificate of work.....	2 50
Recording any "lay over" or every other record required to be in the "Record Book".....	2 50
Recording every abandonment, including the memorandum to be written on the record.....	2 50
For any other record made in the "Record of Abandonments".....	2 50
For recording every affidavit, where the same does not exceed three folios of one hundred words.....	2 50
For every folio over three, thirty cents per folio.	
The above rate shall be charged for all records made in the "Records of Affidavits."	
For all records made in the "Record of Conveyances," where the same does not exceed three folios.....	2 50
For every folio over three, a further charge of thirty cents per folio	
For all copies or extracts from any record in any of the above-named books, where such copy or extract shall not exceed three folios, per copy.....	2 50
Where such copies or extracts exceed three folios, thirty cents per folio for every folio over three.	
For filing any document.....	25
For a Crown grant.....	5 00