

Advanced Microanalysis Centre™ Petrographic Services

The Saskatchewan Research Council's (SRC) Advanced Microanalysis Centre[™] provides a full range of petrographic services, from preparing premium polished and standard thin sections to complete petrographic reporting. Thin sections are prepared to high standards with an emphasis on preparations involving difficult to work with geologic materials, such as clay-altered samples, uranium ore and other radioactive materials and kimberlite. Thin sections and grain mounts can be highly polished for reflected light microscopy, SEM, EPMA and laser ablation ICP-MS analysis.

Petrographic analysis and sample descriptions are conducted using reflected and transmitted light microscopy and may also be supplemented with qualitative compositional data collected using the Advanced Microanalysis Centre[™] scanning electron microscope (SEM-EDX). Petrographic reporting services include hand specimen descriptions, estimates of mineral abundance, detailed descriptions of minerals, crystal habit, rock textures and fabrics, as well as diagenetic/ paragenetic sequences and rock classification.

Laboratory Equipment and Features

• Continuous monitoring of plate shape to ensure optimal thin section flatness

• Digital imaging system for high quality colour photomicrographs included with all petrographic reports

CNSC-licensed facilities can handle and process radioactive samples



CONTACT

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Price List for Petrographic Services

Grain mount preparation

Number of grains per block depends on grain size (up to 400) 60.00

Petrographic Thin Sections (30 µm)

Probe polish	(Standard 27 x 46mm)	50.00	
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Radioactive Thin Sections (30 $\mu m)$

Probe polish	(Standard 27 x 46mm)) 10	0.00

Petrography * (prices do not include sample preparation)

Transmitted and reflected light	<u> 300.00 / each</u>	
Transmitted and reflected light with SEM/EDS analysis	<u> 350.00 / each</u>	
Hard copies of report	20.00 / each	
* Reports include photomicroaraphs of representative features and are provided in PDF format		

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Samples Requiring Special Processing

Ethylene glycol abrasive solution (per 12 slides)	5.00 / each
Surface epoxy treatments	2.00 / treatment
Extra cutting (oversized samples)	10.00
Difficult samples ¹	10.00
Staining available upon request ²	Call for quote
Unusual samples or preparations	Call for quote

¹ As determined by SRC technician, in consultation with the client. ² Calcite, iron rich calcite, potassium feldspar and plagioclase feldspar.

Additional Laboratory Services

Polished off-cuts	5.00
Polished slabs *	Call for quote
Polished core *	Call for quote

* Size limitations may apply.

All prices listed are subject to change without notice.





Kimberlite indicator mineral grains (garnets) in a polished block for electron microprobe analysis.



The Advanced Microanalysis Centre™ at the Saskatchewan Research Council (SRC) offers a variety of services using state-of-the-art equipment to support the requirements of the exploration and mining industries.