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# South Cumberland NEWS

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Erin Levy of Bedford, NS, is shown with the large trackway fossil she discovered while walking along the beach taking in the sights at the UNESCO World Heritage Site. (Josh Levy Photo)

## Stunning Fossil Find

Submitted by Laurie Glenn Norris M.A.

Erin Levy of Bedford, NS, had no idea that her visit to the Joggins Fossil Cliffs would lead to such excitement. While walking along the beach taking in the sights at the UNESCO World Heritage Site, she discovered a large trackway fossil.

Ms. Levy says "It was such a neat piece that part of me really wanted to keep it. On the way back to the center we talked about what a great piece of décor it would be and how we would love to have it in our home. However, that's not allowed at a protected site. People often disregard things like this in National Parks etc. and this is a perfect example of why it is so important to treat nature appropriately. If I had smuggled it home, we never would have been able to learn from it. Like one of my favorite characters, Indiana Jones, says, "It belongs in a museum!"

Dr. Melissa Grey, Curator of Palaeontology with the Joggins Fossil Institute states, "this is a significant find because it is beautifully preserved and contains the trackways of two very different animals - one amphibian and one millipede. It will be included in our Collection for further study. Erin Levy, who found the fossil is, understandably excited to have participated in research at the Site. Her find highlights that new discoveries are possible and that you do not need to be a palaeontologist to find something significant. This, like all finds, are under the Provincial Heritage Research Permit, and a great example of while people cannot take fossils home with them, by reporting their finds, they can contribute to the sciences of Joggins. And there is still much more to be discovered."

The Joggins Fossil Institute is a not-for-profit, charitable organization that is dedicated to research, education, and protection of the Joggins Fossil Cliffs UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Laurie Glenn Norris M.A is Education and Outreach Manager, Joggins Fossil Centre, 902-251-2727 Ext. 224 or education@jogginsfossilcliffs.net



OBFB Chief Greg Muise poses with the new Pumper Tanker and the owners of Lantz Truck Body, Jeff and Allister Lantz. The truck was delivered to Onslow-Belmont Fire Brigade on Saturday, July 25th. More complete coverage in the September issue. (Harrington Photo)

# Cliffs of Fundy Geopark Approved!

By Maurice Rees

Several years of dedicated efforts by many volunteers has resulted in the Cliffs of Fundy Geopark, which covers the coastal areas from Apple River, Cumberland County along the Colchester County shore to Truro to include the Fundy Discovery site, receiving UNESCO to become part of the UNESCO Global Geoparks network.

After many hours of study and application processes, the announcement was made on July 10th by the Canadian Commission for UNESCO and the Canadian Geoparks. The

announcement was expected in April, but was delayed due to CoVid-19 pandemic shutdown of many global activities. Geoparks are sites recognized by UNESCO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, for their exceptional geological heritage.

Being designated a Geopark means having the ability to mobilize local stakeholders to preserve unique geological sites and educate visitors about them. Geoparks also play a leading role in fostering high quality, sustainable tourism and contributing to the vitality of local economies.

As inhabitants of the coasts of the Cliffs of Fundy UNESCO Global Geopark for more than 11,000 years, the Mi'kmaq were the area's first geologists. With more than 40 geosites across 125 km, visitors can discover the Earth's incredible natural history, the world's highest tides, Canada's oldest dinosaur fossils, and magnificent landscapes steeped in Mi'kmaq legends, tales and culture, Acadian traditions, and a dynamic arts and food culture.

Don Fletcher, President, Cliffs of Fundy Geopark Society said, "The Cliffs of Fundy Geopark society welcomes this

opportunity with honour and humility and will cherish this moment now and into the future. This prestigious designation confirms that our Geopark possesses internationally significant geological heritage and places our Cumberland County and the County of Colchester on a well-deserved world stage. I'm convinced that with this designation the Cliffs of Fundy will continue the hard work to bring together our Indigenous culture, our diverse communities and our partners worldwide to promote and build a sustainable Geopark to be the best that we can be!"

On the Bonavista Peninsula in Newfoundland, The Discovery Geopark received UNESCO approval at the same time. The Newfoundland site overlaps with the traditional lands of the now-extinct Beothuk people, is located on the Bonavista Peninsula, on Newfoundland's east coast. Cliffs of Fundy and Discovery are joining three other world class UNESCO Global Geoparks in Canada: Stonehammer (New Brunswick), Percé (Québec) and Tumbler Ridge (British Columbia).

John Calder, retired Geologist from Nova Scotia, who now serves as chair, Canadian Geoparks Network said Cliffs of Fundy and Discovery are joining three other world class UNESCO Global Geoparks in Canada:

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Calm waters at the wharf reflect the battle in the sky where lines are drawn and a rainbow fiercely strikes down offering hope and strength beyond the storm. The lighthouse serenely ignores it all, continuing to defend the harbour as it has done for so many years. (Lawrence R Nicoll)

# Opposition to "Review" Widespread

By Maurice Rees

(A more detailed account of the announcement is included on Page 1 of the Shoreline Journal at the front of this issue.)

The federal and provincial joint announcement on July 23rd for an independent review is not sitting well with those concerned or affected by the mass murders, which started in Portapique on April 18-19 and spread to Wentworth, Debert, Shubenacadie, Milford and ended in Enfield.

Even before the press conference ended, there were several expressions of disappointment and the decision was unacceptable. During the three months it took governments to decide how to proceed, support for the families and communities affected by the tragic event, which claimed 22 lives continued to grow to include thousands of fellow Nova Scotians, Canadians, coast to coast, and a large following from around the world.

Mary Coyle, a Senator from Nova Scotia, who used to teach

at Saint Xavier University, Antigonish was very vocal in calling for a public inquiry. In her many media postings she was able to include 40 senators from across Canada, who wrote letters asking for a public inquiry. Her efforts were supported by many MP's, including Cumberland-Colchester's, Lenore Zann, who in addition to requesting an inquiry, also asked for an investigation into abuse of women.

Family members of victims have indicated their efforts will not stop until an inquiry is held, and they seem to have widespread support from thousands in Nova Scotia, Canada-wide and globally. Family members have stated the governments' decision is "wholly insufficient". Patsy Bagley, whose husband, Tom, was killed by the gunman is quoted as saying, "I don't agree with that. We all wanted a public inquiry".

Several people have voiced disapproval of Premier McNeil's statements on Friday, July 24th during a CoVid update, when

he stated in part, "What I'm trying to say to these families is that we are working to achieve the outcomes and the answers

that I believe are most important and that they have brought to us,".

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# Gillis Not Reoffering

By Maurice Rees

Allison Gillis will not be re-offering in October's municipal election. The last item on Cumberland council's meeting on July 8th was an election matter which Gillis had added to the agenda.

With council shrinking to eight councillors and going with a mayor system instead of warden, Gillis announced he would not be offering for the mayor's position, nor would he be reoffering as councillor for District 4.

The municipal district includes the communities of: Gulf Shore (part), Miller Road, North Wallace Bay, Pugwash, South Pugwash, Wallace Bay (part), Conns Mills, Hartford, Port Philip, Pugwash Junction,



Allison Gillis

Pugwash River, Rockley and West Pugwash. Gillis was elected to the position of Warden, by council colleagues following October 2016 election.

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