

Community Spirit Is Alive in the Cliffs of Fundy Geopark

Submitted by Beth Peterkin

The annual Lieutenant-Governor's Community Spirit Award celebrates and recognizes the civic and community spirit shown by people and their communities. The Cliffs of Fundy UNESCO Global Geopark was thrilled to receive one of this year's awards on behalf of all the communities within the Geopark.

A special celebration held on Saturday November 13th featured His Honour, the Honourable Arthur J. LeBlanc and his wife, Her Honour Mrs. Patsy LeBlanc travelling to Parrsboro to present the coveted award. Although the days leading up to the event were cloudy and damp, the gathering of approximately 150 people enjoyed a wonderful sunny and warm afternoon. Residents attended from Bible Hill, Lower Truro, Great Village, Bass River, Economy, Five Islands, Black Rock, Parrsboro, Fox River, Spencer's Island and points in between to celebrate together and demonstrate

their community spirit.

In addition to Their Honours, we welcomed the Honourable Tory Rushton, Minister of Natural Resources and Renewables and MLA for Cumberland South speaking on behalf of Minister Pat Dunn of Communities, Culture, Heritage and Tourism. He spoke of the resilience of the communities and the amazing work of both Cumberland and Colchester Counties working together on the Geopark initiative. Dr. Stephen Ellis, MP for Cumberland-Colchester recognized the work of the Board, staff and volunteers of the Cliffs of Fundy Geopark in bringing communities together and promoting the north shore of the Bay of Fundy. Representing community members, Matthew Brewer talked of the value of community spirit in working together for so many projects including the development of the new Parrsboro playground.

The Lieutenant Governor

presented the engraved crystal award to the children of our communities and took time to speak with each child. The Geopark plans to make the award available for various organizations to display at their location over the coming year.

To round out the afternoon, there were a number of area artists displaying their work, as well as music from the band All Together and Acadian duo Jacques Blinn and Guyaume Boulianne. The Lieutenant Governor and Mrs. LeBlanc made a special effort to meet and speak with everyone in attendance after the formal portion of the event. It was a pleasure to welcome these distinguished guests to the Cliffs of Fundy Geopark.

For more information on the Lieutenant Governor's Community Spirit Award, visit <http://communityspiritaward.ca>. Details of the Cliffs of Fundy Geopark programming and other features can be found at <https://fundygeopark.ca/>

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Lieutenant Governor the Honourable Arthur J. LeBlanc speaks from the Parrsboro Bandstand during the ceremony he presented a variety of Awards. (Lawrence R Nicoll Photo)



Special guests and speakers were seated socially distanced when the Lieutenant Governor presented a Community Spirit Award to Cliffs of Fundy UNESCO Geopark, while interested spectators were also socially distanced sitting far from the VIP tent.



With the Lieutenant Governor visiting Parrsboro it was an excellent opportunity for several local artisans to set up a display. (Lawrence R Nicoll Photo)



Dr Stephen Ellis, MP Cumberland Colchester addresses the crowd attending the Lieutenant Governor Award presentation of the Community Spirit Award to the Cliffs of Fundy Geopark. (Lawrence R Nicoll Photo)



Tory Rushton, Minister Natural Resources and Renewables, plus Cumberland South MLA, speaks during the Lieutenant Governor Award ceremony. (Lawrence R Nicoll Photo)



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