

The first real snow of the year arrived, and Parrsboro became a magical place for me. Stopping by mid-day, I was out to chase the light and clouds and was not disappointed. I always enjoy a chance to get out just after the snow stops, while the fresh snow is unmarked, and our area did not disappoint.
Lawrence R Nicoll photo



November 26 Council Briefs



Council upholds CAO decision on Joggins Fire Department's registration

Cumberland municipal council has voted to uphold the decision of the chief administrative officer not to renew the registration of the Joggins Volunteer Fire Department.

The resolution was passed unanimously by council at its regular session on Wednesday, Nov. 26, 2025.

On Friday, Oct. 17, 2025, on the recommendation of Protective Services Director Allen Cole, the CAO wrote the fire department to advise it that under Section 294 of the Municipal Government Act its application to renew its registration was being rejected.

The department requested a review of that decision and council met Thursday, Nov. 20, 2025, to conduct the review.

Council approves second reading of Road Trails Designation Bylaw

Cumberland municipal council has approved second reading of the Road Trails Designation Bylaw that will allow off-highway vehicles to use

certain streets within the former towns of Springhill and Parrsboro, which fall under the municipality's jurisdiction.

In Parrsboro, the streets include: Main Street from the community boundary to Western Avenue and Eastern Avenue from community boundary to Main Street

In Springhill, the streets include: ; Entire length of Lagoon Road; McGee Street from Lagoon Road to Herrett Road; Lisgar Street from Lisgar Street Extension to Main Street; Main Street from Lisgar Street to Church Street and Junction Road from Highway 142 to North Street

The Road Trails Act, which came into effect in September 2023, allows municipalities to establish by-laws designating portions of public roads as road trails. This framework supports OHV use on designated municipal roadways, enhancing connections between existing trail systems and community amenities.

First reading of bylaw amendment for Chapel Street property approved by council

Cumberland municipal

council has approved first reading of a bylaw amendment to the Municipal Planning Strategy to rezone 40 Chapel St. in Springhill from Institutional to Mixed Use Commercial. A public hearing will be scheduled prior to second reading.

The property is the former site of St. John the Baptist Church, that was deconsecrated by the Catholic Church and de-registered as a municipal heritage property in February 2023.

In July 2025, the property was purchased by Brown Castle Holdings Ltd. The applicant is proposing to convert the building to a mixed use, multi-unit residential building. He plans to develop 15 units, being a mixture of residential and commercial units.

Council approves motion to declare property on Lambs Hill, Parrsboro as surplus

Cumberland municipal council has approved a motion to declare a piece of property in Parrsboro as surplus and to sell it to the neighbouring landowner for \$500.

Municipal staff received a request from Douglas Meekins to purchase the property, adjacent to 177 Lambs Hill Road, Parrsboro. He wants the land to address a long-standing private driveway access to his home.

Cliffs of Fundy Global Geopark officials update Advocate Harbour about their work

By Darrell Cole

Representatives of the Cliffs of Fundy Global Geopark came to Advocate Harbour recently to talk to residents about their work as well as their plans for the former centre in Eatonville that's located within the Cape Chignecto Provincial Park's day-use area.

"We lease the building from the province and recently completed some repairs, that included straightening an exterior wall that was the cause of a chronic leak that originally led to the building's closure many years ago," interim executive director Devin Trefry said. "We have a small group of volunteers striving to make the building usable again."

Trefry said part of the night's session was dedicated to gaining community input on how the building might be used and developing a plan for its sustainable operation.

When it opened in 2012, the interpretive centre and day-use park at Eatonville was supposed to complement the provincial park and celebrate the nearby Three Sisters geological formation as well as the rugged Fundy coastline.

It is located on a rise of land with amazing views of the Bay of Fundy, including the Three Sisters, Squally Point and Anderson Cove, and is immediately adjacent to the Eatonville Trail loop and the tidal viewing platforms.

Trefry said the meeting also sought input on other strategic priorities for the Geopark such as education and programming, conservation initiatives, tourism and sustainable development, and community partnerships.

"We also had a 'wild ideas' wall, where residents could be creative, dream big, and share more grand ideas for the Geopark," he said. "Among those included a zip line, a Nordic Spa, and establishing a Dark Sky preserve."

Trefry said the evening generated a lot of great ideas and was a wonderful opportunity to bring folks together to discuss how the UNESCO Global Geopark designation can be a catalyst for growth in the community and the entire region.

"As we develop our strategic plan over the next few months, we'll continue to host other community engagement sessions," he said.

The next session is scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 25 at the Economy Recreation Centre at 6:30pm.



Several dozen people attended an open meeting in Advocate Harbour in early November that was hosted by representatives from the Cliffs of Fundy Global Geopark.

The past year has been a very busy one for the Cliffs of Fundy.

In July, UNESCO representatives Dr. Artur Sa from Portugal and Dr. Sigurdur Sigursveinsson from Iceland visited the park for its second revalidation mission.

They travelled from one end of the Cliffs of Fundy to the other over a five-day period as Cliffs of Fundy representatives and municipal leaders shared the landscapes, culture and fantastic community of our geopark.

That effort was rewarded in September when the park, first designated in 2020, re-earned a green card approval from the UNESCO Global Geoparks Council. The Council will present its report to the UNESCO Executive Board for formal endorsement in the first half of 2026. An assessment in 2023 determined the site needed to make improvements, moving its status from green to yellow.

In early October, the organization celebrated International Geodiversity Day with a series of events in Cumberland and Colchester counties, in-

cluding a sunrise event at Spencer's Island near Advocate Harbour as well as other events near Truro and Five Islands.

UNESCO Global Geoparks are sites of both geological and cultural significance.



The Cliffs of Fundy Global Geopark community meeting in Advocate Harbour included updates on the organization's plans for the former interpretive centre at Eatonville and the gathering of ideas for what the Geopark should offer in the future.



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Toll Free: 1-866-856-DINO



6 McFarlane St., PO Box 250
Springhill, NS B0M 1X0

1-902-597-4039
Toll Free 1-833-597-8679
Fax: 1-902-597-3310

toryrushtonmla@bellaliant.com

TORY RUSHTON, MLA
Cumberland South

