

Photo Credit Lawrence R. Nicoll

BAY OF FUNDY A Natural Undeveloped Gem

By Maurice Rees

The Bay of Fundy shore from Truro to Parrsboro and beyond can easily be identified as one of the more precious undiscovered jewels in Nova Scotia and as a result tourism activity has lagged behind other regions. Things started to change a few years ago with the Bay of Fundy being entered in the global contest to identify the seven wonders of the world. The bay's attributes convinced an international panel of experts in 2014 to choose the Bay of Fundy as one of the natural wonders of the world. The Bay of Fundy is one of the 7 wonders of North America because it has the highest tides on earth, the rarest whales in the world, semi-precious minerals and dinosaur fossils.

Located halfway between the equator and the north-pole on Canada's stunning east coast, Fundy is a unique coastal environment. The Bay of Fundy is renowned not only for its tides as much as 16 m (56 feet), the

height of a 5-storey building. Fundy has the highest tides on earth, but also for geological discoveries (dinosaur fossils) and marine life (whales).

The seven wonders were declared by a committee of 42 leading authorities including world-renowned naturalists, nature photographers and top nature journalists. Their mission is to help people discover and explore the natural wonders of the world, to teach them about the wonders and the things that threaten their existence, and to inspire them to create a philosophy and practice of conservation.

The seven wonders of North America are: The Bay of Fundy, which has the highest tidal range in the world. The huge tides which at low tide, strand fishing boats, have in some places carved the coastline into sculptured islands and rock columns. The six other wonders are: The Grand Canyon, Yellowstone, Niagara Falls, Yosemite National Park, The Everglades



and Mount McKinley

Even before the 2014 global contest, initiatives were underway in Colchester County to increase infrastructure along the shore and started to become reality with the established of the Five Islands Park, a magnificent coastline area of comprising over 22 acres.

To understand why the park is what it is and how it evolved, requires a few historical notes. In 2001, the late Mrs. Gertrude Jenkins of Lower Five Islands generously donated a 22-acre coastal property to the Municipality of the County of Colchester for free, public recreational use. The property, most of which is an open field, remained undeveloped for several years.

In 2008, the Five Islands

Lighthouse was moved from nearby Sand Point to this municipal parkland and became the focal point of the new day park. Park visitors come from just down the road and around the world! Then along came the "7 Wonders of the World" contest, resulting in the designation as one of North America's 7 wonders.

Infrastructure continues to be added to the park, as it gains momentum as one of the shore's major attractions. In a slow evolutionary way, the shore is constantly moving up as an important icon. Extensive work is underway by a volunteer committee under the leadership and guidance of staff at the Fundy Geological Museum, Parrsboro to establish a UNESCO Geo-Park for the shore areas from Cape Chignecto to Economy. It's a laborious and expensive process, but the current plan calls for possible designation in 2019-2020.

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Halifax District RCMP and Halifax Regional Police – Partners in Policing – charged 76 drivers with impaired related offences during the month of May. Of the 76 drivers, 52 were charged with Impaired Operation of a Motor Vehicle by Alcohol, 4 were charged with Impaired Operation of a Motor Vehicle by Drug and 20 were issued driving suspensions for operating a motor vehicle while having consumed alcohol. Of the 52 impaired drivers apprehended, 40 were male, 12 were female and ages ranged from 17-63. Of the 20 drivers suspended, 15 were male, 5 were female and ages ranged from 19-63. Throughout the month, police received 30 calls from the public through 911 about suspected impaired drivers. Of all impaired drivers charged, 21 were a direct result of calls from the public.

Television series, Mr. D Season 7, produced by Mr. D S7 Productions Ltd., has been approved for a funding commitment of \$1,770,740 based on eligible Nova Scotia expenditure of \$5,902,465 through the Nova Scotia Film and Television Production Incentive Fund in an announcement made on June 13.

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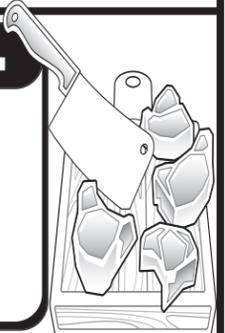


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