

Calder Now Interim Executive Director

By Maurice Rees

Dr John Calder, the infamous Nova Scotia Geologist, who prior to retirement, originally proposed the idea of a GeoPark along the Bay of Fundy has taken the position of interim executive director following the unexpected resignation of Beth Peterkin, (former) Executive Director, Cliffs of Fundy GeoPark. Calder was instrumental working with a local committee to get the project to the stage of meeting GeoPark standards to receive UNESCO approvals and entrance into the global GeoPark Network.

Prior to moving to the Bay of Fundy area in Nova Scotia in 2016, Beth Peterkin was the Executive Director in the field of restorative justice in Ontario. She also served seven years as a municipal Councilor in Perth, Ontario. In addition to her work with the Cliffs of Fundy Geopark, she served on the Board of Directors of the Canadian Chamber Choir and volunteered with The Hall and The Ship's Company Theatre in Parrsboro.

About Calder

He graduated from Saint Mary's University with his BSc in 1973, and later, in 1991, from Dalhousie with his PhD. John's early work as a geologist involved exploration and study of coal deposits. John has spent time at the Smithsonian Institution as a visiting scientist and has been supported by the National Geographic Society. The project that has been important to him has been working for more than 15 years to have the Joggins Fossil Cliffs named

pipeline and awaiting results of many grant applications, the board immediately went into action to make up for lost ground. Over the period of a few days they received a positive decision from John Calder, he would take the reins to drive the organization as the interim executive director, while the board conducted a head hunting search for a replacement.

The Bay of Fundy is home to the highest tides in the world, and they have helped to shape the landscape with amazing cliffs, tidal estuaries, beaches, waterfalls, trails, lighthouses and lots of fossil sites.

Indigenous Heritage

This is Mi'kma'ki. We are on the unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people who are the ancestral stewards of this place. The Mi'kmaq peoples have inhabited these shores for more than 11,000 years and we honor and respect their ethical space. We are the home of the legendary Kluskap and steeped in his legends. The origin of the Five Islands, the Three Sisters, and the special significance of Partridge Island are but a few of these stories and places. The Cliffs of Fundy Geopark honours the ethical space of the Mi'kmaq people and their oral traditions of cultural geo-heritage.

Geological Significance

Evidence of the Earth's incredible natural history includes the best example of how the supercontinent Pangea was formed 300 million years ago and broke apart 100 million years later. The massive Cobequid Fault provides a formidable backdrop of our environment.



a UNESCO World Heritage site, for which he received the Atlantic Geoscience Society's Gesner Medal. John also teaches in the Department of Geology at Saint Mary's University, and is an Adjunct Professor at Dalhousie, where he assists in advising graduate student research. Later he developed the plan to work with a local committee to meet qualifications to establish the Cliffs of Fundy Geopark and gain UNESCO approval then become park of the Global GeoParks Network.

John is an accomplished documentary photographer with work in the Nova Scotia Art bank and abroad, and has been a long time soccer coach with Halifax County United.

What is a GeoPark?

The Cliffs of Fundy UNESCO Global Geopark is located along the north shore of the Minas Basin of the Bay of Fundy in Nova Scotia, stretching from Lower Truro in the east to Apple River in the west, a distance of 165 km.

UNESCO Sites in Nova Scotia

Nova Scotia boasts six UNESCO designated sites, several so close together that you can explore them all in a few days. To be recognized as a UNESCO site, these locations have to be universally significant. Nova Scotia is proud to be included in the company of other outstanding places such as the Pyramids of Egypt and the Great Barrier Reef in Australia.

The Landscape of Grand Pré UNESCO World Heritage Site

In 2012, The Landscape of Grand Pré in the picturesque Bay of Fundy & Annapolis Valley region became Canada's 16th UNESCO World Heritage Site. The 13 square-kilometre (5 mi²) site includes acres of tended farmland that pay homage to the dyke system first built by 17th century Acadian settlers on land reclaimed from the sea. The area is also the scenic setting for American poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's narrative poem Evangeline: A Tale of Acadie. Learn about the Acadian Deportation at the Grand Pré National Historic Site which is located within the area designated the Landscape of Grand Pré UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Explore this area, bordered by lush farmland and prolific vineyards producing award-winning wines and discover wine tours and tastings, local farmers' markets, and restaurants that provide the delicious opportunity to combine a fascinating cultural and culinary experience.

Old Town Lunenburg UNESCO World Heritage Site

The Old Town Lunenburg UNESCO World Heritage Site weaves its own special spell taking visitors back to the 18th and 19th centuries when this fishing port bristled with tall ships. Vividly coloured historic homes line streets banked sharply up from the harbour which is home to Bluenose II Nova Scotia's famous sailing ambassador. The bustling Lunenburg waterfront is alive with industry, architecture and artisan shops that showcase the character of this historical port. Tour on foot throughout town, chat with local residents, dine on fresh seafood, and learn about lobsters, rum running and tales of adventures on the high seas at the Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic. Plan to stop by the blacksmith's shop, now operating as Ironworks Distillery, a micro-distillery where you can sample fine spirits and rums.

Joggins Fossil Cliffs UNESCO World Heritage Site

On Nova Scotia's Bay of Fundy coast, the Joggins Fossil Cliffs have long attracted scientists, visitors and geology enthusiasts from around the world, for over a hundred and fifty years. It was selected as a UNESCO World Heritage site because it's the world's most complete record of life in the Carboniferous era. You can stroll the beach for a glimpse of life on earth 300 million years ago. With over 15kms of coastal cliffs, you can explore the fossil record of life in the "coal age", when lush forest covered Joggins as well as much of the rest of the world. Plants, footprints, insects and the ancestors of the dinosaurs are all represented in fossils exposed by the amazing force of the world's highest tides. The interpretive centre showcases fossils of plant and animal life and offers guided tours.

Cliffs of Fundy UNESCO Global Geopark

Located near Joggins Fossil Cliffs, stretching along the Bay of Fundy coastline from Apple River to Debert, explore the geological significance of the region and its connections to local communities, the rich Mi'kmaq culture, and natural surroundings of this amazing area.

The Cliffs of Fundy UNESCO Global Geopark tells the story of the coming together of the supercontinent Pangea 300 million



years ago and its ripping apart 100 million years later. Learn of the legendary Kluskap and his creation of various areas including Five Islands, the Three Sisters, and the special significance of Partridge Island. Discover fossil cliffs, explore the ocean floor at low tide, take a guided tour, and visit communities along the way.

Bras d'Or Lake UNESCO Biosphere Reserve

Surrounded by rolling hills and dotted with islands, the Bras d'Or Lake UNESCO Biosphere Reserve is the heart of Cape Breton Island. Offering a unique blend of both fresh and salt water, the Bras d'Or Lake is a great location to view everything from the majestic bald eagle to curious grey seals.

The diversity of the area doesn't stop at the waters' edge. The extensive watershed is home to Mi'kmaq First Nations and descendants from early French, Scottish, and English settlers. The people of the Biosphere maintain close ties to the culture of their ancestors.

In 2011, the Bras d'Or Lake and its watershed area were designated a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, recognizing that the locals live in harmony with nature and work to promote a healthy environment, economy and culture. Whether you charter a sailboat in St. Peter's or Baddeck, paddle the inlets of Baddeck Bay, hike to Uisge Ban Falls, take part in a Mi'kmaq cultural journey in Eskasoni, or join a ceilidh or milling frolic at the Highland Village, embrace the beauty and living culture of this tranquil area.

Southwest Nova Biosphere Interpretive Centre

In the historic Killam Brothers Shipping Office building on Water Street in Yarmouth visitors are invited to learn about the culture, heritage and biodiversity of the five southwestern counties in Nova Scotia.

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Most of the geosites can be accessed by NS highways 2 and 209 as they meander 165 Km along the coastline.

Highest Tides

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What's The Bloom Program?

The mental health and addictions community pharmacy partnership program of Nova Scotia

HELP!

I FEEL LIKE I'M LOSING MY MIND AND DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO OR WHO TO TURN TO.

Whether you are a youth, middle aged or a senior citizen you may have felt this way one time or another. Or perhaps someone has expressed these feelings to you. Well, what do you do and who can you turn to for help? It depends. The public awareness of mental illness and our willingness to discuss it openly is improving but there is still significant misunderstanding about what is meant by **mental illness**. Anxiety, depression, bipolar disorder, psychosis and other mental illnesses are often classified as mild, moderate and severe. A mental illness results in an inability to think and function normally. 'Depression' is not the same as having a couple of bad days. 'Anxiety' disorder is not the same thing as feeling stressed before an important meeting. 'Panic disorder' is not the same as feeling afraid. And 'OCD' is not the same as being super organized. We all have mental health but some but some have mental illness and there is help available through the Canadian Mental Health Association. Excellent help can be found online at www.WellnessTogether.ca

A mental illness requires an accurate diagnosis to ensure proper treatment and this will be determined by a doctor, but the journey to getting better can start before you are able to see a doctor. There are a number of government funded services accessible with a doctor referral. But what if you don't have a doctor, or the wait list is months and months? There are many community supports, including the Bloom Program at the Medicine Shoppe Pharmacy in the Truro Mall.

The Bloom program is a pharmacy-based service that focuses on the care and support provided to people with mental illness. Eligible patients receive comprehensive medication management as well as guidance in accessing services, as needed, in collaboration with their health care team. Call Peter at the Medicine Shoppe for more information, 902.893.3500.

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