

Cliffs of Fundy Geopark Showcases Nova Scotia on the Global Stage

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icant improvements such as new wayfinding signage, tri-lingual interpretive panels, and enhanced promotional materials the evaluators “green card” recommendation was supported unanimously by the Council. Once the decision is endorsed by the UNESCO Executive Board in early 2026, Cliffs of Fundy’s designation will officially be renewed for another four years.

“The UNESCO Global Geopark designation is a symbol of excellence,” said Trefry. “It not only confirms the international significance of our geo-heritage—it tells the world that we

have something special to see and experience here. Being part of this global network connects us with extraordinary destinations that value education, conservation, and sustainable development. I believe we’ve only begun to uncover what this designation can bring to our region.”

Devin Trefry (He/him/his), Research, Policy, and Community Engagement, Municipality of Colchester. Devin is also Manager of the Fundy GEO-PARK.

Letters to the editor

This is an open forum for your opinions and comments.

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Dear editor at The Shoreline Journal,

I’ve seen how the housing crisis has deeply affected our community. More and more people are being pushed into homelessness, and it feels like everyone is falling behind. We have to turn things around, and we have an opportunity in front of us with the upcoming federal budget on November 4th. Also the poverty reduction credit threshold is too low, \$16,000 is way too low for a cut off, many single people get over that and have had the credit taken away even though they still live below poverty.

Another thing is the skyrocketing rents, some have doubled, and most have gone so high, anybody on assistance can’t afford a 1brdm apt. A rent cap needs to be put in place and to stop landlords from raising the rent every year 5%, 2% was bad enough, I’m paying \$150+ above market average, taking food out of my mouth to pay for rent, that’s gotta stop and be lowered. Otherwise this homelessness isn’t going to stop and more and more elderly and disabled are going to be homeless.

The only way to unlock Canada’s full economic potential is if our governments take leadership to end homelessness and solve the housing crisis once and for all. Recently the federal government announced Build Canada Homes, including a \$1 billion investment in supportive and transitional housing. This is an important first step, but the scale of our housing and homelessness crisis demands a more robust response. We need a system that works for everyone, especially in the wake of Trump’s trade war and the uncertainty that so many are facing.

Bold action and even bolder commitments and investments can shape a future where everyone has a safe and affordable place to call home. I know that’s possible, but people in our community have to come together and show our federal representatives that this Budget is our chance to create lasting change and put an end

to the housing and homelessness crisis.

I’m encouraging readers to join me. Raise your voice for a bold 2025 Federal Budget that prioritizes action on homelessness and housing. We can’t wait any longer. You can go to https://action.caeh.ca/budget_25 to learn more & take action.

(This letter was received from multiple people listed below:)

Sincerely,
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Dear Tim Houston,
Is this a democracy or are you the Minister of Musical Chairs now?

Another stunning move, we had a cabinet shuffle today, October 21st, 2025. The provincial release titled “New Cabinet Will Drive Development” laid out a dramatic consolidation of power. The Premier, Tim Houston, has assumed the role of “Minister of Energy”, while retaining his positions as President of the Executive Council and Minister of Trade and Intergovernmental Affairs.

What we are witnessing is nothing short of a political game of musical chairs. The music plays, the seats are shuffled, and when the music stops playing, the same person ends up taking the seat. He has made himself Minister of Energy, bypassing the middleman entirely and consolidating power into a single seat.

Ministers who might slow the agenda were quietly replaced; the portfolios were realigned to match an accelerated resource rush. The government is redesigning the rule book so that oversight, accountability, and independent decision-making all sit in the same seat.

Let me make this crystal clear: we are not criticizing economic opportunity itself. Nova Scotia deserves good jobs, robust infrastructure, and a future in which everyone thrives. The economy, the environment, and the people. Renewables are the future, not reckless extraction.

We must also remember to

demand the how be as sound as the why. When the very person tasked with developing our energy future is also the person responsible for governing and approving it, serious questions arise. The public deserves transparent progresses, fully independent review, meaningful community and Indigenous involvement, and above all, the logic, not the illusion, of checks and balances.

There are so many situations where citizens are steadily losing their voices while political power tightens its grip. The lines of accountability are blurring, and decisions once made through public consultation are now issued from behind closed doors. What we are watching unfold here isn’t democracy in motion, it’s the opposite.

The leadership structure has become what I’m dubbing the “three T’s”.. Tim, Tim, and Tim. One man, one party, one vision, consolidated at the expense of every dissenting voice. When government begins to speak with only one voice, it no longer represents the people; it represents itself. Profit before people. Money before life.

Our province’s environment is not a sandbox. Our aquifers are vulnerable. Nearly half of Nova Scotian’s rely on private wells, systems which are outside of large-scale monitoring frameworks. Geological studies show that in certain plutonic and bedrock aquifers in Nova Scotia, uranium levels already approach or exceed Health Canada’s guideline lim-

its, even before any new industrial development. Do we really need to add fuel to the fire? Hint, hint... This year should serve as the biggest reminder to why we need to protect our environment at all costs, not destroy it further.

Given all of this, a governance system rushing to push resource extraction under a “development first” mentality is profoundly irresponsible and doesn’t just put the environment at risk, but also hundreds of thousands of people within the province, if not everyone, at risk.

The information is out there. The risks are documented. When oversight is cut, public trust fails. We owe our communities better than decisions made behind closed doors while the music keeps playing.

Nova Scotia was not built on shortcuts, on expedited approvals, or on silenced dissent. This province was built on resilience, and institutions working with citizens, not around them. We must insist that meaningful and lasting development be rooted in accountability and public consultation, not just accelerated policies and projects while cutting the “red tape” to expedite profits.

Nova Scotia’s land, water, and future should never become collateral damage. That is not the next headline we will be reading.

Signed,
Colby Sawler
East Dalhousie
Concerned Citizen
Citizens Against Uranium Exploration and Mining in Nova Scotia



Devin Trefry, Manager Cliffs of Fundy GEO-PARK during presentation UJNESCO GEO-PARK Global Network AGM in Chile.



Trefry co-presented with Dr. Elizabeth Silva, Executive Coordinator of the Algarvensis Aspiring Global Geopark in Portugal. Their joint presentation highlighted Reunite Pangea—a creative collaboration that explores the shared geological history of Nova Scotia and Portugal



Canadian flag very prominent at the UINESCO GEO-PARK Global Network AGM in Chile

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