



United Nations
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UNESCO
Global
Geoparks

2nd GGN DIGITAL

FORUM

23-24 FEBRUARY 2021

12:00 - 14:00 GMT



GLOBAL
GEO PARKS
NETWORK

Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples through UNESCO Global Geoparks in Canada

Cliffs of Fundy UNESCO Global Geopark

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*More information about the best practice:
fundygeopark.ca*

Introduction / Main targets

- Reconciliation with the Indigenous peoples of Canada is the highest priority for the Canadian Geoparks Network and for CCUNESCO
- In Cliffs of Fundy, Mi'kmaw elders were consulted before going to the communities.
- The Mi'kmaw storyline was and is given equal standing to that of the conventional geological storyline ...
 - In our application to UNESCO
 - In geosite interpretation
 - In our branding

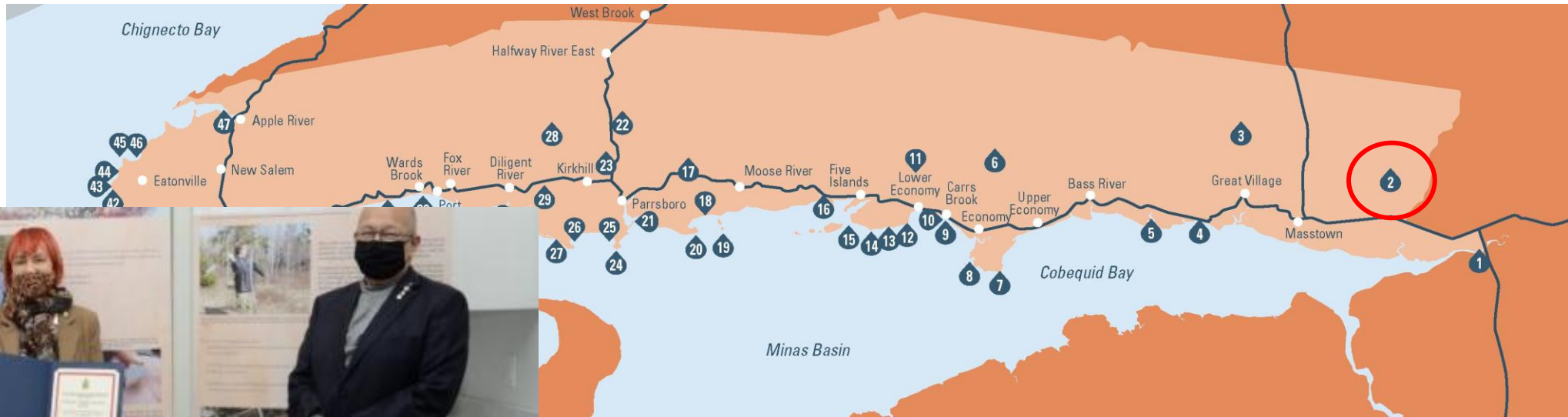
Best practice: Consulting *first*, not as an afterthought



Consultation with Mi'kmaq Elders has been a fundamental underpinning of Cliffs of Fundy since the very beginning

Walking the Walk: Implementation

The geopark boundaries reflect Mi'kmaw heritage, including Mi'kma'wi Debert, the oldest human settlement in eastern North America.



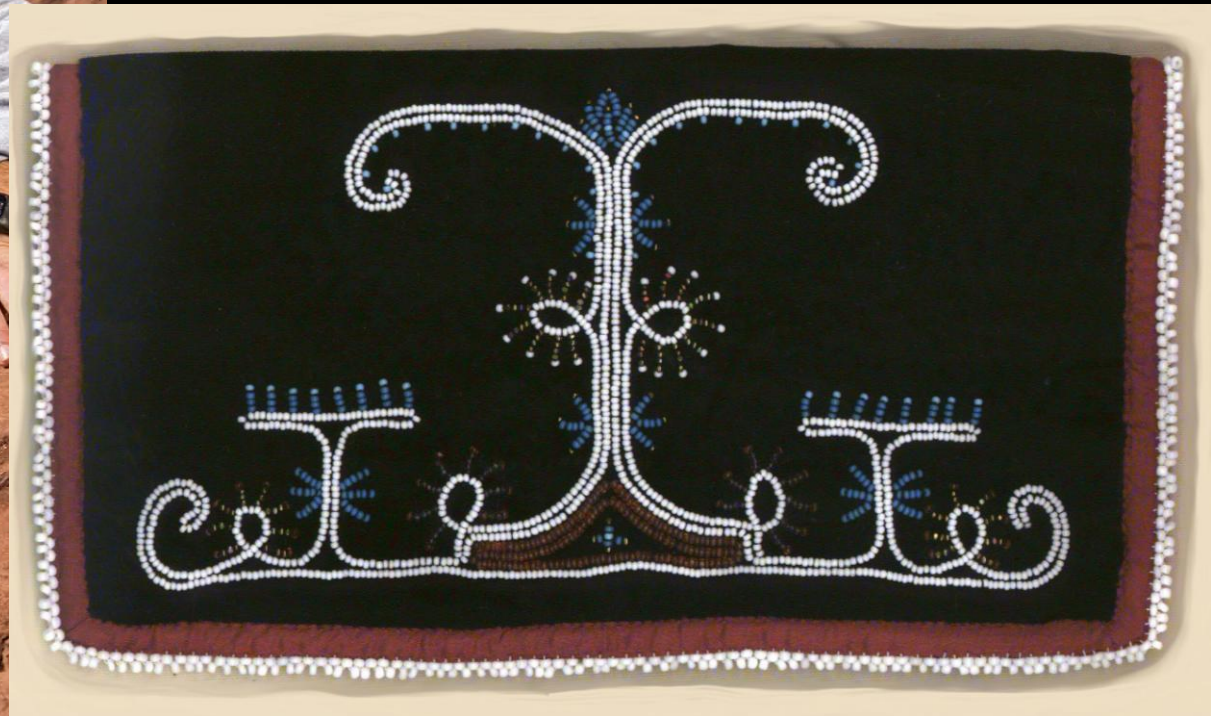
8 Feb. 2021: \$1.2M
funding announcement

Interpretation Strategy

Prepared by John Calder, PhD, PGeo
with Kathy Kaulbach, BDes, MA Ed
for Cliffs of Fundy UNESCO Global Geopark

February 01, 2021

Cliffs of Fundy
Geopark



Mi'kmaw Geoheritage

05

The legends of Kluscap (Glooscap) are well known even to the non-Indigenous community, a testimony to their resonance with the people of the Cliffs of Fundy. As well known as they are, it nonetheless falls on the Mi'kmaw people to tell this story, as it is theirs. Two historic written accounts that stand out of Kluscap's role in shaping the Cliffs of Fundy are those of Mi'kmaw Thomas Boonis as recounted by Silas Rand (1894), and Mi'kmaw Jerry Lonecloud recorded by Clarissa Archibald Dennis (1923). Few places in the Geopark escape mention in these tales, from the muddy waters of the upper bay, stirred by Beaver to escape Kluscap, to Isle Haute, where Moose was turned to stone while Kluscap's two dogs looked on from Cape Chignecto.



*"Nothing
about us
without us"*

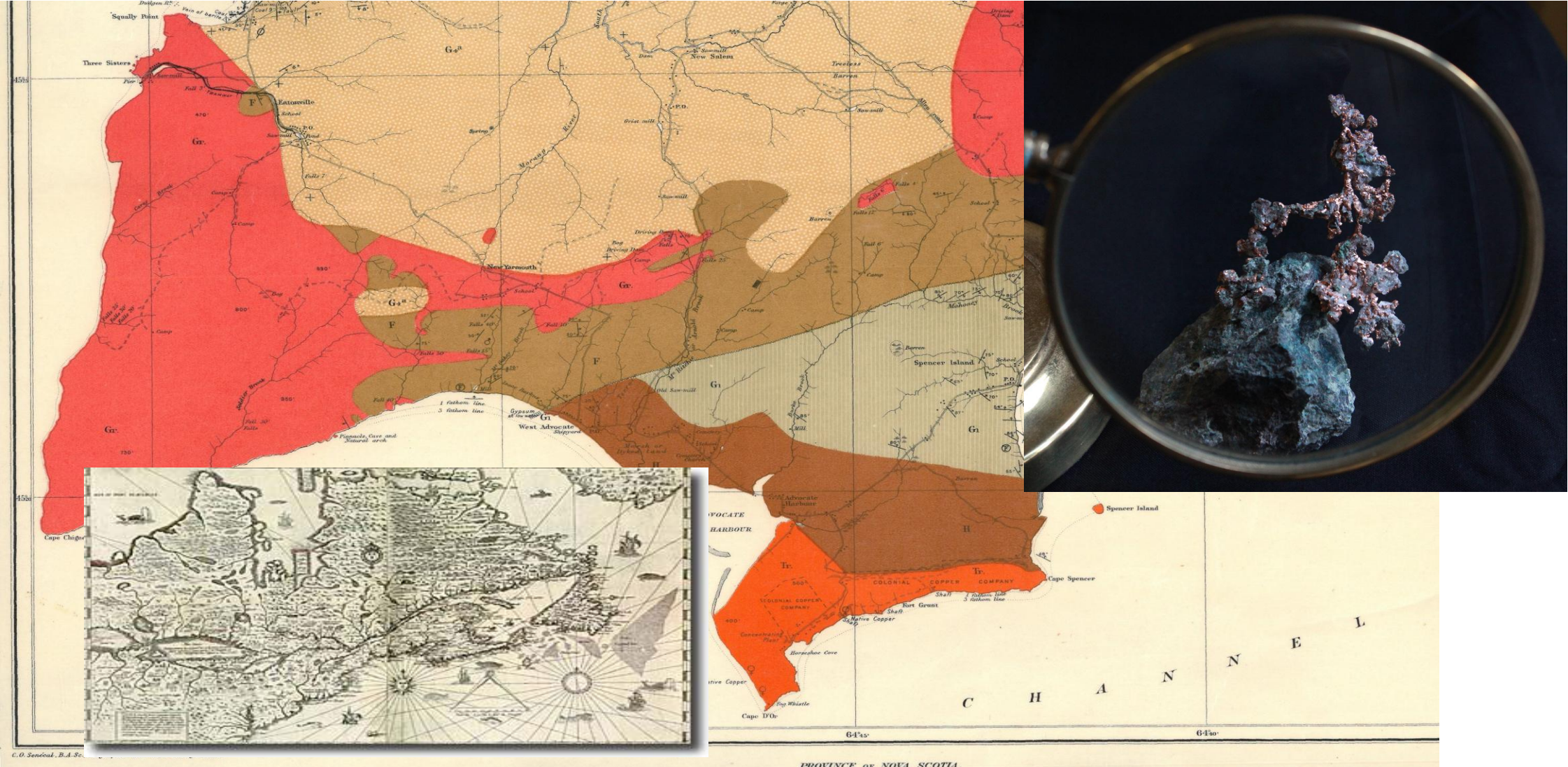
*The late Mi'kmaw elder Doug Knockwood,
reflecting on the life and skills of his uncle
John at his cabin at Franklin Manor.*

Lessons learned



Indigenous peoples were the first geologists. They knew the land, the properties and location of various rocks long before Hutton or Lyell.

Recent research shows that the Mi'kmaq mined native copper from the Cliffs of Fundy pre-contact with Europeans, and traded it widely across eastern North America



C. O. Senécal, B.A.Sc.

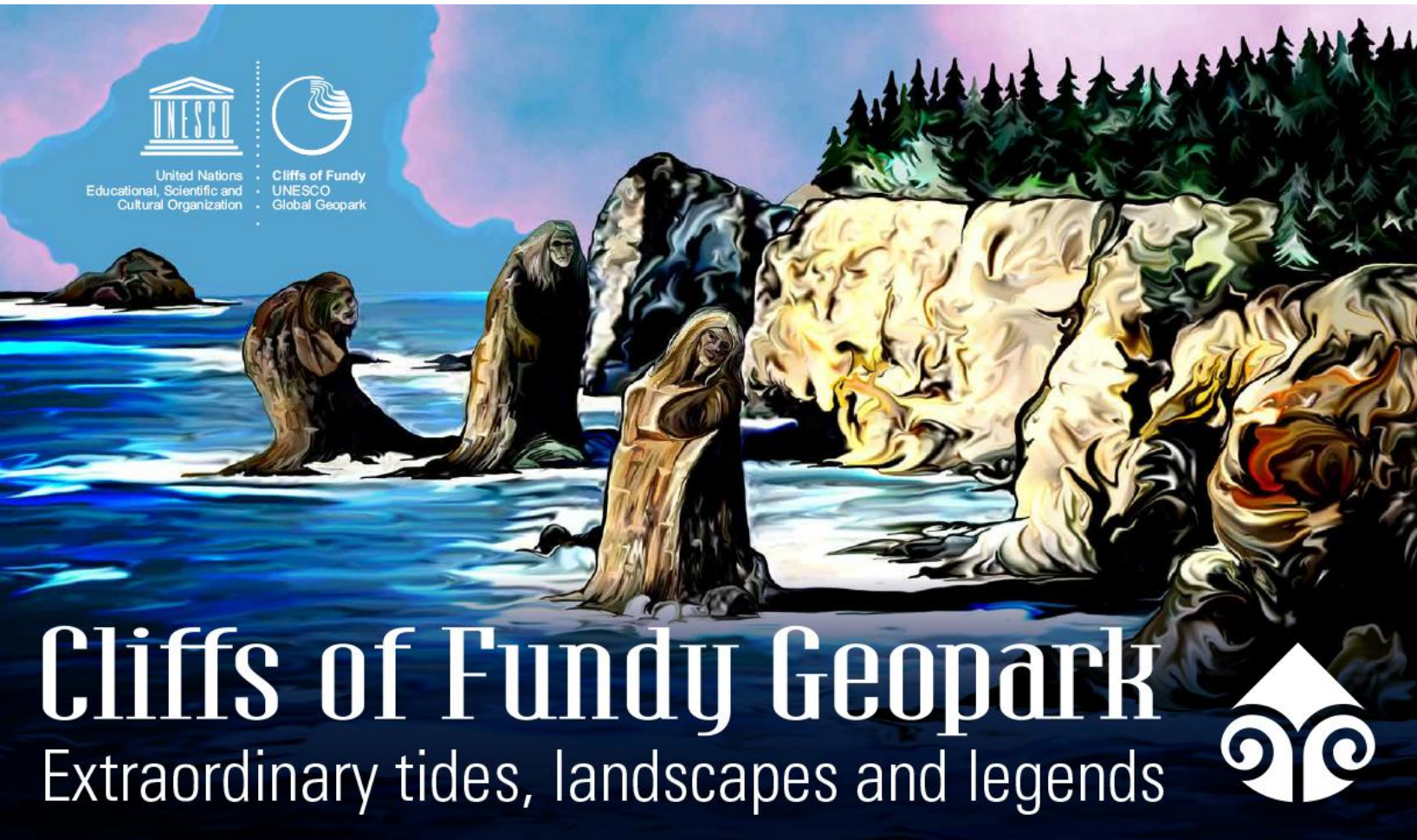
Lessons learned



Kluscap presents an amethyst necklace to his grandmother (Gerald Gloade)

Indigenous legends & stories do not need to be vetted or approved by scientists! To do so is degrading, and instills inequality. Let them speak for themselves, equally. This is the essence of "Two Eyed Seeing" and the starting point in reconciliation.

Implementation: honouring Mi'kmaw tradition



Cliffs of Fundy welcome signs on Trans Canada Highway: creation of the 'Three Sisters' sea stacks by legendary Mi'kmaw figure Kluscap, as depicted by Mi'kmaw artist Gerald Gloade

Results achieved / Impact



For Geoparks in Canada, *The World After* will mean a world of greater justice and respect for indigenous peoples.



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Cliffs of Fundy Geopark

Extraordinary tides, landscapes and legends



2nd GGN Digital Forum | 24.02.2021

