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Hon. Mark Eyking,
Confederation Building, Room 383
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

**The Proposed Veterans Memorial Monument at the
Green Cove headland in Cape Breton Highlands National Park**

The Atlantic Geoscience Society has strong reservations regarding the proposed location of the Veterans Memorial monument at Green Cove headland in Cape Breton Highlands National Park. These concerns centre on making a unique rock outcrop inaccessible and the appropriateness of such a monument being located in the park.

The rocks exposed at Green Cove headland are very significant to geoscientists, exhibiting features of such importance that the outcrop has been under consideration by the provincial Dept. of Natural Resources since 2012 as a Nova Scotia Geoheritage Site. Unfortunately, the facilities associated with the proposed Veterans Memorial monument would cover this important outcrop and thus detract from the goal of a National Park to preserve '*natural heritage*'. As the website of Parks Canada states, its mandate is to protect and preserve "*nationally significant examples of Canada's natural and cultural heritage, and foster public understanding, appreciation and enjoyment in ways that ensure the ecological and commemorative integrity of these places for present and future generations*" [<http://www.pc.gc.ca/eng/docs/pc/plans/plan2012-2013/sec01/index.aspx>].

Cape Breton Highlands National Park is dedicated to the presentation and preservation of the natural heritage of a special part of Nova Scotia that has outstanding beauty. Green Cove contributes superbly to this natural heritage, being an important geological component of the park. A Veteran's Memorial monument at Green Cove would undermine the Park's present pristine condition. As a result we urge the government to relocate the memorial outside the Park, rather than deface an important geological site.

Cliff Stanley
President, AGS

The Atlantic Geoscience Society is an association representing about 200 geoscientists primarily from the Maritimes with the goal to communicate ideas and information about the Earth and Earth Science to both the professional geoscience community and the general public.