

Historic and amazing places of the UNESCO Fundy Biosphere Reserve

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In 2011, the UNESCO-designated Fundy Biosphere Reserve (FBR) launched the *Amazing Places* project. Since its launch, this project has identified and promoted 50 Amazing Places (e.g., beautiful viewscapes, geologic features, waterfalls) of the FBR to visitors and residents via brochures, interpretive-content webpages, a Google Earth application, and smartphone-enabled signs at each location. The project was designed to draw attention to the spectacular natural assets of the Upper Bay of Fundy region (in New Brunswick, Canada), the hiking trails, and outdoor exploration opportunities for local residents and visitors alike. The project also supports the communities of the FBR, since these communities largely depend on seasonal tourism and resource-extractive industries. In 2013, the FBR launched phase 2 of the project, which included creating short *Planet Earth*-style documentary videos about some of the Amazing Places, to highlight hidden features and unusual perspectives of each site, which entice the viewer to get outside and visit these places. These videos promote sustainable tourism that respects nature and local culture, and encourages active outdoor exploration. Based on the model and successes of the Amazing Places project, FBR has begun a similar project to catalogue and promote Historic Places of the Biosphere Reserve, in particular those sites of historic significance that may not be represented by a physical structure or are not curated already by another organization. Several Historic and Amazing Places are found in the Quaco region of the FBR, which is a territory that also forms part of the Stonehammer Geopark. It is our belief that mutual recognition of this naturally- and culturally-important area will lead to increased collaboration in the future between FBR and Stonehammer Geopark.

Presented in Theme 3