

## Video as a tool in geoscience education

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In today's world, making a video is a spontaneous, daily activity for some. These vid clips (as they are commonly called) most often serve to entertain. To produce a video for education purposes is another matter, requiring detailed planning, varied expertise, and professional equipment. The Atlantic Geoscience Society (AGS) Video Committee has a long history and good reputation in the production of educational videos. This experience and knowledge is an excellent foundation on which to develop video clips (3–5 minute) for an outreach education audience. A number of other, reputable geological societies and surveys around the world have created video and audio products for their online audiences, and AGS needs to join this trend. The British Geological Survey, the Geological Society of London, the United States Geological Survey, and the New Zealand Geological Survey can boast of excellent traditional video clips as well as “artsy” clips that present a range of topics from geological history of their country, to trendy climate change and coastal erosion, to building stones of historical sites. Some groups also produce podcasts (audio only) that AGS could develop to enhance its geological-site publications. Atlantic Canada has untold geological stories waiting to be posted to the online world in this new format. To establish such a presence, AGS can choose to produce video clips of the sites highlighted in its “Nova Scotia Rocks” brochure or the field guides for the 20 years of Nova Scotia EdGEO Workshops and numerous Elderhostel programs. A quick mark could be made by posting a selection of stand-alone segments of AGS's professionally-produced videos (e.g., “Halifax Harbour: A Geologic Journey”). Establishing an AGS channel on You Tube, in addition to posting the clips and podcasts on the AGS website, would disseminate the works to a wider audience. Whatever the path, the AGS Video Committee has some busy and exciting days ahead.