



Kejimikujik
National Park and
National Historic Site

Kejimikujik

Visitor Guide



Eric Le Bel / Parks Canada



Parks
Canada

Parcs
Canada

Canada

Kejimikujik National Park and National Historic Site

Box 236
Maitland Bridge, NS
BOT 1B0

kejimikujik.info@pc.gc.ca
www.parkscanada.gc.ca
Tel: (902) 682-2772
Fax: (902) 682-3367

Front Entrance Coordinates
Easting 325296
Northing 4922771
UTM Zone 20N NAD83

Visitor Centre
(902) 682-2772

Open 7 days a week:

May 15 – Jun 25
8:30am – 4:30pm

June 26 – Sept 7
8:30am – 8pm

Sept 8 – Oct 12
8:30am – 4:30pm

Camping Reservations
www.reservation.parkscanada.gc.ca
or call 1- 877-RESERVE

Accessibility

Inquire at the Visitor Centre for options that most suit your abilities. The following places are wheelchair-accessible:

- Designated campsites
- Outdoor theatre
- Merrymakedge Beach
- Mersey Meadow Trail



This brochure is printed on paper that is made from 100% post consumer recycled fibre, is processed chlorine free, is manufactured using biogas energy, and is certified by the Forest Stewardship Council. This reflects Parks Canada's commitment to reducing our ecological footprint. To support us in our efforts to minimize impact on the environment, please recycle or pass this brochure to a friend.



Kate Warren / Friends of Keji

Hello, Bonjour, K'we!

You have arrived at one of Canada's special places. At the heart of the UNESCO Southwest Nova Biosphere Reserve, Kejimikujik is the only national heritage location in Canada with a dual designation of National Park and National Historic Site. This is a reflection of its natural beauty and Aboriginal heritage. Exciting changes are afoot that we hope you will enjoy.

We are excited to introduce the Red Chairs Experience Program and we encourage you to seek out the Red Chairs and enjoy staff-selected special places throughout Keji. While you are savouring the view, take a "selfie" and share the experience with your friends and family through social media.

Our diversified accommodations now include oTENTiks, a yurt, and rustic cabins in the backcountry and front-country. In 2014, the Heritage Carpentry students at the Lunenburg Campus of the Nova Scotia Community College, in collaboration with the Friends of Keji and Parks Canada, constructed Rogers Cabin along the Mersey River. Located in a variety of stunning wilderness settings, all of our "glamping" options help to make your escape to nature relaxing and hassle-free.

We are happy to report great success with the relocation of the lifeguards to Kedge Beach, the opening of the Tuck Shoppe in the campground, and the dog-friendly beach option at Merrymakedge. With the support of visitors like you, we will continue to offer these options in the future.

In partnership with the Canadian Museum of History and the Friends of Keji, an 18 ½ foot ocean-going Mi'kmaw-style canoe will be built at Merrymakedge this summer. Stop by and witness history in the making while the canoe is constructed from birch bark and spruce root, using traditional Mi'kmaw knowledge. This canoe will be launched at Kejimikujik during the Canoe Festival Weekend (Aug 22-23).

Kejimikujik is a treasure trove of cultural and natural wonders. We invite you to participate in our interpretation programs to learn more about the significance of this land. Join Club Keji and get rewards for attending programs. For "Pinch me - this can't be real" experiences, we invite you to join our dynamic team of volunteers who monitor species and protect ecosystems in this biodiversity hotspot.

We hope you will enjoy your stay at Keji and we encourage you to leave your comments and suggestions with us so we can continue to improve our service and make your visit an amazing and memorable experience.

The Kejimikujik Team



Vladimir Petrov / Friends of Keji

Hello, Bonjour, K'we!

Pekisinn newte' ta'n mawmujkajewey maqamikew eyk Kanataq. Etek miawe'k UNESCO-ewey Pekte'snuk-Tkîsnukey Mussew Tepkisa'tasik Nova Biosphere, Kejimkujikek etlinkute'jk Kanataq sa'qawey maqamikew kennasik ta'n kitk National Park aq National Historic Site. Wetliaq muta teliwliankamkuk aq ta'n telil'nuik. Milamu'k pemianku'lukwatasik ta'n etawa'tiek ksatoqsip. Newte' piley ta'n ketu' neia'tiek na Wetaptekemkewe'l Mekwe'kl Mutputi'l, asimulek kwilmnew nekla Mekwe'kl Mutputi'l aq nmitutoqsip ta'n telpukwelk weliankamkuk eyk Kejik, ta'nik etllukutijik tett kisimknmititi ta'n tetat. Ke'sk alapultioq, napui'kusultikw aq l'taqte'muk napui'kiknk ko'kumewa aq kitapewa aq kulaman nekmow elk nmitutaq ta'n telkiso'qn.

Tiitukunultioq milamu'kl kisiuskowa'timkl eykl nuke', ma'w oTENTiks, piptukwakikl kmuj aq atla'wekne'l wikuomji'tl telwi'tasikl yurt, aq sa'qawikl wenji'kuomji'tl, kisimkntoqsip naqamastekl kisna ta'n me' knek pija'timk nipuktuk etekl. 2014 te'sipunqe'k, etlkina' masultijik Sa'qawey Saqantieultimk Lunenburgk etek Nova Scotia Community College, aq Kejik aq Parks Canada Witapewa, eltu'tip Rogers Cabin (sa'qawik wenji'kuomji'tl) tajiktuk Mersey Sipu. Ta'n mawuliankamkuk msit wekla tetat, aq ta'n ketu' teken "glamping"-ewimk meknasik, iknmuksitoqsip atlasmultinew aq we'jitoqsip msit koqwey naqamastek. Elk ketu'tlimulek we'jitasik wellukwek ta'n telliwsulutipnik esknuama'tijik tkisminu'k Kedge Sitmuk, ta'n telpanta'tasik Tuck Shoppe, aq ta'n teliknmuj l'mu'jk nespnuksinew Merrymakedgek. Kilew tiasitemiek, na kisisiawtitaqane'wasititew.

Ma'w Kanatiesuey Museum of History aq Kejik Witapewa, 18 1/2 leppie telpita'q l'nuey kta'ney kwitn wla nipk l'tasiktitew Merrymakedgek. Mittukwatmuk aq nmitutoqsip ta'n l'nu'eye'l kwitnn wejitasikl maskwi aq wtipi' i'tititasikipnn. Wla kwitn Kejimkujikek samukwaniktuk ekwija'tasiktitew Kwitney Mawita'mk Kiaspiaqantie'uti (Kisikwekewiku's 22-23 te'sukunit). Kejimkujikek l'pa na mawmujkajewey etlwe'jitmk. Asitemulek l'ta'new ta'n kisipa'qamajo'toqsip ta'n wejimekite'tasik wla maqamikew. Pijiwi'kusultikw Club Keji aq apajiaqal wkjo'tutoqsip ta'n telil'taioq koqwey pemiaq. Wjit, "Jinkija'li-ma kistlianuk wla", mittukwaluk mimajuinu'k ta'n apoqnmuksiekik, nekmow kikjipuku'tmi'tij aq ikatmi'tij ta'n te'sik aq telmilamu'k mimajik aq nikwek tett.

Etawa'tiek kiso'l'tioq Kejik aq asitemulek knua'tuinen ta'n telta'sultioq kisna elk i'k koqwey ta'n kisanakua'tasik tlimiek, muta pewatmek ta'n telmitukwaliek me' ap ajimujkajeweyin aq ajikiso'qonin.

Ta'nik etllukutijik Kejimkujikek

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION

- 2 The Many Sides of Keji
- 3 Top 15 of 2015

YOUR KEJIMKUJIK VISIT

- 4 Paddling Keji
- 5 Day Paddle Routes
- 5 Swimming and Fishing
- 6 Backcountry Camping
- 6 Backcountry Cabins
- 7 Front-country Camping
- 7 Yurt and oTENTiks
- 7 Jim Charles Campground
- 8 Jeremy's Bay Campground
- 9 Campground Map
- 10 Day-Use Map
- 12 Kejimkujik Trail Guide

ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS

- 13 Special Events
- 14 Interpretation Activities

PROTECTING KEJI

- 16 Keeping it Wild
- 17 Wildlife Safety

REGIONAL INFORMATION

- 18 Regional Map

KEJIMKUJIK SEASIDE

- 19 Your Seaside Visit
- 20 Seaside Day-Use Map

FRIENDS OF KEJI

- 21 Photo Contest
- 21 Campground Hosts
- 21 By the Mersey Gift Shop
- 21 Library and Tuck Shoppe

Important Numbers

Police, Fire, Ambulance
(emergency only) 911

Patrol/Security
(902) 298-0668

**Human-Wildlife Conflict/
Wildlife Incidents/Wildfire**
1-800-565-2224

**Annapolis Community Health
Centre, Annapolis Royal, NS**
(902) 532-2381

**Queens General Hospital
Liverpool, NS**
(902) 354-3436

**South Shore Regional Hospital
Bridgewater, NS**
(902) 543-4603

There are many sides to Kejimikujik...

Explore 4,000 years of Mi'kmaw heritage. Camp lakeside amidst an Acadian forest. Spot harbour seals from a pristine sand beach. Be enthralled by a Dark Sky Preserve. There are many sides to Kejimikujik and you can discover them all.

Kejimikujik protects vital habitat of the Southwest Nova Scotia Biosphere Reserve within two separate regions - an inland parcel and a coastal region. The land also tells the tale of the Mi'kmaq, carved in stone and illuminated through story and legend.



Vadim Petrov / Friends of Keji

A Biodiversity Hotspot

With 381 square kilometres of rolling hills and waterways, Kejimikujik is a gentle wilderness where generations of families have canoed, camped and connected to nature. Keji is a biodiversity hotspot. It protects a collection of rare southerly species and is home to the greatest diversity of reptiles and amphibians in Atlantic Canada. Walk through Keji's Acadian forest and you'll see windswept pines, old-growth hemlocks, and red maple floodplains. The story of past ice ages can be read in a glacial landscape of drumlin hills dotted with boulders. Diverse habitats teem with wildlife.



Wesley Pitts

A Coastal Wilderness

Kejimikujik Seaside is 22 square kilometres of protected wilderness on the Atlantic coast: pristine white sand beaches, astonishing turquoise waters, coastal bogs, an abundance of wildflowers, rich lagoon systems, and coastal wildlife.



Eric Le Bel / Parks Canada

A Mi'kmaw Cultural Landscape

The entire landscape of Kejimikujik is designated as a national historic site. It is a cultural landscape that attests to the presence of the Mi'kmaq and their ancestors since time immemorial. With rich Mi'kmaw heritage, rock carvings known as petroglyphs, traditional encampment areas, and canoe routes, this history gives us a strong sense of place.

What's New?

Top 15 for 2015

For more information, ask Parks Canada staff at the Visitor Centre.

Eric Le Bel / Parks Canada

Red Chairs - Six sets of red chairs have been placed in breathtaking surroundings throughout the park. Get your map at the Visitor Centre and see if you can find them all!

Rogers Cabin - In partnership with the Friends of Keji and NSCC Lunenburg, a new rustic cabin near Rogers Brook will be available to rent.

Backcountry Reservation System - You can now book your backcountry trip online at reservation.parkscanada.gc.ca, or call 1-877-RESERVE (737-3783).

New Backcountry Guide - A new edition of the Backcountry Guide is now available.

More Electric Sites in JBC - Due to increasing visitor demands and to limit generator noise, twelve sites will be converted to electric in the Jim Charles loop.

Club Keji - The Keji "Naturalist's Club" is back with a new name and new challenges. Attend interpretive programs and get rewards!

Webcam - Thanks to the Friends of Keji, you can now pay a virtual visit to Keji every day. Visit the webcam at www.friendsofkeji.ns.ca/webcam

Seaside Volunteer Experience - The Coastal Restoration project at Kejimikujik Seaside is expanding to St. Catherine's River Estuary. Come participate in a unique marine fishing experience and help save an ecosystem.

Birch Bark Canoe Construction Returns to Keji

In partnership with the Canadian Museum of History, a new ocean-going Mi'kmaw-style birch bark canoe will be constructed this summer at Keji!

Proper Food Storage in Jeremy's Bay - A Food Storage Awareness Program will be in full swing this year to help deter unwanted animal guests in the campground.

Angler Diary - Included with each park fishing licence is our new "Angler Diary". Record your effort in the diary and help protect Kejimikujik's fishing legacy.

BATS! - Three species of bats (Little Brown Myotis, Tri-coloured Bat and Northern Myotis), all native to Keji, are now endangered. Please report your bat sightings to the Visitor Centre and www.batconservation.ca

Scientist for a Day - Contribute to our long term monitoring program by joining Parks Canada staff in the field for a variety of projects that are key to understanding the health of ecosystems at Kejimikujik.

Hemlocks and Hardwoods Trail - The reconstructed Hemlocks and Hardwoods Trail will be re-opening on Canada Day.

New Geocache Route - Use your GPS or borrow one at the Visitor Centre to locate five new geocaches in Kejimikujik. "Species at Risk" is the theme for 2015. Visit www.atlanticgeocaching.com to learn more.

Paddling Keji

Dip your paddles in and explore Kejimikujik by canoe or kayak! Follow the ancient canoe routes and portages that were forged by the Mi'kmaq.



Diane Avell / Friends of Keji

Whether you're taking an afternoon paddle or a multi-day trip, make sure you find out about paddling routes, portages, and weather conditions. You can get a Kejimikujik Lake buoy map and weather forecast from Visitor Centre staff or from Whynot Outfitters at Jake's Landing.

Guided canoe events with Kejimikujik interpreters are another excellent way to experience Keji by water.



Whynot Adventure

Whynot Adventure at Jake's Landing rents canoes, single kayaks, and double kayaks to visitors at hourly, daily, and weekly rates. They also provide guided backcountry adventures and other rental equipment. www.whynotadventure.ca

To make reservations, phone: (902) 682-2282. All rentals include 2 paddles, 2 personal flotation devices, bailer, and whistle. Shuttles are available upon request.



Eric Le Bel / Parks Canada

Don't forget a compass or GPS to accompany your map, as well as water, sunscreen, hats, sunglasses, and insect repellent.

When paddling at Keji, your canoe or kayak must be equipped with the following safety items:

- A PFD or life jacket for each person
- A whistle or other sound-signaling device
- A bailer or water pump
- A throw rope no less than 15 m long
- At least one paddle or oar
- A waterproof flashlight if going out after dark or in periods of reduced visibility

SUGGESTED DESTINATIONS FOR A DAY PADDLE

From Jake's Landing

1. Mersey River

(1-2 hours) Head upstream on this culturally significant waterway into a peaceful red maple floodplain. Marsh birds, beaver activity, water lilies, and easy paddling make this trip ideal for families or beginners.

2. Kejimikujik Lake – Islands

(2-3 hours) Paddle among the coves and points of the lake's islands. These islands tell stories of the rich cultural history of Kejimikujik and of the Mi'kmaq people who paddled through, and lived here.

3. Kejimikujik Lake – Jeremy's Bay

(1-3 hours) Paddle past Jim Charles Point and explore spectacular sunsets and sandy shores. For a longer trip, take portage W across Indian Point - an area of cultural significance. In Luxie Cove and Nancy Cove, there are picnic areas for day-use paddlers.

4. Kejimikujik Lake – Fairy Bay

(1-2 hours) Look for waterbirds in this quiet cove where Mi'kmaq legends say that "fairies abound". Near Merrymakedge, paddle by culturally significant slate outcrops (respect the restricted petroglyph area).

From Eel Weir

(2-3 hours) A 200-metre portage takes you past an ancient Mi'kmaq fishing weir and encampment area. Continue upstream to George Lake where you can paddle amongst many islands and sheltered coves.

From Big Dam Lake

(2-3 hours) A 400-metre portage brings you to a sheltered wilderness lake surrounded by impressive forests. Explore two halves of this lake: one spring-fed with clear water; one bog-fed with dark water.

Parks Canada partners with AdventureSmart Get Informed + Go Outdoors Website: <http://www.adventuresmart.ca>

Backcountry campsites are for registered campers only – please respect campers' privacy.



Eric Le Bel / Parks Canada
Eric Le Bel / Parks Canada



Swimming

Keji's dark, warm waters are refreshing, relaxing, and good for your hair and skin! Jeremy's Bay Campground has two non-supervised swimming areas: Meadow Beach and Slapfoot Beach, and one supervised swimming area: Kedge Beach. Merrymakedge Beach is unsupervised and dog-friendly. Dogs must be on a leash and under control at all times.

Fishing

A National Park Fishing Permit is required. Familiarize yourself with catch-and-release zones and read the *Fish Management and Protection* brochure, available at the Visitor Centre or visit www.parksCanada.gc.ca/keji

Visit page 16 for more info on fish management in Kejimikujik.

Season: April 1 - August 31

Children under 16 may fish without a permit when accompanied by a licensed angler.

Never dive in lakes and rivers; rocks may be completely hidden in the dark water.

Some brook trout have research tags. If you catch one, record the number before returning it to the water, and advise Keji staff.

Backcountry Camping

Immerse yourself in a true wilderness that is tranquil and remote yet easily reached. On land, mushrooms grow underfoot and warblers flutter overhead. On water, Blanding's turtles tuck away on the shoreline, brook trout and perch swim below and bullfrogs croak from the reeds. Travel on the ancient pathways and waterways of the Mi'kmaq.



Eric Le Bel / Parks Canada



Duane Hall / Friends of Keji

Over 80% of Kejimikujik is accessible only by canoe or hiking. Situated in beautiful wilderness settings, 47 backcountry campsites are scattered along hiking trails and historic canoe routes.

Each site has two tent pads, a fire box, a picnic table, a pit privy, firewood, and a food storage device. Campsites, trails, and portages enable you to travel safely without disturbing the land.

Before entering the backcountry, you must register and obtain a camping permit at the Visitor Centre. Pack it in. Pack it out. See www.leavenotrace.ca for more information on low impact camping.

Always practice safe and proper food storage by making use of food storage cables found at all backcountry sites in Kejimikujik.

Plan your trip by consulting Visitor Centre staff and our **NEW Backcountry Guide**. Or, learn about trip planning by visiting our website: www.parkscanada.gc.ca/keji

Purchase your NEW Backcountry Guide map at the Visitor Centre for \$11.75



NEW THIS YEAR!

Backcountry reservations are online!
www.reservation.parkscanada.gc.ca
or call **1- 877-RESERVE**

No more "60 day reservation window"!

The Keji Cabin Experience

Wil-Bo-Wil and Mason's Cabins in the backcountry, and the NEW Roger's Cabin near Jake's Landing - one of our rustic cabins can be headquarters for your next Keji adventure. Each cabin has bunk beds (no mattresses), a table and chairs, a woodstove, a food preparation area, an outdoor firebox, and a picnic table.

For more information, visit:
www.parkscanada.gc.ca/keji

Front-country Camping

Create life-time family memories in Keji's safe and relaxing campgrounds. Choose from Jeremy's Bay Campground, Jim Charles Point Campground, or the oTENTik Village and open up to a world of nature, healthy activities, and friends.



Ashley Moffat / Parks Canada
Eric LeBlond / Parks Canada



Little Foot Yurt

Situated on the Mersey River, just upstream from Jake's Landing, our Little Foot Yurt is equipped with a bunk bed (no mattresses), a futon with a mattress, a table and chairs, a woodstove, an outdoor firebox, and a picnic table. It is the perfect front-country retreat for a couple or a small family!

Parks Canada oTENTiks

On the shores of Kejimikujik Lake, in the dappled shade of a hemlock grove, our oTENTik Village provides you with the comfort and convenience of a family cottage. Each oTENTik includes: beds with mattresses, a table, chairs, a deck, outdoor firebox, and a picnic table. Parking, washrooms, and running water are all just a few steps away. Nearby, you'll find showers, the Tuck Shoppe, canoe rentals, and much more. Inquire about our new wheelchair accessible and 2 pet-friendly options.

For more information, visit: www.parkscanada.gc.ca/keji
To reserve your front-country camping experience, visit:
www.reservation.parkscanada.gc.ca or call 1-877-RESERVE



Ashley Moffat

Jim Charles Point Campground

Families or organized groups can reserve campsites in Jim Charles Point Campground. Facilities include: a picnic shelter with woodstoves and picnic tables, washrooms, a group campfire circle, tent pads, drinking water, private fire boxes, and parking.

Please enquire at the Visitor Centre for information and reservations. Phone: (902) 682-2772.

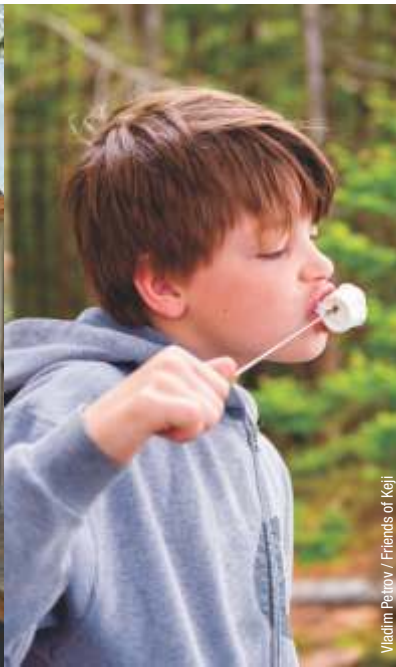
This is a tenting-only campground.

Jeremy's Bay Campground

Welcome to **Jeremy's Bay Campground**. Jeremy's Bay offers sites with electricity, unserviced sites, and 10 oTENTiks. Facilities include washrooms, hot showers, outdoor sinks, playgrounds, internet service, trails, and beaches, all within a lush Acadian forest near the shoreline of Kejimikujik Lake.



Eric Le Bel / Parks Canada



Vladimir Petrov / Friends of Keji



Krista Mosher-Cox / Friends of Keji

Jeremy's Bay Campground Reservations

www.reservation.parksCanada.gc.ca
or call 1-877-RESERVE

Campers may reserve sites up until 2pm local time on the day of arrival.

Campground staff, campground hosts, and campground security are all available to ensure you have a pleasant stay. Help maintain a safe and enjoyable camping experience for everyone - and a healthy campground forest - by respecting these regulations.

- Each campsite is limited to 1 family (2 adults and dependent children) or 4 people.
- One parking permit per site. Park all other vehicles in visitor parking areas P1 or P2. Meadow Beach parking lot is designated for day use vehicles only.
- Make fires only in designated fire boxes. Fires must not be left unattended.
- Firewood is for sale at the campground kiosk. To take care of forest soil, do not gather wood from the forest.
- To protect the forest floor, keep all camping equipment on graveled areas.
- Remove trailer-towing mirrors from your vehicle.
- To avoid visits from unwanted critters, please store all unattended food items (including coolers) in your vehicle.
- For your safety, Parks Canada staff may seize unattended animal attractants.
- Use exterior sinks at the service buildings for dishwashing and grey water disposal.
- Use recycling, compost, and waste containers at waste sorting stations.
- Bike only on designated trails and roads. No off-trail biking.
- Alcohol may be consumed on your site only.

Campground Hours

- Visiting hours end at 11pm.
- Quiet hours are 11pm to 7am.
- Generators may be used daily from 9am to 11am and from 4:30pm to 6:30pm.
- Check-out time is 11am.
- Showers are closed for one hour each day for cleaning.
- Campers must register by 9pm.

Pets

- Pets are to be on a leash at all times and never left unattended.
- Pets are not allowed in designated swimming areas within the campground.
- Please clean up after your pet.



A single piece of firewood can **DESTROY** millions of trees

Moving firewood, even just a few kilometres away, can spread invasive insects and disease to our forests.

DON'T MOVE FIREWOOD

Buy it locally. Burn it on site. Never bring it back home.

For more information call 1-800-442-2342 or visit www.inspection.gc.ca

Canadian Food Inspection Agency / Agence canadienne d'inspection des aliments

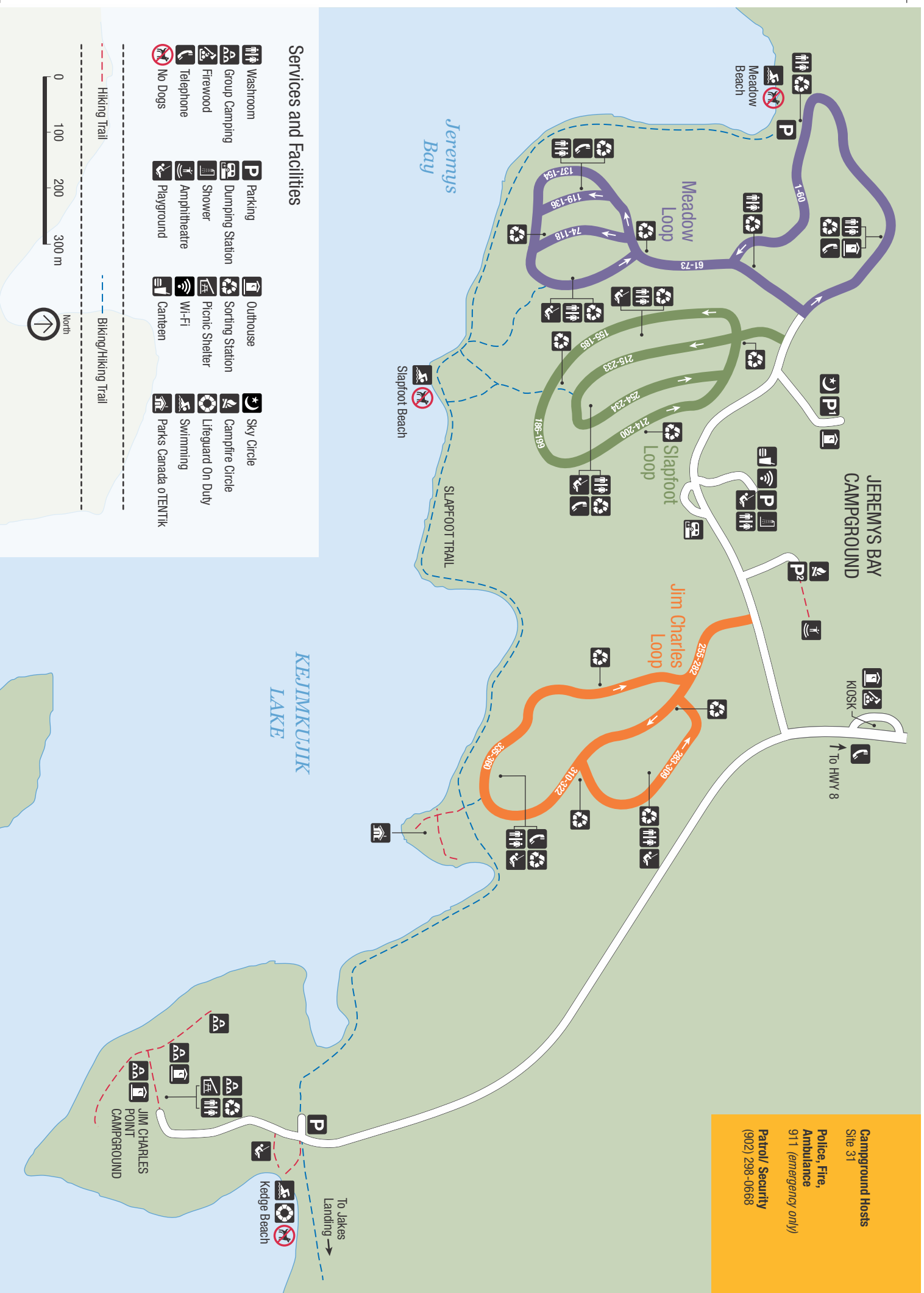
Canada

TENT DWELLERS LIBRARY AND TUCK SHOPPE

No need to miss out on Ice Cream and Slushies! This new facility is located beside the shower building. Free Wi-Fi!

Jun 26 - Sep 7: 1pm - 8pm

Campground Hosts
Site 31
**Police, Fire,
Ambulance**
911 (emergency only)
Patrol/ Security
(902) 298-0668



Kejimkujik Trail Guide

Keji's trails take you through an incredible variety of habitats and scenery. They also take you to places of cultural and historical significance. Ask Visitor Centre staff for recommendations.

For backcountry wilderness hiking, see page 6.



Jessie Filmore / Friends of Keji



Dale Wilson

HIKING

1 Mersey Meadow

0.2 km loop – A meadow boardwalk will lead you to stunning views of a Mersey River stillwater.

2 Mill Falls

2 km return – Big hemlocks calm the mind. Mill Falls uplifts the spirit.

3 Beech Grove

2.2 km loop – Hike uphill through a beech forest and down hemlock slopes to Mill Falls, passing rare and medicinal plants along the way.

4 Flowing Waters

1 km loop – Listen to the Mersey River gurgling and splashing as you meander through a wetland and along a riverbank. Look for signs of beavers.

5 Hemlocks and Hardwoods

5 km loop – Experience majestic old-growth hemlocks. When the oldest of these trees were sprouting, the Mi'kmaq were the only humans to inhabit the Kejimkujik landscape.

6 Farmlands

1.1 km loop – A white pine forest reclaims a 19th-century drumlin farm. Check out the interpretive signs and barn!

7 Rogers Brook

1 km loop – Meander through a red-maple floodplain of birds, frogs, turtles, and ducks.

8 Grafton Woods

two 1.6 km loops – A stroll among towering pines and gnarled beech trees.

9 Snake Lake

3 km return – Birds, lakes, bogs, diverse forests, and marshes.

10 Gold Mines

3 km return – Follow the story told on the interpretive signs along a prospector's road to abandoned goldmines.



Tina Mosher-Elsnor / Friends of Keji

Geocaching Challenge

Keji has 4 geocaching routes that you will find fun and challenging.

Go to: atlanticgeocaching.com or to the Visitor Centre to learn more!

HIKING/BICYCLING

11 Peter Point

3 km return – Hike or bike past maples, hemlocks, bogs and shorelines, as you reach the trail's destination – a slate outcrop and a sandy beach with stunning views of Keji Lake.

12 Mersey River

3.5 km one way – Travel along forested riverbanks that offer many perspectives of the Mersey, an ancient waterway referred to as "Ogomkikiaq" by the Mi'kmaq.

13 Slapfoot


3.2 km one way – This popular forested trail skirts along the shoreline of Jeremy's Bay and offers breathtaking views of some of Kejimkujik's iconic islands and points that are named after local legends.

14 Jake's Landing to Merrymakedge Beach

3 km one way – A day of discovery awaits; take a guided tour of the petroglyphs, join a program at the Mi'kmaq encampment, and enjoy the warm waters of Kejimkujik Lake at Merrymakedge Beach!

15 Eel Weir to Fire Tower Road

difficult 19.5 km return – Start off from the original site of a Mi'kmaq fishing weir for your adventure on this backcountry road that crosses ancient portage routes and promises big challenge, big hardwoods, and big returns.

 Indicates that there is an outhouse at the beginning or end of the trail.

 Indicates trails that are wheelchair-accessible.

PLEASE BE AWARE

- Do not approach or feed wildlife.
- Staying on the trail protects trailside vegetation.
- Do not enter restricted areas.
- Bike only on designated biking trails.
- Bikers yield to hikers.
- Please keep your pets on a leash. Pets off-leash may disturb and harm wild animals and other park visitors.

Special Events at Kejimikujik

Live it up at one of Keji's special events! Immerse yourself and your family in unique and extraordinary celebrations, special programming, and unforgettable experiences with Parks Canada interpreters, local First Nations peoples, artisans, crafters, musicians, and experts.



John McPhee



Eric Le Bel / Parks Canada

2015 SPECIAL EVENTS AT KEJIMKUJIK

Sunday, June 21st: National Aboriginal Day - Celebrate Mi'kmaw culture at Kejimikujik with Parks Canada interpreters and special guests. Enjoy special tours, drumming, singing, and cultural demonstrations.

Wednesday, July 1st: Canada Day - FREE ADMISSION and FREE CUPCAKES – Official launch of the new CLUB KEJI Program, the Friends of Keji Photo Contest, and the fantastic 2015 Interpretation Programs.

Saturday, July 18th - Kejimikujik Storytelling Festival - The traditions of Mi'kmaw culture and experiences of nature are yours to discover through the art of storytelling. Tell your own stories and enter into the second annual Keji Creative Writing Competition.

Saturday, Aug 1st: Keji's 46th Birthday Party - Celebrate Keji's 46th birthday with FREE cupcakes and refreshments. Play the Friends of Keji Birthday Game and sign up for a chance to get famous at "Keji's Got Talent".

Aug 7-9th: Dark Sky Weekend - Search Keji's spectacular night skies for planets, galaxies, constellations and much more! There will be stories and discoveries for all ages. Presented with the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada.

Aug 22-23rd: Canoe Fest - Enjoy a fun-filled weekend of canoeing and kayaking demonstrations, clinics, and activities. Presented with Canoe/Kayak Nova Scotia.

Saturday, Sept 19th: International Observe the Moon Night - Feel the pull of the moon through stories and observation programs with Keji Interpreters. Have a closer look at Earth's nearest neighbour.

October 9-11th: Thanksgiving Weekend - Soak up the brilliant colours of fall at Keji. Enjoy the annual Pumpkin Carving Contest, the Haunted Jaunt, and take the plunge at the annual Cold Turkey swim.

Look for special events posters on Keji bulletin boards or visit *Kejimikujik* on the Parks Canada website to learn more:
www.parkscanada.gc.ca/keji



Eric Le Bel / Parks Canada

Krista Mosher-Cox / Friends of Keji

Interpreters are your key to Keji

Kejimikujik Interpreters are passionate about sharing their knowledge and love for this spectacular place. Get swept away on one of the many adventures they have prepared for you. Check bulletin boards for program descriptions, locations, and times.



Chris Green

Delve into distant celestial bodies in Nova Scotia's only Dark Sky Preserve. Weaving together Mi'kmaq lore, Celtic tales, and modern discoveries, interpreters blend science and storytelling as unique as a shooting star.



Eric Le Bel / Parks Canada

Eric Le Bel / Parks Canada

Guided Night Adventures

In the darkness of the night, Interpreters will lead you down trails that you thought you knew and show you the Keji that exists when the lights go out.

Group Campfires

Join Keji Interpreters around the warmth and the glow of fire at the Campfire Circle or the Mi'kmaq Encampment. Campfire programs can include drumming, storytelling, singing, and crafting.

An Evening at the Amphitheatre

Finish your day with an entertaining and educational visit to the amphitheatre. From costumed characters to musicians, you never know who will take the stage... it could be you!



M. L. Mills / Friends of Keji

Four millennia of Mi'kmaw history awaits. Cultural Interpreters deliver engaging petroglyph tours that reveal ancient stories etched in stone. Authentic demonstrations, such as Mi'kmaw birch bark canoe-building, offer first-hand immersive and unforgettable cultural experiences.



Ashley McVat / Parks Canada



Eric Le Bel / Parks Canada



Guided Paddles

With Keji Interpreters at the helm, experience deep paddling traditions along ancient Mi'kmaw waterways. Occasional night-time canoe excursions offer a truly magical night-sky perspective.

Guided Hikes

Let a Keji Interpreter lead you by foot or bike through a variety of habitats revealing fascinating stories and secrets about Kejimikujik.

Club Keji – Join Today!

Club Keji members get rewards for going to interpretive programs. Ask for your free passport at the Visitor Centre.

Protecting Keji Keeping it Wild

Alien invasive species are plants and animals outside their natural range that threaten natural biodiversity and processes by displacing, replacing, and out-competing native species.



Cornell University

Chain Pickerel (left) and Smallmouth Bass (right)

These fish are on the doorstep of Kejimikujik and threaten many aquatic species including Brook trout and Eastern Ribbonsnake. Parks Canada is proactively developing innovative tools and methods to keep invasive fish out and protect freshwater habitat.

YOU CAN HELP!

Report sightings of invasive species to the Visitor Centre. Take photos if possible, and document the time and location.

Email volunteer.keji@pc.gc.ca to learn more about how you can get involved in hands-on recovery efforts to maintain and restore natural ecosystems in Kejimikujik.

Parks Canada
Oliver Woods

Glossy Buckthorn

Glossy Buckthorn is an invasive plant that threatens wetland and forest ecosystems, outcompeting native species and severely altering biodiversity and forest processes. Staff and volunteers are implementing methods of control and eradication at Kejimikujik.



Hugh Broders

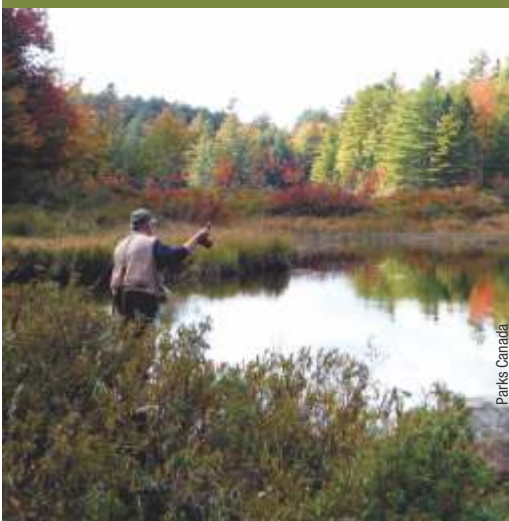
Green Crab

Control efforts targeting the highly invasive European Green Crab at Kejimikujik Seaside, Little Port Joli Estuary, have resulted in increased natural biodiversity and eelgrass recovery. In 2015 Keji staff, volunteers and partners will begin restoration efforts in the St. Catherine's River Estuary.



White-nose Syndrome

Bats are incredible insect-eaters and an integral part of a healthy ecosystem. An invasive fungus has dramatically reduced bat numbers by causing White-nose Syndrome, which affects their ability to hibernate properly. Unfortunately you may notice fewer bats in Keji this year, but you can help by reporting all bat sightings to: www.batconservation.ca



Parks Canada

Fish On! Check out the NEW Angler Diary

Fishing has been part of the local area's earliest traditions and is a great way to explore Kejimikujik lakes and rivers. Join in this legacy and take the family out for a day of fishing and experience the thrill of hooking a Big One!

This year a new *Angler Diary* and updated information package is included with each fishing licence. The diary provides anglers a way to record their fishing effort and species caught. This valuable information assists Parks Canada in determining fish population health.



Wildlife Safety

Observing wild animals is one of the most captivating experiences at Kejimikujik. However, care must be taken as every wild animal you encounter is potentially dangerous if cornered or approached too closely.

You are in Bear Country!

Problem Bears are created by people. Black bears are intelligent, opportunistic animals and will learn to search for improperly stored food or garbage around campsites. Once a bear associates humans with food, their natural fear of people fades and they can become unpredictable and aggressive.

Unfortunately there is little that can be done once a bear has become habituated and they usually pay with their lives for human mistakes.

Be Alert - If you travel in silence, you may surprise a bear! A surprised bear may feel threatened and defend itself, its cubs or food.

If you encounter a bear: stay calm, back away slowly, give the bear lots of space, report the sighting to Parks Canada staff immediately.

Tick Prevention – Cover up, spray and self-check!

Blacklegged ticks are present in Kejimikujik and are known carriers of the bacteria that causes Lyme Disease. These are the smallest tick species found in Nova Scotia, similar in size to a sesame seed, and are found in most vegetated habitats.

Protect Yourself

- Cover up - wear long sleeves and tuck pants into socks.
- Spray - spray feet, ankles and legs with insect repellent.
- Self-check - daily self-checks of yourself, your family and your pets can reduce the risk infection. If you find an attached tick, follow the Public Health Agency of Canada's guidelines for prompt removal of the insect.

(Top left adult male Blacklegged tick, top right adult female Blacklegged tick, bottom left adult male Dog tick, bottom right adult female Dog tick)

Wily coyote stays wild!

Coyote-human conflicts occur when coyotes become used to non-threatening human encounters, or they associate people with food. Please ensure coyotes do not have access to any unnatural food, as it may encourage them to linger and become habituated to humans.

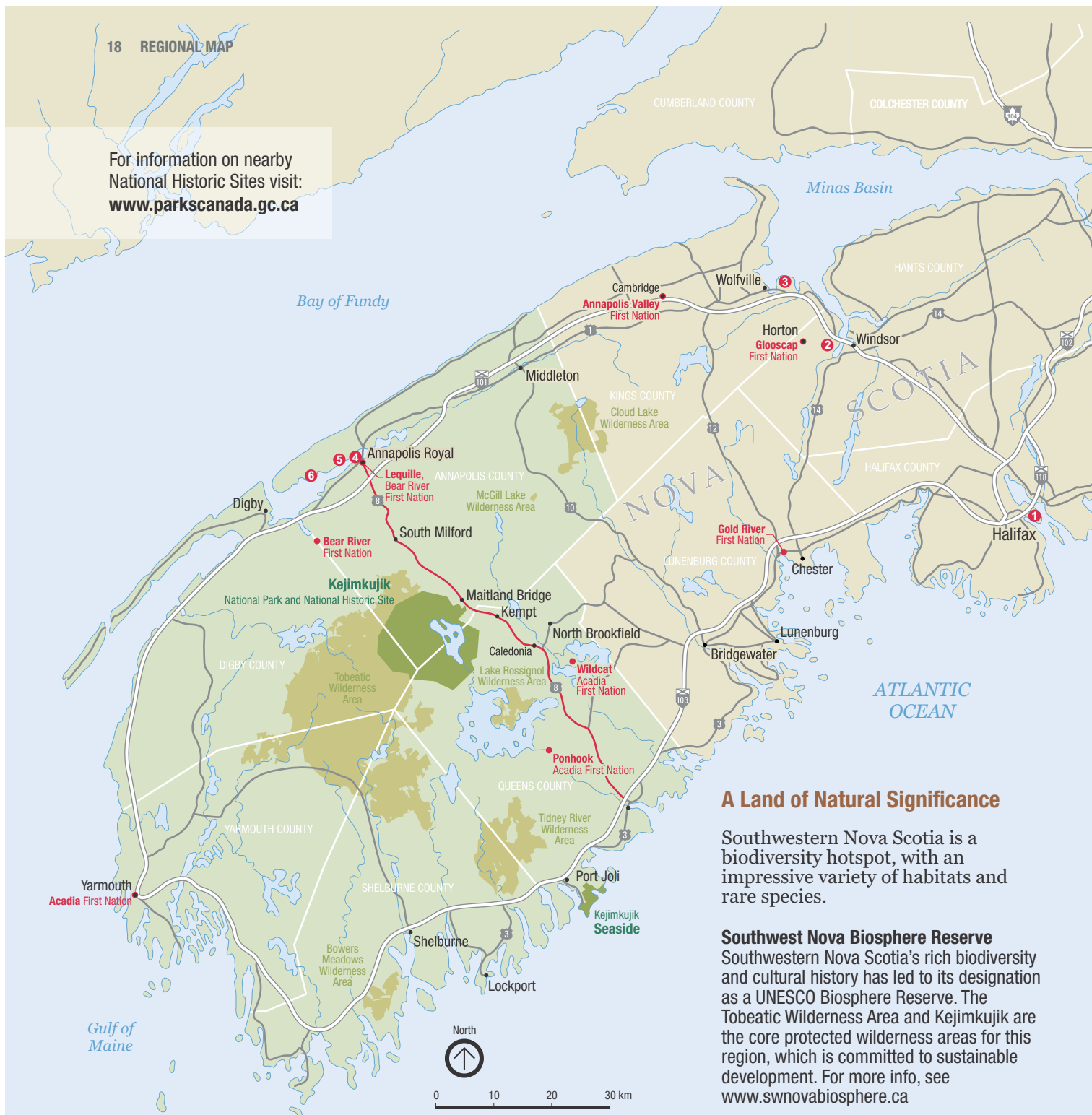
Be 'coyote smart'! If you see a coyote or a coyote approaches you: don't run, back away slowly, and act big and make noise.

In the unlikely event that a coyote attacks:

- Fight back! Shout, throw stones and use whatever is available to defend yourself.
- If there is a medical emergency, phone 911.
- Please report any coyote sightings or incidents to Parks Canada at the Visitor Centre.



For information on nearby
National Historic Sites visit:
www.parksCanada.gc.ca



A Land of Natural Significance

Southwestern Nova Scotia is a biodiversity hotspot, with an impressive variety of habitats and rare species.

Southwest Nova Biosphere Reserve

Southwestern Nova Scotia's rich biodiversity and cultural history has led to its designation as a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. The Tobeatic Wilderness Area and Kejimikujik are the core protected wilderness areas for this region, which is committed to sustainable development. For more info, see www.swnovabiosphere.ca

Tobeatic Wilderness Area

Into the Tobeatic, a guide for planning wilderness trips into the Tobeatic, is available online. For additional information on the Tobeatic and other Nova Scotia wilderness areas, please contact Nova Scotia Environment, Protected Areas & Wetlands Branch, at (902) 424-2117 or visit www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas

Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute

MTRI is a co-operative of land managers and researchers working within the biosphere reserve. It has a field station located in Kempt. For more information see www.merseytobeatic.ca.

A Land of Historic Significance

Kejimikujik is in the heart of southwestern Nova Scotia. This area is one of the seven traditional Mi'kmaw districts, called *Kespukwitk*, or "Last Flow". *Kespukwitk* is rich with culture, history, and natural beauty. Explore it all!

Other National Historic Sites in Mainland Nova Scotia

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1 Halifax Citadel, York Redoubt, Fort McNab, Georges Island, Prince of Wales Tower | 5 Melanson Settlement |
| 2 Fort Edward | 6 Port-Royal |
| 3 Grand-Pré | |
| 4 Fort Anne | |

- Southwest Nova Biosphere Reserve
- Provincial Wilderness Area
- National Park

Your Seaside Visit

Kejimkujik Seaside is an exhilarating place. You feel the ocean everywhere - salt spray drifting over immovable granite headlands, seals basking at Harbour Rocks, white sand showing through turquoise water, trees gnarled by the salty wind, and the dance of shorebirds in the surf. We invite you to hike trails amongst the plants and animals that call the Atlantic Coast home.



Scott Munn

Two beautiful hiking trails have interpretive signs, telescopes, and benches.

Kejimkujik Seaside is a self-guided visitor experience. Please make note of the information on signage and in materials provided.

Harbour Rocks Trail (5.2 km return), leads to sheltered beaches with views of rocky islands, seals, and seabirds.

Port Joli Head Trail (8.7 km return), difficult - expect a variety of walking surfaces including challenging beach cobble sections, uneven terrain, and wet surfaces, as it circles a point of land that feels the full force of the ocean.



Wesley Pitts / Parks Canada

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REPORT WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS:

Kejimkujik Visitor Centre: (902) 682-2772
www.parkscanada.gc.ca/keji
kejimkujik.info@pc.gc.ca



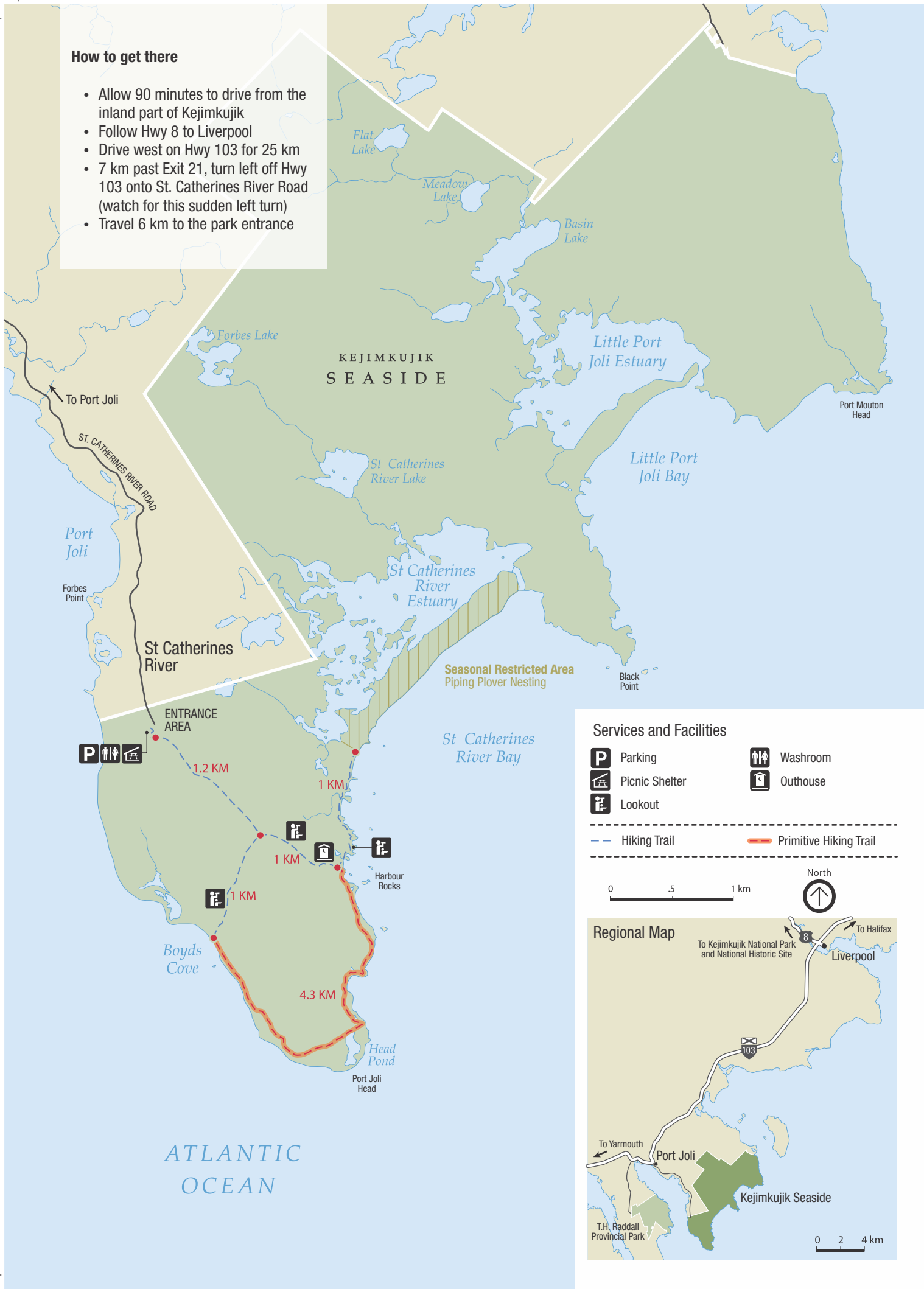
Wesley Pitts / Parks Canada

Respect the Seaside To ensure you have a safe and enjoyable visit, please remember the following points:

- Bicycles are not allowed on Seaside trails.
- Dogs are required to be on a leash at all times.
- Cleaning up after your dog is required.
- Stay on designated trails and view wildlife from a distance.
- Do not enter closed areas.
- Swimming is not recommended due to cold waters, dangerous currents, and strong undertows.
- Hikers should use caution on rocky headlands.
- Do not approach seals on the beach.

How to get there

- Allow 90 minutes to drive from the inland part of Kejimikujik
- Follow Hwy 8 to Liverpool
- Drive west on Hwy 103 for 25 km
- 7 km past Exit 21, turn left off Hwy 103 onto St. Catherines River Road (watch for this sudden left turn)
- Travel 6 km to the park entrance



Services and Facilities

- | | |
|----------------|----------|
| Parking | Washroom |
| Picnic Shelter | Outhouse |
| Lookout | |

— Hiking Trail — Primitive Hiking Trail



Regional Map



The Friends of Keji Cooperating Association

Our mission is to support Parks Canada's mandate for the protection, preservation, and interpretation of all the resources in Kejimikujik National Park and National Historic Site.



Katie Warren / Friends of Keji

Contact

info@friendsofkeji.ns.ca
www.friendsofkeji.ns.ca

Friends of Keji Cooperating Association

50 Pinetree Crescent
Hammonds Plains, NS
B3Z 1K4

Join us on Facebook!



CAMPGROUND HOSTS

Campground Hosts are knowledgeable volunteers who can answer your questions about what to do, where to go, how to get assistance, and anything else you need to know. Visit us at campsite 31.

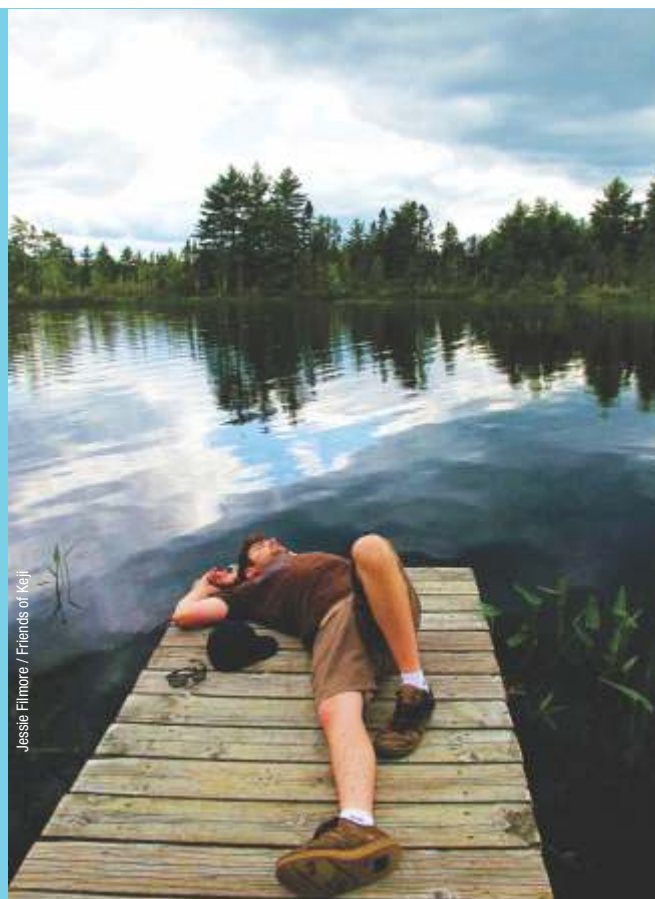
Daily May 15 - Oct 30

BECOME A MEMBER

You will receive an income tax receipt for your annual membership dues as well as our newsletter. You can even direct your United Way contributions to the Friends of Keji.



Peter Cox / Friends of Keji



Jessie Filmore / Friends of Keji

KEJI PHOTO CONTEST

Enter your favourite digital image of Keji in our annual photo contest. Many of the images in this guide are from previous contests. Visit the Friends of Keji website to find out how to enter and to view all the entries. Winning photos will be posted on our web site and some entries will be used in next year's visitor guide!

BY THE MERSEY GIFT SHOP

While you are at the Visitor Centre, drop by the gift shop. You'll find Parks Canada-branded merchandise as well as field guides, children's books, giftware, and much more.

May 15 - Jun 26	10:00 am - 3:00 pm
Jun 27 - Sep 6	9:30 am - 5:30 pm
Sep 7 - Oct 12	10:00 am - 3:00 pm

TENT DWELLERS LIBRARY AND TUCK SHOPPE:

No need to miss out on Ice Cream and Slushies! Located beside the shower building. Free Wi-fi!

Jun 26 - Sep 7: 1pm - 8 pm

Volunteers have more fun!



Wesley Pitts



Eric Le Bel / Parks Canada



Dale Wilson



LIKE us on Facebook
Kejimikujik – Southwest
Nova Volunteer Programs

Parks Canada Volunteers get behind the scenes, learn new skills, make a difference, and have a lot of fun. There are many ways you can be a part of the action.

Call us at (902) 298-0486 or email us at volunteer.keji@pc.gc.ca