



## APGO Education Foundation Launches Two New Urban GeoWalks in Kingston, Ontario Area on GeoscienceINFO.com

May 9, 2024, Toronto, Ontario: The APGO Education Foundation (“APGOEF”) in partnership with the Department of Geological Sciences and Geological Engineering at Queen’s University is pleased to announce the release of two (2) inaugural Urban GeoWalks in the Kingston area (see Figure 1). These are Fossil Park and the Kingston Waterfront Urban GeoWalks. To see these as well as all our Urban GeoWalks, [visit our Urban GeoWalks website](#).



Figure 1. Map of Kingston, Ontario area showing the location of two new Urban GeoWalks (yellow stars).

As part of our ongoing initiative to facilitate geoscience learning within urban areas as well as in natural settings, we are proud to highlight the geology of two locations in the city of Kingston. The Fossil Park Urban GeoWalk (see Figure 2) is known locally as a small park with some interesting fossils. We have identified 7 stops in this quaint little park that show some beautiful corals, cephalopods, bivalves, brachiopods, crinoids, gastropods, and even some preserved ripple marks and glacial markings. Your tour ends with an off-site visit to the Isabel Turner Library, to see some amazing stromatolites. The Kingston Waterfront Urban GeoWalk takes you on a 5-stop virtual tour of a more well-known area of the city. Your tour begins at the Miller Museum at Queen’s University, visits the breakwall (see Figure 3) to learn about shoreline protection, and finishes with a lovely limestone outcrop, near stunning Fort Henry.



Figure 2. Limestone pavement containing many exciting fossils, on the Fossil Park Urban GeoWalk.



Figure 3. The breakwall, on the Kingston Waterfront GeoWalk.

These Urban GeoWalks were developed by the GeoscienceINFO team led by Manager Dr. Deana Schwarz, P.Geo., and the Geological Sciences and Geological Engineering department at Queen's University, led by Dr. Daniel Layton-Matthews, and the hard work of students Emma Pluister and Matt Fazzari. They are part of a growing series of geoscience-based hiking tours released across Ontario that aim to enhance public knowledge of geoscience using a hands-on and virtually accessible approach. We plan to release more Urban GeoWalks in 2024 and subsequent years, both in the Kingston area and throughout Ontario.

Urban GeoWalks are 1-3-hour non-intensive walking tours in cities and towns in Ontario that highlight the geological significance of selected buildings, gardens, structures, and other features. Urban GeoWalks can be used as guides either in person, or as a virtual alternative at home or in the classroom. Visiting sites in person is a great way to learn but virtual tours are also an exciting way to expand one's knowledge when in-person access is not possible. Through the use of ESRI's innovative ArcGIS-StoryMap™ application and the integrated features, Urban GeoWalks provide the user with an immersive experience. Urban GeoWalks typically include:

- 360-degree photos and/or drone videos to provide a detailed overview of each site.
- LiDAR-based virtual 3D models that show locations of key features such as fossils, important structures and other geological features at the buildings or rock outcrops.
- Slide bars to show multiple images or overlays of important features or geologic information.
- Descriptions of geological features.
- Audio descriptions of written content.



## About the APGO Education Foundation

The APGO Education Foundation ("APGOEF) is a registered charitable organization under the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act, registration number 84604 5052 RR0001.

The purpose of the charity is to advance the education of the public in the area of geoscience by:

- Holding lectures, presentations, and conferences on geoscience both in person and virtually to introduce geoscience to high school and university students as well as enhance the knowledge of the general public.
- Providing scholarships to post-secondary students for the study of geoscience in the final year of a Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) degree program.
- Providing bursaries to immigrants to Canada who are internationally trained geoscientists and have demonstrated financial need for completion of licensure procedures for registration as professional geoscientists (P.Geo.s) in Ontario.

APGOEF provides funding to support innovative geoscience education projects working with university geoscience departments, community groups and not-for-profit organizations across Ontario. Please see our website at [www.apgoedfoundation.ca](http://www.apgoedfoundation.ca)

[GeoscienceINFO.com](http://GeoscienceINFO.com) an innovative one-stop spot for the public for information about the earth beneath their feet. This new website provides interesting information on all facets of geoscience. A particularly exciting feature of [GeoscienceINFO.com](http://GeoscienceINFO.com) is the highlighting of virtual fieldtrips in different areas in Ontario. This enables viewers to experience and learn about the geology of an area while traversing it digitally in ESRI ArcGIS Online™ and StoryMaps™. Information on the latest discoveries and news in the world of geoscience is featured on the website, on our blog [Beneath Your Feet: A Geoscience Blog](#), as well as on our social media.

If you like our work, please consider making a tax-deductible donation to support our programs.

**To Donate** - <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/apgo-education-foundation>

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