



## **APGO EDUCATION FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES \$20,000 IN SEED CAPITAL TO COMMENCE NIAGARA ESCARPMENT PROJECT**

**March 2, 2020, Toronto, Ontario:** The APGO Education Foundation (“the Foundation”) is pleased to announce that it has secured \$20,000 of seed capital from two generous donors to commence the Niagara Escarpment Project (Figure 1). This project will apply the Foundation’s innovative “Virtual Field Trips” in GoogleMaps™ to the Escarpment and will create “Geotrails” along the Bruce Trail to showcase and educate the public about the geology and environments along the Trail in a new and innovative way.

The Foundation recently announced (see press release February 25, 2020) that it had signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Bruce Trail Conservatory (BTC) to bring the geoscience and environmental wonders of the Niagara Escarpment, the home of the Bruce Trail, to the public.

Dr. Carolyn Eyles, P.Geo., of McMaster University and Director of the Foundation is leading cutting edge research in collaboration with the City of Hamilton, focused on identifying processes affecting erosion of the escarpment face and its controls. This exciting collaboration between the Foundation and the BTC will greatly enhance the scope of investigations conducted on the Niagara Escarpment, and the processes affecting its development. It will allow the findings of the research on this outstanding natural feature to be communicated directly to the public through innovative and easily accessible media.

Dr. Eyles notes that “While the Escarpment is a major geographical and topographic feature in Ontario, most people know little about its fascinating geological history or environmental importance. This project aims to change that by bringing important information in a readily accessible and understandable format using state-of-the-art technology.”

Dr. Bill Pearson, P.Geo., Chair commented: “We are delighted to launch this major project and to work with BTC to greatly enhance public knowledge of this important geological feature. We are most grateful to Dr. Arslan Mohajer for his generous donation to start our funding campaign. This along with a matching donation from the William Pearson Family Fund provides the \$20,000 seed capital to launch this important project.”

Dr. Arsalan Mohajer, P.Geo., said “I strongly believe in our collective responsibility to prevent environmental degradation and to protect the beautiful natural setting that we have inherited. It is my utmost pleasure to be able to contribute towards education of the next generation of researchers, and for disseminating geoscience information to the public on our preservation endeavors.”

## **ABOUT THE APGO EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

The **APGO Education Foundation** (“the Foundation”) is a registered charitable organization under the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act, registration number 84604 5052 RR0001. The purpose of the Foundation is to advance the education of the public in the area of geoscience by 1) providing scholarships to post-secondary students for the study of geoscience in a degree program; 2) providing bursaries to immigrants to Canada who are internationally-trained geoscientists and have demonstrated financial need for completion of licensure procedures for registration as a professional geoscientist in Ontario; and 3) holding lectures, presentations and conferences on geoscience to enhance the knowledge of the general public.

The Foundation’s [GeoscienceINFO.com](http://GeoscienceINFO.com) is an innovative one-stop spot for the public for information about the Earth beneath their feet. This website provides interesting information on all facets of geoscience including geovideos on key topics. A particularly exciting feature of [GeoscienceINFO.com](http://GeoscienceINFO.com) is virtual field-trips in different areas in Ontario. This enables viewers to experience and learn about the geology of an area while traversing digitally in GoogleMaps™. Information on the latest discoveries and news in the world of geoscience area is featured on the website as well as on social media. In 2019, the Foundation reached over 8,000 people in events and on social media.

### **For further information**

Please see our website at [www.apgoedfoundation.ca](http://www.apgoedfoundation.ca)

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

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Figure 1. Map of the Niagara Escarpment showing planned segments for virtual field trips and geotrails. The project will commence in the Hamilton-Niagara area. The rate at which the project is completed will depend on available funding but the intent is to eventually cover the entire Niagara Escarpment.

