



APGO Education Foundation Launches Lime Kiln GeoHike and the Downtown Ottawa Urban GeoWalk on GeoscienceINFO.com

August 27, 2024, Toronto, Ontario: The APGO Education Foundation (“APGOEF”) and Dr. Quentin Gall from the University of Ottawa, are pleased to announce the release of both the **Lime Kiln GeoHike** and the **Downtown Ottawa Urban GeoWalk**. These virtual tours are located in the Ottawa area (Figure 1) and take users on a geological tour downtown and on a seasoned trail in a natural setting. To see these as well as all our GeoHikes, visit [our GeoHikes page](#) and for our Urban GeoWalks visit [our Urban GeoWalks](#) page.



Figure 1. Map showing the location of the Lime Kiln GeoHike and the Downtown Ottawa Urban GeoWalk (yellow stars), located in the Ottawa area.

Home to Canada’s Parliamentary buildings, Ottawa is a popular destination for many people throughout the year. Whether you are staying in the city or looking for a quiet nature walk, you can make geology education part of your visit. The Lime Kiln GeoHike consists of flat-lying sandstones and limestone, deposited over 450 million years ago. They are part of an area of sedimentary rocks called the Ottawa Embayment. In addition to learning about faults, fractures, weathering, and fossils, this GeoHike also features the Flood Lime Kiln, which was built and operated by Frances Flood in the late 1800s (Figure 2). Flood used the surrounding limestone to produce mortar and fertilizers for the region.

If you head towards the Parliament buildings, you will encounter the Downtown Ottawa Urban GeoWalk. This Urban GeoWalk will take you on a tour of seven (7) of Ottawa’s buildings and monument stones in



the downtown core area. You will encounter sedimentary, igneous, and a few metamorphic dimension stones that are accessible in the downtown core between Parliament Hill and City Hall, approximately 1 km to the southeast. From the granite used in the National War Memorial, to the limestones and other rocks used in the Parliament buildings themselves (Figure 3), the Downtown Ottawa Urban GeoWalk provides a sense of connection with the structures, and helps you get to know Canada's capital city.



Figure 2. Remains of the Flood Lime Kiln structure on the Lime Kiln GeoHike in Ottawa.



Figure 3. The National War Memorial, made of granite, on the Downtown Ottawa Urban GeoWalk.

The Lime Kiln GeoHike and the Downtown Ottawa Urban GeoWalk were developed by the GeoscienceINFO team, led by Manager Dr. Deana Schwarz, P.Geo., and Dr. Quentin Gall at the University of Ottawa. It is part of a growing series of geoscience-based 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 GeoHikes and Urban GeoWalks in 2024 and subsequent years.

GeoHikes are 1-3-hour hiking tours on maintained trails in Ontario that highlight local geology and describe their geological and environmental significance. Urban GeoWalks are walkable tours in a city or town that showcase and describe the geological significance of local building stones and decorative features. Both GeoHikes and Urban GeoWalks can be used as guides while taking the tour 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, GeoHikes and Urban GeoWalks provide the user with an immersive experience. They 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

GeoscienceINFO.com is 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 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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