

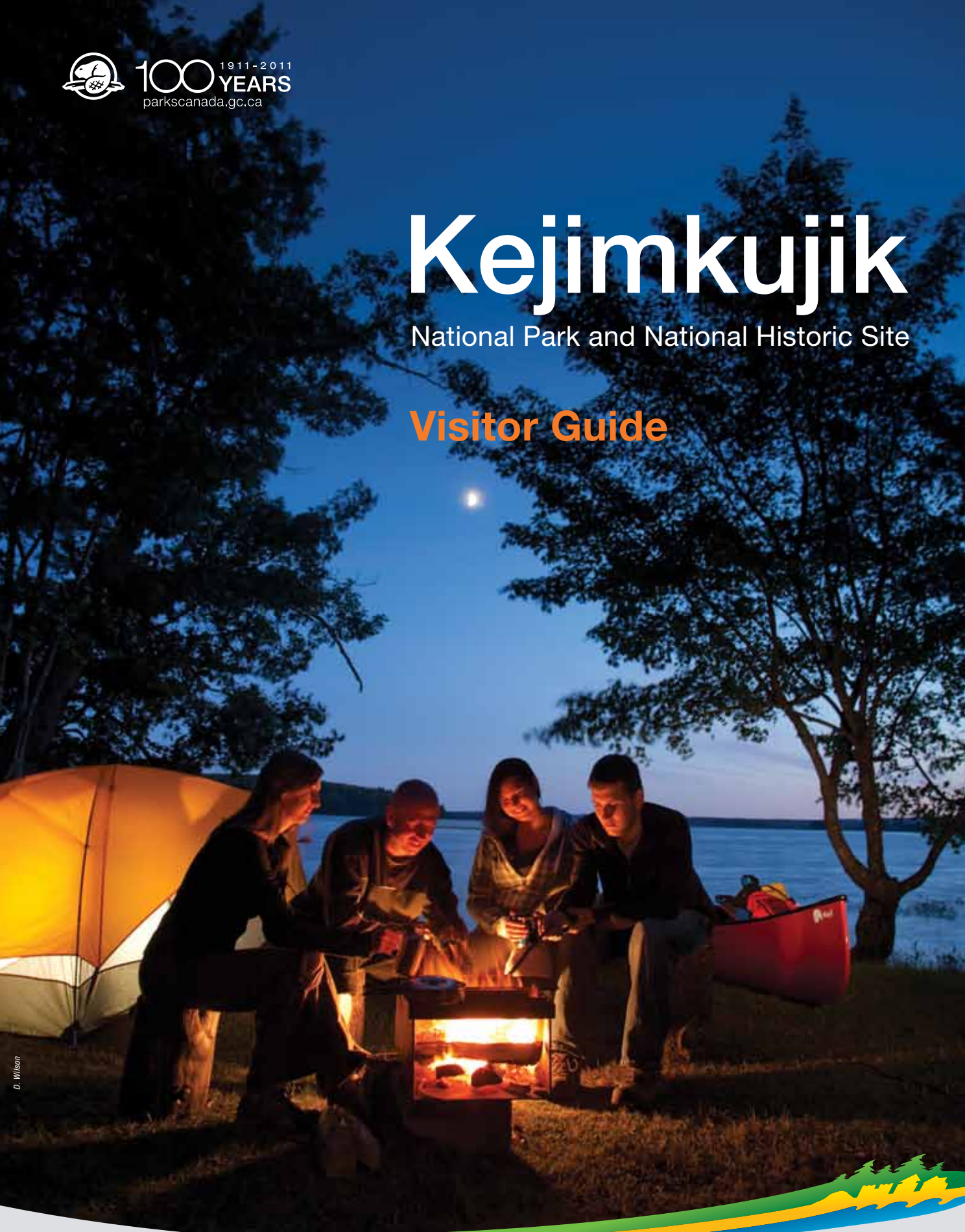


100 YEARS
1911-2011
parkscanada.gc.ca

Kejimikujik

National Park and National Historic Site

Visitor Guide



D. Wilson



Parks
Canada

Parcs
Canada

Canada 

Important Numbers

Police, Fire, Ambulance
(emergency only)
911

Patrol/Security
(902) 298-0668

Warden Office
(902) 682-4010

Human-Wildlife Conflict/
Wildlife Incidents
(902) 682-2598

North Queens
Medical Centre
(902) 682-2533

Kejimikujik National Park and National Historic Site of Canada

Open year-round

Box 236
Maitland Bridge, NS
BOT 1B0

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

VE1KEJ Repeater
147.195+ Mhz
Link Code 152*
IRLP Node 2268

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

Visitor Centre

(902) 682-2772

Open 7 days a week

June 17 – September 5
8:30 am – 8:00 pm

September 6 – June 16
8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Closed weekends
November and December



Welcome to Kejimikujik – *A land where fairies abound*

You have arrived at one of Canada's special places. Kejimikujik National Park and National Historic Site plays an important role in protecting the natural beauty of southwestern Nova Scotia and the history and culture of the Mi'kmaq. A park visit not only lets you relax and play in an unspoiled outdoor setting, it also provides exciting chances to experience and learn about the area's nature, history, and culture. All park staff will do their best to ensure you have an excellent visit. We hope that the memories of your experiences will travel with you and bring you back to Keji many times.

Enjoy your visit!

Harry DeLong, Park Superintendent

Pjila'si Kejimikujik

Pkisinn ta'n newte'jk Kanata'wey kepmite'tasikl maqmikal. Kejimikujik Kmitkinaq Maqmikew Anko'tasik aqq Kmitkinaq Wujjikan Keknukasik Kanata na wtlukwaquow na ankotum'mn'nw aqq i kmn-ml ln nmitun ta'n teluji wulamu'k ola Kespukwitk aqq atuqwa'nn ta'n teli'uk'sipnnk aqq ta'n Mi'kmaq telo'ti-pnek. Ta'n tu'ji mittukwen, ma'na-pasik sankeweyu'n aqq almila'si wn kujmuk ta'n paqsi pki wulamu'k, i-knmu'lk na kisi kinu'tmasin ku'jm, ta'n teliaqsipnek aqq tlo'ti. Msit lu'ko'wn-nk wjinu'kwalsultitaq tel-kisi-pkwatu'tij nawklu'kn tel-mituken. Ajipjutmek ta'n tuji mikuite'tm'mn etkweyulto aqq api'jl'lk-to Kejimikujik ka'iskw.

Wuli-mittukwe!

Harry DeLong, Park Superintendent



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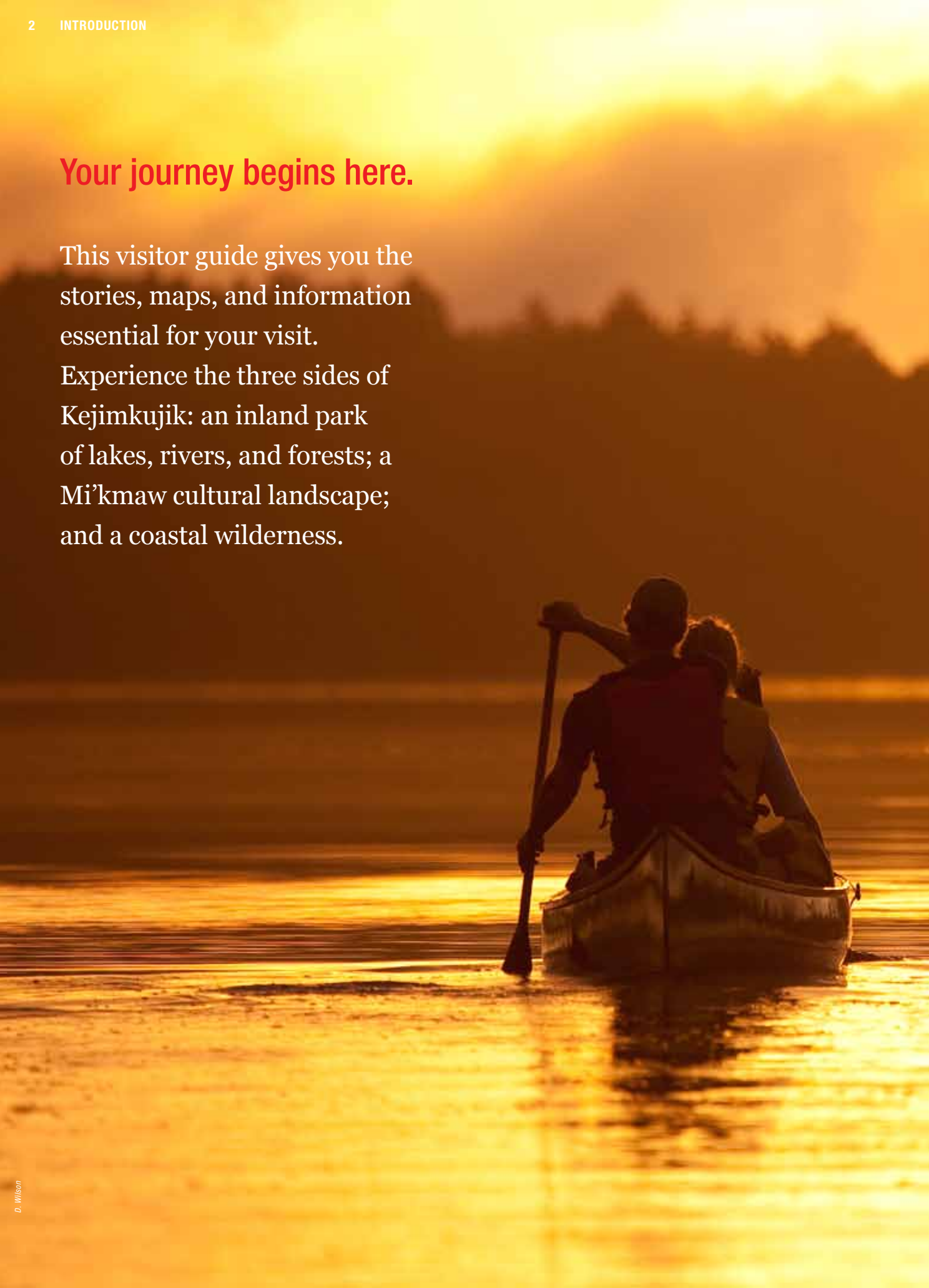
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Your journey begins here.

This visitor guide gives you the stories, maps, and information essential for your visit. Experience the three sides of Kejimikujik: an inland park of lakes, rivers, and forests; a Mi'kmaw cultural landscape; and a coastal wilderness.



D. Wilson

The Nature of Kejimikujik

With 381 square kilometres of rolling hills and waterways, Kejimikujik is a 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.



D. Wilson

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*.



D. Wilson

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.



PC Xplorer Fact:

Ursa Major means "The Great Bear" and is the third largest constellation in our night sky. It contains the bright stars that form the Big Dipper. "Muin and the Seven Bird Hunters" is a traditional Mi'kmaw story that explains the movement of Ursa Major during the four seasons as it shifts in the night sky.

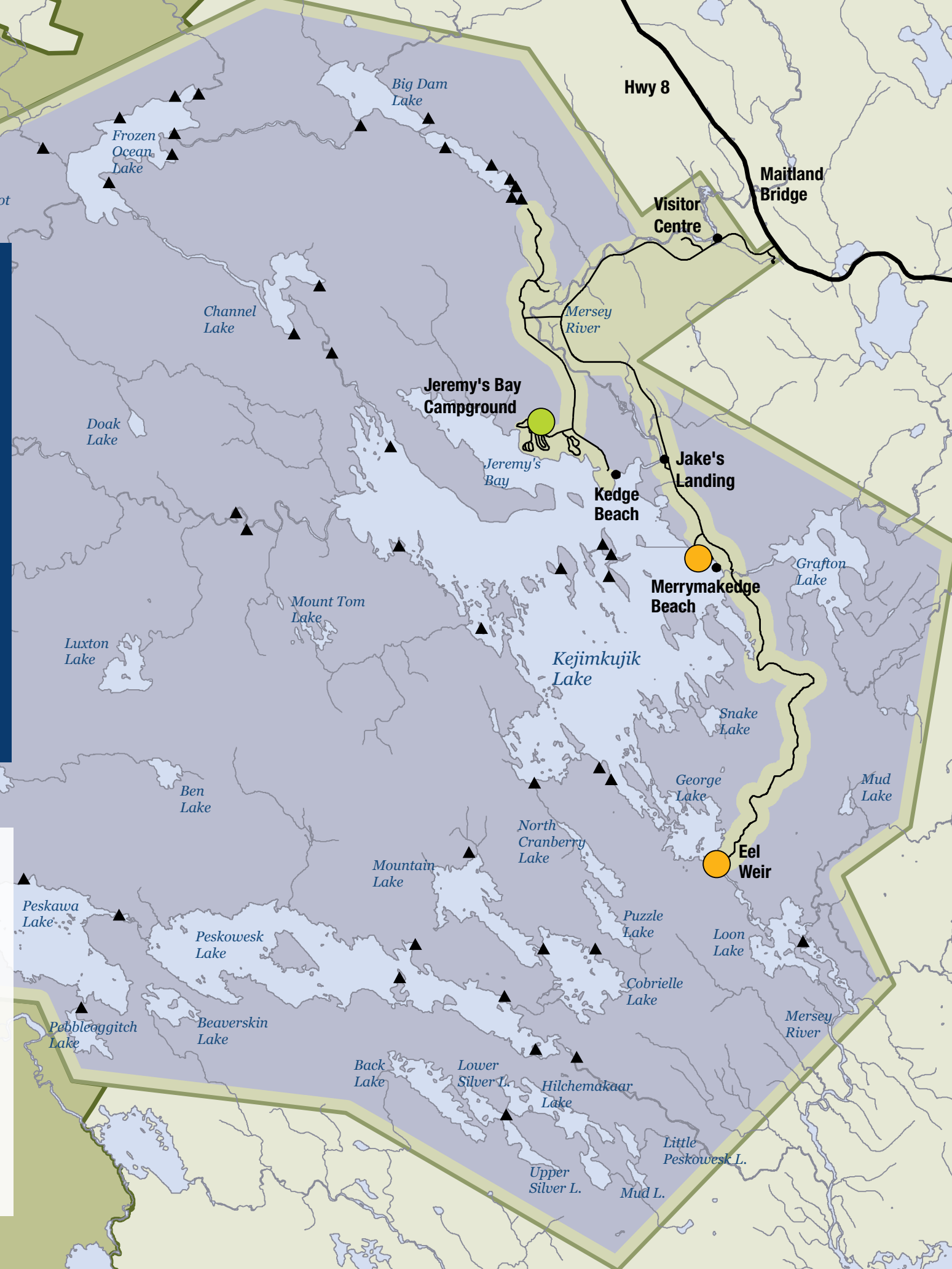
The Kejimikujik Dark Sky Preserve is made up of:

The Core Area - free of light pollution and includes the bulk of the wilderness of Kejimikujik. Night sky quality is the highest here.

A Buffer Area - protects the core area, and includes main park facilities. It adheres to a detailed lighting strategy aimed at reducing energy use and light pollution.

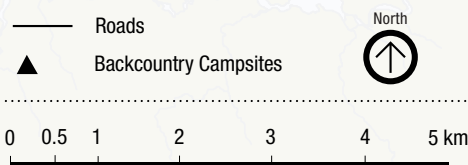
Public Observing Sites - are all within the Core Area and include:

- Jeremy's Bay primary observing site, the Sky Circle, is located in the campground and is the main hub of dark sky activities and programs.
- Merrymakedge Beach and the Eel Weir are secondary observing sites with strong cultural connections.
- For true wilderness dark sky viewing, Keji has 45 backcountry campsites where you can experience the glory of a starry night in solitude.



Legend

- Primary Observing Site "Sky Circle"
- Secondary Observing Site
- Dark Sky Preserve Core
- Dark Sky Preserve Buffer
- Kejimikujik NP and NHS
- Tobeatic Wilderness Area



On July 3, 2010, the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada officially designated Kejimikujik as a Dark Sky Preserve.

This was the first such designation in Nova Scotia and the twelfth in Canada. Dark Sky Preserves, like Kejimikujik, are areas with outstanding starry skies that proactively control light pollution, offer public observing sites for quality night sky viewing, and have educational programs about astronomy and light control. They also demonstrate leadership in light control within their facilities.

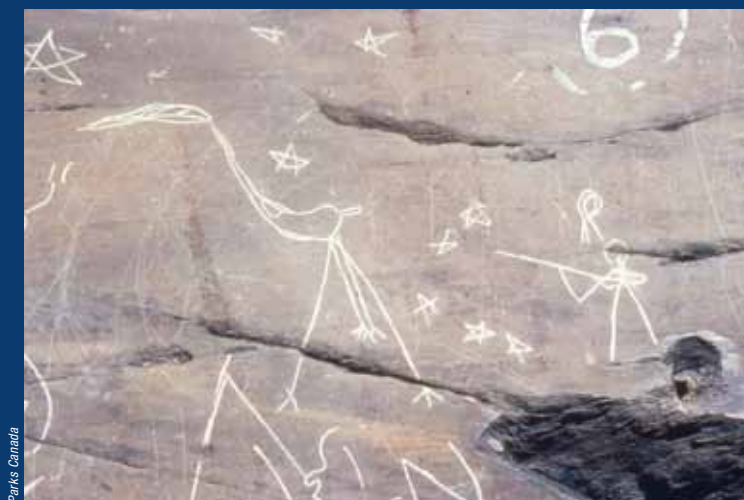


Darkest Skies

When viewed on light maps of eastern North America, the Kejimikujik Dark Sky Preserve is in one of the darkest locations. Along with the Tobeatic Wilderness Area, it makes up the largest protected wilderness in the Maritimes.

Cultural Nightscape

Kejimikujik is an ideal place to experience Mi'kmaw legends, myths, and stories associated with the stars, the moon, and animals of the constellations.



Parks Canada

Under the Stars

One of the most amazing Keji experiences is to sit by a lake at night and watch the moon slowly move across the starry sky and reflect off of the calm water. Keji has some of the best night skies in the world.



R. Chisholm, Friends of Keji



P. Foote



R. Farrell

Seeing the Light

Kejimkujik is taking a proactive approach to protecting nocturnal ecology and to preserving our cultural landscape.

Humans and other species have evolved to be in tune with the cycles of day and night. Yet, most of us now live in areas where it never gets dark enough for our brains to recognise it as night. Humans have been flooding the earth with artificial light for decades and we are only now beginning to understand the consequences.

As an official Dark Sky Preserve, Kejimkujik is reducing light pollution by adopting a more innovative and environmentally conscientious approach to night-time lighting

practices. Reducing the amount of artificial light that is created at Keji will improve the nocturnal environment for wildlife. Preserving the night sky is important for many reasons.

Migrating birds can become confused by lighting, flying in circles until they exhaust themselves. Frogs can refrain from singing their mating choruses under the glow of artificial lighting. Fireflies and other luminescent species use their glow to communicate, but that glow can be washed out in the glare of lights.

Our Strategy

A dark sky lighting strategy has been prepared for Keji. Low-cost, innovative approaches will control light pollution and reduce energy costs, while maintaining safety and security. This new strategy is gradually being implemented and includes:

- Timers and motion detectors
- LED, full cut-off fixtures for street lights and buildings
- Reflective signage
- Screened vending machines
- Low lighting for walkways with waist-high bollard lighting instead of overhead lighting.



PC Xplorer Fact

Sky glow from the city hides the Milky Way and many stars. It is a form of pollution from streetlights and building lights. Light pollution is easy to clean up: it disappears when you shade the light from shining upwards or simply turn the light off!

B. Stone, Friends of Keji



S. Williams

Skite'kmujuawti Mikjikj

The Blanding's Turtle

When the Creator was giving the animals their colours, Turtle said, "I want to be the colour of the sun on one side and the colour of the night sky on the other." All day long he would walk up to the container of black dye and say, "Not yet, it's not ready!"

He waited till after sundown. He looked up at the stars in the sky and then looked into the container of black dye. Now he could see the reflection of the stars in the dye. He said, "Now I will be painted!" The reflection of the stars was magically captured in the dye and when he was painted, the pattern of the stars was included as the pattern on his back.



PC Xplorer Fact:

Skite'kmujuawti means Spirit Road and it refers to the Milky Way, that band of stars that rolls across the night sky.



THE BLANDING'S TURTLE is an endangered species that is found in Kejimikujik National Park and National

Historic Site. It has a bright yellow underbelly and a blue-black back with white and yellow spots.



M. Andrew, Friends of Keji

What's New?

The 100th Anniversary of the Establishment of Parks Canada

In 1911, 26 years after the establishment of Banff National Park, recognizing that designation alone could not deliver the full potential benefits of a national heritage places system, the Government of Canada moved to support these places with programs and services. On May 19, 1911, the Dominion Parks Service was created, the first national park service in the world. Today, a century later, Parks Canada carries on this tradition of leadership, providing protection, education and visitor experience programs that are admired around the world. Join us in our centennial celebrations this summer!

More Electric Sites

Given the popularity of the 63 electric sites in Meadow, we are extending this 30-amp service to 28 more sites in the Slapfoot Loop. These new electric sites will be available beginning June 30th.

Farmlands Facelift

Farmlands Trail is getting an interpretive makeover in 2011. This includes new interpretive panels, the revival of an old field and orchard, and more. Take a hike and see for yourself!

What's in a Name?

In 2011, watch for a new series of cultural interpretive panels that explore elements of Mi'kmaw history in Kejimikujik.

The Sky Circle

An astronomer's viewing deck, or Sky Circle, is being constructed at the Dark Sky Preserve viewing site, located behind the P1 parking area at Jeremy's Bay Campground. This Sky Circle will be the site of dark sky interpretive programs – a place for you to set up a telescope, or simply lay back to view the night sky.

American Beech Restoration

Keji is making efforts to restore healthy populations of the once-mighty American beech tree. The American beech was decimated in Nova Scotia by an imported invasive pest. Last fall, 99 native American beech saplings were planted in Keji to serve as a seed orchard for future restoration efforts. Stay tuned for ways to become involved in beech restoration!

Fees

Your *Kejimkujik Personal Use Permit* gives you access to all parking areas, washrooms, picnic areas, hiking and biking trails, a supervised beach, boat launches, the Visitor Centre, the visitor guide and information, and interpretation events. *Kejimkujik memories are priceless.*

2011 Personal Use Fees – In effect from May 20 to October 31

	Adult	Senior	Child	Family
Daily	\$5.80	\$4.90	\$2.90	\$14.70
Seasonal Pass* – Early Bird	\$23.50	\$19.60	\$11.70	\$58.80
Seasonal Pass* – Regular	\$29.40	\$24.50	\$14.70	\$73.60
Parks Canada Discovery Pass	\$67.70	\$57.90	\$33.30	\$136.40
Kejimkujik Seaside – Daily	\$3.90	\$3.40	\$1.90	\$9.80
Kejimkujik Seaside – Seasonal	\$19.60	\$17.10	\$9.80	\$49.00

Please note: additional fees are charged for camping, equipment rental, and national park fishing permits.

**Valid for both Kejimkujik and Kejimkujik Seaside.*

**Early bird available until May 23rd, 2011.*



Parks Canada

CAMPING

Camping is one of the best ways to truly experience Kejimikujik. Choose from the Jim Charles Point Group Campground, backcountry camping, or the Jeremy's Bay Campground.

2011 Camping Fees

	Season	Fee (per night)
Jeremy's Bay <i>Unserviced Sites</i>	May 17 - October 11 October 12 - May 16	\$25.50 per site \$18.10 per site
Jeremy's Bay <i>Serviced Sites with Electricity</i>	May 17 - October 11 October 12 - May 16	\$29.40 per site \$22.00 per site
Reservations	May 20 - October 10	\$10.80 per reservation \$8.80 to modify or cancel
Overflow Camping	June 30 - September 5	\$18.10 per site
Jim Charles Point Group Campground	Year-round	\$4.90 per person (groups of 8 or more)
Backcountry Camping	Year-round	\$24.50 per site

Campsite reservations are recommended.

Jim Charles Point Group Campground

Groups or organizations may reserve campsites in Jim Charles Point Group Campground. Please enquire at the Visitor Centre for information.

Note: This is a tenting-only campground. Alcohol consumption is not permitted.

Reservations for Group Campground
Starting April 1
8:30 am to 4:30 pm
(902) 682-2772



D. Wilson



A. Moffat, Parks Canada

Backcountry Camping

A trip into Kejimikujik’s backcountry is your chance to experience a land which has changed little since the Mi’kmaq settled here thousands of years ago. As you travel, by canoe or on foot, relax and slow to the pace of the natural world.



R. Farrell

Backcountry campsites offer campers true wilderness dark sky experiences where you can bask in the glory of a starry sky in silence and solitude.



R. Farrell



D. Carter, Friends of Keji

Over 80% of Kejimikujik is accessible by canoe or hiking only. Situated in beautiful wilderness settings, 46 backcountry campsites are scattered along hiking trails and canoe routes.

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

Plan your trip by consulting Visitor Centre staff and our *Backcountry Guide*. Be realistic about your abilities; plan for your least-experienced group member. Provide for extra time and provisions.

Before entering the backcountry, you must register and obtain a camping permit at the Visitor Centre and return it when you leave. Reservations are recommended.

Reservations beginning May 2nd
8:30 am to 4:30 pm – call (902) 682-2772



Have you purchased your Backcountry Guide yet? Purchase this water-resistant map by phone or in person from the Visitor Centre for \$11.75

SAFETY

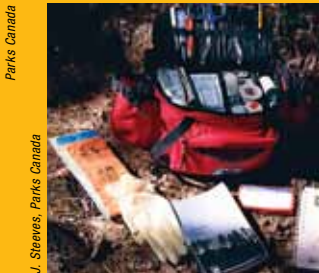
Sharing the responsibility: you are responsible for your own safety. Parks Canada can help you prepare. Remember, a good visit to Kejimikujik is a safe visit.



A. Moffat



Parks Canada



J. Steeves, Parks Canada



R. Farrell

TRIP PLANNING

Whether you are planning a multi-day backcountry or a short excursion, ask yourself these questions, regardless of the season:

- Do we have Kejimikujik’s *Backcountry Guide*?
- Have we registered at the Visitor Centre as required?
- Do we have the proper equipment and provisions (including water purification and a camp stove, and extra provisions for an unplanned overnight)?
- Are we familiar with the use of all of our equipment?
- Do other people know our trip plan?
- What is the current and long-range weather forecast? (For the latest conditions, visit www.ec.gc.ca.)
- Have we allowed enough time for this excursion?
- Are we prepared for emergencies, medical or otherwise?
- Do we have a fully charged cell phone?
- Did we consult Kejimikujik staff about known hazards, policies, regulations, and available safety information?

A SHORT TRIP

Don’t forget water, sunscreen, hats, sunglasses, and insect repellent. There are inherent dangers in wilderness environments – wildlife, terrain, and weather. The staff at the Visitor Centre can assist you in route planning and update you on:

- weather
- fire conditions
- trail conditions
- canoeing conditions
- wildlife activity

Parks Canada partners with **ADVENTURE SMART**
Get Informed + Go Outdoors
www.adventuresmart.ca

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Police, Fire, Ambulance
911 (emergency only)

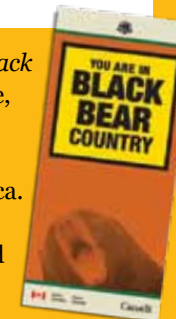
Human-wildlife conflict/ wildlife incidents
(902) 682-2598

Patrol/Security
(902) 298-0668

Visitor Centre
(902) 682-2772

BEAR SAFETY

Read the *You Are In Black Bear Country* brochure, available at the Visitor Centre or online at www.parks.canada.gc.ca. Always practise proper food storage – use food storage cables when in backcountry sites.

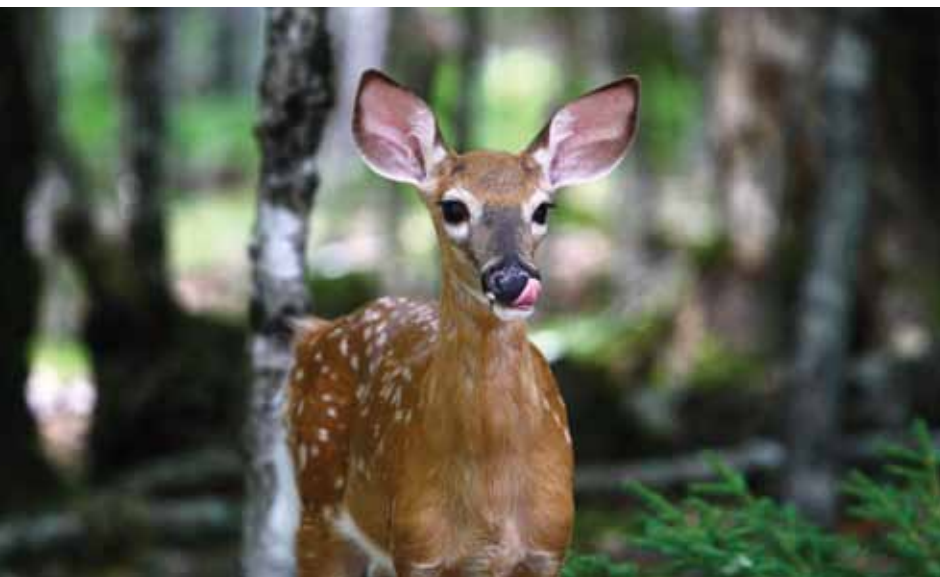


WASPS AND TICKS

Wasps are attracted to sugary foods and are common in the campground and canteen area. Be prepared for allergic reactions and treatments. Information on ticks and other insect bites is available at the Visitor Centre.

Jeremy's Bay Campground

Welcome to Jeremy's Bay Campground. Jeremy's Bay offers 91 sites with electricity and 268 unserviced sites, clean washrooms, hot showers, outdoor sinks, playgrounds, internet service, trails and beaches, all within a lush Acadian forest near the shoreline of Kejimikujik Lake.



White-tailed fawn



R. Farrell



B. Stone, Friends of Keji

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.

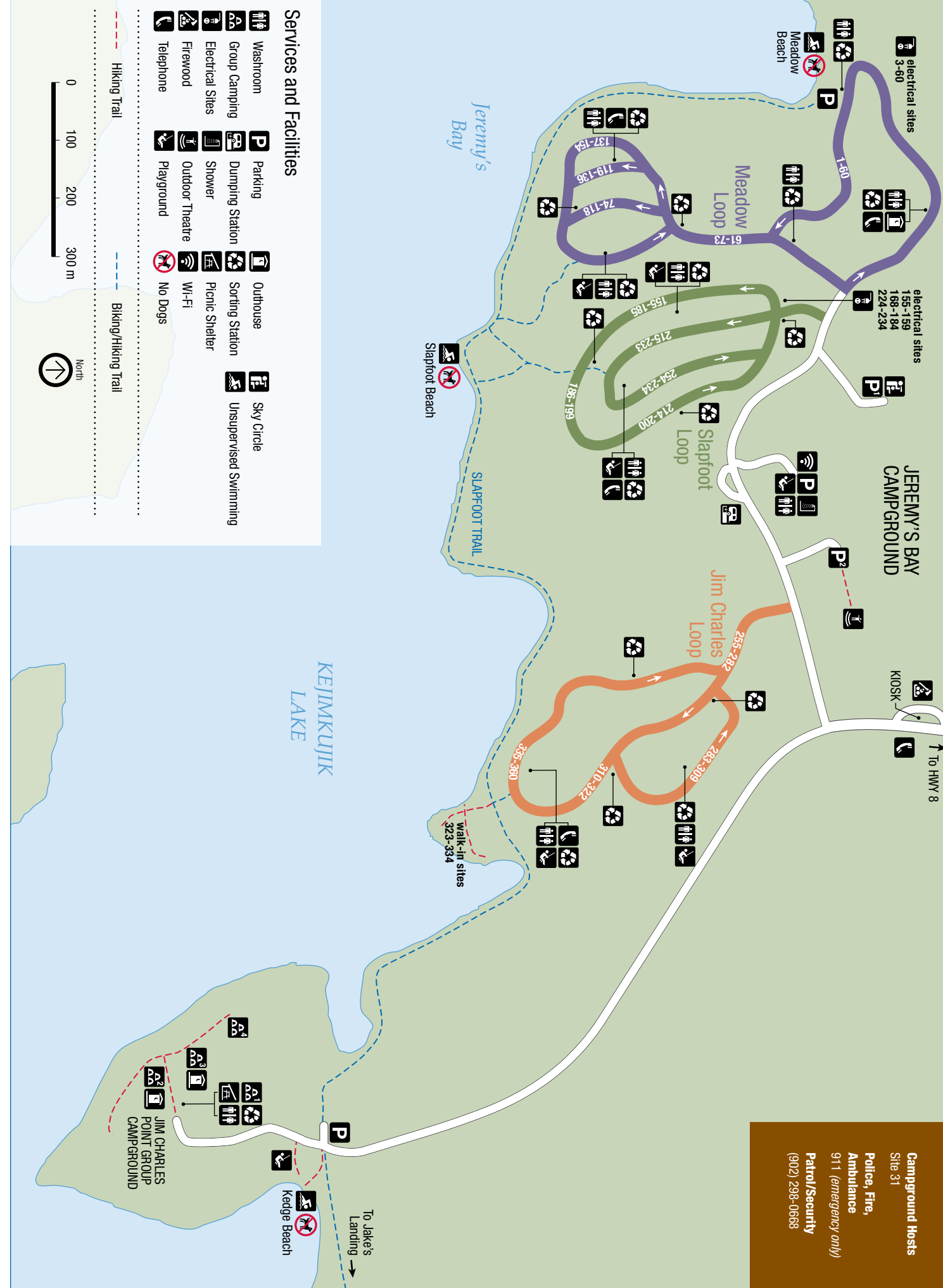
Reservations for Jeremy's Bay

Starting April 14
7:00 am to 7:00 pm
(877) 737-3783 or
www.pccamping.ca

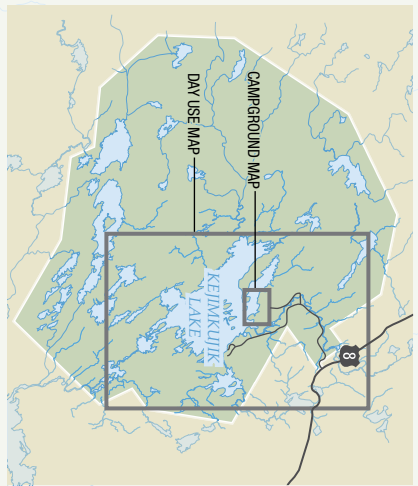
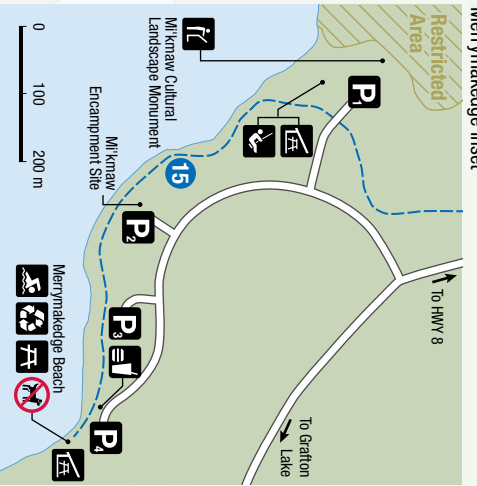
Camper's may reserve on-line up to the day prior to arrival. The campground is 100% reservable.

- Each campsite is limited to 1 family (2 adults and dependant children) or 4 people.
- One parking permit per site. Park all other vehicles in visitor parking P1 or P2.
- Always follow speed limits.
- 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 from the spread of invasive species (fire ants, long-horned beetles, and others), buy and burn local firewood only.
- To protect the forest floor, keep all camping equipment on gravelled areas.
- Use exterior sinks at the service buildings for dish washing and grey water disposal.
- Use recycling, compost, and waste containers at waste sorting stations (see page 19).
- Store all unattended food items (including coolers) in your vehicle. Food, garbage, and dishes attract animals during the day and night. If wild animals are used to human food, you and the animals are in danger.
- Remove trailer-towing mirrors from your vehicle.
- Alcohol may be consumed on your site only.
- Bike only on designated trails and roads. No off-trail biking. *Think safety: always wear your bike helmet.*
- Pets are to be on a leash at all times and never left unattended.
- Pets are not allowed in designated swimming areas.
- Please clean up after your pet.

- #### Campground Hours
- Visiting hours end at 11:00 pm.
 - Quiet hours are 11:00 pm to 7:00 am.
 - Generators may be used from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm only.
 - Check out time is 11:00 am.
 - Showers are closed for cleaning daily from 7:00 am to 8:00 am.
 - Campers must register by 9:00 pm.



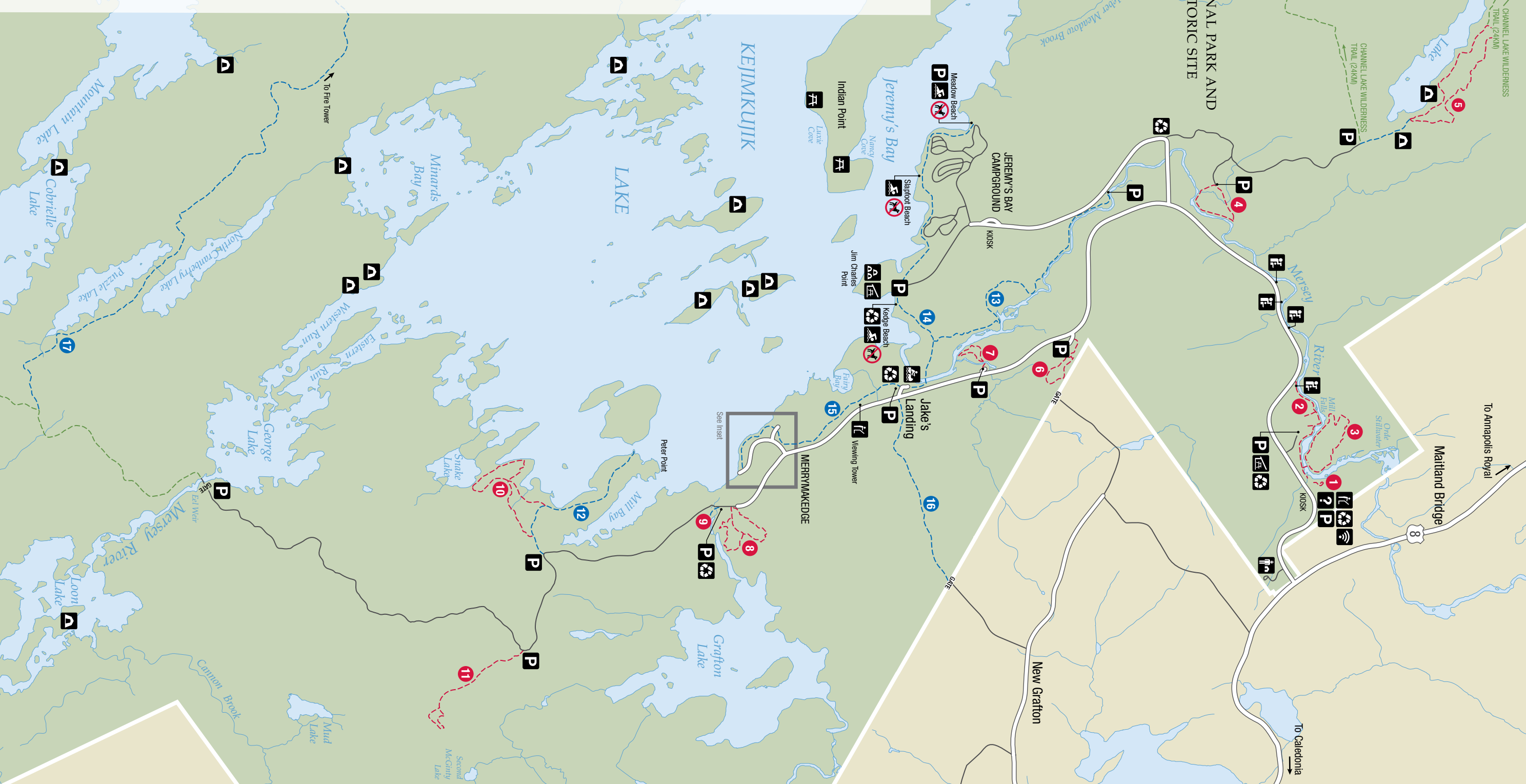
Campground Hosts
Site 31
Police, Fire, Ambulance
911 (emergency only)
Patrol/Security
(902) 298-0668



● **Hiking and** ● **Hiking/Biking Trail descriptions on page 18.**

- Hiking Trail
- Hiking/Biking Trail
- Wilderness Trail
- Paved Road
- Unpaved Road

- Services and Facilities**
- Group Camping
 - Warden Office
 - Picnic Area
 - Picnic Shelter
 - Visitor Centre
 - Wi-Fi
 - Playground
 - Canteen
 - Backcountry Camping
 - Lookout
 - Dumping Station
 - Parking
 - Canoe Rental
 - Swimming
 - Exhibit
 - Sorting Station
 - No Dogs



Hiking Trail Guide

Keji's hiking 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 12.*



ORGANICS

COMPOST BAG • Meal preparation at your campsite

Do not burn food or garbage in your campfire. It won't burn completely and will create a mess for the next campers to clean up. Many products will release toxic gases, which are harmful to you, your family, and the trees and plants in your campsite.

- leftover food
- paper napkins
- paper packaging from salt, pepper, sugar
- tea bags
- soiled paper products



CLEAR BAG • Rinse out food and beverage containers before you recycle.

Wasps are drawn to sweet liquids left in containers. Food remnants attract animals such as raccoons or bears, who can become aggressive when they associate people with food.

- beverage containers with a deposit
- glass bottles
- plastic bottles
- aluminum cans
- juice cartons
- milk cartons / jugs
- tin / steel food cans
- empty plastic bags
- plastic food containers
- clean paper



RECYCLABLES

Sorting Your Waste

Sort your waste into the appropriate bags. Bring your compost, recycling, and garbage bags to the nearest sorting station and place them inside the appropriate container. Wash your dishes at the outdoor sinks. *Keep your home away from home beautiful.*

HIKING

1 Mersey Meadow

0.2 km loop – Meadow boardwalk with 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 – Uphill through beeches; down hemlock slopes to Mill Falls.

4 Flowing Waters

1 km loop – Listen to Mersey ripples as you meander along riverbanks and beaver dams.

5 Hemlocks and Hardwoods

5 km loop – Majestic old-growth hemlocks.

6 Farmlands

1.1 km loop – A white pine forest reclaims a 19th-century drumlin farm.

7 Rogers Brook

1 km loop – 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.

9 Grafton Lake

0.4 km return – A dam removed, a lakeshore reborn.

10 Snake Lake

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

11 Gold Mines

3 km return – A prospectors' road to abandoned gold mines.

HIKING / BIKING

12 Peter Point

3 km return – Maples and hemlocks line an old cottage road to a beach at the point.

13 Mersey River

3.5 km one way – Winding along the forested banks of the Mersey River.

14 Slapfoot

3.2 km one way – Jeremy's Bay shoreline – lakeshores, islands, and horizons.

15 Jake's Landing to Merrymakedge Beach

3 km one way – Fairy Bay, Viewing Tower, Kejimikujik Lake.

16 Jake's Landing to New Grafton

moderate 15.8 km loop, 3.2 km to boundary – Connects Keji to the farming community of New Grafton.

17 Fire Tower Road

difficult 19.5 km return – Big challenge, big hardwoods, big return.

EXHIBITS

Viewing Tower

Coming soon: new Mi'kmaw interpretive signage. *(Only the first level is wheelchair-accessible.)*

Mi'kmaw Cultural Landscape Monument

Keji's guardian for the petroglyph sites.

Visitor Centre

Visitor information, Keji video, and exhibits.

ACCESSIBILITY

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

- Designated campsites
- Outdoor theatre
- Merrymakedge Beach area and Canteen

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.
- Pets off-leash may disturb and harm wild animals and other park visitors.
- Indicates trails that are wheelchair-accessible.



GREEN BAG • What's left is garbage

Place garbage bags inside the cage and close the door. Don't leave bags sitting outside the cage – it is unsightly and will attract animals.

- styrofoam bowls, cups, food containers
- bottle caps
- straws
- plastic butter containers
- plastic cutlery
- plastic and foil condiment packages
- aluminum foil
- hot / cold drink cups and lids
- potato chip bags
- candy wrappers
- diapers
- broken glass

GARBAGE



SORTING STATIONS are located throughout the park and in Jeremy's Bay Campground at each service building and near sites 72, 136, 157, 186, 202, 265, 284, and 350.

PLEASE – Before you leave your campsite, pick up any loose garbage so that you leave your site as you found it.

EMPTY CANISTERS • Before you leave

Place empty propane and butane canisters in the indicated receptacle at sorting stations.

Do not leave them on the ground.



PROPANE AND BUTANE

Canoeing and Kayaking

Canoeing has always been the best way to explore Kejimikujik. The Mi'kmaq forged the canoe routes and portages that are part of today's family vacation.



D. Wilson



R. Farrell



Parks Canada

Whether you're taking an afternoon paddle or a multi-day trip, make sure you find out about routes and wind conditions. You can get a Kejimikujik Lake buoy map and weather forecast from Visitor Centre staff or from Jake's Landing. Kejimikujik Lake tends to be windy in the afternoon, so morning or evening is often the safest time to travel. *Guided canoe events with Kejimikujik interpreters are another excellent way to experience Keji by water.*

Jake's Landing Canoe Rental Fees

	Hourly	Daily	24 hr	Weekly
Canoes and Double Kayaks	\$8.00	\$30.00	\$35.00	\$130.00
Single Kayaks	\$7.00	\$25.00	\$30.00	\$130.00

Reservations: (902) 682-5253. All rentals include 2 paddles, 2 personal flotation devices, bailer, and whistle. Shuttles are available upon request.

SUGGESTED ROUTES FOR A DAY PADDLE

FROM JAKE'S LANDING:

1. Mersey River
(1-2 HOURS) Head upstream into the peaceful waters of a red maple floodplain. Marsh birds, beaver activity, water lilies, and easy paddling make this trip ideal for families or beginners.

2. Islands (Kejimikujik Lake)
(2-3 HOURS) Head out among the coves and points of the lake's islands to experience vistas of huge granite boulders and windswept pines.

3. Jeremy's Bay (Kejimikujik Lake)
(1-3 HOURS) Admire spectacular sunsets and explore sandy shores. For a longer trip, take portage W across Indian Point. There are two picnic areas for day-use paddlers: Luxie Cove and Nancy Cove.

4. Fairy Bay (Kejimikujik Lake)
(1-2 HOURS) Look for waterbirds in this quiet cove. Towards Merrymakedge, paddle by slate outcrops (respect the restricted petroglyph area).

FROM EEL WEIR:
(2-3 HOURS) A 200-metre portage takes you upstream to George Lake, where you can paddle amongst many islands and sheltered coves which lead to Kejimikujik Lake.

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.

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

Biking, Swimming, and Fishing

BIKING

Biking is environmentally friendly, healthy, and fun! Biking is permitted only on these trails: Mersey River, Slapfoot, Fire Tower Road, Peter Point, Jake's Landing to Merrymakedge Beach, and Jake's Landing to New Grafton. Protect nature – do not bike off-trail.

Biking Tips

- Wear a bike helmet – *it's the law!*
- Maintain a safe speed.
- Give hikers the right of way.

Jake's Landing Bike Rental Fees

Hourly	Daily	24 Hour	Weekly
\$7.00	\$25.00	\$30.00	\$130.00

Reservations: (902) 682-5253



R. Farrell

SWIMMING

Keji's dark, warm waters are great for swimming. Jeremy's Bay Campground has three non-supervised swimming areas: Meadow Beach, Slapfoot Beach, and Kedge Beach. Merrymakedge Beach is supervised from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm in summer. Canteen and picnic shelters are nearby. *Never dive in lakes and rivers; rocks may be completely hidden in the dark water.*

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.

Season: April 1 - August 31

Fees: \$9.80 Daily / \$34.40 Annual

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

Some brook trout have research tags. If you catch one, please return it to the water and advise Keji staff.

FALL AND WINTER

Keji is always open. Fall colours offer a spectacular setting for camping, canoeing, and hiking. Visit Keji on weekends from January to March to enjoy conditioned ski trails, winter camping, and hot apple cider at the Visitor Centre.

Interpretation Activities



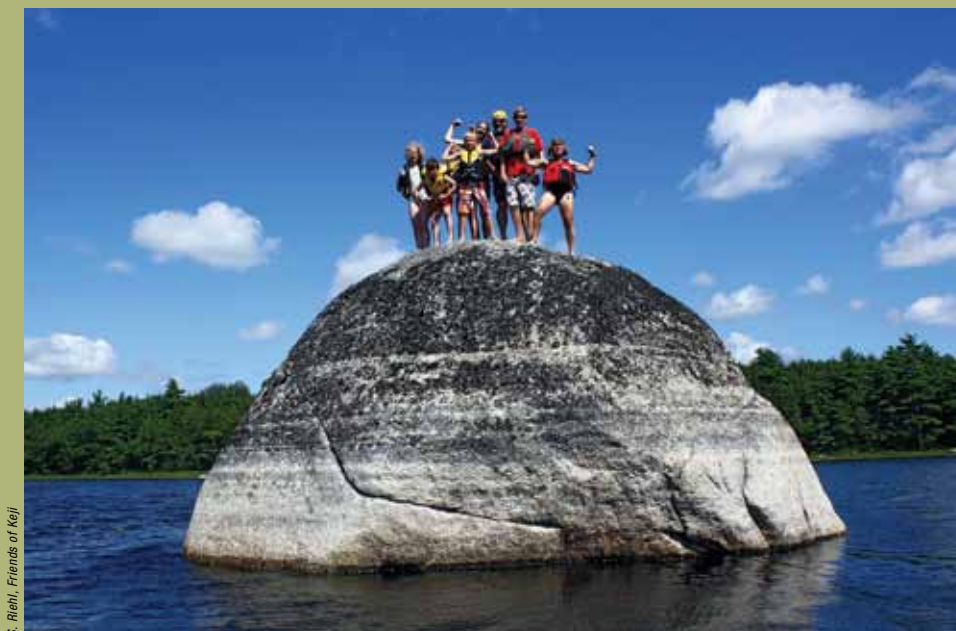
D. Wilson

July through Labour Day

New interpretive programs are developed every year. Interpreters will guide you to Keji's most interesting places, tell you stories, reveal fascinating facts, and lead you to discoveries.

When the sun is setting, you can join interpreters for evening paddles, campfire programs, theatre programs, musical programs and more. Interpreters offer Dark Sky viewing programs on select late evenings at the Sky Circle and Merrymakedge Beach.

Your very own activity schedule is inserted in this guide. Special events are posted and advertised at outdoor theatre shows.



S. Rieth, Friends of Keji

The Friends of Keji Cooperating Association

Our members play a vital role in our mission to support Parks Canada’s mandate for the protection, preservation, and interpretation of Kejimikujik National Park and National Historic Site.

Your patronage of our retail operations will directly benefit Keji. One hundred percent of the net proceeds from Friends of Keji activities help support visitor programs, capital projects, and research in Kejimikujik.



J. Armstrong, Friends of Keji



D. Browning, Friends of Keji



G. McCarthy, Friends of Keji



S. Wyman, Friends of Keji



K. Comeau, Friends of Keji



B. Jobb, 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

BECOME A MEMBER

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

CAMPGROUND HOSTS

At Site 31 you’ll find the Jeremy’s Bay Campground hosts, friendly volunteers who are familiar with the services and facilities of Kejimikujik. Chat with them and get your questions answered at their site or during their frequent walks through the campground.

BY THE MERSEY GIFT SHOP

While you are at the Visitor Centre drop by for a visit. You’ll find Keji-branded merchandise as well as field guides, children’s books, giftware, and much more.



May 20 - Jun 17	daily: 10:00 am to 3:00 pm
Jun 18 - Sep 4	daily: 9:30 am to 5:30 pm
Sep 5 - Oct 10	daily: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

BOOKS WE RECOMMEND

Keji Guide Book – An essential guide to the trails, campsites, waterways, and natural and cultural history of Keji.

Star Chart – An inexpensive tool to help you navigate the night sky.

Planets, Moons and Stars – This book brings the night sky to you and answers your astronomy questions.



MERRYMAKEDGE CANTEEN

Your purchases support Keji.

*breakfast menu · burgers · fries · sandwiches
salads · bread · ice cream · milk
bottled water*

Jun 24 - Jun 30	daily: 10:00 am to 6:00 pm
Jul 1 - Sep 4	daily: 10:00 am to 8:00 pm

Whenever possible, we use biodegradable packaging, which increases our costs. We hope you agree that it is worth it to be more in harmony with nature.

KEJI PHOTO CONTEST

Capture your love of Keji in a photo! Enter your favourite photograph or digital image of Keji in our annual photo contest. *All photos on these two pages are entries 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 displayed at the Visitor Centre and some entries will be used in next year’s visitor guide!



B. Stone, Friends of Keji



PC Xplorer Fact:

Iipo’luji’k is the Mi’kmaq word for constellation – a night sky pattern, as seen by humans, that is made up of specific stars.

SPECIAL EVENTS

May 19
Happy 100th Birthday, Parks Canada!

June 25
Keji Mi’kmaq Celebration

July 1
Canada Day
Park entry is FREE, cake, photo contest and interpretive program launch.

July 16 Parks Day
2nd Annual Atlantic Campground BBQ Competition celebrating Parks Canada’s centennial.

July 30
Keji’s 42nd Birthday
Cake, family games, campfire, interpretive programs.

August 12-14
The Tent Dwellers Canoe Festival
Paddling activities, demonstrations and displays, guide shows, crafters, and flotilla. *Sponsored in partnership with Canoe/Kayak Nova Scotia.*

August 15
Celebrate National Acadian Day at Keji

August 19-20
Dark Sky Weekend
Astronomy events, special programming, star viewing, and more.

October 7-9
Thanksgiving
Pumpkin carving competition, haunted event, photo contest winners and Gala Awards Show. *Sponsored in partnership with New Grafton Variety Store.*



D. Wilson

LEAVE YOUR



Monitoring plovers at the Kejimikujik Seaside

D. Smith, Parks Canada

In the last five years, volunteers have contributed more than 50,000 hours to species monitoring and recovery, as well as protecting ecosystems within Kejimikujik and throughout southwest Nova Scotia.



The Walk of Honour trail

M. Crowley



M. Crowley

The Honour Roll

The volunteer Walk of Honour is a short trail behind the Visitor Centre that celebrates volunteer contributions. It is Keji's version of the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Volunteers who contribute 250 hours to the program get their name inscribed in a stone that becomes part of the trail. The Walk of Honour is changed every year as new volunteers are added to the trail and others advance – check it out! Who knows...maybe your stone will be next!



Give turtles a brake!

When you see turtle signs, slow down, watch carefully, and stay on the pavement.

MARK



PC Xplorer Fact:

Ophiuchus is Greek for "serpent-holder" and is a large constellation that is also known as the 13th zodiac sign. You too can be a serpent-holder by joining researchers in the search for eastern ribbonsnakes and their sensitive habitat.



Collecting endangered turtle eggs for incubation

Parks Canada

Over 100 Turtles Released!

This spring we celebrated the largest turtle release in Nova Scotia's history, as over 100 endangered Blanding's turtles were returned to the wild! This was done to help increase the population of this rare turtle in Kejimikujik. These turtles were raised in captivity for two years to increase their size and fitness. We are looking for volunteers to help radio track (follow) some of these turtles as they explore different areas so we can watch their success.

Join the Team. Get involved in fun, meaningful hands-on science and restoration, where you get to work hand-in-hand with researchers and other volunteers to help endangered species. Search for turtles and Eastern ribbonsnakes, protect Blanding's turtle nests, count loons, restore habitat, and more. As a team we work hard but we have a lot of fun too!

Follow the **Kejimikujik-Southwest Nova Volunteer Programs** on facebook and twitter (twitter.com/leave_yourmark)!



Volunteers show off their work after removing marram grass at the Kejimikujik Seaside

Parks Canada

GET INVOLVED!

Call (902) 298-0486
volunteer.keji@pc.gc.ca

Protecting Keji – Keeping it Wild!

Adaptable animals, such as raccoons and squirrels, can come into conflict with visitors and develop “hyper-abundant” populations by accessing human food items in campgrounds and picnic areas.



Raccoon

Parks Canada



R. Farrell

D. Pouliot, Parks Canada

Wily coyote stays wild!

Keji has a healthy population of coyotes, though they are not frequently seen. They are naturally shy and reclusive. We are closely monitoring human-coyote encounters and asking you to help ensure coyotes are not fed human food, an initiative which is key to preventing human-coyote conflicts.

If you see a coyote:

1. Maintain a safe distance.
2. Never run away.
3. Please report all coyote sightings to the Visitor Centre.

For more information on coyotes, please check the Parks Canada website or talk to park staff.



D. Murray, Friends of Keji

Raccoons

Hyper-abundant raccoon populations will prey on endangered Blanding’s turtle eggs, eggs and young of nesting birds, and other small animals. At times, they may carry diseases harmful to humans and pets.

Did you know...?

It is illegal to feed wildlife in Keji because it may threaten their ability to survive on their own, reduce their fear of humans, and result in human-wildlife conflicts.

HOW TO HELP REDUCE HUMAN-WILDLIFE CONFLICT

- Never feed wildlife. Keep them wild!
- Keep your campsite clean. Pick up and dispose of garbage promptly.
- Store food in solidly latched containers and place in your vehicle. Do not store food in your tent.
- Store food away when leaving your campsite, even for short periods.
- Keji will provide food storage containers to campers who do not have a vehicle to store food away from wildlife. (Request one at the campground kiosk.)

Don't move firewood. Buy local.

Bringing your own firewood to Keji from distant places can import invasive species, like fire ants and brown spruce long-horned beetles. Invasive species can cause severe and irreversible damage to our forests. Please purchase your firewood locally, either from the park or from vendors located nearby.



Prescribed fire at Keji in April, 2010

M. Labrador, Parks Canada

Prescribed Fire at Kejimkujik

In the late afternoon of April 13th, 2010, Parks Canada fire management staff ignited a fire near the southeast end of Big Dam Lake.

It burned at a low intensity through the understory of a 2.3 hectare plot of mixed woods. As part of a 10-year Acadian forest research project, it was the first prescribed fire ever conducted in Kejimkujik. Prescribed fire is a form of active management, as it mimics a natural disturbance and helps researchers gain an understanding of how certain forces of nature can change and revitalize the Acadian forest over time.

Although it was a relatively small burn, fire management specialists spent several years planning the Big Dam prescribed fire. When the weather conditions were ideal, the

Kejimkujik fire team, fire specialists from other national parks, and fire suppression personnel from the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources put the plan in motion.

Crews spent the morning setting up and testing all the fire equipment, such as water pumps and hoses. They also removed highly flammable vegetation and applied water around the perimeter of the burn site. In the late afternoon, ignition crews began lighting strips across the burn site using specialised torches. The flames had died down by the early evening.

Thanks to careful planning and the help of partnering organizations, the



Post Big Dam fire

I. Morrison, Parks Canada

fire behaved in accordance with its prescription of a low-intensity understory burn.

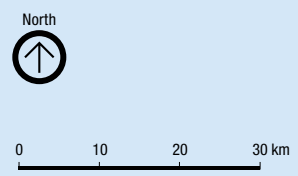
It was only a matter of weeks before new lush green forest vegetation began to sprout. By August, much of the fire’s effects were virtually unnoticeable. In fact, it will take many years of careful monitoring and evaluation before the planned beneficial effects of reintroducing fire to the Acadian forest are fully known.

The Big Dam prescribed fire was the first of its kind at Kejimkujik, but it will not be the last. As a continuation of the Acadian forest research project, fire management specialists are planning four more prescribed fires over the next three years. Just like the Big Dam fire, these will be small springtime burns approximately 2 hectares in size.

For more information about the prescribed fire program at Keji, Fire Information sheets are available at the Visitor Centre.



Parks Canada



A Land of Historic Significance

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

Other National Historic Sites in Southwest Nova Scotia

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

Parks Canada brings the past to life and protects our cultural heritage. Explore the rich history and culture of the Mi'kmaq, the fascinating story of the French and the Acadians, and the complex British military legacy of western Nova Scotia. Walk in the paths of our ancestors.

Communities and Services

Service listings within 25 minutes of Kejimkujik. For services near Kejimkujik Seaside, contact Keji staff or visitor information centres.

Caledonia

- B & B Art of Germany (902) 682-2114
- Caledonia Country Hostel/Van Shuttles (902)-682-2955
- Caledonia Electric Ltd (902) 682-2663
- Caledonia Pharmasave (902) 682-2025
- Canada Post (902) 682-2465
- Clover Farm Grocery (902) 682-2606
- Donair World & Pizza (902) 682-3000
- Douglas Lumber Ltd. (902) 682-3441
- Giggling Granny's Used Books and Internet Café (902) 682-3205
- Imagine That Hair Design (902) 682-2913
- Kelly's Convenience (Westfield) (902)-682-2983
- Lakeview Restaurant & Dairy Bar (902) 682-2956
- Mary's Lake Home Hardware (902) 682-2334
- McGowan Lake Fish Hatchery (902) 682-2576
- Mueller's Wilderness Bed & Breakfast (902) 685-2462
- Noah's Convenience and Gas (902) 682-3003
- North Queens Aquatic Centre (902) 682-2009
- North Queens Heritage Museum (902) 682-2989

North Queens

- Medical Centre (902) 682-2533
- Nova Scotia Guides Association Campground (902) 682-2782
- Nova Scotia Liquor Corporation (902) 682-2802
- Public Internet Access (902) 682-2989
- Rocky Cove Cottage Rentals (902) 682-2676
- Rose's Hairstyling Salon (902) 682-2792
- RSR Machining & Fabrication (902) 682-2294
- Toddy's Top Touch, Hairdresser (902) 682-2115
- Troy Westhaver Automotive (902) 682-2229
- Valley Credit Union North Queens Branch (902) 682-2016
- Van Dyk Health Juice Products Ltd. (902) 682-2805

Kempt

- Elaine Kempton, Hairdresser (902) 682-2078
- Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute (902) 682-2371
- New Grafton Variety Store (902) 682-2996
- Ringer's Service Station (902) 682-2325
- Whitman Inn (902) 682-2226

Maitland Bridge

- By The Mersey Gift Shop (902) 682-2653
- Canada Post (902) 682-2192
- Gold Star Accounting (902) 682-2322
- Jake's Landing Canoe Concession (902) 682-5253
- M & W's Restaurant, Convenience & Laundromat (902) 682-2189
- Mersey River Chalets & Cascades Restaurant (902) 682-2443

South Milford

- Milford House Lodge (902) 532-2617
- Public Internet Access (902) 532-5232
- Raven Haven Beachside Family Park (902) 532-7320
- Tranquil Times Bed & Breakfast (902) 532-2811

Visitor Information Centres

- Caledonia (902) 682-2470
- Liverpool (902) 354-5421
- Annapolis Royal (902) 532-5769

LOCAL FARMERS' MARKETS

- Annapolis Royal:** May 21 - Oct 8
Saturday mornings
Ph: 902-245-4824
- Caledonia:** May 21 - Sept 17
Saturday mornings
www.discovercaledonia.ca
- Bear River:** June 13 - Oct 10
Sunday afternoons
Ph: 902-467-0469



Southwest Nova Biosphere Reserve, Provincial Wilderness Area, National Park

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 Kejimkujik are the core protected wilderness areas for this region, which is committed to sustainable development. For more info, see www.snbra.ca.

Tobeatic Wilderness Area

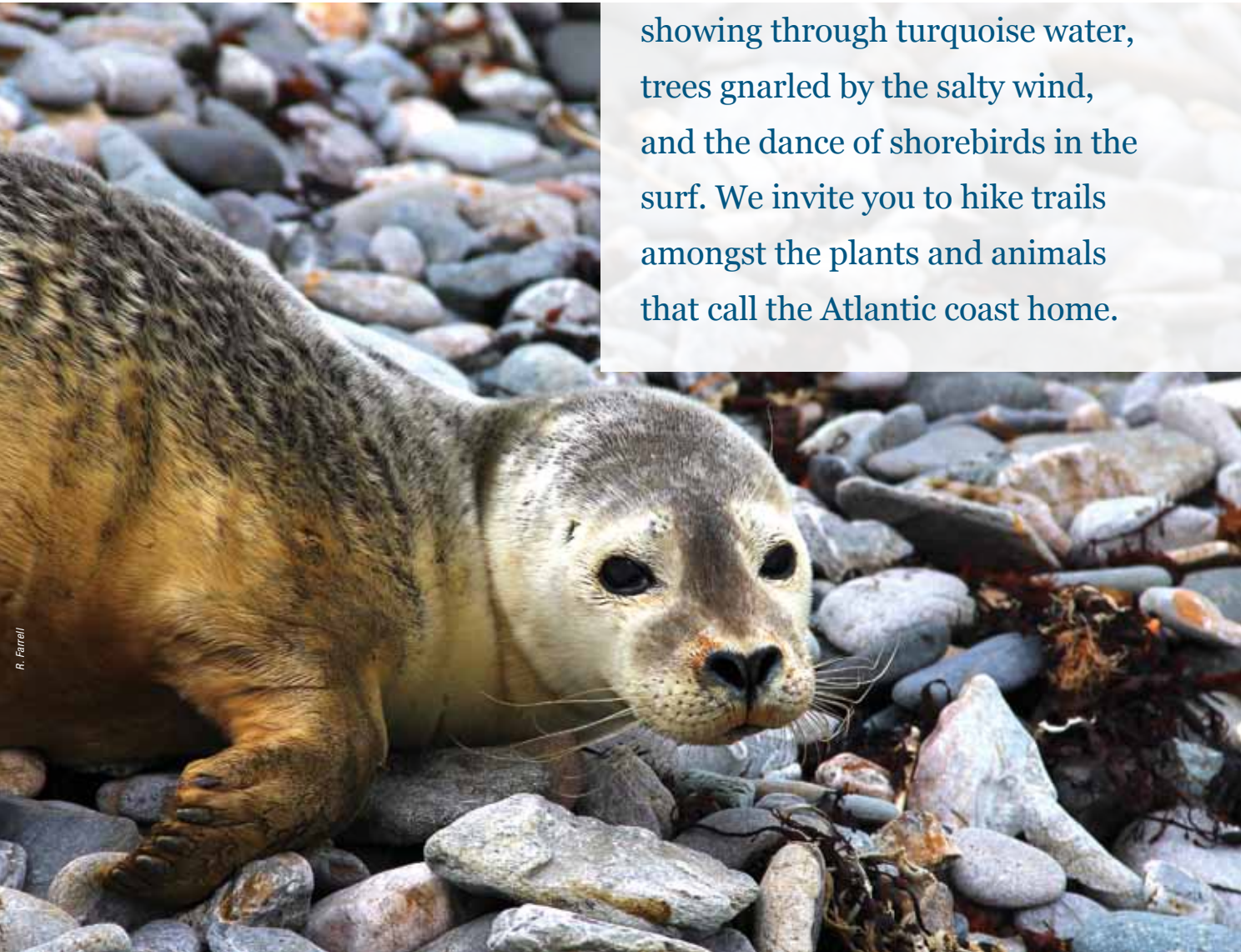
Into the Tobeatic, a guide for planning wilderness trips into the Tobeatic, is available at the Keji Visitor Centre. For additional information on the Tobeatic and other Nova Scotia wilderness areas, please contact Nova Scotia Environment and Labour, Protected Areas Branch, at (902) 424-2117 or visit www.gov.ns.ca/enla/pareas.

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.

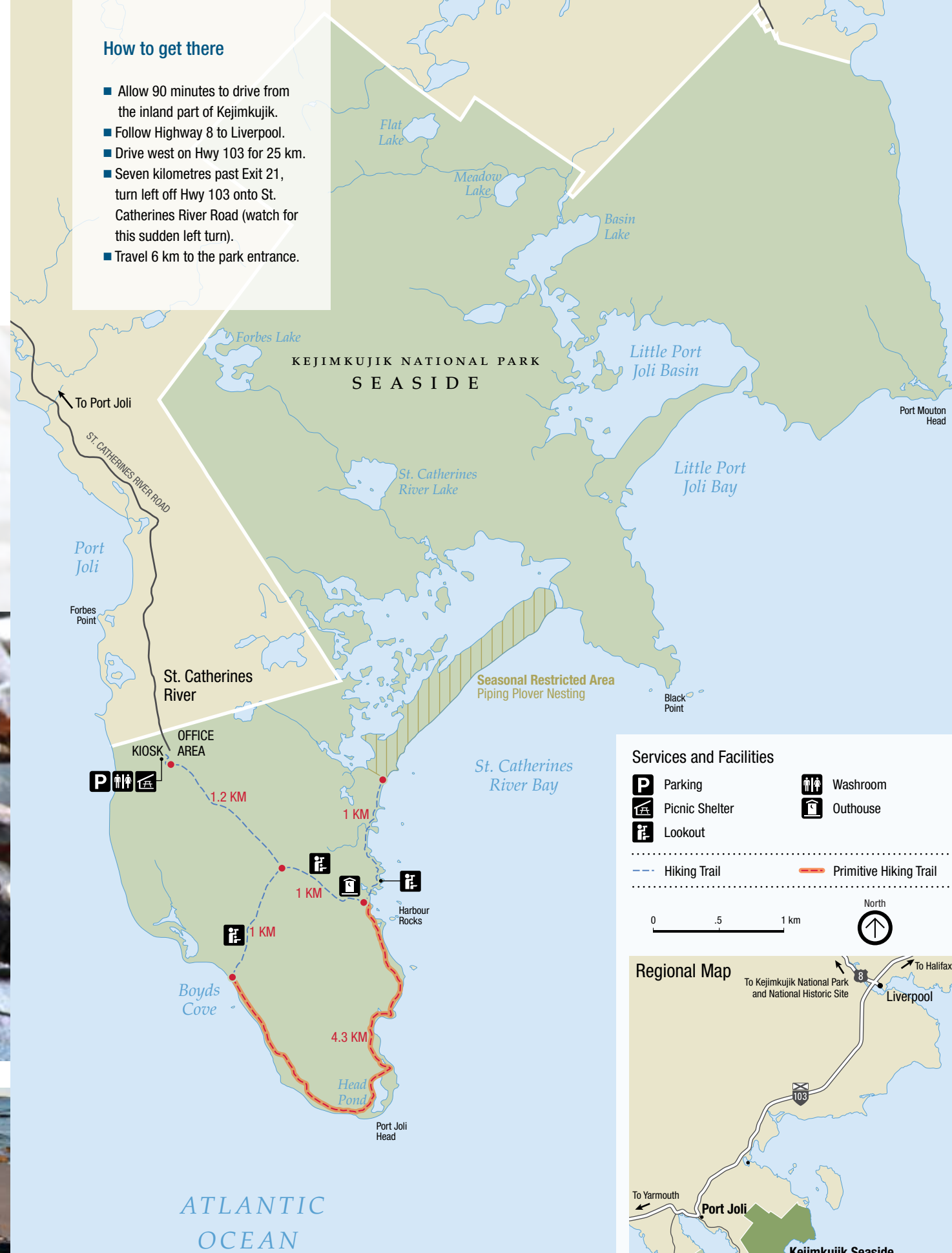
Your Seaside Visit

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.



How to get there

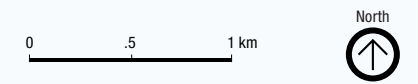
- Allow 90 minutes to drive from the inland part of Kejimkujik.
- Follow Highway 8 to Liverpool.
- Drive west on Hwy 103 for 25 km.
- Seven kilometres past Exit 21, turn left off Hwy 103 onto St. Catherines River Road (watch for this sudden left turn).
- Travel 6 km to the park entrance.



Services and Facilities

- Parking
- Picnic Shelter
- Lookout
- Washroom
- Outhouse

- Hiking Trail
- Primitive Hiking Trail



R. Farrell



P. Foote, Friends of Keji



B. Stone, Friends of Keji



D. Wilson

Planning Your Seaside Visit

Explore the Seaside Enjoy a hike, observe the seals basking on the rocks, or have a picnic at Kejimikujik Seaside.

Two beautiful hiking trails allow you to explore the Seaside:

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

Port Joli Head Trail (8.7 km return) circles a point of land that feels the full force of the ocean. Both trails have interpretive signs, telescopes, and benches.

The Visitor Information Kiosk is open 9:30 am to 5:30 pm, from mid June to mid October. This is a day-use park only. Camping is available at nearby Thomas H. Raddall Provincial Park.

Respect the Seaside Remember these points to ensure that you have a safe visit and to protect the wildlife:

- These trails are not for bicycles. Out of respect for hikers, please leave your bicycles in the rack at the trail entrance.
- Dogs must be kept on a leash at all times. They can kill or harass wildlife and they may frighten other visitors.
- Keep your scoop handy. Cleaning up after your dog is required.
- Stay on the designated trails to avoid ticks and trampling the vegetation.
- In the open, coastal environment, protection from the sun is important. A hat and sunscreen are recommended.
- Swimmers are cautioned that the water is cold; dangerous currents and strong undertows may occur. Swimming is not recommended.
- Hikers should use caution on rocky headlands. Unusually large waves can sweep people off rocks.
- To approach seals on the beach is dangerous. While black bears are seldom seen, they are often feeding on berries and insects. Please respect all wild animals by viewing them only from a distance.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Kejimikujik
Visitor Centre:
(902) 682-2772

www.parkscanada.gc.ca

Get Involved!

In 2010, Kejimikujik launched a successful pilot project to reduce numbers of green crab to a manageable level so that habitat restoration could be possible. Once numbers are reduced to acceptable levels



European green crab

in the estuary, other habitat recovery measures will ensue, including the planting of eelgrass and seeding of clam beds. Opportunities are developing for visitors to work with staff and scientists to learn about and recover these estuaries. Volunteers have the chance to experience natural wilderness, to be directly involved in a marine fishery, and to take part in monitoring ecological processes and biodiversity.

Become part of the team!
For more information phone: (902) 298-0486 or email volunteer.keji@pc.gc.ca.

Kejimikujik Seaside protects two large lagoon and barrier beach ecosystems at St. Catherines River and Little Port Joli. Both of these estuaries contain a high diversity of organisms and special habitats due to the transition from fresh water to salt water over a very short distance. They provide high concentrations of food for resident and migrating birds and nursery habitat for a wide variety of marine life, including commercial fish species.

Ecosystem Engineer

The highly invasive European green crab is posing serious threats to estuarine resources at the Seaside. It is one of the most successful marine invaders, occurring in temperate regions around the globe. At the Seaside, the green crab has been linked to an alarming 95% decline in native eelgrass distribution (since 1986) and the near absence of young soft-shell clams in the rich tidal flats.



M. Symington



O. Woods



PC Xplorer Fact:

A galaxy is a group of stars (sometimes billions), gas, and dust that is linked together by gravity. Our galaxy is called the Milky Way.



JOIN THE PARKS CANADA XPLORERS

Join us in celebrating 11 years of adventure and discovery.



After ten great years of fun with the Kejimikujik Naturalist Club and 100 years of Parks Canada, we are launching a new club called the Parks Canada Xplorers! The PC Xplorers is an exciting and challenging program happening at Parks Canada sites all across Canada!

Ask at the Visitor Centre or the Outdoor Theatre for your free Kejimikujik Xplorers booklet and get started!

The booklet is full of activities and new ways to discover Keji. Like the Naturalist Club, the PC Xplorers will challenge you to achieve levels and reward you with prizes.



Because Kejimikujik is now an official Dark Sky Preserve, the theme for the 2011 Kejimikujik Xplorers is the Night Sky! Look for the wise old raven in the Visitor Guide. He will reveal facts that will help you achieve the four levels in your Xplorers: Tatapan (North Star), Ursa Major (Big Dipper), the Sun, and the Milky Way Galaxy! When you complete a level, be sure to join the award

ceremony at the evening program! The raven will only help you a little bit. The rest of the challenges will be up to you to complete by exploring Keji on your own! Good luck!



PC Xplorer Fact:

The sun is over 100 times wider than Earth. In fact, one million Earths could fit inside the Sun! Light from the sun takes eight minutes to reach you.