



July 31, 2025

GGN Secretariat
Mytilene, Lesvos
Greece
(Via email)

Dearest colleagues,

RE: CGN Letter of Nomination – Dr. John Calder (GGN Executive Committee)

On behalf of the Canadian Geoparks Network (CGN), it is with great enthusiasm and unanimous support that we submit the nomination of Dr. John Calder to continue his invaluable service as a member of the Global Geoparks Network Executive Committee.

Dr. Calder is an internationally respected geoscientist and a founding leader in the advancement of geoheritage in Canada. As a former Chair and current ex-officio of the Canadian Geoparks Network, Dr. Calder has been instrumental in shaping a cohesive, collaborative national approach to Geopark development. His ability to represent Canada's unique and diverse geoheritage at the global level is unmatched. Under his leadership and ongoing support, the CGN has flourished as a strategic and unifying voice for Canadian UNESCO Global Geoparks, while also strengthening ties with emerging Geoparks and supporting aspiring members across the country.

What sets Dr. Calder apart is not only his deep scientific expertise and strategic insight, but also his exceptional ability to communicate complex geoscience in an accessible and compelling way. He has received national accolades for public geoscience communication, including the E.R. Ward Neale Medal from the Geological Association of Canada. His impact extends beyond borders: he is a dedicated advocate for international collaboration, consistently lending his voice to strengthen both established and developing networks throughout the Global Geoparks community.

Dr. Calder brings critical knowledge and firsthand experience to global discussions. He was the senior scientist and author behind the nomination of the Joggins Fossil Cliffs as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and served in a similar lead capacity for the Cliffs of Fundy UNESCO Global Geopark. His extensive field and policy experience make him a strong and credible voice on the international stage.

Of particular note is Dr. Calder's commitment to inclusive and respectful engagement with Indigenous communities, ensuring that traditional knowledge and cultural landscapes are authentically integrated into Geopark narratives across Canada. He has also been a driver of North-South collaboration, notably

within the Americas, helping to mentor and guide new Geopark initiatives and strengthen the global network as a whole.

Dr. Calder's continued presence on the Global Geoparks Executive Committee is of enormous value to the Canadian Geoparks Network, as well as to the wider global family of Geoparks. His insight, diplomacy, and leadership ensure that both Canada's voice and the broader principles of equity, science, and sustainability are well represented in GGN deliberations.

We strongly endorse and support the reappointment of Dr. John Calder to the UNESCO Global Geoparks Executive Committee and believe that his continued service will contribute meaningfully to the advancement of the Global Geoparks mission worldwide.

Sincerely,

Frances Heydeman

Frances Heydeman
President & Chair
Canadian Geoparks Network



LESVOS island UNESCO Global Geopark

June 5 2025

TO:
Dr John Calder
Canada

Dear John Calder,

Based on your long experience and contribution in the Geoparks activities in Canada and the World through your active participation in the Global and Regional Geopark Networks activities the LESVOS UNESCO Global Geopark wishes to endorse your application to become Executive Board member of the Global Geoparks Network

We believe that your experience on the development of Global Geoparks will be useful and will contribute to further development and strengthening of the work of the GGN and the UNESCO Global Geoparks

For the LESVOS UNESCO Global Geopark

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nickolas Zouros', is centered below the text 'For the LESVOS UNESCO Global Geopark'.

Professor Nickolas Zouros



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July 7th, 2025

Dear GGN Colleagues,

With this letter Muroto UNESCO Global Geopark nominates with pleasure

Dr. John Calder as candidate for GGN Executive Board member.

We are quite confident that he has the ability, passion and expertise to fulfil the duty.

With best regards,

Gen Tokoi, the Secretary General,
Muroto Geopark Promotion Committee

Gen Tokoi