



## News Release

### ***For Immediate Release***

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### **New Region of Queens hiking badge features geocaches**

Finding hidden treasures just might be the hook to get more folks in the Region of Queens hiking. At least that's the intent of a new hiking challenge being issued by Hike Nova Scotia and the Region of Queens Municipality.

The Region of Queens Badge is the newest badge you can earn as part of Hike NS's Hiker Challenge.

"This is one of the most unique challenges we've added to our list of badges," says Janet Barlow, Hike Nova Scotia Executive Director. "Geocaching is a wonderful way to engage people in the outdoors. It's fun to try to find hidden caches and you're exploring your community at the same time."

The new badge challenges you to find 6 of 10 geocaches in the area over the course of a year. Each geocache is hidden in and around different facilities, parks and trails in the Region of Queens. The badge is free, supported by the NS Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage.

To help launch the new badge, an event will be held in Greenfield on August 5 at 10 am.

Mayor Darlene Norman says, "Geocaching is a great physical activity for the inquiring mind and guides you to many parts of Queens County."

The Hiker Challenge is about inspiring, motivating and rewarding hikers to start hiking or to hike more. Your reward for completing a challenge is a badge to show off on clothing or backpacks and making the Honour Roll. Prize draws happen each season for gift cards generously provided by The Trail Shop. There are several badges to earn across the province as part of the Hiker Challenge. Learn more about the Hiker Challenge at [www.hikenovascotia.ca/projects-hiker-challenge](http://www.hikenovascotia.ca/projects-hiker-challenge).

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