



Telling the Story of the Niagara Escarpment  
World Biosphere Reserve

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **For Immediate Release:**

### **Giant's Rib Escarpment Education Network receives grant from the Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation**

The Giant's Rib Escarpment Education Network (GREEN) is pleased to announce it has received a grant from the Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation. \$12,000.00 has been granted to GREEN and will be used towards multiple improvement projects which include upgrades to the current Giant's Rib Discovery Centre (GRDC), improvements to the GREEN website, the development of a travelling educational display and the establishment of a Satellite Centre.

"On behalf of our Board of Directors and all of our volunteers, I would like to thank the Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation for their support," says Chris Hamilton, President of GREEN. "This funding will ensure the completion of the first phase of our improvement and expansion efforts. However, it is not only the funding we are grateful for, but also for the Foundation's support of our efforts to deliver Niagara Escarpment World Biosphere Reserve and Greenbelt information to a much wider audience. As partners go, the Niagara Escarpment and Ontario's Greenbelt go hand in hand as integral parts of one another."

"The dramatic cliffs of the Niagara Escarpment are iconic and instantly recognizable in southern Ontario," says Burkhard Mausberg, CEO of the Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation. "But the importance of the Escarpment goes far beyond its beauty. The protection of its rare species, habitats and water sources provide a healthy core for nature and animals to thrive in the region."

### **About Giant's Rib Discovery Centre**

The original concept behind the establishment of the GRDC was the construction of a multi-million dollar visitor centre, serving as the "Urban Gateway to the Niagara Escarpment World Biosphere Reserve" in honour of the UNESCO Biosphere designation of the Escarpment in 1990. Since 2006, GRDC has operated a small Discovery Centre in the Dundas Valley Conservation Area. The GRDC features fossil specimens, Niagara Escarpment World Biosphere Reserve informative displays, a Grade 4 curriculum-based Rocks and Minerals Unit and public programs such as guided interpretive hikes and a series of monthly environmental lectures. GREEN is run entirely by volunteers and has been recognized by the Canadian Biosphere Reserves Association as a local biosphere committee for the Niagara Escarpment World Biosphere Reserve. With new expansion projects underway, the GRDC has recently rebranded as the Giant's Rib Escarpment Education Network (GREEN).

## **About the Greenbelt**

Ontario's Greenbelt is the solution for fresh air, clean water, healthy local food, and a thriving economy with good jobs. At nearly 2 million acres, it's the world's largest permanently protected greenbelt, keeping our farmlands, forests, and wetlands safe and sustainable. The Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation works to help keep farmers successful, strengthen local economies, and protect and grow natural features. Join us! Learn more at: [greenbelt.ca](http://greenbelt.ca).

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This media release has been formatted to be an accessible document. Should you require this information in an alternate format, please contact the Giant's Rib Discovery Centre and we will be happy to assist you.