

Message from the Lieutenant Governor



The First Nations believe that we do not make the land - it makes us.

There is great truth and honesty in this belief.

New Brunswick's nearly 73-thousand square kilometres are rich in resources, history and character.

In its simplest form, the land is soil - grains of sand on our beaches, in our fields, along our riverbanks - the basis of farming and forestry.

At its most complex, it is overflowing with valuables - ore deposits like lead, zinc and potash, natural gas and even gold.

Eighty-five percent of New Brunswick is forested.

The province boasts 27 major rivers, three coast lines and 9 large islands.

The land is as diverse as the people who live here - challenging and unpredictable, smooth and lush, rocky and rough, rolling and full of life.

It provides shelter, livelihood and tremendous leisure opportunities.

Poets such as Bliss Carmen and Sir Charles G. D. Roberts found inspiration from the land. So have such painters as J.C. Miles, Alex Colville and Raymond Savoie.

Bliss Carmen wrote:

*Now the joys of the road are chiefly these :
A crimson touch on the hard-wood trees;
A vagrant's morning wide and blue,
In early fall when the wind walks, too;
A shadowy highway cool and brown,
Alluring up and enticing down
From rippled water to dappled swamp,
From purple glory to scarlet pomp;
The outward eye, the quiet will,
And the striding heart from hill to hill;
The tempter apple over the fence;
The cobweb bloom on the yellow quince;
The palish asters along the wood,--
A lyric touch of the solitude.*

The land helps us to understand where we have come from, and where we are going. It is the source of ideas and dreams. And where would we be without ideas and dreams?

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Chiasson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

The Honourable Hermenegilde Chiasson
Lieutenant Governor
Province of New Brunswick