



FRIENDS OF CABOT MARTIN COMMITTEE

Established to fund the **Cabot Martin Award**
for Research in Regional Policy and Development



P.O. Box 13732, St. John's, NL, A1B 4G3



709.579.1989

CABOT MARTIN PUBLIC POLICY AWARD

Cabot Martin was a pioneer who advocated for the responsible management of Newfoundland and Labrador's natural resources. He fought courageously for the rights of fish harvesters to benefit from a well managed fishery, as well as for the right for the province to develop and benefit from its offshore petroleum resources.

Cabot was not only a thinker; he was also a doer. He was a pioneer in farming cod and later explored for oil and gas on the West Coast. His efforts, over a period of more than 50 years, continue to benefit the province.

Indeed, there are many thriving individuals and companies in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador today that can trace the roots of their success to the behind-the-scenes and out-front efforts of this remarkable man. To help remember Cabot and to support his legacy, the "Friends of Cabot Martin" are raising funds for a MUN Research Fund to support the "**Cabot Martin Research Award for Regional Policy and Development**".



So, in the spirit of NL's famed generosity and in remembrance of Cabot, please consider donating to this worthy cause. And also, please feel free to share this information with friends and colleagues who may wish to support a MUN research award that is specifically mandated toward bold and conscientious public policy.

We are asking that you send your donation to Memorial University who will issue a tax receipt. The link is here: [Cabot Martin, Giving to Memorial, Office of Development, Memorial University](#). You will find additional information on the Award below, along with a short biography of Cabot James Martin. If you have any questions give me a call at 709-753-6659 or send me an email.

David Vardy
Member
Friends of Cabot Martin Committee

CABOT MARTIN AWARD FOR RESEARCH IN REGIONAL POLICY AND DEVELOPMENT

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On behalf of the Friends of Cabot Martin Committee including: Des Sullivan, David Vardy, Patrick Laracy, Diana Baird, Jonathan Moir, Carol Osmond, Ray Andrews, Rob Strong, Con O'Brien, Douglas Moores, and Phonse Fagan



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The Cabot Martin Applied Research Fund

The Friends of Cabot Martin plan to build a “Cabot Martin Fund for Research in Regional Policy and Development” (the Fund) with contributions from private citizens, industry, and labour. We plan to approach the oil and gas industry for their support and to seek matching funds from the provincial government. The funds will be administered by Memorial University with disbursements made over a six-year period to recipients of the Cabot Martin Award for Research in Regional Policy and Development (the Award).

The Award is designed to honour Cabot's contribution and to encourage practical applied research into the challenges facing Newfoundland and Labrador and it will enhance the long-standing applied research support program offered by the Harris Centre at Memorial University and directed to “regional public policy and development” which is the mandate of the Centre. It is intended to span a wide compass, directed toward the governance and policy issues which were so central to Cabot's thinking, his writings and his public commentary. It will fund applied research projects of modest scale and may be used to seed larger projects which might require supplementary funding from other sources.

One research award will be conferred each year for six years, valued at up to \$15,000, based on criteria to be developed and applied by Memorial University. The Fellowship is not restricted to any discipline of study nor is it confined to students engaged in full time undergraduate or graduate studies. For example, faculty members and staff at Memorial would be eligible for funding. The research will be subject to quality standards as determined by the University.

The regional policy and development mandate of the Harris Centre positions it as an appropriate unit within Memorial University to administer the Award and to organize a public lecture by the recipient to present the research results, mobilize the knowledge generated by the project and engage citizens.

Contributions to the Fund will be forwarded by donors directly to the University which will take responsibility for investing the proceeds, disbursing payments and accounting for the funds expended. The University will issue tax deductible receipts to donors.

The Fund will support research into matters relating to regional public policy, including development, planning, governance and regulation of the province's natural resources, particularly mineral resources on land and under the sea, the fishery both wild and cultured, its renewable energy resources, its forests and its land.

Disbursement of the Award will be determined by the University, with a portion withheld pending delivery of a lecture on the research project at a public forum to be convened by the University and advertised by the Harris Centre as the Cabot Martin Lecture on regional public policy and development in Newfoundland and Labrador.

The principal and interest from the Fund will be paid out over a period of six years. In year five of the term a decision will be taken, based on sufficiency of contributions to the Fund, as to whether the Award will continue beyond the six-year term.



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Cabot Martin Biography

- Cabot Martin served as an advisor on law and resource policy under Premiers Frank Moores and Brian Peckford. He studied law at Queen's University and ocean law at the University of Miami. His advice, as a policy advisor to the government, and his private contributions later, have had a major impact on his native province. Indeed, Cabot's vision for the province's oil and gas industry shaped its growth and development over a period of more than 50 years.
- There are many who will claim parentage of this new industry which has transformed the province's economy. There are few whose influence has been more sustained and pervasive than that of Cabot Martin. Simply put, he has the strongest claim to be the father of the province's oil and gas industry. He personified the industry, as its icon.
- Born in Port aux Basques, Newfoundland, he was passionate about his province and its destiny. He combined his professional training with an indomitable will and indefatigable energy. His focus was on how we can improve our province by seizing control of its destiny and shaping a better future. Our abundant natural resources and their sage management were the keys to unlock and shape this better future.
- Cabot had a vision for the fishery as a renewable resource whose management should rest more fully with those living adjacent to the resource, particularly inshore fish harvesters. He vigorously voiced the precautionary principle in fishery management to guard against overfishing. His vision for offshore oil and gas framed public policy in the province long before any drilling had begun, and he was instrumental in shaping the emerging industry so that its development would bring maximum benefit. Cabot believed these two sectors, the traditional fishery and the new petroleum industry, could make a better future for Newfoundland and Labrador if we managed them intelligently.
- Cabot set an example for participatory democracy, speaking out with his strong reasoned voice to encourage private citizens to engage directly on major public policy issues. He was vocal in his opposition to the privatization of NL Hydro. He convened small groups to discuss fishery issues and to plan the future of an emerging natural gas industry. Just before his passing on September 2, 2022, he spoke out to support growth in the natural gas industry, drawing upon natural gas resources hitherto used primarily to maintain pressure on existing oilfields, but also upon predominantly gas fields which merit development in their own right.

Also, just before his passing, he wrote about the need for citizen engagement on major renewable energy projects designed to produce green hydrogen using our abundant wind resources. Cabot believed that the best public policy decisions emerge when citizens are active participants and fully informed of the facts.

Cabot was not only a thinker; he was a doer. As a thinker he supported sound public policy. As a doer he was an entrepreneur who invested and took risks both in the oil and gas industry and in the fishery. He was a pioneer in fish culture who built an enterprise which captured immature cod from the trap fishery and fed them with male caplin which otherwise would have been discarded. The Fund to be created in his memory will not only support the analysis of public policy but will also foster proposals for economic development, both regionally and provincially.