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Both of my parents were Second World War veterans. All my uncles on both sides of the family were veterans and my father-in-law was as well.

Environment Minister Catherine McKenna's recent announcement to renege on the promise by the Canadian government to grant a lease to the Never Forgotten National Memorial (NFM) Foundation to build a monument at Green Cove is beyond reasonable.

For four years, Parks Canada worked with this not-for-profit Foundation and shepherded the project to honour our fallen veterans in keeping with the Cape Breton Highlands National Park management plan.

It appears that following Parks Canada's due diligence has slowed the fundraising capacity of the NFM, but this is not reason enough to cancel the project for Green Cove.

In his mandate letters to the environment and heritage ministers, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau instructed them "to improve economic opportunity and security for Canadians in close collaboration with the not-for-profit and charitable sectors; and identifying ways to find solutions and avoid escalating conflicts unnecessarily."

He also notes: "It is important that we acknowledge mistakes when we make them."

I feel the decision not to grant a lease to the NFM Foundation is a mistake and must be rectified. Our fallen soldiers, airmen, merchant mariners and navy personnel deserve this memorial.

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