



News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers
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1. UWO's Jeremy Schmidt Brings Ethics into Water Policies

http://communications.uwo.ca/com/western_news/stories/bringing_ethics_into_our_water_policies

Jeremy Schmidt has an affinity with water. As a PhD student in the University of Western Ontario Geography Department, Schmidt is continuing his attraction to everything water, seeking to inspire an appreciation of, and obligation to, water and the many values and world views concerning our shared, mutual dependence on it. To this end, he conceptualizes a new ethic for water by uniting three domains: political economy, environmental management and ethics. His research represents some of the first empirical work on ethics and water policy in Alberta.

2. Memorial's Arn Keeling Chronicles the History of a Volatile Industry

http://today.mun.ca/rss/readmore.php?news_id=4690

Additional light is soon to be shed on the history of the mining industry in Canada thanks to the work of Faculty of Arts professors John Sandlos (History) and Arn Keeling (Geography). They have just received a maximum \$250,000 in funding from SSHRC for the Special Call "Northern Communities: Towards Social and Economic Prosperity." Their project, "Abandoned Mines in Northern Canada: Historical Consequences and Mitigation of Current Impacts," aims to interpret the development of five northern

mines (located in Quebec, the Yukon, and the Northwest Territories) within the framework of environmental justice and political ecology and to examine how northern factors such as isolation and environmental hardships have contributed to the decline of the communities being studied.

3. SFU and UVic Working Group Initiative Leads to Successful MITACS Grant

http://www.bcrrhrn.ca/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=199:working-group-initiativ

Heather Castleden (UVic), Valorie Crooks (SFU), and Ilja Tromp-van Meerveld (SFU) received a BCCRHRN Working Group Initiative (WGI) Grant to hold a face-to-face meeting in order to establish an interdisciplinary collaboration and develop a grant application that spans the natural-health-social sciences to address an important applied health problem relevant to a remote BC community: drinking water quality. The long-term objective is to secure continued funding to assess citizens' perceptions of risk and health as it relates to water quality and possibly even formally evaluate if and how this changes over time in response to communication of new scientific results about water quality and health, specifically in remote BC.

4. Lakehead University Professor Reg Horne Teaches from Unique Perspective

<http://www.orilliapacket.com/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=1602648>

While travel is not in his job description, Lakehead professor Reg Horne teaches Canadian geography from a unique perspective. He was born and raised in Gravenhurst, has taught at several large Ontario universities and has lived in all of Canada's western provinces. "I have taught in quite a few different places -- which never hurts when you're teaching geography," laughs Horne. "The opportunity to move back this way was attractive; it's closer to my wife's family and it's where I grew up so it's a good fit." And Horne has been a good fit with Lakehead University -- Orillia. "During faculty orientation, it was suggested that we get involved in the local community," said Horne. "It's really a key part of Lakehead's philosophy." It's a philosophy shared by Horne.

5. Geographer Peter Harrison Joins Queen's University

http://qnc.queensu.ca/story_loader.php?id=4a2d0b1bbaf5f

Peter Harrison, former Senior Associate Deputy Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada joins Queen's University as the new director of the School of Policy Studies, and Professor and Stauffer-Dunning Chair of Policy Studies. Dr. Harrison is a professional geographer, who holds a BA from the London School of Economics, an MA from the University of Victoria, and a PhD from University of Washington. He is a Fellow and Governor of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society, and a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society.

6. UWO's Jason Gilliland Presented with Julian M. Szeicz Award

<http://geography.uwo.ca/faculty/gilliland/j/>

Jason Gilliland, Associate Professor and Director of the Urban Development Program in the Department of Geography at the University of Western Ontario, is this year's recipient of the Julian M. Szeicz award made by the Canadian Association of Geographers. Dr. Gilliland's professional and academic background is in architecture, urban planning, and human geography. He received the award in recognition of his contribution to the geography of children in the city, which combines ideas and methods from urban, health, and well-being geographies. The CAG recognizes that he has advanced innovation through his versatility in using the tools of the geographer, his ability to initiate and sustain teamwork, and his mentoring of students.

7. UBC's Graeme Wynn Wins CAG Award for Scholarly Distinction in Geography

<http://www.geog.ubc.ca/people/index.php?action=2&cat=faculty&memberID=200011>

Graeme Wynn was presented with this award by the CAG to recognize his outstanding scholarly work in geography. Wynn is among the most respected historical geographers in the English-speaking world. His work explores the ways in which modernizing societies in colonial settings overseas transformed their physical environments, and, in turn, of how these transformations affected those who made them. Wherever his focus, his work is always meticulously informed, deftly written, and engaged with broad issues, which is why he is widely read and appreciated by a readership that extends across several academic disciplines and to the general public.

8. Environment Canada's Terry Prowse Accepts CAG Award for Geography in Service of Government

<http://www.geog.uvic.ca/dept2/faculty/prowse/prowse2.html>

The CAG offers this award to someone who has carried out major work for or in the public or private sector. Terry Prowse easily distinguishes himself as a professional geographer with a long history of achievement in the Federal Public Service. He currently holds the position of Senior Research Scientist with the National Hydrology Research Institute. Terry's research career has seen him make substantive contributions within the scholarly areas of climate impacts on hydrology and aquatic systems. Despite his many and varied professional successes, it is telling that Terry still proudly describes himself as a geographer.

9. UC's Emma Stewart Awarded Starkey-Robinson Award for Graduate Research on Canada

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/news/utoday/jan28-09/lastchance>

The Starkey-Robinson Award gives recognition to high quality graduate research that furthers understanding of the geography of Canada. Emma Stewart is the 2009 recipient of the Starkey-Robinson Award for Graduate Research in recognition of her doctoral dissertation defended in December 2008 entitled "Comparing resident attitudes towards tourism: Community-based cases from Arctic Canada". Her nominators described her as a departmental leader who integrated physical and human geography in her research, and as someone who served as exceptional ambassador for the University of Calgary Geography Department.

10. UM's Claude Peloquin 2009 Recipient of Robin P. Armstrong Memorial Prize

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/liaison/armstrong-eng.htm>

The Armstrong Memorial Prize recognizes and promotes excellence in applied research on Canada's Aboriginal peoples. It was established to commemorate the contribution of Robin P. Armstrong to research on Aboriginal issues within the government of Canada and the CAG. Claude Peloquin is the 2009 recipient of The Robin P. Armstrong Memorial Prize for Excellence in Native Studies in recognition of his MA thesis entitled "*Variability, change and continuity in social-ecological systems: insights from James Bay Cree cultural ecology*".

11. University of Alberta's John England on 'Toxic Arctic Ghost Town'

http://easweb.eas.ualberta.ca/download/file/papers/paper_75.pdf

The federal government has left a research station rotting at the western entrance of the fabled Northwest Pass, say scientists who describe it as a national, and possibly toxic, disgrace. "It's basically a toxic ghost town," says noted University of Alberta polar researcher John England. Environment Canada hoped the 1997 exit would not be permanent. Then in 2002 a decision was made to close it and \$8 million was allocated in 2003 for the "decommissioning" of Mould Bay and another Arctic weather station. But the decommissioning was delayed and, \$7.3 million of the \$8 million allocated for the clean up "cannot be

accounted for."

12. WLU's 'GeoHorizons Newsletter, Summer 2009' Available

http://www.wlu.ca/documents/35976/GeoHorizons_Summer_Issue_2009.pdf

Featured are items from outgoing 6-year Department Chair Mary-Louise Byrne and incoming Chair Michael English. Brent Wolfe talks about his IPY experiences and Professor Emeritus Bruce Young writes about 'books a geographer would never discard'. Andrea Kenward reviews the activities of the Graduate Association over the past year and Librarian Peter Genzinger highlights the latest books in Geography received in the library.

13. CAGView Features Pictures from the CAG AGM Hosted by Carleton University

<http://www.geog.uvic.ca/dept/caq/cagview.html>

Webpage albums of photos from the recent 59th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Association of Geographers at Carleton University. Access now provided to photos taken by Hugh Millward, Damaris Rose and Dan Smith.

14. Geographer of the Week: Daryl Dagesse, Brock University

http://www.brocku.ca/geography/faculty/d_dagesse/

Daryl Dagesse is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography, Brock University. Daryl completed his B.Sc., M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees at the University of Guelph. He describes himself as a periglacial geomorphologist, and research focuses on changes in soil structure as a result of freeze - thaw and cold temperature mechanical weathering of sedimentary rock.

15. Other "Geographical" News

Scientists Should Look At Their Own Carbon Footprint

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/news/june2009/carbonfootprint>

Scientists studying the impact of climate change on the Arctic need to consider ways to reduce their own carbon footprints, says a researcher who regularly flies north to study the health of caribou. In the June issue of *Arctic*, the journal of the University of Calgary's Arctic Institute of North America, postdoctoral fellow Ryan Brook calls on scientists to show leadership by examining and sharing ways to reduce the impact of working in polar regions. "The importance of the research is not at question here. It is vital to our understanding of and adapting to climate change. But we need to think about better approaches."

UBC researcher solves century-old enigma of prehistoric marine mass grave

<http://www.publicaffairs.ubc.ca/media/releases/2009/mr-09-065.html?src=rss>

Good old-fashioned detective work has turned up the first conclusive explanation for the origin of a massive bonebed in southern California, according to a new study led by a UBC paleontologist. The Sharktooth Hill bonebed is exposed over approximately 100 sq. kilometres of land, located at the southern end of the Central Valley of California. It is one of the largest concentrations of marine vertebrate fossils in the world, containing an average of 200 fossils per square-metre, including the skeletal remains of whales, seals, sea turtles, sharks and land mammals.

BC Mountaineering Virtual Museum

http://www.sarahmclennan.com/client_sites/vmc/index.html

The North Vancouver Library is currently working on a virtual exhibit entitled "Walking in the Clouds: A People's History of BC Mountaineering". Right now they are seeking input on their draft website.

GeogNews Archives: <http://www.geog.uvic.ca/dept/cag/geognews/geognews.html>
