



**News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers**  
**No. 46, September 10, 2009**  
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## **Contents**

1. MUN's Norm Catto says more Water Resources must be Brought on Stream
  2. UWO's Gordon McBean Co-Authors Report on Extreme Weather Risks
  3. University of Regina Geographers Complete Successful Summer Institute
  4. Work Term Turns U Waterloo Geography Student into "Tree Nerd"
  5. McMaster Weather Station Operated School of Geography & Earth Sciences
  6. University of Waterloo's Ellsworth LeDrew Installed as University Professor
  7. GSC Researcher Steve Wolfe Presentation on 'The Palliser Desert'
  8. University of Alberta Glacier Trackers Spend Season on the Edge
  9. Geography Book by Trent University Geographers Re-issued
  10. Geography of Nova Scotia, 1869
  11. U Manitoba Graduate Student Colin Anderson Wins Fulbright Award
  12. U Toronto's Tony Davis to Serve as Centre for Environment Advisor
  13. UVic Geography Teaching Assistant Consultant Christine Weldrick
  14. Geographer of the Week: Dr. Yuhong He, University of Toronto Mississauga
  15. Recent Publications by Canadian Geographers
  16. Recent Theses and Dissertations
  17. Other "Geographical" News
  18. Some not so "Geographical" News
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### **1. MUN's Norm Catto Says More Water Resources Must be Brought on Stream**

A Memorial University of Newfoundland geography professor says the rate of development is one factor contributing to the water shortage in the metro St. John's area. Professor [Norm Catto](#) says the growth in development is outpacing the yearly rainfall. He says if you have more people, using more water, then it is safe to assume more water sources must be brought on stream. [Listen to VOXM Audio Clip](#)

## **2. UWO's Gordon McBean Co-Authors Report on Extreme Weather Risks**

It's true: The weather is getting worse, from unprecedented snowfall in the Maritimes to record-breaking heat in B.C. And there's a growing scientific consensus that extreme weather is becoming more frequent as a result of climate change. Now a new report from the Adaptation to Climate Change Team (ACT), based at Simon Fraser University and co-authored by [Gordon McBean](#), A Professor in the Department of Geography at the University of Western Ontario argues that the increasing risks posed by extreme weather demand climate-adaptation policies that will allow regions across Canada to strengthen their capacity to deal with the fallout. [SFU Media](#) | [Western News](#)

## **3. University of Regina Geographers Complete Successful Summer Institute**

Drs. [Julia Siemer](#) and [Joe Piwowar](#) from the Department of Geography at the University of Regina, in collaboration with colleagues from the Departments of Sociology and Psychology have completed another successful [National Summer Institute on the Statistical and GIS Analysis of Social Science Data](#) (NSI). Although in past years the focus was on crime and justice data, this year the theme was health data. Intensive, hands-on training was given in many aspects of health mapping with GIS and advanced statistics using Statistics Canada data. The institute attracted over 60 participants - both students and practitioners - from across Canada.

## **4. Work Term Turns U Waterloo Student into "Tree Nerd"**

When it comes down to it, not many people can honestly say they have done their part for the environment. Mark Funk, on the other hand, has certainly contributed to the health of the planet with his work at the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority in Exeter, Ontario. "I never really thought about trees before. When I got there, I was doing a lot of terrestrial stuff. I thought, 'This isn't really up my alley.' But the more I learned about trees — learning how to ID them and everything — suddenly, I'm a tree nerd!" He adds with a bit less enthusiasm: "A reluctant tree nerd." [UW Daily Bulletin](#)

## **5. McMaster Weather Station Operated School of Geography & Earth Sciences**

McMaster Weather Station is operated by the Hydrometeorology and Climatology Lab in the School of Geography and Earth Sciences, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. It is being supervised by Dr. [Altaf Arain](#), associate professor in the School. The primary purpose of this weather station is to support undergraduate and graduate teaching and serve campus and surrounding community in west Hamilton. The station was established in October 2007 and a number of meteorological variables are being measured. [Current Weather](#)

## **6. University of Waterloo's Ellsworth LeDrew Installed as University Professor**

The University of Waterloo installed Professor Ellsworth LeDrew, Department of Geography and Environmental Management, was installed as a University Professor at the June 2009 convocation. Ellsworth is a Fellow of the International Electrical and Electronic Engineers and a Fellow of the Canadian Aeronautics and Space Institute. In 2001 he received the Faculty of Environment Research Award and in 2005 was awarded the Canadian Remote Sensing Society Gold Medal. [UW Daily Bulletin](#)

## **7. GSC Researcher Steve Wolfe Presentation on 'The Palliser Desert'**

The Department of Geography at the University of Lethbridge invites you to a presentation by Dr. Stephen Wolfe, Research Scientist with the Geological Survey of Canada: *The Palliser Desert: 18th century droughts created desert conditions on the Canadian Prairies*. Dr. Stephen Wolfe will describe the transition of desert to semi-arid conditions, that occurred between AD 1810 and 1880, and coincided with observations of the Palliser Expedition of the Canadian prairies. September 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 1400 hrs. [UL Notice Board](#)

## **8. University of Alberta Glacier Trackers Spend Season on the Edge**

University of Alberta student Faye Wyatt was in her tent on the Belcher Glacier when she heard a roar like a cannon shot. She ran outside and watched a slush avalanche wipe outside a hillside and cut three-metre-deep channels across the ice in minutes, just missing her tent. For the past eight years, researchers from the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences at the University of Alberta has been sending teams onto Canada's Devon Island in an effort to measure how fast the 14,000-square-kilometre sheet of ice is disappearing. [Edmonton Journal](#)

## **9. Geography Book by Trent University Geographers Re-issued**

The third edition of *Peterborough and the Kawarthas*, edited by Peter Adams and Colin Taylor, has been released by Trent University's Department of Geography. It includes chapters (complete with colour photos, maps, diagrams and tables) on geology, soils, plants and animals, climate, rivers and lakes, local history, urban geography, tourism and recreation, regional planning, local area field trips, and map and remote-sensing imagery. This version includes a chapter on weather and climate that is completely up-dated to the current official 30-year period for averages etc. Whereas climate warming was slight in the previous period, it is loud and clear in this one, states Adams. [Peterborough Examiner](#)

## **10. Geography of Nova Scotia, 1869**

Free access is provided to *Geography of Nova Scotia, with a brief introduction to general geography for the use of the pupils of the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb*, Halifax, N.S. Published in 1869, the book can either be read online or downloaded as a PDF. [Internet Archive](#)

## **11. U Manitoba Graduate Student Colin Anderson Wins Fulbright Award**

Colin Anderson, a PhD student in Environment and Geography, is the University of Manitoba's newest Fulbright scholar. Anderson, who completed his undergraduate degree in psychology at the University of Manitoba in 2006 before moving on to his graduate studies, and who will spend the coming school year at Oregon State University conducting research in geography, was recognized with the Canada-US Fulbright Award. "Colin represents a rare balance of organization, productivity and creativity as an emerging scholar, and happens to be a great guy as well. His research is ground-breaking, and builds effective bridges between theoretical priorities and community concerns," said Stephane McLachlan, an associate professor in environment and geography, and Anderson's advisor. [U Manitoba News Blog](#)

## **12. U Toronto's Tony Davis to Serve as Centre for Environment Advisor**

Professor [Anthony \(Tony\) Davis](#), Associate Professor (retired) of the University of Toronto Department of Geography will serve as the Centre for Environment Undergraduate Coordinator from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010. Dr. Davis' research interests include paleoecology of Great Lakes and boreal wetlands, and coastal change and human adaptation. At the Centre for Environment, he has taught ENV395Y Special Topics Field Course: Ecology & Conservation in Amazon & Galapagos.

## **13. UVic Geography Teaching Assistant Consultant Christine Weldrick**

The newest cohort of teaching assistants at the University of Victoria is also the first to experience the benefits of an innovative new professional development program. The Teaching Assistant Consultant (TAC) program employs "lead" TAs as consultants to UVic's TAs. The program is meant to support the next generation of academics-the TAs, the TACs and the students they mentor-to be successful in the classroom and competitive when they leave UVic. Christine Weldrick, a master's candidate in the Department of Geography, is one of 17 TACs this year, nominated for their leadership capabilities by various departments from six faculties at UVic. [The Ring](#)

### 13. Geographer of the Week: Dr. Yuhong He, University of Toronto

Dr. [Yuhong](#) He joined the Department of Geography at University of Toronto Mississauga as a Remote Sensing assistant professor as of July 1, 2009. Yuhong completed her BSc and MSc degrees at the Nanjing Institute of Meteorology, and her PhD at University of Saskatchewan. Her research has focused on the use of remotely sensed techniques, spatial analysis, climate data, and land surface modeling to study natural or managed systems; linking observed changes to environmental and anthropogenic driving factors at multiple spatial and temporal scales. [Centre for Environment News](#)

### 14. Recent Publications by Canadian Geographers

#### Environment and Health in Sub-Saharan Africa: Managing an Emerging Crisis



Professor [Isaac Luginaah](#) of Western's Department of Geography co-edited the following book: [Environment and Health in Sub-Saharan Africa: Managing an Emerging Crisis](#), which was published by Springer. It contains 10 chapters that address the following four themes: environmental health management, mining and environment, environmental monitoring and health development, sustainability and social responsibility. [Springer.com](#)

### 15. Recent Theses and Dissertations

Andrew Benson. 2009. *Concentrations of combustion derived contaminants in the sediments of remote lakes. Recent trends and implications for site assessment.* Unpublished MSc Thesis. School of Geography & Earth Sciences, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario.

Meagan Leach. 2009. *Influence of an Upstream Dam on Shallow Hydrology and Dynamics in an Unconfined Riparian Zone.* Unpublished MSc Thesis. School of Geography & Earth Sciences, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario.

Maria Lucchese. 2009. *Peatland Resoration: An Ecohydrological Assessment.* Unpublished MSc Thesis. School of Geography & Earth Sciences, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario.

Jason Grek Martin. 2009. *Making Settler Space: George Dawson, The Geological Survey of Canada and the Colonization of the Canadian West in the*

*Late 19th Century*. Unpublished PhD Dissertation. Department of Geography, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario.

Dora Poulio. 2009. Overweight And Obesity In Canada: Understanding The Individual And Socio-Environmental Determinants. Unpublished PhD Dissertation. School of Geography & Earth Sciences, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario.

Mirjana Vuksan. 2009. Evaluating Canada's Compassionate Care Benefit From the Employer/Human Resources (HR) Perspective. Unpublished MA Thesis. School of Geography & Earth Sciences, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario.

## **16. Other “Geographical” News**

### **First Peoples' Language Map of British Columbia**

The First Peoples Language Map of British Columbia was initiated in 2005 with funding from the BC Ministry of Education. Sarah Kell, started the language map with contemporary language group boundaries provided by the Museum of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia. Adjustments were made to the boundaries based on Indian reserve locations and best available knowledge of language spoken by First Nations affiliated with reserve lands. The online map was created by Global CADD Systems. In 2008 the map was expanded into an online map content on the languages, First Nations and Community Champions. [Language Map of B.C.](#)

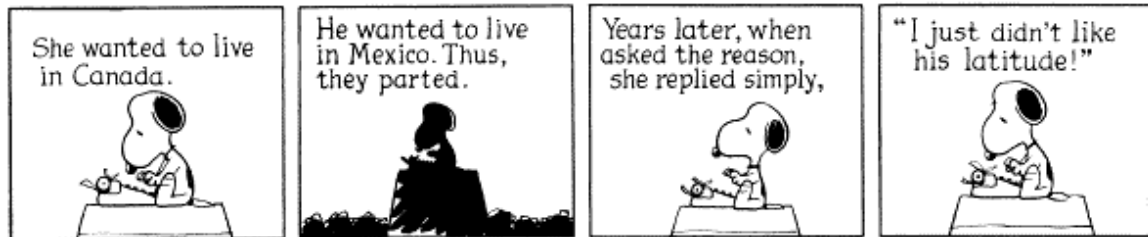
### **Geography Library Expects to Close as Technology Advances**

After more than 35 years as an official campus library at Indiana State University, the Geography and Map Library is closing. “Libraries are changing, and this change is truly evidenced on a national scale,” library spokesman Eric Bartheld said. “As more and more resources are available online and space on campus becomes more desirable, we see some of our smaller libraries closing.” [Indiana Daily Student](#)

### **Half of Fish Consumed Globally is Raised on Farms**

Aquaculture, once a fledgling industry, now accounts for 50 percent of the fish consumed globally, according to a new report by an international team of researchers. And while the industry is more efficient than ever, it is also putting a significant strain on marine resources by consuming large amounts of feed made from wild fish harvested from the sea. [Science Daily](#)

## 17. Some not so “Geographical” News



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GeogNews Archives:

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