

The logo for GeogNews features the word "GeogNews" in a large, bold, black sans-serif font. The text is centered against a background image of a sunset or sunrise over a body of water, with a dark horizon line and a sky filled with soft, warm colors like orange and yellow.

News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers

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1. Brock U's Michael Ripmeester Studies Statue in honour of Pte. Alexander Watson

In St. Catherines a 123-year-old decaying marble statue in honour of a Pte. Alexander Watson, who fought against Riel in the North- West Rebellion battle of 1885, is in need of repairs and city staff have suggested maybe it's time to destroy or move the potentially offensive statue that "could be perceived as a symbol of animosity towards past First Nations of Canada." "Most people would miss it if it were gone and do see it as significant to the city," said Ripmeester, a geography professor. Ripmeester said it's important not to edit history. Society should not forget battles, especially the ones now seen as unjust. [The Standard](#)

2. University of Western Ontario Geography Department YouTube Videos

The Univeristy of Western Ontario Geography Department has just released 6 YouTube videos highlighting its Masters and PhD programs, and its four research clusters - Environment, Development and Health; Physical Geography; Urban Studies and Geographic Information Science. These are available at [UWO Geog YouTube](#)

3. U Toronto's Edward Relph Sees Place and Placelessness Reprinted

First published over thirty years ago and still widely referenced, Relph's *Place and Placelessness* has become a classic of the phenomenological approach to the study of place and has influenced a generation of scholars by its insights. For this reprint Professor Relph has written a substantial new introduction setting his original text in its contemporary context. He shows how the concepts of place have been modified and yet continue to be of vital importance in interpreting a world which travel and commerce have made very different from that of 1976. In 2004 the Canadian Association of Geographers presented Dr. Relph with the [Award for Scholarly Distinction](#). [Place and Placelessness @ Pion Ltd](#)

4. WLU's Margaret Walton-Roberts Speaks on India-Canada Trade and Immigration

Dr. Margaret Walton Roberts, an Associate Professor in the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies at Wilfrid Laurier University, was recently interviewed for the [India report on Radio Canada International](#). CBC's Victor Nerenberg interviewed Walton-Roberts based on her research on India-Canada trade and immigration links, funded by the Asia Pacific Foundation and Metropolis BC. To listen to the interview, click on this link | [Radio Canada International Interview](#) | [WLU News Release](#)

5. McMasterU's Antonio Páez Appointed to Editorial Board of Environment & Planning A

[Antonio Páez](#), an Associate Professor in the School of Geography & Earth Sciences at McMaster University has been appointed to the editorial board of the major journal [Environment and Planning A](#).

6. U Lethbridge Geography Offers New Course on Sustainability Issues in Planning

The Geography Department at the University of Lethbridge is offering a new course in Spring 2010 on Sustainability Issues in Planning intend to provide students with a framework to organize the explosion of sustainability literature. In Canada, 80% of the population lives in urban areas. The manner in which cities are designed is directly linked to the social, economic and environmental dimensions of our civilization. An imbalance of any of these three dimensions has potential to significantly impact our ability to thrive. This course will provide an overview of the concept of sustainable communities and explore the imperative need, methods, and monitoring indicators for successful sustainability. An examination of future thinking techniques associated with planning will be presented. [Geog 4500](#)

7. WLU Geography Celebrates Geography Awareness Week

Wilfrid Laurier University's Department of Geography and Environmental Studies is marking international Geography Awareness Week Nov. 16 to 20 with a variety of events and

demonstrations. “Part of geography’s strength and beauty is that there are many disciplines within the subject that are seemingly unrelated, yet they are all focused on how humans have an impact on their environment,” said Dr. Michael English, chair of Laurier’s Geography and Environmental Studies department who researches ground and surface water hydrology. “Geography Awareness Week is an effective way to increase public knowledge about the study of geography.” Highlights of Laurier’s Geography Awareness Week events include a meteorological equipment demonstration, a hands-on surveying instrument display, and roving geographers on campus with trivia questions and prizes. [WLU News Release](#)

8. McMaster U’s Susan Elliott to Head Faculty of Applied Health Sciences at U Waterloo

A former McMaster University dean will come to UW as of July 1, 2010, to head the Faculty of Applied Health Sciences, the president has announced. Dr. Susan Elliott, a Professor in the School of Geography & Earth Sciences at McMaster University, is a specialist in environment and health. Says a memo from president David Johnston, “Susan Elliott completed her PhD in medical geography at McMaster University in 1992 and has had a successful career in the area of transdisciplinary health research and administration. Her first academic position was at the University of Victoria where she continued her research in the area of environment and health, and began to work on issues of local importance, particularly Aboriginal health. “Her return to McMaster led to several exciting research as well as leadership opportunities, first as director of the Institute of Environment and Health, then as director of the School of Geography and Earth Sciences, and most recently as dean, [Faculty of Social Sciences](#) (2003-2008), the largest faculty on the McMaster campus. Her recent research includes a major study of food allergies. [Susan Elliott @ McMU](#)

9. UBC Okanagan Geographer Jon Corbett Involved in Community Partnership in Health Research

Two community health research initiatives have each received grants of \$10,000 from UBC Okanagan's Institute for Healthy Living and Chronic Disease Prevention (IHLCDP). Casey Hamilton, an Interior Health and UBC Okanagan researcher, and geographer Jon Corbett will use the grant for a project that builds on and refines an existing map of food-related resources in the region. The project will produce a comprehensive Food Systems Map (FSM) of the region using technology called GeoWeb, which merges geographic data with traditional data on the Internet. They're using GeoWeb to encourage the active participation of community members, increase awareness and interest in food-related issues, and to promote FSM as a collaborative web map. The project will also build capacity in the design, development and use of GeoWeb tools among members of the group. [UBC Okanagan Media Release](#)

10. Geographer of the Week: Patrick De Luca, McMaster University

[Patrick De Luca](#) holds two appointments in the School of Geography and Earth Sciences at McMaster University. He is the Systems Administrator and Instructional Assistant Centre for Spatial Analysis/GIS Lab, and a Sessional Lecturer, School of Geography and Earth Sciences.

Patrick completed a BSc in Climatology/GIS at McMaster University, a GIS Certificate at McMaster University/Mohawk College, and an M.A. at McMaster focused on a “*Spatial analysis of selected reproductive health outcomes of women living in the vicinity of the Sydney Tar Ponds, Sydney, NS*”. His research interests focus on regional variations in quality of health and health care; quantitative methods in geography and Geographical Information Systems; and, business geographics. [School of Geography & Earth Sciences](#)

11. Other “Geographical” News

Penguins and Sea Lions Help Produce New Atlas

Recording hundreds of thousands of individual uplinks from satellite transmitters fitted on penguins, albatrosses, sea lions, and other marine animals, the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and BirdLife International have released the first-ever atlas of the Patagonian Sea -- a globally important but poorly understood South American marine ecosystem. The atlas contains the most accurate maps ever assembled for this ecosystem revealing key migratory corridors that span from coastlines to deep-sea feeding areas off the continental shelf hundreds of miles away. Called *Atlas of the Patagonian Sea: Species and Spaces*, the 300-page book was edited by Valeria Falabella and Claudio Campagna. The atlas, which is in English and Spanish, will be used to help inform potential policy decisions in the region such as managing fisheries and charting transportation routes of oil tankers. [ScienceDaily](#)

12. Some not so “Geographical” News

Geography is a Flavour



Most of the world’s coffee is grown between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn, on plantations in Africa and Arabia, Latin America and on Pacific islands. Because each of these regions has different soils, climates and cultivation methods, the coffees they produce vary greatly by taste. Each is a unique treasure. [Starbucks Coffee](#)

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