



News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers

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U Western Ontario's Joy Parr Awarded 2011 Canada Prize in the Social Sciences: Joy Parr is the winner of the 2011 Canada Prize in the Social Sciences for [Sensing Changes: Technologies, Environments, and the Everyday, 1953-2003](#) (University of British Columbia Press). Joy has an intriguing job title. Within the University of Western Ontario's faculty of social science, she is Canada Research Chair in Technology, Culture and Risk. Parr, who holds a PhD in History from Yale and has taught at such institutions as Queens University, Harvard University, and the University of British Columbia, conducts research at the intersections of well-being, technology and time. The advances in manufacturing, communication, and other areas of technology that have made existence in the western world hum with busyness also shape our bodies and our memories-our ways of seeing and recalling the world. [Canadian Federation of Humanities and Social Sciences](#)

Queen's Harry McCaughey on Measuring Impact of Earth Hour: Kingston Hydro customers reduced electricity consumption by 3.1% during Earth Hour. Queen's geography professor Harry McCaughey said dwelling on the numbers isn't the best way to measure Earth Hour's impact. "Those numbers can be a little deceiving because a lot depends on average temperature," McCaughey said. If one Ontario municipality has a particularly cold or dark Earth Hour one year, he said, it may use more electricity. "If you look at the number of cities, the number of countries participating in Earth Hour this year," McCaughey said, "it's definitely a growing phenomenon." [The Kingston Whig-Standard](#)

Brock U Geography Class Supports World Water Day: Water-conscious students at Brock University may have noticed new initiatives around campus in recognition of World Water Day. The Ontario Public Interest Research Group, faculty and approximately 35 volunteers from the Geography of Water Resources class, including Professor Romila Vermila, were involved. Celeste C. Rodrigues, a fourth-year Physical Geography student on the Board of Directors for OPIRG summed up what the organization is all about in her own words. "[We] try and radicalize the way we think here at Brock [...] in a positive way." [The Brock Press](#)

WLU's Brenda Murphy and U Guelph's Laura Brown Study Impact of Climate Change on Sugar Maples: Within 50 years, there could be fewer sugar maples in Ontario, Brenda Murphy, an associate professor in geography at Wilfrid Laurier University's Brantford campus, said. They're in danger from climate change, she said. Murphy believes that by 2070, sugar maple trees in southern Ontario, especially in the eastern and western regions, will be at risk of decline. By 2100, sugar maples will migrate northward from their current growing locations. Under climate change, sap is running in the trees earlier," Murphy said. "Instead of March, we're getting runs in January and February ... we're getting a warmer and earlier spring." Murphy undertaking the study with physical geographer Laura Brown from the University of Guelph, and Annette Chrétien, a scholar in humanities and indigenous studies at Laurier Brantford. [The Record.com](#)

UBC's Sarah Panofsky Featured in Canadian Geographic: Sarah Panofsky was drawn last summer to the Wet'suwet'en's passionate opposition to the Enbridge Northern Gateway Project, which will see an average of 525,000 barrels of oil a day transported across the First Nation's traditional territory around Smithers, in central British Columbia. The proposed twin pipelines will run between the Edmonton area and a marine terminal in Kitimat, B.C. A master's student of human geography at the University of British Columbia, Panofsky is examining how the concerns of the Wet'suwet'en are being addressed through an environmental assessment process that will determine the fate of the project. Her thesis research has received financial assistance from [The Royal Canadian Geographical Society](#).

Universite Laval's Michel Allard on Permafrost Thaw in Salluit: hough Salluit is above the tree line, Quebec scientists have focused their research here, where the melting permafrost has destabilized not only the land, but also the people who live on it. There has even been talk of relocating the entire village. Village officials have been working closely with a team of researchers from Universite Laval, led by Michel Allard, a geomorphologist who studies changes to the Earth's surface. Allard is one of the world's leading experts in permafrost. [The Vancouver Sun](#)

U Western Ontario Undergraduate Geography Thesis Research About Campus Crime: Amber Garratt, completed her Geography Undergraduate Thesis (Geography 4900) this year on the topic of Campus Crime at Western. Amber, who is also the Arts & Life Editor for The Western Gazette, wrote an article titled "Western prides itself on being the best student experience, but how safe is this experience?" for the Gazette. [The Western Gazette](#)

UBC Geography Newsletter, March 2011: In the newsletter this month Rich McCleary writes about his experiences in the department; Trevor Barnes and Lori Daniels dispense some personal teaching stories and useful tips; and Matt Dyce reflects on teaching Canadian Regional Geography. [Geog@UBC, Vol 6\(7\)](#).

Geographer of the Week: Dr. Jeanine Rhemtulla, McGill University

Dr. [Jeanine Rhemtulla](#) is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography & McGill School of Environment, McGill University. Her research focuses on understanding the long-term interactions between human land use and ecosystem structure, composition, and functioning. Jeanine's research thus has three main themes: reconstructing land-use and land-cover change at local to regional scales over the past few centuries; examining the effects of land-use legacies on landscape composition and structure and the provisioning of ecosystem services such as biodiversity and carbon storage; and identifying trade-offs between human livelihoods and ecosystem services through time. She draws on theory and methods from landscape ecology and historical ecology, and employ a wide range of tools, including ecological fieldwork, household surveys, historical data sources (survey records, census data, old airphotos and satellite imagery), and spatial analysis and GIS.

Rhemtulla, J.M. and D.J. Mladenoff. 2010. [Relative consistency, not absolute precision, is the strength of the Public Land Survey](#). Ecological Applications 20(4):1187-1189.

Ramankutty, N., E. Heller, and J.M. Rhemtulla. 2010. [Prevailing myths about agricultural abandonment and forest regrowth in the United States](#). Annals of the Association of American Geographers 100(3):502-512

Pijanowski, B.C., L.R. Iverson, C.A. Drew, H. Bulley, J.M. Rhemtulla, M.C. Wimberly, A. Bartsch, and J. Peng. 2010. [Addressing the interplay of poverty and the ecology of landscapes: A grand challenge topic for landscape ecologists?](#) Landscape Ecology 25(1) 5-16.

New in The Canadian Geographer



Claudio Aporta, D.R. Fraser Taylor and Gita J. Laidler. 2011. [Geographies of Inuit sea ice use: introduction](#). The Canadian Geographer 55(1):1-5.

Milton M. R. Freeman. 2011. [Looking back—and looking ahead—35 years after the Inuit land use and occupancy project](#). The Canadian Geographer 55(1):6-19.

Claudio Aporta and John MacDonald. 2011. [An elder on sea ice: an interview with Aipilik Inuksuk of Igloodik, Nunavut](#). The Canadian Geographer 55(1):32-35.

Aipilik Inuksuk. 2011. [On the nature of sea ice around Igloodik](#). The Canadian Geographer 55(1):36-41.

Shari Gearheard, Claudio Aporta, Gary Aipellee and Kyle O'Keefe. 2011. [The Igliniit project: Inuit hunters document life on the trail to map and monitor arctic change](#). The Canadian Geographer 55(1):42-55.

Igor Krupnik. 2011. ['How many Eskimo words for ice?' Collecting Inuit sea ice terminologies in the International Polar Year 2007–2008](#). The Canadian Geographer 55(1):56-68.

Scott A. Heyes. 2011. [Cracks in the knowledge: sea ice terms in Kangiqsualujuaq, Nunavik](#). The Canadian Geographer 55(1):69-90.

Gita J. Laidler, Tom Hirose, Mark Kapfer, Theo Ikummaq, Eric Joamie and Pootoogoo Elee. 2011. [Evaluating the Floe Edge Service: how well can SAR imagery address Inuit community concerns around sea ice change and travel safety?](#) The Canadian Geographer 55(1):91-107.

Antoni G. Lewkowicz and Philip P. Bonnaventure. 2011. [Equivalent elevation: a new method to incorporate variable surface lapse rates into mountain permafrost modelling](#). Permafrost and Periglacial Processes. DOI: 10.1002/ppp.720

Peter L. Pulsifer, Gita J. Laidler, D. R. Fraser Taylor and Amos Hayes. 2011. [Towards an Indigenist data management program: reflections on experiences developing an atlas of sea ice knowledge and use](#). The Canadian Geographer 55(1):108-124.

Philip Howarth. 2011. [Marie Sanderson \(1921–2010\)](#). The Canadian Geographer 55(1):125-126.

Hot Papers by Canadian Geographers

Nathaniel Bell, Nadine Schuurman, Morad Hameed and Nadine Caron. 2011. [Are we homogenising risk factors for public health surveillance? Variability in severe injuries on First Nations reserves in British Columbia, 2001–5](#). Injury Prevention. doi:10.1136/ip.2010.030866

Nancy Cook and David Butz. 2011. [Narratives of accessibility and social change in Shimshal, Northern Pakistan](#). Mountain Research and Development 31(1):27-34.

Laura Dingle Robertson and Douglas J. King. 2011. [Comparison of pixel- and object-based classification in land cover change mapping](#). International Journal of Remote Sensing 32(6):1505-1529.

Mowafa Said Househ, Andre W. Kushniruk, Malcolm Maclure, Bruce Carleton and Denise Cloutier-Fisher. 2011. [Virtual knowledge production within a physician educational outreach program](#). Knowledge Management & E-Learning: An International Journal 3(1):24-

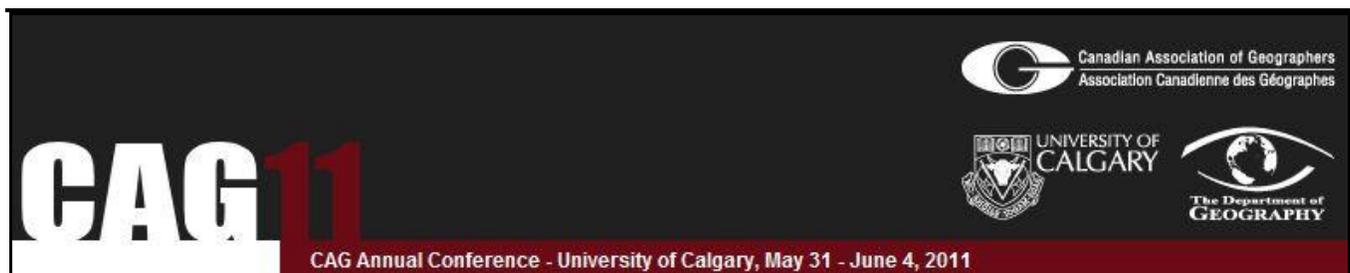
Lindsey Koehler and Dan J. Smith. 2011. [Late Holocene glacial activity in Manatee Valley, southern Coast Mountains, British Columbia, Canada](#). Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences 48(3):603-618.

Marian Kremer, Antoni G. Lewkowicz, Philip P. Bonnaventure and Michael C. Sawada. 2011. [Utility of classification and regression tree analyses and vegetation in mountain permafrost models, Yukon, Canada](#). Permafrost and Periglacial Processes. DOI: 10.1002/ppp.719

Victoria M. Lukasik and Shelley M. Alexander. 2011. [Human-coyote interactions in Calgary, Alberta](#). Human Dimensions of Wildlife 16(2):114-127.

Jessica Place and Neil Hanlon. 2011. [Kill the lake? Kill the proposal: Accommodating First Nations' environmental values as a first step on the road to wellness](#). GeoJournal 76(2):163-175.

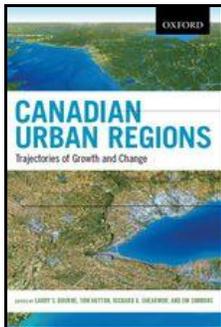
Nancy A. Ross, Rochelle Garner, Julie Bernier, David H. Feeny, Mark S. Kaplan, Bentson McFarland, Heather M. Orpana and Jillian Oderkirk. 2011. [Trajectories of health-related quality of life by socio-economic status in a nationally representative Canadian cohort](#). Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health, doi:10.1136/jech.2010.115378



The University of Calgary Geography Department is hosting the CAG's 2011 annual conference and meeting, May 31 - June 4, 2011. UofC Geography is also celebrating 50 years of research, teaching and service, and the Department of Earth Sciences - Geography Program at Mount Royal University is celebrating 100 years of the school's existence as well as its new University status. It's a great time to look at what Geographers have accomplished, look at the big and small changes, and celebrate the New Geographies emerging today.

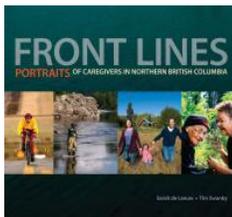
New Books

Larry S. Bourne, Tom Hutton, Richard Shearmur and Jim Simmons (Eds). [Canadian Urban Regions: Trajectories of Growth and Change](#). Oxford University Press Canada.



Bringing together some of the most respected scholars in the discipline, *Canadian Urban Regions: Trajectories of Growth and Change* is an innovative exploration of current trends and developments in urban geography. Combining theoretical perspectives with contemporary insights, the text reveals how the economic welfare of Canada is increasingly determined by the capacity of its cities to function as sites of innovation, creativity, skilled labour formation, specialized production, and global-local interaction. The text moves from building a contextual framework, on to practical case studies about evolving political, economic, and urban changes in five of Canada's major cities - Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Calgary, and Vancouver - before finally moving on to a discussion of the future of the discipline.

Sarah De Leeuw. 2011. [Frontlines: Celebrating Northern BC's Health Care Practitioners](#). Creekstone Press.



On these pages you will meet doctors whose insights into rural medicine have won them national awards, nurses who embody the concept of cultural competence and social workers who restore pride and meaning to lives shattered by residential schools, alcohol, drugs and mental illness. There are general practitioners with specialities in oncology, palliative care and HIV/AIDS, a dispensing optician who sees life through a variety of lenses and a pharmacist who incorporates homeopathy into her practice. And you will travel...from the shores of Haida Gwaii east to the Robson Valley, from Vanderhoof, at the geographical centre of the province, to Dease Lake on its northern border. In each locale we learn how place and people influence practice and how individual caregivers try to right imbalances in health care resources and access. All this in a book of sumptuous design with beautiful images of extraordinary people in extraordinary landscapes. *Front Lines* is a celebration of innovation, an invitation to those interested in designing care appropriate to different cultures and difficult geographies and, finally, it is a tribute to those who are leading the way

Other “Geographical” News

Researcher Discovers David Thompson Trading Post: Two little piles of stones surrounded by scrub pine in northern Manitoba may provide a physical link to one of North America's greatest explorers and map-makers. Archeologist Perry Blomquist believes the rocks at Sipiwesk Lake on the Nelson River are remnants of chimneys from the post and storehouse that was David Thompson's first venture as an independent fur trader. Around them, Blomquist found more than 1,000 artifacts that he says prove it is the trading post that has been "lost" since it was first discovered by Joseph Tyrrell more than 100 years ago. [CBC News](#)

Wind Can Keep Mountains From Growing: Wind is a much more powerful force in the evolution of mountains than previously thought. Bedrock in Central Asia that would have formed mountains instead was sand-blasted into dust. "No one had ever thought that wind could be this effective," said Paul Kapp, a University of Arizona associate professor of geosciences. "You won't read in a textbook that wind is a major process in terms of breaking down rock material." He and his colleagues estimate wind can be 10 to 100 times more effective in eroding mountains than previously believed. [EurekAlert!](#)

The Magic and Banality of Place: Like many key terms for cultural geographers, “place” is not a word made and owned by professional academics, but is one that has a host of meanings and common uses. That is, in fact, one of the reasons why it presents such a rich field for cultural geographic research. The meaning and significance of place, and of a particular place, is the organizing theme to BOOM! Studios’ anthology series memorializing the famed, and shuttered, New York music venue, CBGB. [PopMatters](#)

Some not so “Geographical” News



The Magic School Bus uses LiDAR: See it on [YouTube](#)

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