



**News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers**  
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**Memorial Researchers Propose New Approach to Understanding Regions in Newfoundland:**

There's a lot of talk about the state of rural communities in Newfoundland and Labrador. New research at Memorial is helping to back up the conjecture with statistical fact, along with some practical suggestions for future success. The findings are part of a multi-year research project to identify more effective ways of organizing economic development efforts in the province. The project, Rural Urban Interaction NL -- Understanding and Managing Functional Regions, is a joint collaboration undertaken by David Freshwater, Alvin Simms, Kelly Vodden at the Department of Geography, Memorial University. [MUN Today](#)

**U Guelph's Ben Branshaw Speaks About Deals Between Mining Companies and Aboriginal Communities:** Can mining mend the housing shortage, or the income gap in First Nations? Listen to Ben Branshaw of the Department of Geography at Guelph University talk about what new research shows about deals between mining companies and Aboriginal communities. [Listen@CBC](#)

**U Waterloo's Faculty of Environment Presents Steven Franklin with 2011 Alumni Award:** The University of Waterloo Alumni Awards are presented to recognize individuals making significant contributions to their university, their professions and their communities; as well as to recognize their efforts to build a better world. The Faculty of Environment 2011 Alumni Award was made to Steven E. Franklin. Steven is an interdisciplinary environmental scientist who has made substantial scientific contributions to the application of satellite and aerial remote sensing to terrain analysis, forestry and wildlife management. In 2007 was awarded the prestigious Canadian Remote Sensing Society Gold Medal. Dr. Franklin has taught at the University of Waterloo, Memorial University of Newfoundland, University of Calgary, and University of Saskatchewan, where he also served as Vice-President Research. Today, he is President and Vice-Chancellor of Trent University in Peterborough, where he holds a joint appointment in the Department of Geography and the Environmental Science program. [UW 2011 Alumni Awards](#)

**Mount Allison U's MAD Lab Examines World's Oldest Hockey Stick for the Daily Planet:** The Discovery Channel's Daily Planet visits the MAD Lab in the Department of Geography and Environment at Mount Allison University to check out, what may be, the [world's oldest hockey stick](#). Colin Laroque, a tree-ring scientist dated the tree used to make the stick between 1835 and 1838. He even found five layers of paint on the stick that match popular paints used over the years. [Eight Minutes into Dec 13, 2011 Edition](#).

**Geographer Briony Penn Argues Fisheries Minister Ignores Sara, Caves to Industry:** In what many are calling a dangerous and reckless move, the Honourable James Ashfield, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, has just opened a massively scaled-up winter herring fishery in the Salish Sea that could

knock back all the recent small recoveries of local resident herring populations from Saanich Inlet and the Gorge to Ganges Harbour and Howe Sound. [FOCUSonline](#)

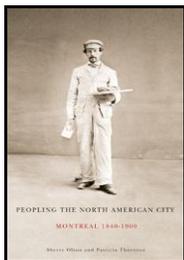
**Wilfrid Laurier University's Brenda Murphy Comments on Closing Pandora's Box:** In Canada, 60 years of splitting atoms has created 44,000 tonnes of intensely radioactive waste "We've opened this Pandora's box with this stuff. What do we do with it?" asks Brenda Murphy, a geographer at Wilfrid Laurier University. AECL studied the issue and in 1988 unveiled a generic repository plan for used CANDU fuel. For now, however, the absence of a specific site is a huge sticking point, says Murphy. "Depending on how you structure your model, you can make anything seem OK. The proof will be, what does it actually look like when they have a real place, with real limitations and real rock and real water flowing through rocks?" she says. "The devil is in the details. You can have motherhood statements around safety and all those things, but what does it really look like?" [Canada.com](#)

**Geographer Henry Frew Enters Stanford Who's Who:** Henry Frew has been accepted to the ranks of Stanford Who's Who as a result of his remarkable work in the field of scientific research. Mr. Frew is Owner and Principal Consultant of the Carrick House Group, a multi-faceted consulting company which has two major operational areas; firstly, an environmental consulting firm that specializes in marine and coastal environments as well parks and tourism.. During his collegiate career, Henry earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Geography and a post-graduate Certificate in Business Administration from the University of Victoria. In 2004, Henry was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society in London. [International Business Times](#)

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## New Book

Sherry Olson and Patricia Thornton. 2011. [Peopling the North American City. Montreal, 1840-1900. A lively reconstruction of life in a booming North American city.](#) McGill-Queen's University Press.



Many North American cities trace their population booms to the nineteenth century when immigrants and migrants flooded emerging industrializing urban centres in search of better lives. *Peopling the North American City* examines this phenomenon in Montreal through the eyes of a thousand couples to construct both an intimate portrait and a compelling overview of life in a nineteenth-century metropolis. Benefiting from Montreal's remarkable archival records, Sherry Olson and Patricia Thornton use an ingenious sampling of twelve surnames to track the comings and goings, births, deaths, and marriages of the city's inhabitants. The book demonstrates the importance of individual decisions by outlining the circumstances in which people decided where to move, when to marry, and what work to do. Integrating social and spatial analysis, the authors provide insights into the relationships among the city's three cultural communities, show how inequalities of voice, purchasing power, and access to real property were maintained, and provide first-hand evidence of the impact of city living and poverty on families, health, and futures.

## Recent Theses and Dissertations

Varun Gupta. 2011. [Anaerobic oxidation of methane in northern peatlands](#). Unpublished MSc thesis. Department of Geography, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario. Supervisor: Nathan Basiliko.

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### Hot Papers by Canadian Geographers

William M. Buhay, Brent B. Wolfe and Antje Schwalb. 2011. [Lakewater paleothermometry from Deep Lake, Minnesota during the deglacial-holocene transition from combined  \$\delta^{18}O\$  analyses of authigenic carbonate and aquatic cellulose](#). Quaternary International. doi:10.1016/j.quaint.2011.11.034

Luke Copland, Tyler Sylvestre, Michael P. Bishop, John F. Shroder, Yeong Bae Seong, Lewis A. Owen, Andrew Bush and Ulrich Kamp. 2011. [Expanded and recently increased glacier surging in the Karakoram](#). Arctic, Antarctic, and Alpine Research 43(4):503-516.

J. Dawson, M.J. Johnston, E.J. Stewart, C.J. Lemieux, R.H. Lemelin, P.T. Maher and B.S.R. Grimwood. 2011. [Ethical considerations of last chance tourism](#). Journal of Ecotourism 10(3):250-265.

Nadine Heck, Philip Dearden and Adrian McDonald. 2011. [Insights into marine conservation efforts in temperate regions: marine protected areas on Canada's West](#). Ocean & Coastal Management. doi:10.1016/j.ocecoaman.2011.11.008

Matthias Jakob and Mike Church. 2011. [The trouble with floods](#). Canadian Water Resources Journal. DOI:10.4296/cwrj3604928

Kristian Larsen, Jason Gilliland and Paul M. Hess. 2011. [Route-based analysis to capture the environmental influences on a child's mode of travel between home and school](#). Annals of the Association of American Geographers. DOI:10.1080/00045608.2011.627059

Maxime Lessard-Lachance and Glen Norcliffe. 2011. [To storm the Citadel: Geographies of protest at the Summit of the Americas in Québec City, April 2001](#). Annals of the Association of American Geographers. DOI:10.1080/00045608.2011.628249

Shougeng Hu, Qiuming Cheng, Le Wang and Shuyun Xie. 2012. [Multifractal characterization of urban residential land price in space and time](#). Applied Geography 34:161-170.

Steven D. Mamet and G. Peter Kershaw. 2011. [Subarctic and alpine tree line dynamics during the last 400 years in north-western and central Canada](#). Journal of Biogeography. DOI: 10.1111/j.1365-2699.2011.02642.x

Rachel Silvey and Katharine Rankin. 2011. [Critical development studies and political geographic imaginaries](#). Progress in Human Geography 35(5):696-704.

Dragos Simandan. 2011. [The wise stance in human geography](#). Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers 36(2):188-192.

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## Other “Geographical” News

**Pleistocene Reversal of the Fraser River, British Columbia:** The Fraser River flows through the Coast Mountains via a 1-km-deep canyon that also hosts the primary road and rail links between Vancouver and the rest of British Columbia and Canada. Recent studies reveal that the Fraser River flowed northward at that time, presumably to either the Arctic Ocean via the Mackenzie River system, or to the Pacific Ocean via a longer and more tortuous path to the Columbia River system. Sometime after 1 million years, the Fraser River experienced a period of drainage reversal, presumably in response to one or more of the several glaciations to have affected the region in the past 1 million years. At the same time, the Fraser Canyon was carved, and, for the first time, sediment began to be transported into the Pacific Ocean basin, where the Nitinat Fan and Fraser Delta began to build up on the deep and shallow sea floor, respectively. Reversal of the Fraser River profoundly changed the landscape and hydrology of British Columbia. [Geology 2011](#)

**More Shrubbery in northern Quebec’s Warming World:** Scientists have used satellite data from NASA-built Landsat missions to confirm that more than 20 years of warming temperatures in northern Quebec have resulted in an increase in the amount and extent of shrubs and grasses. For this study, the scientists focused only on 'greenness' measurements during the peak summer growing seasons from 1986 to 2010. By using Landsat's higher, 30-meter resolution and viewing the same area at the same time for 23 years, the researchers were able to track the areas as they continued to show more 'greenness' over the years. "It makes sense"... "This is how shrub encroaching occurs. They increase in size, they increase in density, and then they move northward." [ScienceDaily](#)

**Expert Panel Reports on Strategic Global Health Opportunities for Canada:** The Canadian Academy of Health Sciences has released a report entitled *Canadians Making a Difference: The Expert Panel on Canada’s Strategic Role in Global Health*. This report, authored by an Expert Panel of leading Canadian and international global health experts, is based on a year-long evidence-based assessment process that was completed earlier this year. The report identifies five roles in which there is an opportunity for Canada to have significant global impact including: Indigenous and Circumpolar Health Research; Population and Public Health; Community-Oriented Primary Healthcare; Smart Partnerships in Education and Research; and Global health innovation. [CHAS Report Links](#)

**Rapid Rise in Wildfires in Large Parts of Canada?** Large forest regions in Canada are apparently about to experience rapid change. Based on models, scientists can now show that there are threshold values for wildfires just like there are for epidemics. Large areas of Canada are apparently approaching this threshold value and may in future exceed it due to climate change. As a result both the area burnt down annually and the average size of the fires would increase. As a result both the area burnt down annually and the average size of the fires would increase, write the researchers in the [December issue](#) of the journal the American Naturalist. The strategies for combating wildfires in large parts of Canada should therefore be reconsidered. [EurekAlert!](#)

**The 12 Wines of Christmas — The Must-Have Wine Map:** Wine maps are one of those supreme nerd devices. They’re completely reasonable things to use, of course: If you believe that good wine is supposed to represent a place, then at some point a map becomes essential. And here’s where David Gissen comes in. The result is his Metro Wine Map of France, one of the most brilliant visual works of wine geography yet devised. Major regions are connected in linear fashion, so the burgundy-colored line depicting Burgundy has Dijon as one terminus — with Chablis as a spur line — and Lyon as the other. And all the little stations in a row: Vougeot to Vosne-Romanee to Nuits-St.-Georges. [Inside Scoop SF](#)

Some not so “Geographical” News



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