



GeogNews

News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers
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Brock U's Michael Ripmeester Examines Changing Spaces in St. Catharines: Michael Ripmeester (GEOG) has been awarded a research grant by the Council for Research in the Social Sciences for a project entitled Caught Between Deindustrialization and the Cultural Economy: Working People and Life Narratives in St. Catharines. This interview-based project will help him to examine the demise of manufacturing and the emergence of a cultural economy in St. Catharines. The point of this project is to investigate how changing spaces that result from deindustrialization affect how people are able to find meaning in an intangible heritage, or human doing (as opposed to finding meaning solely in material objects). [Brock U News Around Campus](#)

McGill U's Raphaël Fischler and Concordia U's Norma Rantisi Comment on Whether Urban Congestion is Attractive: The recent adoption of new growth controls by the Montreal Metropolitan Community has followed the rise in housing prices, not preceded it. This rise is due principally to economic factors: higher incomes and lower interest rates have fuelled demand for condos and homes. We agree that wise policy-making on urban development requires weighing social, environmental and economic factors against one another. It may be that creating a more environmentally sustainable city will increase the cost of housing per square foot, and that demand for large homes on large lots will become harder to satisfy. But the debate about such trade-offs should be conducted in a thoughtful manner, without resorting to what we contend has been manipulation and obfuscation. [Canada.com](#)

Mount Allison U Geography Student Works to Build Better Shelterbelts: The agricultural sector's survival will depend on its ability to adapt to changes in climate. Cecilia Jennings, a Mount Allison University student majoring in English and geography, is providing farmers with information they can use to help make the transformation. Jennings is working this summer on a project that will help farmers make decisions on what species to plant and strengthen their ability to cultivate economically and environmentally viable shelterbelt systems in Canada and in the rest of the world. Specifically Jennings is evaluating the future of white spruce in shelterbelt systems. Shelterbelts are a barrier of trees that protect against the wind and erosion of farmland. Her work is also part of a larger study, funded by the Agricultural Greenhouse Gases Program. [MTA News](#)

U Guelph's Evan Taylor Focused on how Drought Imperils Eastern Canada Crops: "It is a bad year in eastern Canada and it is getting worse," said Evan Fraser, a geography professor who studies global food security at the University of Guelph, west of Toronto. The far southwest part of Ontario is "looking grim," Dr. Fraser said, and in other parts of the province "it's a bit of a wait-and-see game." Although many parts of Western Canada have experienced an excellent growing year, the east is parched. In Ontario, some parts have received less than half of the normal precipitation for this time of year. The weather over the next week or so will dictate how much of the Ontario corn crop survives and it will take several days of sustained rain to make a difference. [Globe and Mail](#)

Carleton Geography Graduate Student Heads to Baffin Bay in BBC Documentary: Carleton University's Anna Crawford, a student in the Masters of Science program with the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, is headed to Baffin Bay to participate in a 10-day, two-part documentary produced by the BBC. The documentary is set to air September 2012. Crawford is currently researching the drift and deterioration of the larger Petermann Ice Island fragments within Lancaster Sound and Baffin Bay. In 2011, the Canadian Ice Service and ArcticNet funded Crawford's research on the ice islands. This second round of field work will have Crawford on one of the Petermann Ice Islands and glacial sources in conjunction with the filming and production of the documentary. The ice island is now located in Baffin Bay near Clyde River, a community on the east coast of Baffin Island. "Under the supervision of Derek Mueller, I have been able to observe and study these unusually large icebergs," said Crawford. "They are potential hazards to navigation and industrial equipment and will likely become more frequently seen in the Arctic due to climate change. My personal work investigates the role of surface melt on overall ice island decay, while my colleagues study other aspects of ice island deterioration and drift." [Carleton Newsroom](#)

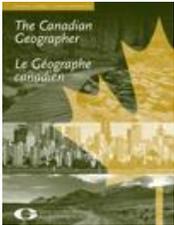
U Waterloo's Ellsworth LeDrew and Daniel Scott Finding Ways to Prepare Communities for Climate Change: Climate change – the term used to describe when long-term weather patterns are altered – is having a serious impact on reefs, turning what were once thriving bionetworks into bleached, barren wastelands. Acidic oceans, rising water levels and intense tourism are considered some of the culprits. But so is warming water. "This is a major lesson that I'm trying to get through to my students," LeDrew says. Daniel Scott, an associate professor of geography and environmental management and Canada Research Chair, Global Change and Tourism, has spent over a decade studying the implications of climate change for international tourism, which is now one of the largest economic sectors and employers in developing nations. [U Waterloo Alumni](#)

Mount Allison's Colin Laroque Solves Titanic Mystery for PBS: Experts at Mount Allison University have assisted an American public broadcasting program in determining if a picture frame was made from the stair rail of the Titanic. The PBS program "History Detectives" asked a university lab that studies wood age to determine if the rail belonging to a family was in fact from the famed sunken ship. Dr. Colin Laroque says they have the answer on the wood's origins and it will be revealed on the PBS episode on Aug. 7. "We use dendrochronology, or tree-ring analysis, to give us insight into past climates, past ecosystem dynamics, and even past human activities over hundreds of years," says Laroque, whose team has also dated other objects, including a hockey stick, a violin, and a canoe. Laroque said the work was a challenge because they had to do their analysis without the actual object and instead worked from scanned images. "We needed to work out where the oak was from because if we did that we could be pretty certain of which ship it was," he added. "The Lusitania was built using wood from Scotland, while the Titanic was built with wood from Ireland." [CBC News](#) | [CTV News](#) | [Global Maritimes](#) |

Canadian Geographers Involved in Seven-Year Study of Neighbourhood Inequality: Research has shown that Toronto is a city growing apart. Middle-income neighbourhoods are disappearing, while well-off central neighbourhoods grow richer and lower-income neighbourhoods in the inner suburbs continue to decline. But to what extent is this true in other major Canadian cities? What is causing these trends? How do they affect neighbourhood residents and urban life? And which policies, programs, and local interventions can address neighbourhood inequality and its consequences? The new study will try to answer these questions. Called the Neighbourhood Change Research Partnership, the study brings together researchers, community agencies, municipalities and private sector organizations to examine inequality in Vancouver, Calgary, Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal, and Halifax. Inequality and polarization are increasing in cities around the world, especially in the so-called "global" cities that act as major nodes in the globalized economy's transnational flows of goods, services, capital, and migrants. [UT Media Room](#)

Memorial U's Norm Catto Talks about Climate Change: Norm Catto, a geography professor at Memorial University was in Harbour Breton to talk about the effects of climate change on coastal communities. Dr. Catto said that climate change is really happening and that we need to deal with the consequences. He said that climate change will continue and would be with us for a period of time even if we stopped producing greenhouse gases immediately. Dr. Catto said, "We have things happening because of climate change such as coastline erosion and warmer water temperatures, and we have to have an official way of dealing with those, and other changes." [Coaster](#)

New in [The Canadian Geographer](#)



Julia Christensen. 2012. ["They want a different life": Rural northern settlement dynamics and pathways to homelessness in Yellowknife and Inuvik, Northwest Territories. Are new patterns of low-income distribution emerging in Canadian metropolitan areas?](#) The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien. DOI: 10.1111/j.1541-0064.2012.00439.x

Josefina Ades, Philippe Apparicio and Anne-Marie Séguin. 2012. [Are new patterns of low-income distribution emerging in Canadian metropolitan areas?](#) The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien. DOI: 10.1111/j.1541-0064.2012.00438.x

Benjamin Forest. 2012. [Electoral redistricting and minority political representation in Canada and the United States.](#) The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien. DOI: 10.1111/j.1541-0064.2012.00437.x

D. Michael Ray, R. H. Lamarche and Maurice Beaudin. 2012. [Economic growth and restructuring in Canada's heartland and hinterland: From shift-share to multifactor partitioning.](#) The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien. DOI: 10.1111/j.1541-0064.2012.00435.x

Lisa J. Wallace. 2012. [An actor-network approach to Canadian forest research: The case of a New Brunswick policy debate.](#) The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien. DOI: 10.1111/j.1541-0064.2012.00436.x

Hot Papers by Canadian Geographers

Michael C. Angelopoulos, Wayne H. Pollard and Nicole J. Couture. 2012. [The application of CCR and GPR to characterize ground ice conditions at Parsons Lake, Northwest Territories.](#) Cold Regions Science and Technology. doi.org/10.1016/j.coldregions.2012.07.005, How to Cite or Link Using DOI

Oliver T. Coomes, Tim Moore, Jaclyn Paterson, Sébastien Breau, Nancy A. Ross and Nigel Roulet. 2012. [Academic performance indicators for Departments of Geography in the United States and Canada.](#) The Professional Geographer. DOI:10.1080/00330124.2012.697798

Nancy Fenton, Susan Elliott, Michelle Vine, Christine Hampson, Oxana Latycheva, Kim Barker and Jo-Anna Gillespie. 2012. [Assessing needs: Asthma in First Nations and Inuit Communities in Canada](#). *Pimatisiwin: A Journal of Aboriginal and Indigenous Community Health* 10(1):71-81.

Irene Delgado-Fernandez, Robin Davidson-Arnott, Bernard O. Bauer, Ian J. Walker, Jeff Ollerhead and Hosahng Rhew. 2012. [Assessing aeolian beach-surface dynamics using a remote sensing approach](#). *Earth Surface Processes and Landforms*. DOI: 10.1002/esp.3301

Jérôme Gandin. 2012. [Social perceptions of environmental changes and local development within the Usumacinta River basin](#). *APCBEE Procedia* 1:239–244.

Adrienne Johnston, Margaret Johnston, Emma Stewart, Jackie Dawson and Harvey Lemelin. 2012. [Perspectives of decision makers and regulators on climate change and adaptation in expedition cruise ship tourism in Nunavut](#). *Northern Review*. 35.

Guillaume Jouve, Pierre Francus, Scott Lamoureux, Laurence Provencher-Nolet, Annette Hahn, Torsten Haberzettl, David Fortin, Laurence Nuttin and The PASADO Science Team. [Microsedimentological characterization using image analysis and \$\mu\$ -XRF as indicators of sedimentary processes and climate changes during Lateglacial at Laguna Potrok Aike, Santa Cruz, Argentina](#). *Quaternary Science Reviews*. doi.org/10.1016/j.quascirev.2012.06.003

Leslie Kerna. 2012. [All aboard? Women working the spaces of gentrification in Toronto's Junction](#). *Gender, Place & Culture: A Journal of Feminist Geography*. DOI:10.1080/0966369X.2012.701201

Thomas R. Lakeman and John H. England. 2012. [Paleoglaciological insights from the age and morphology of the Jesse moraine belt, western Canadian Arctic](#). *Quaternary Science Reviews* 47(30):82–100.

Armand LaRocque, Brigitte Leblon, Jeff Harris, Charlie Jefferson, Victoria Tschirhart and Yask Shelat. 2012. [Surficial materials mapping in Nunavut, Canada with multibeam RADARSAT-2 dual-polarization C-HH and C-HV, LANDSAT-7 ETM+, and DEM data](#). *Canadian Journal of Remote Sensing* 38(3):281-305.

Dave McGee, Sarah Boon, H.J. (Ilja) van Meerveld. 2012. [Impacts of rural water diversions on Prairie streamflow](#). *Canadian Water Resources Journal*. DOI:10.4296/cwrj2012-911

Gerald Osborn, Brian Menounos, Chanone Ryane, Jon Riedel, John J. Clague, Johannes Koch, Douglas Clark, Kevin Scott and P. Thompson Davis. 2012. Latest Pleistocene and Holocene glacier fluctuations on Mount Baker, Washington. *Quaternary Science Reviews* 49:33-51.

Jamie Peck. 2012. [On the waterfront](#). *Dialogues in Human Geography* 2(2):165-170.

Murray D. Rice, Sean Tierney, Sean O'Hagan, Donald Lyons and Milford B. Green. 2012. [Knowledge, influence, and firm-level change: A geographic analysis of board membership associated with Canada's growing and declining businesses](#). *Geoforum* 43(5):959–968.

Wenlei Wang, Jie Zhao, Qiuming Cheng and Jiangtao Liu. 2012. [Tectonic–geochemical exploration modeling for characterizing geo-anomalies in southeastern Yunnan district, China](#). *Journal of Geochemical Exploration*. doi.org/10.1016/j.gexplo.2012.06.017

Other “Geographical” News

New issue of The Northern Review: Tourism and Travel in the Circumpolar North: The Northern Review is a multidisciplinary, peer-reviewed journal published at Yukon College, Whitehorse. The latest issue—Number 35 (Spring 2012) released in June—is a special issue, guest edited by Suzanne de la Barre, of articles & book reviews that explore tourism and travel in the Circumpolar North. The articles present diverse themes and issues from several circumpolar nations. Together, they investigate the dynamic nature of tourism in northern circumpolar regions, and the many ways in which travel and tourism contribute to understanding issues of importance to northern peoples. [Northern Review](#)

British Columbia Receives Special Award for Exceptional Application of Geospatial Technology: Esri Canada congratulates the Province of British Columbia for receiving the Esri Special Achievement in GIS (SAG) Award yesterday at the Esri International User Conference (Esri UC). This award acknowledges the Province's vision, leadership and innovative use of Esri's geographic information system (GIS) technology. The Province has created and maintains a spatial data infrastructure (SDI) that broadens access to provincial data to meet the needs of its citizens. “Geographic information is a strategic asset for decision-making,” says Alex Miller, president, Esri Canada. “Through the BC Geographic Warehouse, British Columbia has built a strong foundation for delivering enterprise geographic data and services that empower government, the private sector and citizens to make better decisions and become more productive. It's a significant achievement that will help the Province accomplish its goals.” [Geocommunity](#)

Researchers Discover New Impact Crater in Arctic: Researchers from the University of Saskatchewan and Geological Survey of Canada have discovered a massive meteor impact from millions of years ago in Canada's western Arctic. Located on the northwestern part of Victoria Island, the impact crater, or astrobleme, is about 25 km wide. It is Canada's thirtieth known meteorite impact feature. The researchers discovered the crater two summers ago while exploring the area by helicopter, and took two years to properly assemble the geological maps and submit their article for publication. They've named the new discovery the Prince Albert impact crater, after the name of the peninsula where it occurs. And while there's no way to pinpoint the exact timing of the impact, the evidence suggests an age younger than about 350 million years and older than about 130 million years. [U of S News Release](#)

A Treasure Trove of Old Maps at Your Fingertips: Map lovers, rejoice! The United States Geological Survey is about to complete a massive project to digitize its cache of approximately 200,000 historic topographic maps, previously available only in print or in some cases out-of-print. Who cares? Geographers, geologists, hydrologists, demographers, engineers and urban planners, to be sure. When taken as a whole, the collection can be considered a National Map, a cartographic library of “last resort,” says archive manager Greg Allord, containing hard-to-find maps when all other sources fail. Allord says that scanning is now complete, though processing may take until September and some maps found in other libraries will eventually be added. [Smithsonian.com](#)

New iTunesU Policy Allows Anyone to Post Materials on Platform: Apple announced last week that everyone can now use the iTunesU platform to deliver course material. Previously, only professors at a university working with iTunesU could post audio and video clips, syllabi, and documents via the platform. With the change, any user, irrespective of affiliation, can distribute content for up to a dozen different courses. The courses must be private and capped at 50 students each. Professors must use the iTunesU app to deliver the course, but students can access the content via the PC-compatible iTunes software. [Chronicle of Higher Education](#)

Map of the Day - The Geography of Klout: Cartographers have produced a map that attempts to gauge social media influence. The map was created by first collecting more than 3.5 million geo-tagged tweets over four consecutive days. The team then grouped these by country of origin, randomly sampled for "up to 1000 users," and queried their Klout scores. The resulting map shows countries with a user sample of more than 50 users. Klout rates users on a scale of 1 to 100 and the Floating Sheep team found considerable variation. The average score was 26. [Atlantic Cities](#)

Some not so "Geographical" News



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