



**News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers**  
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Compiled by Dan Smith [<cag@geog.uvic.ca>](mailto:cag@geog.uvic.ca)

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**Derek Robinson and Peter Johnson Join U Waterloo's Department of Geography and Environmental Management:** [Derek Robinson](#) completed a PhD at the University of Michigan, and was a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Edinburgh before coming to Waterloo. Derek's research interests focus on land use, land management, and the carbon cycle. Derek uses agent-based modelling as an approach to integrate GIS, ecological, and human decision-making models to evaluate the socioeconomic contexts and policy scenarios that influence changes to land use and land cover, ecological function and the provision of ecosystem services, and human well-being. [Peter Johnson](#) arrived after completing his PhD and post-doctoral studies at McGill University. Peter's research focuses on the development and evaluation of several geospatial technologies, including agent-based models, geographic information systems, and the Geospatial Web 2.0 to determine how they can be used to facilitate better planning decisions. Peter is interested in how these tools are used by different types of people. [UW News](#)

**UBC's Karen Baker Warns of Threats to Global Water Supply:** Four of every five people on the planet faces a high-level risk to their potable water supply, threatening their health, livelihoods and national security, writes Karen Bakker, a geographer at the University of British Columbia. Bakker cites climate change, population growth, contamination, terrorism and agricultural water demands as issues that pose a threat to water security and water-related biodiversity across the globe. Bakker notes an increasing concern in the global issue, but says the majority of academic research on water security is poorly integrated with the needs of policy-makers and practitioners. "Significant changes to funding, education, research frameworks and academic incentive structures are required if researchers are to make more substantive contributions to addressing the global water crisis," she writes. [UBC Arts Wire](#)

**U Guelph's Alice Hovorka Brings Residential Field Course Experience to Class:** Being immersed in a faraway place can be full of intrigue and excitement for students enrolled in field courses. But is it essential for learning? University of Guelph Geography Prof. Alice Hovorka has designed a third-year geography course that reimagines the location of the "field" being studied. "Using the classroom and 'everyday life' as an entry point for field research is allowing students to create meaning and construct knowledge about the world for themselves," she says. The course, Gender and the Environment, emphasizes issues such as gender representation and roles closer to home. Hovorka hopes that her classroom-based course will help open up teaching possibilities for geography instructors looking to enhance classrooms by integrating geographical concepts and approaches into the field of everyday life as legitimate points for research and study. It may also provide avenues for experiential learning beyond residential field courses, which are increasingly challenged by funding and resource issues. "The field is really more than some exotic place," says Hovorka. "It is everywhere and students can use any place to create meaning in the same way that they would in a field course." [UG Research Assets \(p. 28\)](#)

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### Hot Papers by Canadian Geographers

Godwin Arku. 2012. [Outsourcing functions to economic development corporations: exploring the perceptions of officials in Ontario, Canada](#). Public Organization Review. DOI: 10.1007/s11115-012-0193-8

Amy A. Chabot, Keith A. Hobson, Steven L. Van Wilgenburg, Gregory J. McQuat and Stephen C. Loughheed. 2012. [Advances in linking wintering migrant birds to their breeding-ground origins using combined analyses of genetic and stable isotope markers](#). PLoS ONE 7(8): e43627. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0043627

Matt Dyce. 2012. [Canada between the photograph and the map: Aerial photography, geographical vision and the state](#). Journal of Historical Geography. doi.org/10.1016/j.jhg.2012.07.002

M.-C. Fortin and K. Gajewski. 2012. [Potential problems with the use of gridded climate data in regional quantitative paleoenvironmental studies from data-poor regions](#). Journal of Paleolimnology. DOI: 10.1007/s10933-012-9639-9

Mark Hart, Peter Bush and Christian Malouin. 2012. [Indicator guilds representing forest composition and configuration in the Great Lakes – St. Lawrence forest region – A nationally replicable selection methodology](#). Ecological Indicators 23:374-383.

Jill E. Harvey and Dan J. Smith. 2012. [Lichenometric dating of Little Ice Age glacier activity in the central British Columbia Coast Mountains, Canada](#). Geografiska Annaler: Series A, Physical Geography. DOI: 10.1111/j.1468-0459.2012.00474.x

Peter Horne, Cristian Suteanu, Danika van Proosdij and Greg Baker. 2012. [Elevation-dependent multiscale analysis of a complex intertidal zone](#). Journal of Coastal Research. doi.org/10.2112/JCOASTRES-D-11-00198.1

Adrienne Johnston, Margaret Johnston, Jackie Dawson and Emma Stewart. 2012. [Challenges of Arctic cruise tourism development in Canada: Perspectives of Federal Government stakeholders](#). Journal of Maritime Law and Commerce 43.

Malyssa K. Maurer, Brian Menounos, Brian H. Luckman, Gerald Osborn, John J. Clague, Matthew J. Beedle, Rod Smith and Nigel Atkinson. 2012. [Late Holocene glacier expansion in the Cariboo and northern Rocky Mountains, British Columbia, Canada](#). Quaternary Science Reviews 51:71–80.

Douglas J. Sherman, Bailiang Li, Jean T. Ellis, Eugene J. Farrell, Luis Parente Maia and Helena Granja. 2012. [Recalibrating aeolian sand transport models](#). Earth Surface Processes and Landforms. DOI: 10.1002/esp.3310

Jennifer E. Weaver, Tenley M. Conway and Marie-Josée Fortin. 2012. [An invasive species' relationship with environmental variables changes across multiple spatial scales](#). Landscape Ecology. DOI: 10.1007/s10980-012-9786-4

Christopher J. A. Wilkinson and Tyler Schulz. 2012. [Planning the far north in Ontario, Canada: An examination of the "Far North Act, 2010"](#). Natural Areas Journal 32:310-315.

Brent B. Wolfe, Roland I. Hall, Thomas W.D. Edwards and John W. Johnston. 2012. [Developing temporal hydroecological perspectives to inform stewardship of a northern floodplain landscape subject to multiple stressors: paleolimnological investigations of the Peace–Athabasca Delta](#). Environmental Reviews. DOI: 10.1139/a2012-008

Donald K. Youngblut and Brian H. Luckman. 2012. [Evaluating the temperature sensitivity of radial growth patterns from whitebark pine in the western Canadian Cordillera](#). Dendrochronologia. doi.org/10.1016/j.dendro.2012.04.001

G. Yu, D. Johnson, X. Ke and Y. Li. 2012. [A probe into the different fates of locust swarms in the plains of North America and East Asia](#). Biogeosciences Discussions 9:11179–11200.

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### Other “Geographical” News

**Old Maps Online:** The title of this website is most accurate: it is a collection of thousands of old maps. They are wonderful. The portal was created as part of a collaboration between the Great Britain Historical GIS Project, based at the University of Portsmouth, and Klokan Technologies GmbH, based in Switzerland. First-time visitors will note the site draws on GPS technology and other place-based location services to pull up local maps of interest. For example, if one is in Victoria, dozens of maps of the nearby area will appear on the right-hand side of the interface screen. You can click on each map or move to another part of the world for more maps. On the top of the interface, you will see a timeline that ranges from 1000 CE to the present day. You can use this timeline to look for historical maps from a set period of time. [Old Maps Online](#)

**The Geography of Craft Beer:** The number of breweries in America is increasing dramatically, according to the Brewer's Association, a trade organization — just take a glance at this nifty chart on their website — and 350 more were added between June and the same time last year. Among these breweries, 97 percent are "craft brewers" — meaning they are relatively low-production, independently owned, and "interpret historic styles with unique twists and develop new styles that have no precedent." Atlantic Cities' fellow Sara Johnson tracked down the most current brewery figures (through the end of 2011) by state from the Brewer's Association, and the Martin Prosperity Institute's Zara Matheson mapped them. [Atlantic Cities](#)

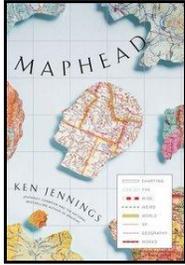
**The Geography of Potato Chips:** Regional and sometimes local preferences for different calibers of crunch, thickness, seasonings and endless other elements have created a surprisingly diverse culinary patchwork of potato chip styles. Despite mass production and national marketing, regional and local tastes survive. As a result, the nation's largest chip manufacturer has added more varieties over the last decade. [Las Vegas Sun](#)

**A History of the World in Twelve Maps by Jerry Brotton:** Rare is a representation of the earth's geography so accurate and neutral that it brings with it no baggage at all. What is true of a photograph tends to be even more so of one composed by human hand. "A map," as Jerry Brotton observes in his fascinating and panoramic new history of the cartographer's art, "always manages the reality it tries to show". It is the truth of this observation that enables him to trace, in the way that rivers, mountains and seas have been drawn in various cultures and periods, the contours of human self-awareness as well. Peaks and troughs; disinterest and prejudice; pin-point accuracy and whole realms of experience imagined as the haunt of fearsome monsters: civilisation bears witness to them all. [The Guardian](#)

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## Some not so “Geographical” News

### [Maphead: Charting the Wide, Weird World of Geography Wonks](#)



Ken Jennings gives equal time to the downtrodden underclass of map nerds. Now that technology and geographic illiteracy are increasingly insulating us from the lay of the land around us, we are going to be needing these people more than ever. Mapheads are the ones who always know exactly where they are--and where everything else is as well.

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