



# GeogNews

**News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers**

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**Mount Allison U's Ian Mauro puts a face on climate change in Atlantic Canada:** Geography and environment professor, filmmaker, and Canada Research Chair in Human Dimensions of Climate Change Dr. Ian Mauro has assembled a team of artists and researchers to develop a multi-media project on climate change and adaptation in Atlantic Canada — a collaborative effort between local stakeholders and his research lab that features a web site, video, and photo exhibit. The team's research focuses heavily on interviews with local farmers, fisherman, hunters and others who see the changing conditions. "These stewards of the land are interacting with the environment, they're observing the environment, they have a long-term experience in it," he says. "It's remarkable the kind of insights they can provide." Dr. Mauro says the true power of the project is that it explores the human dimension of climate change by investigating the experiences of people in coastal communities. "When you put the human face on an issue that is otherwise dominated by scientists and you actually listen to what people are saying about how climate change is affecting their lives, it becomes completely undeniable that not only is climate change happening, it is something that we need to take very seriously." Read more about the project in in [University Affairs](#) and [The Chronicle Herald](#). View the videos, photos, and meet the team on the "[Climate Change in Atlantic Canada](#)" multi-media web.

**Memorial U's Evan Edinger discusses environmental impacts associated with submarine tailing disposal (STD) of gold mine wastes:** One of Evan Edinger's publications is an article that discusses the environmental impacts associated with submarine tailing disposal (STD) of gold mine wastes and describes a case study on a gold mine in Indonesia that Evan examined between 2002 and 2008. STD is the process of dumping mine tailings in the ocean, usually at depths greater than 100 m, rather than putting mine wastes into a constructed tailings pond on land. The mining industry promotes STD for handling mine tailings on the argument that STD avoids the risk of tailings dam failure, and the possible contamination of rivers or surface ocean waters STD is also considerably less expensive than conventional mine waste management in a constructed tailings pond. Similarly, in Newfoundland, Vale-Inco plans to put nickel ore processing wastes into Sandy Pond, a shallow lake near its Long Harbour ore processing facility, rather than building a tailings impoundment. This controversial decision has met with considerable opposition within Newfoundland. [MUN Geography](#)

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**U Fraser Valley geography students work on urban agriculture project in Chandigarh:** What were three young Canadian students doing in crowded bustees on the outskirts of Chandigarh? We posed this question to Stacy Thoreson (a Sociology/Anthropology student), Adam Rieu (a Geography student) and Kathryn Shiratti (a Geography graduate) from the University of the Fraser Valley (UFV). The answer we got was not only inspiring but loaded with a promise of a greener and better future. The three Canadian students worked on an urban agriculture project, with financial support from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC). Working in partnership with a local non-governmental organization, Developing Indigenous Resources (DIR), and Panjab University, the students helped residents of the congested Janata Colony and Adarsh Nagar grow vegetables on their rooftops. [UFV Today](#)

**UBC geography hosts mini-conference:** The 7th Annual Cascadia Critical Geographies Mini-Conference (this year, named 'Decolonizing Cascadia? Rethinking Critical Geographies') was held on Friday, November 16th and Saturday November 17th. During these two days, upwards of 130 people were in and out of the geography building, with scholars and non-academics travelling from as far as Ontario to join our discussions. Musqueam Elder Larry Grant opened our Friday evening keynote and plenary session, which was highlighted by the co-presentation of a paper by Sarah de Leeuw and Margo Greenwood on 'new' settler colonialisms in the academy. Sarah Hunt, Glen Coulthard and Harsha Walia responded to the keynote and gave their own reflections on 'decolonization' in the academy. High quality scholarship continued into the following day, as the 16 conference sessions saw often first-time presenters speaking to papers as diverse as urban poverty and posthumanist natures. [UBC Geographer](#)

**Western Geography Students receive the 2012 SIOR Award:** Thomas Thayer and Kyle Mason, recipients of the 2012's Society of Industrial and Office Realtors (SIOR) awards. While Thomas received the award for the top graduating student in the Urban Development Program, Kyle was co-recipient (with Emily Bent) of the award for best project in the Land Use and Development Issues course taught by Dr. Jason Gilliland. [SIOR](#)

**U Saskatchewan and Concordia geographers to address issue of EIA uncertainty:** Bram Noble and Jill Gunn from the Department of Geography and Planning and Jochen Jaeger from Concordia University were awarded \$292,000 from SSHRC to address the issue of uncertainty in environmental impact assessments. Understanding how to better handle uncertainty will help inform more transparent and sound decision making to balance the needs of environment and industry. [U of S on Campus News](#)



## Hot Papers by Canadian Geographers

Abednego Aryee. 2013. [Risks of offshore oil drilling: causes and consequences of British Petroleum Oil rig explosion](#). Aquatic Science and Technology 1:101-118/

David M. Atkinson and Paul Treitz . 2012. [Arctic ecological classifications derived from vegetation community and satellite spectral data](#). Remote Sensing 4:3948-3971.

Ursule Boyer-Villemare, Guillaume St-Onge, Pascal Bernatchez, Patrick Lajeunesse and Jacques Labrie. 2012. [High-resolution multiproxy records of sedimentological changes induced by dams in the Sept-Îles area \(Gulf of St. Lawrence, Canada\)](#). Marine Geology. doi.org/10.1016/j.margeo.2012.11.012

Alberto Fonseca, Mary Louise McAllister and Patricia Fitzpatrick. 2012. [Sustainability reporting among mining corporations: a constructive critique of the GRI approach](#). Journal of Cleaner Production. doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2012.11.050

David Gomez, Barbara Haas, Aristithes Doumouras, Brandon Zagorski, Joel Ray, Gordon Rubinfeld, Barry McLellan, Donald Boyes and Avery Nathens. 2013. [A population-based analysis of the discrepancy between potential and realized access to trauma center care](#). Annals of Surgery 257:160-165.

Themba Kepe. 2012. [Land and justice in South Africa: Exploring the ambiguous role of the state in the land claims process](#). African and Asian Studies 11:391-409.

Connie Ko, Tarmo K Remmel and Gunho Sohn. 2012. [Mapping tree genera using discrete LiDAR and geometric tree metrics \(Mapeo del género de árboles usando LiDAR y métricas geométricas para árboles\)](#). Bosque 33:313-319.

Robert Milne and Lorne Bennett. 2012. [Understanding landscape patterns of temporal variability in avian populations to improve environmental impact assessments](#). Ecological Informatics. doi.org/10.1016/j.ecoinf.2012.11.006

Samuel U. Nussbaumer, Mariano H. Masiokas and Brian H. Luckman. 2012. [Historical glacier variations in southern South America since the Little Ice Age: examples from Lago Viedma \(southern Patagonia\) and Mendoza \(central Andes\)](#). 10th Swiss Geoscience Meeting, Bern 2012

Megan S. Thompson, Frederick J. Wrona and Terry D. Prowse. 2012. [Shifts in plankton, nutrient and light relationships in small tundra lakes caused by localized permafrost thaw](#). Arctic 65:367-376.

R. Mitra and G. Faulkner. 2012. [There's no such thing as bad weather, just the wrong clothing: Climate, weather and active school transportation in Toronto, Canada](#). Canadian Journal of Public Health 103 (Suppl. 3):S35-S41.

John Spina, Geoffrey C. Smith and Geoffrey P. DeVerteuil. 2012. [The relationship between place ties and moves to small regional retirement communities on the Canadian prairies](#). Geoforum. doi.org/10.1016/j.geoforum.2012.11.009

J.M. Wang, J.G. Murphy, J.A. Geddes, C.L. Winsborough, N. Basiliko and S.C. Thomas. 2012. [Methane fluxes measured by eddy covariance and static chamber techniques at a temperate forest in central Ontario, Canada](#). Biogeosciences Discussion 9: 17743–17774.

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## Other “Geographical” News

**[Note: Strongly recommended that you look at the maps associated with the first item below. Pass your mouse over the globes to gain an immediate, and lasting, impression of the extent of our footprint on Planet Earth]**

**A Cartography of the Anthropocene:** Behind the name lie the challenges of our time. This concept illustrates and groups together the main agents that shape our planet, who literally engrave its surface—it is the anthroposphere, the human layer that grows inside the biosphere. This page is dedicated to the impressionist mapping of the artifacts from this singular moment in Earth's history. Impressionist because these maps are unlabelled and silent, giving free rein to contemplation and imagination; impressionist also because they do not follow the canons of cartography, where scales and legend are mandatory. ([Go directly to the maps](#)). By locating the structures and hotspots of human activity, by acknowledging the extent of our footprints and our facilities, perhaps we will glimpse the limits of our world and the importance of redefining what it means to live in and on it. [Globaïa](#)

**Environmental threat map highlights Great Lakes restoration challenges:** A comprehensive map three years in the making is telling the story of humans' impact on the Great Lakes, identifying how "environmental stressors" stretching from Minnesota to Ontario are shaping the future of an ecosystem that contains 20 percent of the world's fresh water. Researchers at the report on an expansive and detailed effort to map and cross-compare environmental stresses and the ecological services provided by the five lakes. Their efforts have produced the most comprehensive map to date of Great Lakes' stressors, and also the first map to explicitly account for all major types of stressors on the lakes in a quantitative way. [Science Daily](#)

**Publishing your thesis online:** One day, a young doctoral student opens his inbox and finds a message that is, if nothing else, flattering. An online publishing house came across his thesis paper and wants to publish it – for free. Could this be a golden opportunity? Or is it a trap? [University Affairs](#)

**Mini-observatory now streaming data from Arctic waters:** After a year and a half in development with the Government of Nunavut and the community of Cambridge Bay, a new mini-observatory is now streaming continuous data from the Arctic seafloor. “This specially designed scaled-down version of our seafloor networks off the coast of Vancouver Island will support longer-term science-based understanding of the dramatic changes taking place in Arctic waters,” says Dr. Kim Juniper. [UVic medial release](#)

**Historic camp site discovered on Antarctica:** Roald Amundsen and Robert Falcon Scott were the explorers who led teams across the frigid continent in an effort to be the first to go where no man had gone before. Amundsen won the race. Scott who also made it there perished with the remainder of his crew on the trek back to the edge of the continent. Scott and his team camped on the slopes of Mount Erebus, the southernmost volcano, during their journey. A volcanologist recently found what he thinks is the same camp site. [Discovery News](#)

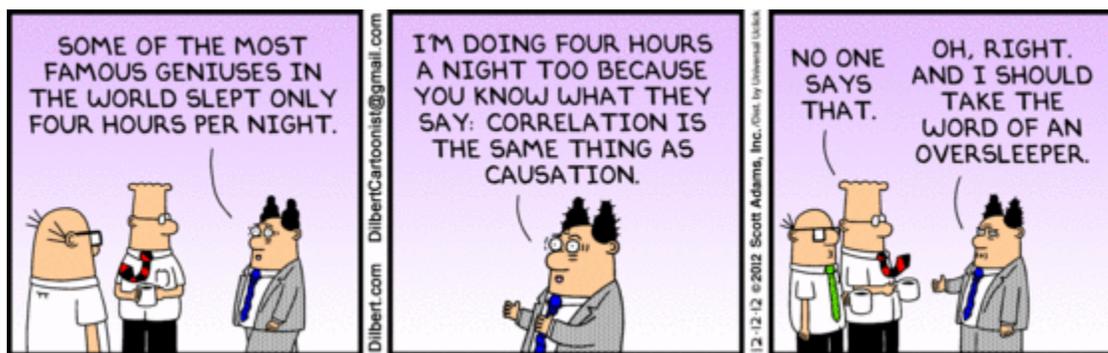
**See how purchases directly impact climate change:** Ever wonder how much that purchase you just made affects climate change? Probably not, but you should. Every time you buy something, you directly affect the environment, whether it's food or entertainment, hardware or software or anything in between. Now an app with the financial tracking website Mint.com to link purchases, including investments, with climate change data. [Discovery News](#)

**Graduated and paternal sovereignty: Stephen Harper, Operation Nanook 10, and the Canadian Arctic:** In this paper, attention is given to how 'graduated sovereignty' is a useful lens to interrogate territorial claims and the spatially varied performance of state power. The Canadian government led by Prime Minister Stephen Harper and his government's Arctic policies and strategies are a case in point. Graduated sovereignty is only one element, however, as the paper considers how a form of paternal sovereignty plays a part in managing the normative ideas of territorial integrity, the presence of exceptional circumstances, and the role of future uncertainties. Using Operation Nanook 10 as a short case study, the paper considers how the government puts to work an uncertain future regarding the Canadian Arctic is materialised and then made actionable by invoking both graduated and paternal forms of sovereignty. [Environment and Planning D: Society and Space](#)

**Massive shifts reshape the health landscape worldwide:** Globally, health advances present most people with a devastating irony: avoid premature death but live longer and sicker. The study reveals massive shifts in health trends around the world since 1990. Since that time, the world has grown considerably older. Where infectious disease and childhood illnesses related to malnutrition were once the primary causes of death, now children in many parts of the world -- outside of sub-Saharan Africa -- are more likely to live into an unhealthy adulthood and suffer from eating too much food rather than too little. [ScienceDaily](#)

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### Some not so "Geographical" News



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