

The logo for GeogNews is displayed in a large, white, sans-serif font against a dark, horizontal band. Below this band is a photograph of a calm body of water under a clear sky, with a small sailboat visible on the right side.

# GeogNews

**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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**U Winnipeg's Joni Storie awarded a SOAR Education Grant:** A University of Winnipeg geography professor is going to have a much better look at wetlands in and around Morris and Churchill, thanks to radar images taken by a Canadian satellite. Prof. Joni Storie has been awarded a SOAR Education Grant from the Canadian Space Agency and MacDonald, Detwiler and Associates Ltd. It will provide her with 20 RADARSAT-2 satellite images worth \$100,000. The satellite will be programmed to obtain the specific images requested. Information obtained from the images will be used to address two long-term research projects that can help meet the province's surface water management goal to map and monitor wetlands. The purpose of the first project is to map potential sites for temporary wetlands in southern Manitoba around the Morris area. The images will show where the soils continue to have high moisture after the spring flooding has receded, making it too wet to plant crops. The second study will use satellite images to map the extent of coastal wetlands of Hudson Bay near Churchill. This will help determine if the coastline is changing year to year, an issue that is a challenge with sea-level rise AND isostatic rebound. [Winnipeg Free Press](#)

**Mount Allison U's Colin Laroque on Maritimes snow avalanche warnings:** It's rare to hear about an avalanche in the Maritime region, but a snow slide in Nova Scotia's Wentworth Valley has a lot of people talking. The Canadian Avalanche Centre has issued an avalanche alert for the Maritimes after a skier triggered an avalanche in Nova Scotia's Wentworth Valley on Saturday. Colin Laroque, a geography professor at Mount Allison University, says there are two factors needed for an avalanche to occur. "You need that steeper slope and you also need the right climate conditions and we often have the right climate conditions to make the different layers in the snow that could trigger a slide," says Laroque. The snow slide took place on Higgins Mountain, which is located close to Ski Wentworth. Leslie Wilson runs the popular ski hill and knows Stevens and his friends. She says the incident won't change their behavior. [CTV News](#)

**U Toronto Mississauga approves Master of Science in Sustainability Management:** With a program launch date of September 2014, the Master of Science in Sustainability Management (MSSM) is designed to act outside the traditional disciplinary black boxes; integrating knowledge from management, social, and natural sciences to address sustainability issues; and make leading contributions and lasting advances in sustainability management. The program is unique among science and management graduate programs by providing a strong foundation in sustainability management while offering an opportunity to specialize in a management or science stream. The program is designed for students from diverse backgrounds such as management science, social science, natural science and engineering. The MSSM degree is for individuals who want to pursue management careers in sustainability-related divisions and organizations. [MSSM@UTM](#)

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**Trinity Western U's Maxwell Ofosehene welcomes viewers to the discipline of geography:** Trinity Western University offers geography courses in physical, human and cultural, and regional and applied areas of Geography leading to a B.A. in Geography. Located in Langley, British Columbia, the Department of Geography also offers a B.A. and a B.Sc. within the Environmental Studies program. Program Coordinator Dr. Maxwell Ofosehene describes how his interests turned to geography and offers a perspective on a dynamic discipline that involves the study of people, places and earth processes from a spatial perspective. [Video@TWU](#)

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### Hot Papers by Canadian Geographers

L.J. Bracken, J. Wainwright, G.A. Ali, D. Tetzlaff, M.W. Smith, S.M. Reaney and A.G. Roy. 2013. [Concepts of hydrological connectivity: Research approaches, pathways and future agendas](#). Earth-Science Reviews. doi.org/10.1016/j.earscirev.2013.02.001

John C. Maclachlan and Carolyn H. Eyles. 2013. [Quantitative geomorphological analysis of drumlins in the Peterborough drumlin field, Ontario, Canada](#). Geografiska Annaler: Series A, Physical Geography. DOI: 10.1111/geoa.12005

Laura C. Senese and Kathi Wilson. 2013. [Aboriginal urbanization and rights in Canada: Examining implications for health](#). Social Science & Medicine. doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2013.02.016

Cherie J. Westbrook, William Veatch and Alasdair Morrison. 2013. [Is ecohydrology missing much of the zoo?](#) Ecohydrology 6:1–7.

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### Other “Geographical” News

**Three million earthquake deaths for the 21st Century:** Dying in an earthquake may become more frequent in the 21st century. The problem isn't more temblors, however. The danger comes from the fact that growing populations are crowding into cities with flimsy buildings that are more likely to collapse during a quake. A total of between 2.6 and 3.1 million people are estimated to die in quakes in the coming century. The number of quakes with a death toll over 50,000 may climb to 25 from a total of seven in the 20th century. Those numbers assume the global population will climb to 10.1 billion by the year 2100. [DNews](#)

**Let's make first year free – students need to be able to test out university:** The worst-kept secret in academia is that students come to university with inadequate intellectual preparation. They don't know the basics. They don't know how to write. They're not prepared for how much work it's going to be. So when professors studies that suggest one of the main reasons for students dropping out is a lack of preparedness, well, let's just say we're not shocked. The real question is: what can be done? One answer might be to get secondary schools to do a better job of preparing students for university in the first place. [Macleans.ca](#)

**Report exposes Pakistani e-waste recycling workers' plight:** A 6-year-old girl in a remote Pakistani village sits quietly in the family's kitchen, breathing toxic fumes that drift from across the table where her father is burning a computer circuit board. The scene is one of scores documented by researcher Shakila Umair, whose has compiled the first known evidence of horrifying conditions in the country's secretive e-waste recycling cottage industry. [ScienceDaily](#)

**The malaria epidemic in Africa: an underestimated socio-economic disaster:** A University of Ottawa researcher has shown that the socio-economic effects of the malaria epidemic on African populations have been largely underestimated and that new research is needed to quickly gain a more accurate assessment of the situation. The results of a study suggest that current research has neglected some of the macroeconomic effects of the malaria epidemic and its long-term impact on family planning. [U Ottawa Media Release](#)

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### Some not so “Geographical” News



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