



News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers
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Sudbury's story, told by Laurentian U's Oiva Saarinen: "If you don't write things down, a lot of history gets lost." That's the last thing Oiva Saarinen wants to see happen. He cares about the city he calls home, and took an active role in contributing to it by recording the early years. [From Meteorite Impact to Constellation City: A Historical Geography of Greater Sudbury](#) chronicles the human and physical environment of the city past and present, presenting "the big picture." "It gives understanding to what you see with your eyes all around you," Saarinen. Nearly 400 pages long, the reference guide is the result of a decade of data collection, and a lifetime of ideas. Saarinen jokes it began Aug. 3, 1937, "When I first saw the light of day at St. Joe's Hospital." As a lifelong Sudburian, Saarinen said he was able to bring a genuinely hometown approach to the writing process. "We grew up with the black rocks," he said. "To me, this was normal. "It's nice to go back and reflect what it was like. The community has changed so drastically." Not only is he passionate about the city, he is knowledgeable about the topic. Saarinen spent his professional life as a geography professor at Laurentian University. Now retired, the book is his way of using his resources for greater good. "The community has given me a lot," he said. "I had (to take) the opportunity to give something back. I thought it was a moral imperative." [Northern Life](#)

U Guelph geography PhD candidate Chiara Camponeschi receives Trudeau Scholarship: A University of Guelph PhD candidate has received a Trudeau Scholarship, the most prestigious doctoral award in Canada. Geography student [Chiara Camponeschi](#) won the scholarship from the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation to study urban governance and environment. She is one of 14 Trudeau scholars named this year. "This is a wonderful achievement for Chiara," said president Alastair Summerlee. "It's a tribute to her academic and research success, and to her dedication to helping change lives and improve life through participatory governance. It also recognizes the support and commitment of her mentors in the Department of Geography and the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences." Along with her adviser, geography professor Ben Bradshaw, Camponeschi studies urban sustainability and participatory governance, especially how cities and their residents adapt to climate change. "I am delighted and honoured to be receiving this prestigious award, and I am looking forward to learning from this incredible community," Camponeschi said. "The scholarship will enable me to continue my research, to make valuable connections with thought leaders in the field, and to learn about best practices in innovative resilience planning in Canada and abroad." [U Guelph News](#)

McMaster U's Greg Slater helps find billion year old water: A geography professor at McMaster University is part of a team that has made a scientific discovery that dates back to when the world was still a youngster – two billion years old. Greg Slater was a member of a six-person group that discovered water in the bottom of a Timmins mine that dates from between 1.5 billion to 2.6 billion years ago. "That's a wow," Slater said Wednesday. "That's kind of half of the time that scientists say the earth has existed. They say it has been around for about four billion years. It's an amazing thing." Slater, who has been at McMaster for the last decade, said the water was collected in a Timmins mine about two kilometres below the surface of the earth over the last couple of years. He said it is a perfect environment for the team because they were interested in "looking at what's happening in the deep subsurface of the earth" and answering such questions as what has happened to water preserved in the earth, how long it might be there and can micro-organisms live in "these kind of very deep, isolated parts of the earth." [Thespec.com](http://thespec.com)

Nanaimo student competing in international geography championship: Ask Jacob Burnley where St. Petersburg, Russia, is and he can do more than just tell you, he can draw you a map – from memory. This Russian city has been on the mind of the Grade 10 Dover Bay Secondary School student lately, ever since he learned two weeks ago that he would be attending an international geography championship there alongside students from about 20 other countries. Burnley, who in the last three years has placed second, fourth and seventh out of hundreds of competitors in the annual Great Canadian Geography Challenge, is one of three students selected to represent Canada at the National Geographic World Championships in St. Petersburg this July. Ellen Curtis, educational programs manager with the Royal Canadian Geographical Society, the group that organizes the Great Canadian Geography Challenge through its education committee, said making it onto Team Canada is quite a feat – students must win at the classroom, school, provincial and national levels and then the society picks the team based on winners from the past two years of the competition. "Upwards of 100,000 students participate every year," she said. "These are by far the best of the best in Canada." [Nanaimo Bulletin](http://nanaimobulletin.com)

Hot Papers by Canadian Geographers

Alberto Fonseca, Mary Louise McAllister and Patricia Fitzpatrick. 2013. [Measuring what? A comparative anatomy of five mining sustainability frameworks](#). Minerals Engineering 46–47:180–186.

Philip M. Osano, Mohammed Y. Said, Jan de Leeuw, Stephen S. Moiko, Dickson Ole Kaelo, Sarah Schomers, Regina Birner, and Joseph O. Ogutu. 2013. [Pastoralism and ecosystem-based adaptation in Kenyan Masailand](#). International Journal of Climate Change Strategies and Management. DOI:10.1108/17568691311327596

Stephen Rice, Thomas Buffin-Bélanger and Ian Reid. 2013. [Sensitivity of interfacial hydraulics to the microtopographic roughness of water-lain gravels](#). Earth Surface Processes and Landforms. DOI:10.1002/esp.3438

Joshua K. Tobias, Chantelle A. M. Richmond and Isaac Luginaah. 2013. [Community-Based Participatory Research \(CBPR\) with Indigenous communities: Producing respectful and reciprocal research](#). Journal of Empirical Research on Human Research Ethics: An International Journal. 8: 129-140.

Joel W. Trubilowicz, R. Dan. Moore and Jim M. Buttle. 2013. [Prediction of streamflow regime using ecological classification zones](#). Hydrological Processes. DOI: 10.1002/hyp.9874

Rania A. Wasfi, Nancy A. Ross and Ahmed M. El-Geneidy. 2013. [Achieving recommended daily physical activity levels through commuting by public transportation: Unpacking individual and contextual influences](#). Health & Place. doi.org/10.1016/j.healthplace.2013.04.006

Ryan C. Zanatta, Sean K. Carey and Murray Richardson. 2013. [The influence of hyporheic exchange on reach-scale water budgets in a Precambrian Shield catchment, Quebec, Canada](#). Hydrological Processes. DOI:10.1002/hyp.9873

Other “Geographical” News

How Twitter is changing the geography of communication: Since academics first began studying communication, they’ve been trying to figure out who we talk to and how those networks change with the invention of new mediums of interaction. Who you could talk to, and even what you might talk about, obviously differed between the eras of the covered wagon and the cell phone. And now we have an instantaneous, global and (mostly) free platform for talking to virtually anyone: the Internet. So how has it altered the real-world geography of communication? [The Atlantic Cities](#)

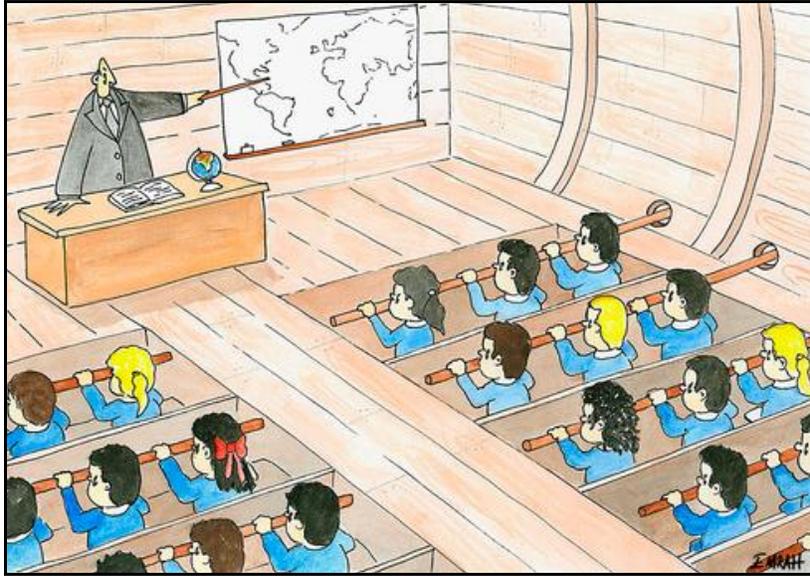
As Canada takes Arctic Council helm, experts stress North's vulnerability to spills, emergencies: As leadership of the Arctic Council passes from Sweden to Canada May 15, experts say it is crucial that northern nations strengthen response capabilities to shipping-related accidents foreseen in newly-opened northern waters, as well as to more-common local emergencies such as floods, forest fires and rescue situations. And Canada needs to lead by example. Despite having the world's longest Arctic coastline and second-largest territory in the region, its far northern marine and aviation infrastructure badly lags by international comparison. [ScienceDaily](#)

Where to draw the line – a guide for professors: Lately there has been, it seems, a rash of incidents where professors have been accused of crossing the line of decent instruction, with ensuing finger pointing and outrage. Even today what is outrageous to one may be unremarkable to another; your perceived abuse of a position may be just good teaching to me. Indeed, isn't one of the jobs of a professor to challenge people, to expand their ways of thinking, perhaps, even, in some cases, to outrage them? Once in a while I leave a classroom wondering if I'm going to get a call asking if I really said this or that. [Macleans.ca](#)

Academic appeals - a serious business: When I was a university lecturer, a student asked me to double check her exam script that I had marked. A colleague, an experienced senior lecturer, warned me against it. "Don't look at it", he said, "or you'll open the gates of hell". I had marked over 300 exams that year and could well have made an error in one of the scripts. So I ignored my colleague's warning. The student was right – I had added her marks incorrectly, although it made no difference to her grade. But my colleague was right too. To my embarrassment, an external examiner was appointed to check the rest of my exam scripts. [The Guardian](#)

Google's overhauled maps make geography social: The standout launch at Google's I/O conference has been a major update of Maps, with much of the new functionality drawing on Google's increasing social intelligence. The overhauled user experience eliminates the white space on the Maps page, putting more information onto the maps themselves. It brings in ratings and reviews and makes Google Earth available in the browser. It also displays thumbnails of user photos of common landmarks beneath the map, when available. [SocialTimes](#)

Some not so “Geographical” News



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