



GeogNews

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Memorial U's Trevor Bell shares 2013 Arctic Inspiration Prize: *SakKijânginnatuk Nunalik* the Sustainable Communities Initiative (SCI) of the Nunatsiavut Government and its principal research partner Dr. Trevor Bell of Memorial University's Department of Geography, will share the 2013 Arctic Inspiration Prize along with two other Canadian research teams. Established in 2012, the \$1,000,000 prize was designed for those research teams who have made a substantial, demonstrated and distinguished contribution to the gathering of Canadian Arctic knowledge and have proposed plans to implement this knowledge for real world applications for the benefit of Arctic Peoples. For *SakKijânginnatuk Nunalik*, the knowledge-to-action (K2A) plan focuses on housing solutions for Nunatsiavut communities. It proposes to build and monitor a pilot multi-unit residential dwelling for Nunatsiavummiut that is culturally relevant, affordable, energy efficient, technologically smart, and adapted to new climatic and environmental realities. The K2A plan integrates expert knowledge of current housing challenges, local knowledge of housing needs and preferences and professional knowledge of construction methods and materials to build modern healthy housing as a cornerstone of sustainable communities in Nunatsiavut. Healthy homes in Nunatsiavut (*InosiKatigeKagiamik Illumi*) is only one of many research projects that fall under the umbrella initiative of Sustainable Communities," explains Dr. Bell. "This initiative began at the community level and emerged from a multifaceted, holistic strategy to build sustainable Nunatsiavut communities. AngajukKâks (mayors) and local councils were frustrated with the status quo and the inability to make progress on chronic issues; they unanimously decided to try something different, to forge a comprehensive, inter-departmental, multi-disciplinary research program to help develop and guide a new approach for building Nunatsiavut communities." Dr. Bell, who is considered a principal research partner and champion by the Nunatsiavut Government, believes that the focus on local priority issues, recognition of the value of research and the close links between researchers and decision-makers at all levels in the region have been a key element in the success of SCI. "Today.MUN.ca

McMaster's Henry Schwarcz named AAAS Fellow: McMaster's Henry Schwarcz, Professor Emeritus, School of Geography & Earth Sciences, has been made a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The world's largest scientific society elevated the professor emeritus to Fellow for his pioneering development and application of stable isotope analysis for environmental Earth sciences, geoarchaeology and the reconstruction of human history. Schwarcz studies isotopes to better understand everything from temperature to diet during ancient times. His most recent research involved reconstructing the climate of the Middle East during the rise of agriculture by analyzing isotopes of oxygen found in the teeth of goats. [McMaster On Campus](#)

Geographers among those joining expert panel advising governments in Atlantic Canada on climate change adaptation: The Atlantic Climate Adaptation Solutions Association (ACASA) introduced today the nine members of its first Expert Panel on Climate Change Adaptation. The panel, made up of leading researchers in the physical and social sciences, will promote awareness, understanding, and integration of climate change adaptation research. It will also provide guidance to provincial and local governments in regards to adaptation strategies to address the impacts of climate change in communities and ecosystems. The panel will provide peer-review of papers, reports and activities, and will produce an annual communiqué to governments and the general public on the state of climate change adaptation science and policy. The nine members of the expert panel are: [Adam Fenech](#), University of Prince Edward Island; [Michael Fox](#), Mount Allison University; [Patricia Manuel](#), Dalhousie University; [Van Lantz](#), University of New Brunswick; [Trevor Bell](#), Memorial University; Réal Daigle, retired Environment Canada; [Dan Scott](#), University of Waterloo; [Gordon McBean](#), University of Western Ontario; and, [David Burton](#), Dalhousie University. [UPEI News, Events & Publications](#)

Backyard rinks help Wilfrid Laurier University geographers track climate change: RinkWatch, a popular project started by researchers at Wilfrid Laurier University, is hitting the ice in its second season, looking to expand its 1,000-member roster of backyard-rink-making citizen scientists and continue gathering valuable climate-change data. Launched in January 2013, [RinkWatch.org](#) asks people to help track winter climate trends by recording skating conditions on their backyard or neighbourhood rinks. By the end of last winter's short, unpredictable skating season, over 1,000 people from throughout Canada and the U.S. were sharing their skating conditions, as well as their photos, stories and rink-making tips. The project also garnered media attention from across North America. Researchers Robert McLeman, Colin Robertson and Haydn Lawrence from Laurier's Department of Geography and Environmental Studies were overwhelmed by the success of RinkWatch's first season. "When we launched, we thought it would be great if we got 50, maybe 100 rinks registered by the end of winter," said McLeman. "We had that many users in the first week. We even heard from a rink maker in Norway." The researchers compared skating rink data from the first season of RinkWatch to meteorological data from Environment Canada and were encouraged by the results. "We found that data from skating rinks corresponds well with data from nearby weather stations," said McLeman. "This is important, because it shows that rinks are useful indicators of fluctuations in winter temperatures, and there are a lot more skating rinks than there are weather stations." The researchers hope to establish an international network of "RinkWatchers" sharing data year after year to monitor the effects of climate change on northern winters. In addition to gathering data, RinkWatch is making climate change a more relatable topic. [WLU Headlines](#)

Simon Fraser U's Peter Hall examining New Westminister's port history: Ignoring a city's rich port history can lead to disagreements among stakeholders involved in waterfront transformation, says SFU geographer Peter Hall. That's why he and other SFU researchers are in the midst of a four-year federally funded project to highlight New Westminister's port history in a way that engages citizens and informs their perceptions and decisions about the waterfront's future. Over the past three or four decades, New Westminister has undergone significant port redevelopment. "The waterfront is still of great interest to residents and policy-makers," says Hall "But there is widespread dissatisfaction with both waterfront industrial activities that cause truck and rail traffic, and waterfront residential gentrification that claims to be based on heritage and environmental concerns. "It is increasingly difficult for the general public to understand why it is important, for both economic and environmental reasons, to protect urban waterfront land for more than condominiums, parks and highways." An associate professor in urban studies, Hall is an expert on relationships between waterfronts, ports and their cities. Originally from another port city, Cape Town, South Africa, he studies how one-dimensional public understandings can lead to narrow political decisions about port development. [SFU Research](#)

Communications from the CAG Executive...



Canadian Association of Geographers
Association Canadienne des Géographes

Communications du comité exécutif de l'ACG...

Contents of [latest issue](#): *President's Column* by Jean Andrey; and, *Commentary: Bridging Worlds: Sustainable Development, the Anthropocene and a holistic vision of geography* by Matthew Hatvany.

THIS IS GEOGRAPHY

When you think of geography, what comes to mind? Maps, maybe. Perhaps also the idea of knowing which river leads to which ocean or where most seniors live in a certain country. But geography is so much more than labeling and colouring between the boundary lines. *Canadian Geographic's* new online forums provide an look at real-world people using geography in fascinating and perhaps surprising ways. Watch the Google+ Hangout live on [Canadian Geographic's Google+ page](#).

Geography in high schools: What geographic knowledge are students lacking today? What can be done to raise the profile of geography in Canadian high schools? In this Google+ Hangout, we discuss the state of geographic education in Canada today. Moderator: Jean Andrey. Panelists: Pam Shaw, Chris Burnley. [YouTube](#)

Citizen cartography: In an age when anyone can make a map online and use it to tell their own narrative, what happens to the process of mapping, which has previously been handled by an exclusive few? In this G+ hangout, panelists will discuss both the benefits and the potential complications that come with the new frontier of citizen cartography. Moderator: Jean Andrey. Panelists: Fraser Taylor, Karin Tuxen-Bettman, Chris Brackley. [YouTube](#)

How is technology changing the field of geography? With a few clicks, anyone with an internet connection can become a geographer. From remote sensing to Google Maps, new innovations have revolutionized the field — for better or for worse. In this online panel, we discuss how technology is affecting how we study, conduct and teach geography. Panelists: Andrew Davidson, Andrei Balulescu. [YouTube](#).

Recent Theses and Dissertations

Matthew Beedle. 2013. Glacier change in the Cariboo Mountains of British Columbia, Canada (1946-2011). Unpublished PhD Dissertation in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (Geography), University of Northern British Columbia, Prince George, BC. Co-supervisors: Brian Menounos and Roger Wheate.

Charles Z. Levkoe. 2014. Mobilizing collaborative networks for a transformative food politics: a case study of provincial food networks in Canada. Doctor of Philosophy, Department of Geography, University of Toronto. Toronto, Ontario. Supervisor: Sarah Wakefield.

Hot Papers by Canadian Geographers

Nathan James Bennett and Philip Dearden. 2014. [Why local people do not support conservation: Community perceptions of marine protected area livelihood impacts, governance and management in Thailand](#). *Marine Policy* 44:107–116.

Alan Diduck and Patricia Fitzpatrick. 2013. [Assessing Adaptive Management in the Keeyask EIS](#). A report prepared for the Consumers Association of Canada (Manitoba Branch).

Guy Faulkner, Michelle Stone, Ron Buliung, Bonny Wong and Raktim Mitra. 2013. [School travel and children's physical activity: a cross-sectional study examining the influence of distance](#). *ZBMC Public Health* 13:1166 doi:10.1186/1471-2458-13-1166

Sarah Harper, Dirk Zeller, Melissa Hauzer, Daniel Pauly and Ussif Rashid Sumaila. 2013. [Women and fisheries: Contribution to food security and local economies](#). *Marine Policy* 39: 56–63.

Rory Johnston, Valorie A. Crooks, Jeremy Snyder and Shafik Dharamsi. 2013. [Canadian family doctors' roles and responsibilities toward outbound medical tourists. "Our true role is ... within the confines of our system"](#). *Canadian Family Physician* 59:1314-1319

Ian MacLachlan. 2013. [Kwinana Industrial Area: Agglomeration economies and industrial symbiosis on Western Australia's Cockburn Sound](#). *Australian Geographer* 44:383–400.

Genevieve L. Noyce, Ruth K. Varner, Jill L. Bubier and Steve Frolking. 2013. [Effect of *Carex rostrata* on seasonal and interannual variability in peatland methane emissions](#). *Journal of Geophysical Research: Biogeosciences*. DOI: 10.1002/2013JG002474

Janelle Laing and Jacqueline Binyamin. 2013. [Climate change effect on winter temperature and precipitation of Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, Canada from 1943 to 2011](#). *American Journal of Climate Change* 2:275-283.

Jerome-Etienne Lesemann, Tracy A. Brennand, Olav B. Lian and Paul Sanborn. [A refined understanding of the paleoenvironmental history recorded at the Okanagan Centre section, an MIS 4 stratotype, south-central British Columbia, Canada](#). *Journal of Quaternary Science* 28:729–747.

Mirna Panic and James D. Ford. 2013. [A review of national-level adaptation planning with regards to the risks posed by climate change on infectious diseases in 14 OECD Nations](#). *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* 10:7083-7109.

Joanna Petrusek MacDonald, James D. Ford, Ashlee Cunsolo Willox and Nancy A. Ross. 2013. [A review of protective factors and causal mechanisms that enhance the mental health of Indigenous Circumpolar youth](#). *International Journal of Circumpolar Health* 72:21775.

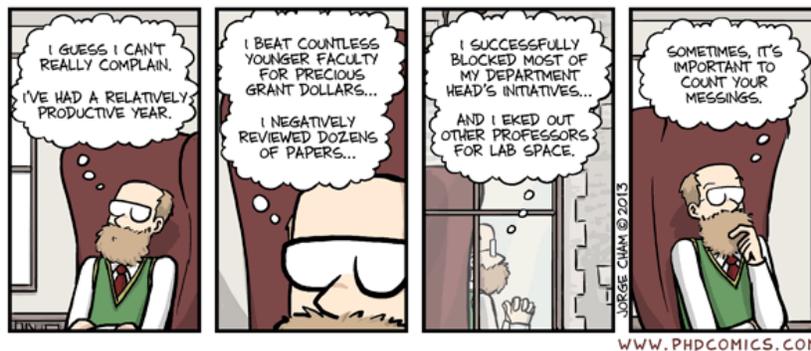
Kathleen Vaillancourt, Yuri Alcocer, Olivier Bahn, Camille Fertel, Erik Frenette, Hichem Garbouj, Amit Kanudia, Maryse Labriet, Richard Loulou, Mathilde Marcy, Yosra Neji and Jean-Philippe Waaub. 2013. [A Canadian 2050 Energy Outlook: Analysis with the Multi-Regional Model TIMES-Canada](#). *Les Cahiers du GERAD* G-2013-70.

Other “Geographical” News

How to write a personal statement for geography: "Geography is a living, breathing subject, constantly adapting itself to change. It is dynamic and relevant, a great adventure with a purpose," wrote Michael Palin. From global warming, to the impact of economic change on communities, geography can be a fascinating subject to study. [The Guardian](#)

Make your application stand out when you are applying for a faculty position: When applying for a faculty position, you and many of the other candidates may all have the same research-type background. So how to distinguish yourself? Marty Wall, a faculty advisor at the University of Victoria's Learning and Teaching Centre, advises grad students to work on their teaching experience in this video. [University Affairs](#)

Some not so “Geographical” News



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