



**News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers**  
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### **The Canadian Association of Geographers Awards – [2014 Award Winners](#)**

#### **Award for Scholarly Distinction in Geography - George Lovell, Queen's University**

The purpose of the award is to recognize a member of the CAG for outstanding scholarly work in geography either in the form of sustained contributions over a number of years or as a single major research contribution.

#### **Award for Geography in Service of Government/Business - Stephen Woodley, Parks Canada**

Established in 1997 in recognition of the primary importance of excellence in geography in the service of government or business, the CAG offers this award to someone who has carried out major work for or in the public or private sector.

#### **Award for Service to the Profession of Geography - Bernard Thraves, University of Regina**

This award is intended to recognize a member of the CAG for exceptional professional service over a period of years - for example, in the university training of geographers, in administration or similar activities in the public service, as an officer of a learned society, or in such other ways as have significantly advanced the profession and practice of geography in Canada.

#### **Award for Excellence in Teaching Geography - Rob Milne, Wilfrid Laurier University**

In recognition of the primary importance of teaching excellence in geographic education, the CAG offers, since 1997, this award to a member who teaches in a recognized university, college, CEGEP or high school.

#### **Julian M. Szeicz Award for Early Career Achievement - Matthew Schnurr, Dalhousie University**

This award honours the memory and achievement of Dr. Julian M. Szeicz (1965-1998). The award is presented annually in recognition of research achievement and career potential by a Canadian geographer at an early career stage. The purpose of the award is to foster the development of geographical studies of Canada and to provide recognition of recently established geographical practitioners.

**Starkey-Robinson Award for Graduate Research on Canada - JP Catungal, University of Toronto**

This award gives recognition to high quality graduate research that furthers understanding of the geography of Canada.

**Robin P. Armstrong Memorial Prize for Excellence in Native Studies - Lynn Barwin, U Ottawa**

This award recognizes and promotes excellence in applied research on Canada's Aboriginal peoples. It was established to commemorate the contribution of Robin P. Armstrong to research on Aboriginal issues within the government of Canada and the CAG.

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**New Division of the CAG:** The (re) creation of a Québec Division of the CAG, Regroupement des géographes du Québec de l'association Canadian de géographes (RGQ/ACG) became effective May 26 2014 when the CAG Executive ratified it's constitution.

**CAUT honours Queen's University emeritus professor John Holmes as distinguished academic:**

John Holmes is the 2014 recipient of CAUT's Distinguished Academic Award, the highest honour the association can give academic staff in recognition of extraordinary accomplishments as a teacher, in research and scholarly work, and in service to the university and the community. "Those who have been privileged to study with John Holmes comment on his accessibility, patience, compassion, and interest in their futures long after formal teacher-student relationships end. They have been inspired by his passion for his discipline and his unending generosity with his time and wisdom, and many are now academic faculty in their own right who further John's theoretical insights and methodological innovations in their work and the work of their students across North America," notes the nomination letter from the award's jury. Holmes, an emeritus professor of geography at Queen's University, was presented with the award at CAUT's council meeting in Ottawa. Holmes joined the geography department in 1971 and has twice served as its chair. He is an expert in economic geography and is credited with broadening the field to include a new sub-discipline of labour geography that shifted the focus from corporations and government only, to include and emphasize the agency of workers and their unions. Periods as a visiting professor at several universities in North America and overseas, like his many years of contributing papers, articles, and book chapters not only during the course of his career but also post-retirement, underline his influence in international geography circles. He has taught thousands of undergraduates, supervised 23 MAs and six PhDs, and mentored three post-doctoral fellows during his career. As professor emeritus he continues to jointly supervise five PhDs. [CAUT Bulletin](#)

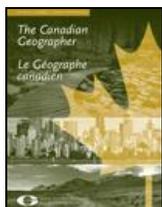
**Nipissing University geographers earn grant to study Lake Nipissing water quality:** Researchers in Nipissing University's geography department have earned a grant from the Ministry of Environment's Great Lakes division to monitor Lake Nipissing. Dr. April James, Dr. Dan Walters and Dr. Krystopher Chutko, all from Nipissing Geography department, will use the funding to equip two marine buoys that will monitor water quality (i.e. temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen, chlorophyll a, total algae, and turbidity) and weather in Lake Nipissing. In addition, the North Bay regional Ministry of Environment office and Dorset Environmental Science Centre staff are providing equipment and technical support. Graduate students at Nipissing University will work with faculty and ministry experts to design research projects that address issues of concern in the lake. This project builds on some of the recommendations from the annual Lake Nipissing Summit. In 2011, First Nations and municipal leaders in the Lake Nipissing watershed signed the Lake Nipissing Stewardship Declaration, which recommends: increasing public awareness to issues affecting the lake, disseminating information to the public, and enhancing collaborations. The research project addresses these recommendations. [Nipissing University News](#)

**Studying frozen volcanoes in Iceland leads to science degree for UBC Okanagan student:** Erica Massey, graduating from UBC with a bachelor of science degree in earth and environmental sciences from the Irving K. Barber School of Arts and Sciences, has already plotted out her master's degree research. Massey's path to graduation was different than her peers. Not only a bit older, but she also spent two full semesters studying in Iceland—taking her kids along for the journey of a lifetime. Curious about climate change and the North, Massey applied to and was accepted by UBC's Go Global program to study in Iceland. Taking her children out of school, to a country where they didn't speak the language, was a big risk. Massey had a full-time course load, studying Earth's tectonic movements, volcanology, glaciology, glacial geology, geothermal energy, geophysics and astrophysics. The family also took time to explore Iceland's northern landscapes of volcanoes, glaciers, and enjoy the historic Viking culture. Her master's research will examine the textures, mineralogy, and elemental composition of palagonite—the first stable product of altered volcanic glass, formed when eruptions occur under glaciers. [UBC's Okanagan News](#)

**York U's William Jenkins wins Clio Prize:** William Jenkins, an Associate Professor in the Department of Geography at York University, won the [Clio Prize](#) (outstanding contribution to Ontario History) for his book: [Between Raid and Rebellion: the Irish in Buffalo and Toronto, 1867-1916](#) (McGill-Queen's University Press, 2013). Professor Jenkins used an innovative methodological approach which combines social historical methodology with historical geography. The [book](#) examines the lives and allegiances of Irish immigrants in Toronto and Buffalo in the period between the Fenian Raids and the 1916 Easter Uprising, showcasing the power of geography as a vital historical determinant.

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### New in [The Canadian Geographer](#)



John Curry, Han Donker and Richard Krehbiel. 2014. [Land claim and treaty negotiations in British Columbia, Canada: Implications for First Nations land and self-governance](#). The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien. DOI: 10.1111/cag.12088

Geoffrey G. L. Kershaw, Heather Castleden and Colin P. Laroque. 2014. [An argument for ethical physical geography research on Indigenous landscapes in Canada](#). The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien. DOI: 10.1111/cag.12092

Agnieszka Leszczynski and Sarah Elwood. 2014. [Feminist geographies of new spatial media](#). The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien. DOI: 10.1111/cag.12093

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### Recent Theses and Dissertations

Nicole Liselotte Louiseize. 2014. [Impact of active layer detachments on seasonal dynamics of nitrogen export in High Arctic watersheds](#). Unpublished MSc thesis. Department of Geography, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario. Supervisor: Melissa Lafrenière

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## Hot Papers by Canadian Geographers

Stefania Bertazzon, Patrick D. O'Hara, Olesya Barrett and Norma Serra-Sogas. 2014. [Geospatial analysis of oil discharges observed by the National Aerial Surveillance Program in the Canadian Pacific Ocean](#). *Applied Geography* 52:78–89.

Marwan A. Hassan, Samuel V.J. Robinson, Hal Voepel, Jack Lewis and Thomas E. Lisle. 2014. [Modeling temporal trends in bedload transport in gravel-bed streams using hierarchical mixed-effects models](#). *Geomorphology*. doi.org/10.1016/j.geomorph.2014.05.019

Elizabeth Lunstrum. 2014. [Green Militarization: Anti-poaching efforts and the spatial contours of Kruger National Park](#). *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*. DOI:10.1080/00045608.2014.912545

Natalie Oswin. 2014. [Queer time in global city Singapore: neoliberal futures and the 'freedom to love'](#). *Sexualities* 17: 412-433.

Andrew Rees, Michael English, Chris Derksen, Peter Toose and Arvids Silis. 2013. [Observations of late winter Canadian tundra snow cover properties](#). *Hydrological Processes* 28:3962–3977.

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### Other “Geographical” News

**Google invests in satellite swarms to expand internet:** Google has considered both balloons and drones in its quest to spread high-speed Internet access across the globe. Now the Internet giant aims to go even higher by investing billions in a fleet of satellites that could help reach "the other 3 billion" people who live in regions of the world lacking broadband Internet access. The new Google satellite venture envisions at least 180 small, orbiters flying at lower altitudes than most satellites and delivering high data capacity services. Cost estimates range between \$1 billion and \$3 billion. [DNews](#)

**Oldest known pair of pants unearthed:** The world's first-known pants were recently excavated from tombs in western China. The pants, which date from 3,000 to 3,300 years ago, are tattered, but are surprisingly stylish, combining attractive form with function. Made out of wool, the trousers feature straight-fitting legs and a wide crotch. They support the idea that trousers were invented for horse riding by mobile pastoralists, and that trousers were brought to the Tarim Basin by horse-riding peoples. [DNews](#)

**Humans, not climate, to blame for Ice Age-era disappearance of large mammals:** Was it humankind or climate change that caused the extinction of a considerable number of large mammals about the time of the last Ice Age? Researchers have carried out the first global analysis of the extinction of the large animals, and the conclusion is clear -- humans are to blame. The study unequivocally points to humans as the cause of the mass extinction of large animals all over the world during the course of the last 100,000 years. [ScienceDaily](#)

**Dear Prime Minister: we 300 scientists find Northern Gateway review flawed:** In what may be the most stinging criticism against the Northern Gateway project yet, a group of 300 scientists have submitted an open letter to Prime Minister Harper urging him to reject a recent federal review recommending the passage of the oil sands pipeline. [Vancouver Observer](#)

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## Some not so “Geographical” News



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

@CanGeographers Weekly: <https://paper.li/CanGeographers/1394987315>