



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)

UBC geography student Mila Mezei goes north: This summer, UBC student Mila Mezei went further north than she had ever been in her life. Mezei, a third year environment and sustainability geography major, was part of a two-week Arctic expedition to the Torngat Mountains National Park, a national reserve that comprises almost 10,000 square kilometres of the Northern Labrador Mountains. The trip centred on the Torngat Mountains National Park, which is home to students, researchers and tourists throughout the summer months. Mezei's time there allowed her to do everything from enjoy a barbecue of fresh Arctic char and bannock to hiking up mountains and past fjords to helping geologists and oceanographers conduct their research. "But the main point [of the expedition]," said Mezei, "was to learn as much about the Arctic region as possible, and then come back and share what we learned and encourage people to get up there at some point." Mezei came across the opportunity when applying to be a Youth Ambassador at Parks Canada, which currently has a three-year agreement with SOI to sponsor 13 student participants for the yearly expeditions. With her interest in geography, environmental issues and the Polar Regions, Mezei found the opportunity a perfect fit. [The Ubysey](#)

U Ottawa PhD candidate Robert Way shows Labrador is heating up: Robert Way of Happy Valley-Goose Bay, a PhD student in the University of Ottawa's geography department, has just published an extensive study that indicates climate change has accelerated in Labrador at double the rate of the rest of the world over the past century. Way and a team of researchers compiled all available weather station data for Labrador covering the period 1881-2011. The research notes that over the past century, temperatures in Labrador have increased by a degree and a half. While that may not appear to be an alarming rate of change, Way says it is when compared to the global rate — 0.8°C over the past century. Much of this change has occurred during the winter, Way says, with the temperature rising by an average of two degrees. Way, who is of Inuit descent, has a master's of science from Memorial University where he studied the climatic sensitivity of Torngat Mountain glaciers. "One of the things I noticed when I was doing my master's on glaciers in the Torngat Mountains was that it's only been in recent years that the flies were particularly bad there. Before that, there weren't many flies at all. And that's probably related to the recent warmer springs and warmer summers." [The Telegram](#)

U Northern British Columbia's Brian Menounos on accelerating glacier melt: Anyone hiking in the Coast Mountains off the B.C. coast this summer may have noticed some dramatic changes to the landscape. Brian Menounos, an associate professor of geography at the University of Northern British Columbia, says he is aware that the rate of glacial retreat appears to be accelerating in many cases. "We know that many of these mountain glaciers are not long for this world," Menounos told CBC News. Glaciers like Decker Glacier near Whistler end in a low-angled slope, which means what's left of the glacier ice may suddenly melt into a lake. Steeper sloped glaciers are also rapidly retreating thanks to hot summers and winters that bring little new snow. If the overall warmer-and-drier trend continues, most of B.C.'s glaciers will gone by the end of this century, he said. That means some B.C. places, like Glacier National Park near Revelstoke, might consider changing their names. "You know, without glaciers, I'm not sure what a suitable name for that particular region would be." [CBC News](#)

Hot Papers by Canadian Geographers

Louis Awanyo, Michelle McCarron and Emmanuel Morgan Attua. 2014. [Affordable housing options for all in a context of developing capitalism: can housing transformations play a role in the Greater Accra Region, Ghana?](#) African Geographical Review. DOI:10.1080/19376812.2014.943774

Thomas E. Barchyn, Raleigh Martin, Jasper Kok and Chris H. Hugenholtz. 2014. [Fundamental mismatches between measurements and models in aeolian sediment transport prediction: The role of small-scale variability.](#) Aeolian Research. DOI: 10.1016/j.aeolia.2014.07.002

Steven Farber, Keith Bartholomew, Xiao Lia, Antonio Páez and Khandker M. Nurul Habib. 2014. [Assessing social equity in distance based transit fares using a model of travel behavior.](#) Transportation Research Part A: Policy and Practice 67:291–303.

S.V. Kokelj, T.C. Lantz, S.A. Wolfe, J.C. Kanigan, P.D. Morse, R. Coutts, N. Molina-Giraldo and C.R. Burn. 2014. [Distribution and activity of ice wedges across the forest-tundra transition, western Arctic Canada.](#) Journal of Geophysical Research: Earth Surface. DOI: 10.1002/2014JF003085

Federico Martellozzo, Navin Ramankutty, Ron J. Hall, David T. Price, Brett Purdy and Mark A. Friedl. 2014. [Urbanization and the loss of prime farmland: a case study in the Calgary–Edmonton corridor of Alberta.](#) Regional Environmental Change. DOI:10.1007/s10113-014-0658-0

Natalie McGlynn, Piotr Wilk, Isaac Luginaah, Bridget L Ryan and Amardeep Thind. 2014. [Increased use of recommended maternal health care as a determinant of immunization and appropriate care for fever and diarrhoea in Ghana: an analysis pooling three demographic and health surveys.](#) Health Policy Plan. doi:10.1093/heapol/czu090

Andrew S. Medeiros, Derek J. Taylor, Madeline Couse, Roland I. Hall, Roberto Quinlan and Brent B. Wolfe. 2014. [Biological and nutrient responses to catchment disturbance and warming in small lakes near the Alaskan tundra–taiga boundary.](#) The Holocene. doi:10.1177/0959683614540955

Manjana Milkoreit, Michele-Lee Moore, Michael Schoon and Chanda L. Meek. 2014. [Resilience scientists as change-makers—Growing the middle ground between science and advocacy?](#) Environmental Science & Policy. DOI: 10.1016/j.envsci.2014.08.003

Norm O'Reilly, Ida E. Berger, Tony Hernandez, Milena M. Parent and Benoit Séguin. 2014. [Urban sportscares: An environmental deterministic perspective on the management of youth sport participation.](#) Sport Management Review. DOI: 10.1016/j.smr.2014.07.003

Andrea Olive. 2014. [Urban awareness and attitudes toward conservation: A first look at Canada's cities.](#) Applied Geography 54:160–168.

Jennifer J. Silver. 2014. [From fishing to farming: Shellfish aquaculture expansion and the complexities of ocean space on Canada's west coast.](#) Applied Geography 54:110–117.

News from the Canadian Geophysical Union

Canadian Geophysical Union forms new Earth Surface Processes Section

A new Earth Surface Processes Section (ESPS) of the Canadian Geophysical Union (CGU) was approved at the CGU annual meeting year in May 2014. The formation of CGU-ESPS recognizes the growing importance of earth surface processes within Canadian geoscience and internationally, and the relevance of surface processes in the past, present and future landscapes of Earth. The scope of the new section is essentially the grand challenges in earth surface dynamics identified in the NAC "Landscapes on the Edge" report (NAP, 2010) with particular focus on Canadian contexts and including issues relating to human agency. CGU-ESPS will focus on research and promotion of this area of geosciences through regular conferences and education initiatives, including communication among researchers, practitioners and policy makers.

Call for ESPS session proposals for the Joint Assembly, Montreal, 3-7 May 2015

CGU-ESPS will officially begin its activities, in collaboration with other focus groups (e.g., CGRG, AGU-EPSP), at the Joint-Assembly (AGU-GAC-MAC-CGU) in Montreal, Quebec, 3-7 May 2015. Sessions will include plenary/town hall and keynote presentations and discussions of the scope and significance of ESPS activities, an open poster session and several themed sessions. The call for session proposals comes online at the end of August and we encourage you to think about possible sessions and discuss these with your colleagues. We welcome all session proposals that fit with the scope of CGU-ESPS interests and we look forward to a lively and stimulating meeting in a pleasant and engaging city.

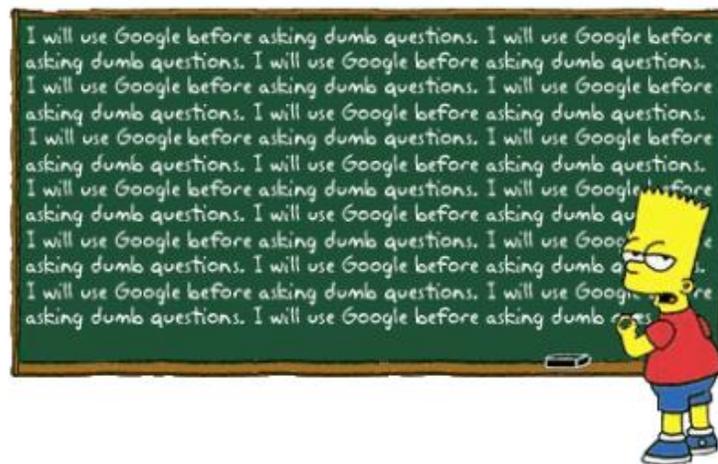
You can read more about the CGU-ESPS at our [webpage](#). Session proposal inquires can be directed to CGU-ESPS president Peter Ashmore (pashmore@uwo.ca). On-line session proposals for the Joint Assembly will commence soon. Montreal is a beautiful city, particularly in the Spring, we look forward to seeing you there!

Other “Geographical” News

As glaciers melt, bodies resurface: The reappearance of a long-lost bodies in glaciers isn't a new thing and will likely become more common as global climate change melts more ice, revealing the frozen corpses of people thought to be missing forever. [Glacier Hub](#)

The hardest job for graduates? Finding a job: Baffling interview questions, endless job applications and frustrating rejections – graduates face a tough time trying to secure their first job after university. The vast majority do, eventually, find work, but often it is in a different field to their degree. [The Guardian](#)

Some not so “Geographical” News



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