

GeogNews



News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers No. 375, October 14, 2015

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Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute Place Name Maps and Interactive Atlas: In collaboration with the Gwich'in Social & Cultural Institute, the Geomatics and Cartographic Research Centre in the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies at Carleton University has built a new [Gwich'in Interactive Atlas](#). The culmination of more than two decades of extensive fieldwork and consultation with elders, the set consists of twenty-two topographical maps for traveling on the land in the Gwich'in Settlement Region that includes Gwich'in traditional lands in both the Northwest Territories and Yukon. Scaled at 1:250,000, the maps are comprehensive guides of traditional land use as well as functional trail maps. A large place names wall map (5ft. X 7ft) showcasing names was also created for display in schools and public offices. These maps are among the few complete place name map sets ever created by an Indigenous group in Canada for their traditional land use area. In 1992, GSCI began working with elders from Tsiigehtchic, Inuvik, Aklavik, and Fort McPherson to record named places, trails, and historical and archeological sites. The topographical maps and accompanying 'talking map' – an Interactive Atlas – showcases more than 900 place names. Working with Carleton University's Geomatics and Cartographic Research Centre, GSCI's Interactive Atlas uses the Centre's Nunaliit Atlas framework to create a map that integrates historical information and oral histories behind place names. The online atlas includes that allows users to hear how names sound in Gwich'in, plus photos, videos and documents to illustrate knowledge about the named places. [Gwich'in Social & Cultural Institute](#)

U British Columbia's David Ley suggests taxes should be raised on high-end Vancouver homes to lower housing prices: The B.C. government could easily make Vancouver's red-hot housing market more affordable by raising the property transfer tax on high-end homes and cooling off demand from wealthy offshore buyers, an expert told a development industry forum on foreign ownership Wednesday. David Ley, a geography professor at the University of British Columbia who studies housing bubbles, said implementing a more progressive property transfer tax on the high-end homes, while keeping such levies low on cheaper properties, is an "easy" policy option that would create a trickle-down effect and lower prices throughout Metro Vancouver. Governments that chose to hike the property transfer taxes "have chosen to do [so] to try to maintain some control of a very, very volatile market in those places," Prof. Ley noted that it "is really important, because there is a lot of evidence that price pulses through a metropolitan market come in through the top end." The province's home buyers must pay a 1-per-cent tax on the first \$200,000 of their purchase price then another 2 per cent on the amount above \$200,000. That two-tiered tax system was instituted in 1987, when homes were much cheaper than today. That's also when wealthy immigrants from East Asia first began buying in large numbers, Prof. Ley said. [Globe and Mail](#)

U Fraser Valley's Olav Lian reports mammoths may have roamed Haida Gwaii 57,000 years ago:

The Haida Gwaii of 57,000 years ago was likely covered with tundra and low meadows populated by grazing mammals including caribou and mammoths, according to [new research](#) that involved Olav Lian from the Department of Geography and the Environment at University of the Fraser Valley. Lian applied a technique called optical dating to paint a picture of the archipelago that is very different from the rainforests we see today. Optical dating places the age of the peat at the base of the deposit at 57,000 years, the first direct dating of material from that time period on Haida Gwaii, according to the paper published Tuesday in the Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences. "This tells us a lot about that penultimate ice age," said co-author Rolf Mathewes. "We knew there was one because we can see the glacial till and rocks that indicated a big ice advance, but it was beyond our dating method. "Using this new technique, we can tell what happened when and what the environmental conditions were." The absence of tree pollen and the abundance of pollen from arctic alpine plants suggest the first forests did not take hold for thousands of years after the retreat of the ice. [Vancouver Sun](#)

Canadian geographers prominent in list of Canada's greatest explorers 2015: With the help of Fellows of [The Royal Canadian Geographical Society](#), *Canadian Geographic* identified 100 of Canada's top modern-day trailblazers. Included among the list are geographers: [John England](#), Expert in environmental change in Arctic environments and NSERC Northern Research Chair at the University of Alberta; has led Arctic field studies for more than 45 years; [Derek Ford](#), Leading academic cave explorer; studies caves as records of climate and geomorphic evolution; [Christopher Hopkinson](#), National leader in the use of remote sensing technologies for environmental and natural resources assessments and applications; and, [Wayne Pollard](#), Investigates massive ground ice in the Canadian High Arctic and Antarctica; director of the McGill Arctic Research Station on Axel Heiberg Island. [Canada's Greatest Explorers 2015](#)

New Book

Roger White, Guy Engelen and Inge Uljee. 2015. [Modeling Cities and Regions as Complex Systems: From Theory to Planning Applications](#). MIT Press. 344 pp., 93 b&w illus., 17 tables, 15 color plates. ISBN: 9780262331364.



This book describes the theory and practice of modeling the spatial dynamics of urban growth and transformation using an approach based on the theory of self-organizing systems. The book presents a series of models, most of them developed using cellular automata (CA), which are inherently spatial and computationally efficient. It also provides discussions of the theoretical, methodological, and philosophical issues that arise from the models. A case study illustrates the use of these models in urban and regional planning. Finally, the book presents a new, dynamic theory of urban spatial structure that emerges from the models and their applications.



Carleton U's Jeremy Schmidt a finalist in the SSHRC Impact Award in the Talent category. The Talent Award recognizes outstanding achievement by an individual who, on April 30, 2015, holds a SSHRC doctoral or postdoctoral fellowship or scholarship (including, but not limited to, a Canada Graduate Scholarship, Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship or Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship). The Talent Award is given to an individual who maintains academic excellence, has a talent for research and knowledge mobilization and has demonstrated clear potential to be a future leader within and/or outside the academic sector. [Carleton Geography and Environmental Studies News](#)

U Guelph geographers Barry Smit and Evan Fraser are taking part in special events this month that celebrate the anniversaries of popular CBC radio programs. Retired U of G geography professor, one of the world's leading authorities on climate change, is participating in a live recording of the science program [Quirks and Quarks](#) Oct. 15 at 7:30 p.m. at the Hart House Theatre in Toronto. Prof. Evan Fraser, known for teaching global food security in novel ways, will be part of [IDEAS's](#) 50th anniversary show Oct. 22 at 6:30 p.m. at CBC Toronto's Glenn Gould Studio.

Carleton U's Marcus Phillips and Brendan O'Neill were both recipients of the Outstanding Oral Presentation award at the 7th Canadian Permafrost Conference in Quebec City. Marcus Phillips presentation was on "[Improving water content description of ice-rich permafrost soils](#)". Brendan O'Neills presentation was on "[Permafrost degradation adjacent to snow fences along the Dempster Highway, Peel Plateau, NWT](#)". Typically the award is given for a single presentation, but the jury was divided so both were awarded the prize. [Carleton Geography and Environmental Studies News](#)

U British Columbia MSc student Joey Lee wins Mozilla Fellowship for Science. He is one of only four fellows this year, chosen from a competitive group of 130 people. In his words: "As a Mozilla Science Fellow I will be working within the UBC community to help promote open science, open research, and in particular, science communication". [UBC Geography News](#)



CAGONT 2015 is being held at The Department of Geography and Environmental Studies at Carleton University on 23-24 October. We have received about 115 abstracts for presentation. ABSTRACT SUBMISSION IS NOW CLOSED.

Registration for attendees and field trips will be open until Tuesday 20 October. People who have not registered at that point may attend, but must bring their registration fees in cash (\$40 for students, \$60 for others), and must send an email to [Chris Burn](#) before the end of the day on 20 October, to allow suitable preparations to be made for their arrival.

Details are available on the [CAGONT2015 web site](#).

Hot Papers by Canadian Geographers

Leigh Barrick. 2015. [“Possible criminal activity afoot”: The politics of race and boundary-making in the United States Pacific Northwest borderland](#). ACME: An International E-Journal for Critical Geographies 14:899-927.

Joyce Davidson and Sophie Tamas. 2015. [Autism and the ghost of gender](#). Emotion, Space and Society. DOI:10.1016/j.emospa.2015.09.009

E. Eshelman, M.G. Daly, G. Slater and E. Cloutis. 2015. [Time-resolved detection of aromatic compounds on planetary surfaces by ultraviolet laser induced fluorescence and Raman spectroscopy](#). Planetary and Space Science. DOI:10.1016/j.pss.2015.09.021

Michele Koppes, Summer Rupper, Maria Asay and Alexandra Winter-Billington. 2015. [Sensitivity of glacier runoff projections to baseline climate data in the Indus River basin](#). Frontiers in Earth Science. doi.org/10.3389/feart.2015.00059

Rolf W. Mathewes, Olav B. Lian, John J. Clague and Matthew J.W. Huntley. 2015. [Early Wisconsinan \(MIS 4\) glaciation on Haida Gwaii, British Columbia, and implications for biological refugia](#). Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences. DOI:10.1139/cjes-2015-0041

Barret L. Kurylyk, R. Daniel Moore and Kerry T. B. MacQuarrie. 2015. [Scientific Briefing: Quantifying streambed heat advection due to groundwater-surface water interactions](#). Hydrological Processes. DOI:10.1002/hyp.10709

J.-S. Landry and H. D. Matthews. 2015. [Fire vs. fossil fuel: all CO2 emissions are not created equal](#). Biogeosciences Discussions 12:15185-15222.

Liette Vasseur, Mary Thornbush, and Steve Plante. 2015. [Gender-based experiences and perceptions after the 2010 winter storms in Atlantic Canada](#). International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health 12:12518-12529.

R. Williams, A.J. Wright, E. Ashe, L.K. Blight, R. Bruintjes, R. Canessa, C.W. Clark, S. Cullis-Suzuki, D.T. Dakin, C. Erbe, P.S. Hammond, N.D. Merchant, P.D. O'Hara, J. Purser, A.N. Radford, S.D. Simpson, L. Thomas and M.A. Wale. 2016. [Impacts of anthropogenic noise on marine life: Publication patterns, new discoveries, and future directions in research and management](#). Ocean & Coastal Management 115:17–24.

Other “Geographical” News

Bad water: 'Third World' conditions on First Nations in Canada: Two-thirds of all First Nation communities in Canada have been under at least one drinking water advisory at some time in the last decade, a CBC News investigation has revealed. The numbers show that 400 out of 618 First Nations in the country had some kind of water problem between 2004 and 2014. The longest running water advisory is in the Neskantaga First Nation in Ontario, where residents have been boiling their water for 20 years. [CBC News](#)

Say goodbye to the weirdest border dispute in the world: one of the most perplexing border disputes in the world officially ended. India and Bangladesh began the exchange of over 160 enclaves – small areas of sovereignty completely surrounded on all sides by another country – and in so doing ended a dispute that has lasted almost 70 years. This act will have a major effect on the lives of more than 50,000 people who resided in these enclaves in Cooch Behar. Where they had been surrounded by a country they didn't have citizenship in for decades, now they will finally gain access to things like schools, electricity and health care. For curious cartographers and others obsessed with geopolitical oddities, however, it's an end of an era. The exchange between India and Bangladesh means that the world will not only lose one of its most unique borders, but it will also lose the only third-order enclave in the world – an enclave surrounded by an enclave surrounded by an enclave surrounded by another state. [Washington Post](#) | [Pakistan Defence](#)

Blame El Niño for late season burst of bugs across Prairies: Many species of insects are sticking around long past the time when they would normally go into hibernation, because warm weather is messing with the temperature cues they rely on. “This could potentially screw them up,” said entomologist John Swann, with the University of Calgary. He added we can expect a big bug boom arriving early in 2016, potentially including a burst of bark beetles chewing up trees, or pests that damage crops. [Global News](#)

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Some not so “Geographical” News



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