



**News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers
No. 383, December 10, 2015**

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U Victoria's Reuben Rose-Redwood explains how place names shape our geographical imagination: Place names shape what Reuben Rose-Redwood — an associate professor of Geography at the University of Victoria in British Columbia — calls our “geographical imagination.” They are sometimes political, personal, aspirational — or just pure marketing. Seattle has many examples of naming that shapes our perceptions of self. When Seattle was first settled, it was dubbed “New York,” a name that amused and bemused our competitor. It seemed such an overreach of ambition that locals appended the Chinook jargon term “Alki” to it, meaning “someday.” Still, it was a bold act of imagination from Day One: Seattle was to be a city to be reckoned with. But Prof. Rose-Redwood says that place names change. They are living things, as is the English language itself. New York Alki became Duwamps, then Seattle, for example. And sometimes more subtly, changes creep into the language. Place names can change because of marketing (think real-estate sales), or branding, or shifting ways of orienting ourselves, or just ways in which residents decide — almost unconsciously — to change something. We can drift into new ways of speaking. Rose-Redwood has written that currently, the origin of a place name is less interesting to scholars than the meaning of that name. [Crosscut](#)

U British Columbia's Michael Pidwirny on why El Niño will provide B.C.'s ski resorts with a turnaround season: After struggling through last year's unusually warm winter, B.C. ski resorts are expecting a turnaround season, buoyed by a colder forecast and the low Canadian dollar. Many ski hills have been able to open early, thanks to generous snowfalls. El Niño usually brings above-normal precipitation and temperatures, said Michael Pidwirny, a professor of environmental science at the University of British Columbia. In the past, El Niño has dumped snow on B.C. mountains. But if temperatures aren't cold enough, precipitation can fall as rain instead of snow; that's what happened on Cypress Mountain during the 2010 Olympics, an El Niño year when snow had to be trucked in for some events. The good news is that temperatures will not be as warm as they were during last year's balmy winter. But whether it's all downhill from here still remains to be seen, especially for ski resorts located near the coast. “I expect [based on released seasonal forecasts] the coastal resorts will be significantly influenced by El Niño's warm temperatures and lack of precipitation starting in late January and then extending into February and March,” says Pidwirny. [Business in Vancouver](#)

U Calgary's John Yackel helps explain to Leonardo DiCaprio that chinooks have little to do with climate change: Albertans are having a good laugh at the expense of Hollywood stars, and it's because of statements filled with hot... er, warm air. On Wednesday, U.S. media reports trickling into Western Canada had locals reeling as it appeared Leonardo DiCaprio mistook a winter Chinook for climate change. A Q&A for the film the Revenant – shot in Calgary – was published on Variety.com with quotes from the star expressing deep concern over the climate change he experience first hand in Alberta. "We were in Calgary and the locals were saying, 'This has never happened in our province, ever,'" DiCaprio recalled. "We would come and there would be eight feet of snow, and then all of a sudden a warm gust of wind would come." A Chinook expert in Calgary, Dr. John Yackel, said the term actually means "snow eater" in Blackfoot, because when a warm wind rolls in it's a big enough temperature change to actually evaporate the white stuff. "When he was here filming that movie it was in late February early March," said Yackel, a University of Calgary professor and head of the department of geography who wrote his Masters thesis on Chinooks. "Just looking at some of the temperature records, Canmore -- and southern Alberta in general -- was experiencing really frequent Chinook activity." Yackel explained the Chinook actually has little to do with climate change and is very common in southern Alberta. It's simply moist air that travels from the coast, rolls down the mountains where it's warmed by compression and flows eastward towards Calgary. [MetroNews/Calgary](#)



U Northern British Columbia's Gail Fondahl attended a meeting of the Institut Polaire Français Paul-Emile Victor (IPEV) in Plouzané, France on 24-25 November. Gail serves as a member of IPEV's Council of Scientific and Technical Programs; the Council met to review 2015 funding applications.

McGill U's Sarah Turner and Natalie Oswin's paper "[Itinerant livelihoods: Street vending-scapes and the politics of mobility in upland socialist Vietnam](#)" has been named the best 2015 article published in The Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography.

U Northern British Columbia is hosting Levan Tielidze from the Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Georgia. He is working with Geography's Dr. Roger Wheate on digital techniques for glacier mapping, as part of his Ph.D thesis on the glaciers of Georgia in the Caucasus Mountains. You can read more about the work in progress on the [Glaciers of Georgia](#), by Levan and his team.

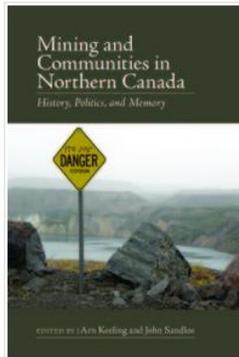
Recent Theses and Dissertations

Amy Blaser. 2015. Seasonal dynamics of ecosystem carbon exchange for a wet sedge vegetation community, Melville Island, Nunavut. MSc thesis. Department of Geography & Planning, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario. Supervisors: Dr. Paul Treitz and Dr. Neal Scott.

Paul Chaput. 2015. Planting stories, feeding communities: knowledge, Indigenous peoples, and film. PhD thesis. Department of Geography & Planning, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario. Supervisor: Dr. George Lovell.

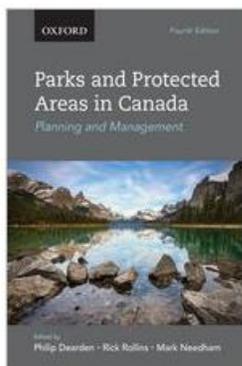
New Books

Arn Keeling and John Sandlos (Editors). 2015. [Mining and Communities in Northern Canada: History, Politics, and Memory](#). University of Calgary Press, Calgary. 456pp



Memorial University's John Sandlos and Arn Keeling are pleased to announce the publication of an edited book, *Mining and Communities in Northern Canada: History, Politics, Memory*, with University of Calgary Press. Featuring work by graduate students, researchers, and community members undertaken through the SSHRC-funded Abandoned Mines in Northern Canada Project, *Mining and Communities* assembles oral history and archival stories from across northern Canada, assessing the varied impacts of mining primarily on Aboriginal communities. The book has been released as part of the Canadian History and Environment series edited by Alan MacEachern, and is [available as an open access ebook](#). You can download the whole book, or individual chapters at this site.

Philip Dearden, Rick Rollins and Mark Needham (Editors). 2016. [Parks and Protected Areas in Canada: Planning and Management. Fourth Edition](#). Toronto. Oxford University Press. 486pp



Bringing together a list of outstanding scholars and officials from the academic world, Canada's public service, and non-governmental organizations, *Parks and Protected Areas in Canada* gives students a comprehensive look at Canadian park management and planning. The text also takes an in-depth view of the contemporary issues relating to parks and protected space management in Canada today.

Hot Papers by Canadian Geographers

Mark Andrachuk and Derek Armitage. 2015. [Understanding social-ecological change and transformation through community perceptions of system identity](#). *Ecology and Society* 20(4):26

Andrew Kyei Agyare, Philip Dearden and Rick Rollins. 2015. [Nature-based tourism in Mole National Park, Ghana](#). *African Geographical Review*. doi.org/10.1080/19376812.2015.1088389.

Andrew Kyei Agyare, Grant Murray, Philip Dearden and Rick Rollins. 2015. Understanding inter-community performance assessments in community-based resource management at Avu Lagoon, Ghana. [Environmental Development and Sustainability](#) 17:1493-1508.

Julia Baird, Marilyne Jollineau, Ryan Plummer and Josh Valenti. 2016. [Exploring agricultural advice networks, beneficial management practices and water quality on the landscape: A geospatial social-ecological systems analysis](#). *Land Use Policy* 51:236–243.

R.E. Burnham. 2015. [Reproductive strategies conferring species dominance in marine mysid \(Peracarida, Mysida\) species in coastal waters off Vancouver Island, BC](#). *Crustaceana*, 88:1421–1438.

Michael Church. 2015. [Reconstructing periglacial geomorphology: The contribution of J. Ross Mackay](#). *Permafrost and Periglacial Processes*. DOI:10.1002/ppp.1867

Brandon Heung, Hung Chak Ho, Jin Zhang, Anders Knudby, Chuck E. Bulmer and Margaret G. Schmidt. 2016. [An overview and comparison of machine-learning techniques for classification purposes in digital soil mapping](#). *Geoderma* 265:62–77.

F. Hugue, M. Lapointe, B.C. Eaton and A. Lepoutre. 2016. [Satellite-based remote sensing of running water habitats at large riverscape scales: Tools to analyze habitat heterogeneity for river ecosystem management](#). *Geomorphology* 253:353–369.

D. Lancaster, P. Dearden and N. Ban (2015) [Drivers of recreational fisher compliance in temperate marine conservation areas: A study of rockfish conservation areas in British Columbia, Canada](#). *Global Ecology and Conservation* 4:645-657.

Merje Kuus. 2016. [Diplomacy and audit: Technologies of knowledge in Europe](#). *Geoforum* 68:39-47.

Vincent Z. Kuuire, Elijah Bisung, Andrea Rishworth, Jenna Dixon and Isaac Luginaah. 2015. [Health-seeking behaviour during times of illness: a study among adults in a resource poor setting in Ghana](#). *Journal of Public Health*. DOI:10.1093/pubmed/fdv176

Melissa Leclair, Pete Whittington and Jonathan Price. 2015. [Hydrological functions of a mine-impacted and natural peatland-dominated watershed, James Bay Lowland](#). *Journal of Hydrology* 4(Part B):732–747.

Sean Markey, Sarah-Patricia Breen, Kelly Vodden and Jen Daniels. 2015. [Evidence of place: Becoming a region in rural Canada](#). *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*. DOI:10.1111/1468-2427.12298

Joanna Petrusek MacDonald, James Ford, Ashlee Cunsolo Willox, Claudia Mitchell, Konek Productions, My Word Storytelling and Digital Media Lab, Rigolet Inuit Community Government. 2015.

[Youth-led participatory video as a strategy to enhance Inuit youth adaptive capacities for dealing with climate change](#). Arctic 8.

Bharat Punjabi. 2015. [Debate on Karen Bakker's Privatizing Water: Governance failure and the world's urban water crisis](#). International Journal of Urban and Regional Research. DOI:10.1111/1468-2427.12281

Suvaluck Satumanatpan and Ratana Chuenpagdee. 2015. [Assessing governability of environmental protected areas in Phetchaburi and Prachuap Kirikhan, Thailand](#). Maritime Studies. DOI:10.1186/s40152-015-0035-8

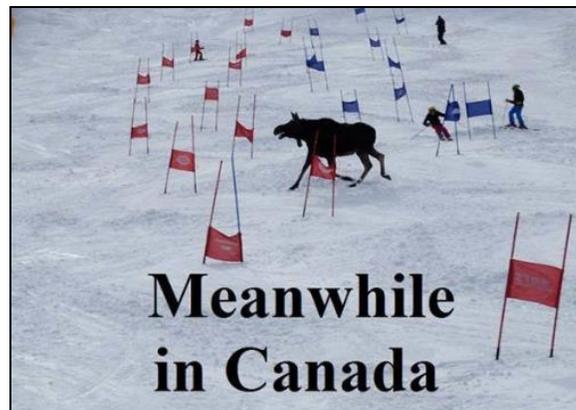
Kate Sherren, Logan Loika and James A. Debner. 2016. [Climate adaptation in 'new world' cultural landscapes: The case of Bay of Fundy agricultural dykelands \(Nova Scotia, Canada\)](#). Land Use Policy 51:267–280.

Jian Yang, Trevor Jones, John Caspersen and Yuhong He. 2015. [Object-based canopy gap segmentation and classification: Quantifying the pros and cons of integrating optical and LiDAR data](#). Remote Sensing 7:15917-15-932.

Other “Geographical” News

Winnipeg's inner city reversing decades of decline: After nearly five decades of gradual decline, Winnipeg's inner city is showing signs of a newfound vitality. The area has reversed a trending decline in population, home ownership is up 10 per cent and income levels are rising faster than non-inner-city earners. [CBC News | Manitoba](#)

Some not so “Geographical” News



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[@CanGeographers Weekly](#): <https://paper.li/CanGeographers/1394987315>
