



**News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers
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News from the 2016 Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Association of Geographers

CAG adopts new investment policy at 2016AGM: At the Annual General Meeting of 2 June 2017, a motion to support the recommendations of an ad hoc committee to review the investment policy of the CAG was accepted ([link to report](#)). The CAG Executive Committee is now working to implement those recommendations, which require the CAG to direct its funds towards fossil-free investments.

L'ACG a adopté une nouvelle politique d'investissement aux congrès 2016: Lors de l'assemblée générale annuelle du 2 Juin 2017, une motion visant à appuyer les recommandations d'un comité ad hoc chargé d'examiner la politique d'investissement de l'ACG a été accepté ([Lien vers le rapport](#)). Le Comité exécutif de l'ACG travaille actuellement à mettre en œuvre ces recommandations, qui nécessitent l'ACG pour diriger son fonds vers des investissements sans fossiles.

Brock U grad combines love of the beach with sustainability research: Southampton Beach was a wonderland of sand, fun and sun for a young Brodie Hague. Each summer, Hague's family left their Hamilton home to spend two weeks at a cottage along the tranquil waterfront setting of Lake Huron. The master's student in Brock's Sustainability Science and Society (SSAS) program still looks forward to taking a summer break along the four-kilometre shoreline. More recently, he found a way to combine his summer playground with his passion for geography and the environment. Hague based his master's research thesis on the use of remote sensing to map and monitor the dune vegetation at Southampton. The program was launched in 2014 as one of only a few master's degrees specifically designed to address contemporary challenges through the transdisciplinary lens of sustainability science. "Our first graduating class is a measure of the program's success," says Geography Professor Marilynne Jollineau, who is the Interim Director of the program and also Hague's thesis supervisor. "The work of our new graduates will have a far-reaching impact with research topics that include, for example, climate change, environmental communications, corporate social responsibility, renewable energy and sustainability education." Hague's project focused on using satellite remote sensing technology to map and monitor changes to the Chantry Dune system over a seven-year period, from 2005 to 2012. To carry out his project, Hague received financial support from the Department of Geography to purchase two high spatial resolution satellite images from 2005 and 2012, respectively. [Brock News](#)

U British Columbia geography student says most Vancouver Airbnb hosts de facto commercial operators:

A University of British Columbia undergraduate geography student says Airbnb is having a major impact on Vancouver's rental housing stock. Iain Marjoribanks just finished a study on Airbnb — with guidance from the B.C. Non-Profit Housing Association — to find out how many people are just renting out an extra bed here and there, and how many are de facto commercial operators. "What I found in my research was about 77 per cent of Airbnb's revenues come from hosts that don't appear to live in the units they list on Airbnb — what I call commercial hosts as opposed to casual hosts, which is how Airbnb tends to portray itself". Marjoribanks says his research suggests only 47 per cent of hosts are principal residences, and if the service was no longer offered in Vancouver, the rental vacancy rate would double from 0.8 to up to two per cent. Victoria is looking to regulate Airbnb in some way, which Marjoribanks says is easier said than done. He says San Francisco and Portland have had some success regulating the number of days per year a property can be put up for short-term rental and also requires Airbnb hosts to register their rental properties. "Unfortunately, San Francisco has about a 9.5 per cent compliance rate, and Portland has an 11 per cent compliance rate," he said. "There's no way for [cities] to go after these hosts, because Airbnb protects the identity of hosts, and therefore, we're unable to figure out who they are, where they are, or how many days they are or aren't renting their units as a short-term rental." [CBCNews | British Columbia](#)

Parks, planning and public spaces: Toronto can learn lessons from Jerusalem say U of Toronto students:

"Jerusalem is a city of neighborhoods." *"Only deputy mayors are paid in Jerusalem. What is the impact of city councillors being unpaid?"* Those were just some of the social media posts from Shauna Brail and nine U of T students during a recent trip to Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. Brail, an associate professor in urban studies and U of T's presidential adviser on urban engagement, led the undergraduate and graduate students — mostly from departments in the Faculty of Arts and Science — through different neighbourhoods in Jerusalem, studying urban regeneration, inclusive public spaces and place-making. The six-day trip, hosted by Hebrew University's Urban Clinic, was funded mostly through the Canadian Friends of Hebrew University endowment fund. The students did not receive academic credit for the trip. Brail said she has been to Jerusalem many times, but learned a lot by seeing the city through the eyes of the U of T students. "They were just terribly insightful about challenges and issues. I was impressed with their maturity but also with their ability to understand." Michelle Kearns was one of those students. A master's student in planning, Kearns said she was struck by how well organized and clean Jerusalem was. "Bike lanes are always protected; pedestrians are completely separated from traffic, the LRT system was easy to use, and traffic lights are specific — with separate signals for pedestrians, cyclists and traffic." Despite the many differences between the two cities, Toronto can learn from Jerusalem, Kearns said. "I would like to see Toronto take more risks with planning for transportation." She gave Jaffa Road, one of Jerusalem's major streets as an example. [U Toronto News](#)

U Alberta's Duane Froese examining ice-age bison fossils that provide clues to early human migration in North America:

New evidence from bison fossils has enabled scientists to shape a more accurate timeline for the North American Ice Free Corridor in the late Pleistocene, shedding new light on human and animal migration during the last ice age. "What we've done is put some fairly strong constraints on when this area was viable, and when it was connected to the north and the south in terms of it being a corridor," explains Duane Froese, Canada Research Chair in Northern Environmental Change and professor in the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences. Stretching across today's central Alberta, the corridor was an important connector between Beringia in the far North and the rest of North America. Though it has long been known to have been used by humans and animals, questions remained about when and how the route was used. Now, researchers believe they have uncovered a few of these answers from ancient bison fossils. [U Alberta News](#)

[The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien](#)



[Special Issue: Cultivating an ethic of wellness in Geography](#)

Summer / été 2016. Volume 60, Issue 2: 159–281. ([Video presentation](#))

Beverley Mullings, Linda Peake and Kate Parizeau. 2016. [Cultivating an ethic of wellness in Geography](#). The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien 60:161–167.

Lawrence D. Berg, Edward H. Huijbens and Henrik Gutzon Larsen. 2016. [Producing anxiety in the neoliberal university](#). The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien 60:168–180.

Kate Maclean. 2016. [Sanity, “madness,” and the academy](#). The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien 60:181–191.

Kate Parizeau, Laura Shillington, Roberta Hawkins, Farhana Sultana, Alison Mountz, Beverley Mullings and Linda Peake. 2016. [Breaking the silence: A feminist call to action](#). The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien 60:192–204.

Alison Mountz. 2016. [Women on the edge: Workplace stress at universities in North America](#). The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien 60:205–218.

Laurence Simard-Gagnon. 2016. [Everyone is fed, bathed, asleep, and I have made it through another day: Problematizing accommodation, resilience, and care in the neoliberal academy](#). The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien 60:219–225.

Marcia R. England. 2016. [Being open in academia: A personal narrative of mental illness and disclosure](#). The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien 60:226–231.

Eric Windhorst and Allison Williams. 2016. [Bleeding at the roots: Post-secondary student mental health and nature affiliation](#). The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien 60:232–238.

David Conradson. 2016. [Fostering student mental well-being through supportive learning communities](#). The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien 60:239–244.

Research Articles

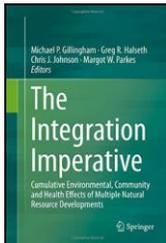
Nargiz Rahimova, Hayley Hessel and Pekka Silven. 2016. [Factors affecting water market acceptance: A case study of stakeholders in southern Alberta, Canada](#). The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien 60:245–258.

Michelle Daigle. 2016. [Awawanenitakik: The spatial politics of recognition and relational geographies of Indigenous self-determination](#). The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien 60:259–269.

Andrei Rosu and Dongmei Chen. 2016. [An improved approach for geocoding Canadian postal code-based data in health-related studies](#). The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien 60:270–281.

New Book

Micahel P. Gillingham, Greg R. Halseth, Chris J. Johnson and Margo W. Parkes, M.W. (Eds.). [The Integration Imperative: Cumulative Environmental, Community and Health Effects of Multiple Natural Resource Developments](#). Springer. ISBN 978-3-319-22123-6



The purpose of this work is to develop a better understanding and thinking about the cumulative impacts of multiple natural resource development projects. Cumulative impacts are now one of the most pressing, but complex challenges facing governments, industry, communities, and conservation and natural resource professionals. There has been technical and policy research exploring how cumulative environmental impacts can be assessed and managed. These studies, however, have failed to consider the necessary integration of community, environment and health. Informed by knowledge and experience in northern British Columbia, this book seeks to expand our understanding of the cumulative impacts of natural resource development through an integrated lens. The book offers a timely response to a growing imperative – proposing integrative response to multiple natural resource developments in a way that addresses converging environment, community and health issues. Informed by the editors' experiences across several complementary areas of expertise, we envision this book as appealing to a wide range of researchers, educators and practitioners, with relevance to a growing audience with appetite for and interest in integrative approaches.



Carleton U's Emilie Cameron, an assistant professor in Geography and Environmental Studies, was awarded the northern region's Clio Prize, given for meritorious publications or for exceptional contributions by individuals or organizations to regional history, for [Far Off Metal River: Inuit Lands, Settler Stories, and the Making of the Contemporary Arctic](#) (UBC Press). [Carleton Newsroom](#)

U Northern British Columbia's Catherin Noline (@cnolin) and **Grahame Russell** co-led an emergency delegation to Guatemala in May to re-examine and update documentation on four major mining struggles throughout the country, all related to Canadian (and partially American) owned mining operations. Initial findings are posted [UNBC Guatemala 2016](#)

U Northern British Columbia's Brian Menounos is one of the signatories to a letter to Canada's Minister of Environment Minister of Environment Catherine McKenna, which calls for the rejection of the project planned for Lelu Island near Prince Rupert. "As a scientist, I think it's only prudent to let the federal government know that this Petronas LNG project would contribute substantial greenhouse gases to the environment" - said Menounos. [Prince George Now](#)

Hot Papers by Canadian Geographers

J. M. Buttle. 2016. [Dynamic storage: a potential metric of inter-basin differences in storage properties](#). Hydrological Processes. DOI:10.1002/hyp.10931

Scott Ketcheson and Jonathan Price. 2016. [A comparison of the hydrological role of two reclaimed slopes of different age in the Athabasca Oil Sands Region, Alberta, Canada](#). Canadian Geotechnical Journal. DOI:10.1139/cgj-2015-0391

Qing Lu and Peter A. Johnson. 2016. [Characterizing new channels of communication: a case study of municipal 311 requests in Edmonton, Canada](#). Urban Planning 1:18-31.

Maryam Shekarrizfard, Ahmadreza Faghieh-Imani, Dan L. Crouse, Mark Goldberg, Nancy Ross, Naveen Eluru and Marianne Hatzopoulou. 2016. [Individual exposure to traffic related air pollution across land-use clusters](#). Transportation Research Part D 46:339-350.

Liqin Zhang. 2016. [Brownfield redevelopment challenges and strategies](#). Brownfields, friches urbaines et recompositions territoriales: La durabilité en question. Edited by: Olivier Dehoorne, Huhua Cao and Dorina Ilies. Editions Publibook.

Other “Geographical” News

On-Line Yukon Story Map - Permafrost and Other Periglacial Landforms: Periglacial landforms develop in cold environments that are not glacial. Permafrost (ground that is permanently below 0°C for at least 2 years) and seasonal freeze/thaw processes are the dominant influences in these environments. This Story Map features 11 different periglacial landforms commonly found in Yukon as well as a classified permafrost map. The Yukon Landform Atlas was created as a joint effort between the Yukon Geological Survey, and Crystal Huscroft of Thompson Rivers University. [Yukon Geological Survey](#)

Deep 'scars' from ancient geological events play role in current earthquakes: Super-computer modelling of Earth's crust and upper-mantle suggests that ancient geologic events may have left deep 'scars' that can come to life to play a role in earthquakes, mountain formation, and other ongoing processes on our planet. These multi-million-year-old structures, situated at sites away from existing plate boundaries, may trigger changes in the structure and properties at the surface in the interior regions of continents. [ScienceDaily](#)

Scientists aren't superheroes – failure is a valid result: Concern has been growing in the past decade about published claims that others can't successfully replicate. This replication problem has become a crisis in the sense that researchers, ordinary citizens and policymakers no longer know what or whom to trust. Even the most prestigious scientific journals are publishing papers that fail to replicate and which, in retrospect, are simply ridiculous. One notorious example is a 2014 paper from the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences comparing the damage done by hurricanes with male or female names. The research was based on historical data and so could not be replicated, but featured the same sort of statistical errors that commonly appear in any work that fails the replication test. And it's not just journals that get sucked in. Some of our most trusted explainers and interpreters of science have been fooled by work with fatal statistical flaws. [The Guardian](#)

How El Niño impacts global temperatures: Scientists have found past El Niño oscillations in the Pacific Ocean may have amplified global climate fluctuations for hundreds of years at a time. The team uncovered century-scale patterns in Pacific rainfall and temperature, and linked them with global climate changes in the past 2,000 years, which will influence climate models of current trends.

[ScienceDaily](#)

'Pristine' landscapes haven't existed for thousands of years due to human activity: 'Pristine' landscapes simply do not exist anywhere in the world today and, in most cases, have not existed for at least several thousand years. An exhaustive review of archaeological data from the last 30 years provides details of how the world's landscapes have been shaped by repeated human activity over many thousands of years. The paper reveals a pattern of significant, long-term, human influence on the distribution of species across all of the earth's major occupied continents and islands. It argues that archaeological evidence has been missing from current debates about conservation priorities.

[ScienceDaily](#)

Endangered bird spotted in University of Waterloo woodlot: A rare bird few have seen has been spotted in a unique campus ecosystem. The beautiful golden-yellow bird is a Prothonotary warbler, a species assessed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. Less than 30 individuals of this species may remain in Ontario and it hasn't been seen in the Waterloo Region for 19 years. [U Waterloo Environment](#)

Some Not So “Geographical” News



The CAG works for geographers on [Twitter](#). Keep up-to-date by following [@CanGeographers](#)

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

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