



**News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers
No. 414, September 1, 2016**

Compiled by Dan Smith [<cag@geog.uvic.ca>](mailto:cag@geog.uvic.ca)

U Calgary's Shelley Alexander reports that coyotes appearing in new parts of Calgary: Coyotes have been spotted in areas of Calgary where they have never been seen before, but one researcher says it's nothing to be concerned about. "What I have had reported to me through contact from the public is there are places where there are coyotes are missing, and there are places where people are noticing coyotes for the first time," says University of Calgary geography professor Shelley Alexander. A key factor behind the shift in the city's coyote population is the availability of food. "Every year you have different prey available to species. You maybe have a year where you have more berries or something in one part of the city, or maybe you have a decline in small mammal population," said Alexander, who specializes in coyote ecology. "So coyotes will move — and other wildlife will move as well — to respond to where those prey are located." Another reason Calgarians might be seeing more coyotes is because the young are leaving the pack and looking for new homes, Alexander says.

[CBCNews | Calgary](#)

York U's Trica Wood on why LRTs rock: "I want to say a few things about light-rail transit (LRT)—really, it's a love letter—but this is not meant to be a comment on any specific project under discussion in Toronto. This column is not about what we should build in Scarborough. It's an effort to celebrate a great mode of transit that has been sadly misunderstood. It seems appropriate that I am writing this from Dublin, Ireland, where there is, at present, a significant expansion of their LRT system under construction. I live in Toronto, but for research I spend a lot of time in Ireland. When I am in Dublin, I often have to travel outside the city, and one of the things I appreciate about travel here is how easy it is to disembark from an intercity train at Heuston station, walk for no more than two minutes, and step on an LRT train that zips me into the central city. No stairs, no tunnels, not even a real road to cross. Let me tell you why I love LRT, using Dublin's Luas system as an example. Spoiler: it has nothing to do with construction costs." With all its advantages, the fact that LRT is less expensive than heavy-rail to build and maintain is almost beside the point. Okay, money at that scale is never beside the point. But street-level LRT is truly the ideal form of urban rapid transit even before the cost comparison is considered. It's better than an underground subway. In some instances, the ridership demand is so high, only heavy-rail can provide it, and often that means going underground. But if LRT will do the job, it is the best option. The comfort, accessibility, and interaction with the street that LRT offers beat heavy-rail every time. LRT is superior urban transit for cities that everyone can live in and enjoy. Torontonians will get a chance to see for themselves, when the Crosstown (finally) opens in 2021."

[Torontoist](#)

U Waterloo's Derek Robinson wins Early Research Award: Derek Robinson from the Department of Geography and Environmental Management is leading a project that estimates the impacts of changes in climate, technology, and policy on farm livelihood, crop production, and ecosystem function across southern Ontario. Using the innovative combination of drones, survey, and ecological fieldwork, he will collect new kinds of data and analyze how to improve our understanding of how agricultural decisions are made and can change over time and across space. By synthesizing these data in a model, the research leverages simulated scenarios to evaluate potential farm responses and, in collaboration with farmers, identify land management strategies that can close the gap between potential and actual yields. [UWaterloo Environment](#)

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



Peter Kedron. 2016. [Identifying the geographic extent of environmental inequalities: A comparison of pattern detection methods](#). The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien.
DOI:10.1111/cag.12297

William Knight and Stephen Bocking. 2016. [Fisheries, invasive species, and the formation and fracturing of the Great Lakes system](#). The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien.
DOI:10.1111/cag.12298



U Waterloo's Paul Parker spoke to CBC Radio Ottawa about why there are fewer smog advisories in Ontario. It's the direct result, he explains, of the province banning coal-fired power generation. While the cars we drive are still a major contributor to air pollution, Ontario's Drive Clean program is helping. The next frontier he says is small gas engines. [Waterloo Environment](#)

UQTR's Francis Clément, diplômé en géographie et en sciences de l'environnement de l'UQTR, occupe maintenant un poste de conseiller en développement régional au ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles (MERN). Le mémoire de maîtrise de Francis portait sur l'impact de la structure des paysages sur la qualité de l'eau des rivières. De 2013 à 2016, Francis a également occupé la fonction de chargé de projet pour deux firmes, soit Richelieu hydrogéologie, spécialisée dans les études hydrogéologiques, et la Société Géo'Graph, spécialisée en développement territorial. Ses nouvelles fonctions au MERN consistent principalement à assurer la coordination du Plan d'affectation du territoire public (PATP) et du Plan régional de développement du territoire public – section récréotourisme (PRDTP) et à effectuer des avis dans le cadre de la Loi sur l'aménagement et l'urbanisme. [géographie-UQTR](#)

York U's Jennifer Korosi is lead author on a study which has found that oilsands mines introduce contaminants into the environment. [York Geography](#)

Hot Papers by Canadian Geographers

Feumba Rodrigue Aimé, H. Blaise Nguendo-Yongsi, Christopher R. Bryant, Chétima Boukar and Cyrille Tuekam Tueche. 2016. [Adaptations of the agricultural calendar and agricultural techniques to climate change in the highlands of Cameroon](#). In: Agricultural Adaptation to Climate Change. Edited by: Christopher R. Bryant, Mamadou A. Sarr and Kénel Délusca. Springer International Publishing. 199-224.

Gavin J. Andrews. 2016. [From post-game to play-by-play. Animating sports movement-space](#). Progress in Human Geography. DOI:10.1177/0309132516660207

Kira A. Borden, Sean C. Thomas and Marney E. Isaac. 2016. [Interspecific variation of tree root architecture in a temperate agroforestry system characterized using ground-penetrating radar](#). Plant and Soil. DOI:10.1007/s11104-016-3015-x

Mike Brklacich and Maureen Woodrow. 2016. [Agricultural adaptation to changing environments: Lessons learned from farmers in Eastern Ontario, Canada](#). In: Agricultural Adaptation to Climate Change. Edited by: Christopher R. Bryant, Mamadou A. Sarr and Kénel Délusca. Springer International Publishing. 13-26.

R.E. Burham, R.S. Palm, D.A. Duffus, X. Mouy and A. Riera. 2016. [The combined use of visual and acoustic data collection techniques for winter killer whale \(*Orcinus orca*\) observations](#). Global Ecology and Conservation 8:24–30.

Jon Corbett, Mike Evans and Mark Gill. 2016. [Searching for social justice in GIScience publications](#). Cartography and Geographic Information Science. DOI:10.1080/15230406.2016.1212673

Melissa Giesbrecht, Allison Williams, Wendy Duggleby, Jenny Ploeg and Maureen Markle-Reid. 2016. [Exploring the daily geographies of diverse men caregiving for family members with multiple chronic conditions](#). Gender, Place and Culture. DOI:10.1080/0966369X.2016.1219329

Kevin M. Gorey, Emma Bartfay, Sindu M. Kanjeekal, Frances C Wright, Caroline Hamm, Isaac N. Luginaah, Guangyong Zou, Eric J. Holowaty, Nancy L. Richter and Madhan K. Balagurusamy. 2016. [Palliative chemotherapy among people living in poverty with metastasised colon cancer: facilitation by primary care and health insurance](#). BMJ Supportive & Palliative Care. DOI:10.1136/bmjspcare-2015-001035

Ziti Jiao, Crystal B. Schaaf, Yadong Dong, Miguel Román, Michael J. Hill, Jing M. Chen, Zhuosen Wang, Hu Zhang, Edward Saenz, Rajesh Poudyal, Charles Gatebe, Francois-Marie Bréon, Xiaowen Li and Alan Strahler. 2016. [A method for improving hotspot directional signatures in BRDF models used for MODIS](#). Remote Sensing of Environment 186:135–151.

Jennifer B. Korosi, Colin A. Cooke, David C. Eickmeyer, Linda E. Kimpe and Jules M. Blais. 2016. [In-situ bitumen extraction associated with increased petrogenic polycyclic aromatic compounds in lake sediments from the Cold Lake heavy oil fields \(Alberta, Canada\)](#). Environmental Pollution. DOI:10.1016/j.envpol.2016.08.032

Jessica Y. Ng, Branwen Williams, Diane M. Thompson, Chloe Mayne, Jochen Halfar, Evan Edinger and Kathleen Johnson. 2016. [Assessing multi-site \$\delta^{18}\text{O}\$ -climate calibrations of the coralline alga](#)

[Clathromorphum across the high-latitude Northern Hemisphere](#). Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta. DOI:10.1016/j.gca.2016.08.023

Margaret J. Penning, Denise S. Cloutier, Kim Nuernberger, Stuart W. S. MacDonald and Deanne Taylor. 2016. [Long-term care trajectories in Canadian context: Patterns and predictors of publicly funded care](#). Journal of Gerontology B. DOI:10.1093/geronb/gbw104

Sarah Mason-Renton and Isaac Luginaah. 2016. [Interfering with therapeutic tranquility: Debates surrounding biosolid waste processing in rural Ontario](#). Health & Place 41:42–49.

Nanase Tonda and Thembela Kepe. 2016. [Spaces of contention: Tension around street vendors' struggle for livelihoods and spatial justice in Lilongwe, Malawi](#). Urban Forum. DOI:10.1007/s12132-016-9291-y

Aniekan Udofia, Bram Noble and Greg Poelzer. 2016. [Meaningful and efficient? Enduring challenges to Aboriginal participation in environmental assessment](#). Environmental Impact Assessment Review DOI:10.1016/j.eiar.2016.04.008

Xi Zhu, Tiejun Wang, Andrew K. Skidmore, Roshanak Darvishzadeh, K. Olaf Niemann and Jing Liu. 2017. [Canopy leaf water content estimated using terrestrial LiDAR](#). Agricultural and Forest Meteorology 232:152–162.

Recent Theses and Dissertations

Alexander D. McMahon. 2016. [Influence of turbidity and aeration on the albedo of mountain streams](#). MSc thesis. University of British Columbia. Vancouver, British Columbia. Supervisor: Dan Moore.

Cameron Hunter. 2016. [An evaluation of the North American Regional Reanalysis precipitation fields in a topographically complex domain, British Columbia, Canada](#). MSc thesis. University of British Columbia. Vancouver, British Columbia. Supervisors: Dan Moore and Ian McKendry.

Sung-Ching Lee. 2016. [Annual greenhouse gas budget for a bog ecosystem undergoing restoration by rewetting](#). MSc thesis. University of British Columbia. Vancouver, British Columbia. Supervisor: Andreas Christen.

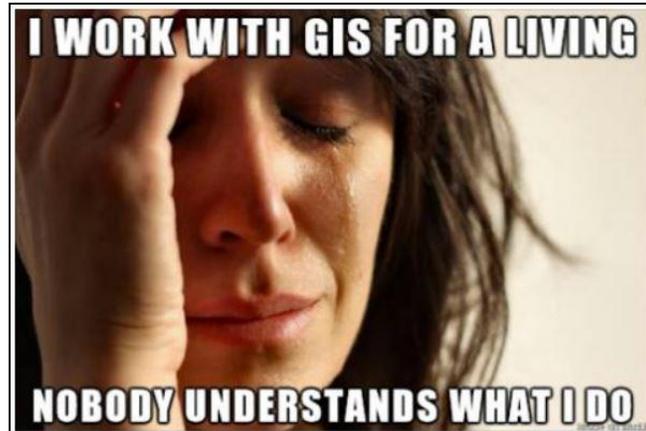
David Burgess Richardson. 2016. [Modeling, optimization and large-scale grid integration of solar photovoltaic energy in Ontario's electricity system](#). PhD dissertation. University of Toronto. Toronto, Ontario. Supervisor: L.D. Danny Harvey.

Other “Geographical” News

Canadian universities require indigenous studies: 'It feels good to learn our history': Every new undergraduate student at the University of Winnipeg must meet an indigenous course requirement to graduate. Lakehead University, in Thunder Bay, Ontario, is also introducing an indigenous content requirement this fall for new undergraduate students, making the two universities the first in Canada to mandate a baseline knowledge about indigenous people and culture for all students, regardless of faculty. [The Guardian](#)

Interactive map shows where animals will move under climate change: Researchers have created [an animated map](#) showing where mammals, birds and amphibians are projected to move in the Western Hemisphere in response to climate change. [ScienceDaily](#)

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>
