



News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers
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U Victoria's Chris Darimont co-authors study that concludes cougar-human in British Columbia linked to trophy hunting: Cougar hunters in B.C. who target and kill big adult cats are linked with increasing subsequent dangerous interactions with people. The death of mature, mainly male, cougars provides inroads for immature "teenage" cougars to get in trouble with risky behaviour, and that includes contact with humans, said Chris Darimont, the Hakai-Raincoast and UVic professor in the Department of Geography. It's not a cause-and-effect relationship, but an association based on 30 years of B.C. data studied by three researchers, including ones at the University of B.C. and the University of Cape Town, South Africa. "When the larger males are removed, younger males fill the void left by the killed cats," said Darimont, scientific director for the Raincoast Conservation Foundation. "And younger cats are most likely to get into conflict." The finding held up across the province, including Vancouver Island, which is widely described as the world's "hotspot" for cougars. The "strong but not universal pattern" adds to the growing weight of evidence that killing large predator mammals causes many more problems than it solves, he said. That's because the data show that for both male and female cougars, it's always the younger and smaller animals that come into conflict with humans. The finding is significant in contradicting the notion popular among proponents of carnivore-hunting that culling cougars by hunting makes conflict with people less likely. "It confronts and demolishes the idea that hunting cougars can decrease conflict," Darimont said. Most hunters in B.C. eat what they kill, but not cougar hunters, he said. [Victoria Times-Colonist](#)

Waterloo teacher Doug Koegler wins award for explaining the world of geography: Geography is so much more than knowing place names on a map. Geography is the big picture. And it provides good jobs, as organizations realize they can map big numbers to determine why people do what they do, and where they do it. Take this from a good source: retired Waterloo teacher Doug Koegler. He's been named among the nation's best geographers, winning a top award from the Royal Canadian Geographical Society after a lifetime of achievements. Koegler, 67, helped drive geographic education in Ontario. He doesn't have to work too hard to persuade this newspaper why geography matters. "Geography is dynamic. It's real. It's actually happening out there," Koegler says. Koegler's award honours him for being a leader in geographic literacy. He defines it as "being able to go somewhere and not be surprised" because you understand the complexities of the world. [The Record.com](#)

UBC Okanagan’s Jon Corbett creates crowdsourcing map to track changes in Canada’s media:

While the landscape of Canadian media outlets has changed significantly during the past decade, a UBC researcher is hoping to keep tabs on exactly what has changed and where. Assoc. Prof. Jon Corbett has teamed up with Ryerson University’s School of Journalism and Royal Roads University, to work on the Local News Research Project. The goal is to examine the future of local journalism and news sources across Canada. For his part, Corbett created an [interactive map](#) through UBC Okanagan’s Spatial Information for Community Engagement lab. Corbett, who teaches in Community, Culture and Global Studies, says the crowd-sourced map will give people an opportunity to track changes to media—like a small town newspaper closing—and comment on what’s going on. “There has been a huge transformation of media and the way people are getting their news in the past 10 years,” says Corbett. “We want to know what type of news are people getting, is it from the same source, and is it a credible source? We want to examine the consumption of news across the country and how it has changed.” The [crowdsourcing map](#) launched in June; since then more than 800 people have used it to explore and report changes to local news outlets in communities across Canada. People can add a marker to the site to represent an event like a newspaper shutting down, or reducing the number editions it publishes a week, or even a merger of media outlets. The map reports on cuts to local news broadcasts, the closure of local online, radio, television and newspaper media outlets and the launch of new endeavors. Users can also use it to identify which media companies are scaling back or expanding local news operations. “This map gives us the best visual analysis of what’s happening in Canadian media across the country,” says Corbett. “There has been a very definite temporal change, and we can see it.” The map will be used to detect geographical patterns and other trends such as whether certain types of media outlets are closing more frequently than other types. [The Daily Courier | UBC Okanagan News](#)

Memorial U’s Trevor Bell shortlisted for \$1-million Arctic Inspiration Prize: A respected field scientist, who has spent his recent career championing Arctic research, is a finalist for a prestigious \$1-million national honour often called the Nobel Prize of the North. Dr. Trevor Bell, University Research Professor in the Department of Geography, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, is one of eight people shortlisted for the fifth annual Arctic Inspiration Prize. The honour goes to teams whose research and projects translate knowledge into action for the benefit of the people of the Canadian Arctic. Bell, a Memorial alumnus, and his team are shortlisted for their work with the project SmartICE (Sea-ice Monitoring And Real-Time Information for Coastal Environments), a Memorial-led sea-ice monitoring system developed with coastal communities. He’s the lead investigator for the project, which is a partnership between the university, industry and the federal and Nunatsiavut governments. SmartICE provides locally relevant information for sea-ice travel in our two pilot communities — Nain, Labrador, and Pond Inlet, Nunavut — where, like many other places in the North, sea-ice is part of the winter highway, the travel route to country food and a fundamental part of culture and well-being. The SmartICE system combines traditional ice knowledge with the latest satellite imaging and ice-sensing technology, allowing community members to plan safe passage on sea ice. “Our primary goal is to transform the current community research partnership into a northern social enterprise — SmartICE Inc. — that will deliver an operational service generated by Inuit for coastal communities and industries across the Arctic,” said Dr. Bell. “We are committed to maximizing social impact and creating positive change in Arctic communities while applying an entrepreneurial approach to sea-ice information services.” This is not Dr. Bell’s first time being associated with the Arctic Inspiration Prize. In 2013, he was principal research partner of SakKijânginnatuk Nunalik: the Sustainable Communities Initiative of the Nunatsiavut Government that was named one of three overall recipients. That project focused on providing healthy housing solutions for Nunatsiavut communities that addresses changing climate, infrastructure requirements and Inuit housing needs and preferences. [Memorial Gazette](#)



Queen's U's Warren Mabee discusses protests over the Muskrat Falls projects on CBC. He says the protests, which have persuaded the government of Newfoundland and Labrador to make changes to the project, are an example for other groups opposing similar mega projects across the country.

[CBCNews | Newfoundland & Labrador](#)

U Victoria's Phil Dearden assisted an international research team which recently placed the first-ever satellite-tracking tag on a tiger shark in one of the world's most pristine reefs, the UNESCO world heritage site, Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park in the Philippines. [RCGS Fellows Journal](#).

U Guelph's Ben Bradshaw appointed as assistant vice-president (graduate studies). He begins his five-year term Oct. 17. A professor in the Department of Geography since 2004, Bradshaw heads a community-engaged research program on environmental governance. He has served as acting department chair and on the University's Strategic Renewal Advisory Committee. [U Guelph News](#)

U Saskatchewan's Maureen Reed of the University of Saskatchewan is working with The Canadian Biosphere Reserves to help plan an event to coincide 2017 AGM and the "Students on Ice" Sea to Sea expedition. The event will help to bring Biosphere Reserve practitioners, academics, Indigenous peoples, and others together. [RCGS Fellows Journal](#).

U Lethbridge's Hester Jiskoot became one of four Associate Chief Editors for the scientific publications of the International Glaciological Society: the *Journal of Glaciology* and the *Annals of Glaciology*. Hester will complete her term as President of the Western Division of the Canadian Association of Geographers in March 2017. [RCGS Fellows Journal](#).

Recent MUN Geography PhD, Michelle Porter long listed for National CBC Poetry Prize. Michelle began writing essays and poetry about home more than three years ago while studying toward her PhD in geography. Now, she is a consultant with the Newfoundland Quarterly, the province's arts and culture magazine and one of the oldest continuously published magazines in Canada. [CBC Books](#)

Brock U graduate student Benjamin Kwao won the 'Faculty of Social Sciences Award for the Best Paper in a Graduate Course' with his GEOG 5P65 paper '*Political Ecology of Small-Scale Gold Mining in Ghana*'. Benjamin is a second year graduate student in the MA Geography program.

U British Columbia's Juanita Sundberg was interviewed as part of a student led initiative to identify and foster a sense of geographic identity in the Department of Geography. [UBC Geography](#)

SFU Geography at Esri Canada GIS User Conference. SFU Geography faculty, staff and students participated in the Esri Canada GIS User Conference held at the Vancouver Convention Center, November 2nd 2016. It was an opportunity to share ideas and explore new and emerging spatial information systems and science research and products. [SFU Geography](#)

Carleton U Department of Geography and Environmental Studies introduces a Minor in Urban Studies to serve as a springboard for students interested in urban planning, community activism, working in urban policy in the public or non-profit sectors, or pursuing a graduate degree. [Carleton Minor](#)

New in [The Canadian Geographer](#)



Jamie Benidickson. 2016. [From boundary waters to watersheds: Legal change and the geography of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence system](#). The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien. DOI:10.1111/cag.12323

Meghan Gosse, Howard Ramos, Martha Radice, Jill L. Grant and Paul Pritchard. 2016. [What affects perceptions of neighbourhood change?](#) The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien. DOI:10.1111/cag.12324

Hot Papers by Canadian Geographers

Sébastien Caquard et Thierry Joliveau. 2016. [Penser et activer les relations entre cartes et récits](#). M@ppemonde 118:1-7.

Heather Castleden, Catherine Hart, Ashlee Cunsolo, Sherilee Harper and Debbie Martin. 2016. [Reconciliation and relationality in water research and management in Canada: Implementing Indigenous ontologies, epistemologies, and methodologies](#). Water Policy and Governance in Canada. 17:69-95.

Emma L. Davis, Colin J. Courtney Mustaphi, Amber Gall, Michael F.J. Pisaric, Jesse C. Vermaire and Katrina A. Moser. 2016. [Determinants of fire activity during the last 3500 yr at a wildland–urban interface, Alberta, Canada](#). Quaternary Research. DOI.org/10.1016/j.yqres.2016.08.006

Gemma Dunn , Leila Harris and Karen Bakker. [Canadian drinking water policy: jurisdictional variation in the context of decentralized water governance](#). Water Policy and Governance in Canada. 17:301-320.

James Ford, Michelle Maillet, Vincent Pouliot, Thomas Meredith, Alicia Cavanaugh and IHACC Research Team. 2016. [Adaptation and Indigenous peoples in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change](#). Climate Change. DOI:10.1007/s10584-016-1820-0

Blake Hawkins. 2016. [Where were the non-heterosexual young men? the challenges and need for further research on participant recruitment methods for qualitative research](#). Antipode: A Journal of Radical Geography

Blake Hawkins and R Watson. 2016. [LGBT Cyberspaces: a need for intervention](#). Children's Geography.

Bruce Mitchell. 2016. [The hydrological and policy contexts for water in Canada](#). Water Policy and Governance in Canada. 17:13-28.

Michele-Lee Moore, Karena Shaw, Heather Castleden and Joanna Reid. 2016. [Patchy resources for the governance of Canada's resource patches: How hydraulic fracturing is illuminating the need to improve water governance in Canada](#). Water Policy and Governance in Canada. 17:377-394.

Emma S Norman and Karen Bakker. 2016. [Transcending borders through postcolonial water governance? indigenous water governance across the Canada-US border](#). Water Policy and Governance in Canada. 17:139-157.

Suthee Sangiambut and Renee Sieber. 2016. [The V in VGI: Citizens or civic data sources](#). Urban Planning 1(2).

Cheryl Sutherland. 2016. [Sense of place amongst immigrant and refugee women in Kingston and Peterborough, Ontario](#). Canadian Perspectives on Immigration in Small Cities 12:119-140.

Michael J Widener. 2016. [Comparing measures of accessibility to urban supermarkets for transit and auto users](#). The Professional Geographer. DOI.org/10.1080/00330124.2016.1237293

Other "Geographical" News

Homework help companies continue to raise copyright, academic integrity issues. A professor of physics recently discovered that one of his students had posted a copyrighted homework assignment to [Course Hero](#), an online learning platform, and solicited "tutoring help" -- in reality, paying a user located at the University of Nairobi in Kenya to solve the problems. "I don't know how to do them please help me," the student wrote. "Please show me the procedures!" The tutor returned several handwritten pages of homework solutions in less than 12 hours. The student didn't even get his money's worth. The professor let his teaching assistants grade the work without informing them of the circumstances. They gave the problem set a 33 on a 100-point scale, well below the average of 88. The case is an example of the headaches caused by websites that offer online study guides and tutoring services, as well as general question-and-answer sites where students sometimes ask for homework help. Professors have been worried about this kind of hand-me-down cheating since the dawn of the test file, but taking those files online has opened new avenues for contract cheating under the guise of student support. [Inside Higher Ed](#)

Too flirty? Too fertile? It's tough to be the right kind of woman in academia. Sexism is rife on the university conference circuit, where powerful men treat women with casual unkindness. "I wouldn't do a session with you," a colleague said at a conference. Did he think poorly of my scholarship? Of my speaking skills? He was a senior academic; I didn't even have a full-time lectureship. "Why not?" I asked unhappily. "I can't. My wife thinks you're a threat," he replied. "She thinks you flirt with me." That I did not expect. As I pulled my lower jaw up to reconnect with its partner, I considered this claim. OK, calm down, I told myself. There might be a reason this woman, who has never met me, feels this way. Something he has told her has made her think I'm out to ensnare him. [The Guardian](#)

Mysterious noises that have haunted people in the Canadian Arctic for many years may have a simple explanation: The theories range from UFOs operating under the ice to the release of methane gas to Russian or U.S. submarines lurking in Canadian waters. But one possible explanation for the mysterious sounds seemingly coming from the ocean floor in Canada's Arctic may be rather straightforward, suggests a U.S. scientist working on a project that generates low-frequency sound in the far North. It could be ice rubbing together. [National Post](#)

Some Not So “Geographical” News



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