



**News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers
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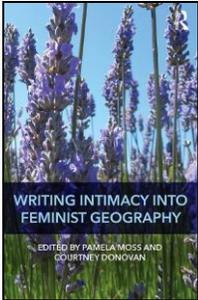
Compiled by Dan Smith [<cag@geog.uvic.ca>](mailto:cag@geog.uvic.ca)

Brock U's Michael Pisaric finds climate change further endangering Canadian bison: Climate change is making things worse for Canada's largest land-dwelling mammal, which is already on the country's threatened species list, a research team has found. More precipitation is forcing the wood bison of Northwest Territories into areas that pose dangers for them, says Brock University geographer and research team member Michael Pisaric. For decades, the wood bison population has been living in the Mackenzie Bison Sanctuary on the western shore of Great Slave Lake in N.W.T. The iconic animal lives off of grass-like plants called sedges, which are common along lake shorelines in the region. But these sedge meadows are increasingly becoming flooded as the lakes expand "and the bison's preferred habitat declines," explains Pisaric, professor in Brock's Department of Geography and Tourism Studies. Pisaric was part of a research team led by the University of Ottawa that included the government of N.W.T. and five partner universities, including Brock. [Brock News Around Campus](#)

@UBCGeog researchers pioneer mapping of CO2 emissions in cities: UBC researchers are pioneering a new method of mapping greenhouse-gas emissions in the city that could help policymakers usher in more emission-reducing programs. The technology uses car2gos, equipped with lightweight sensors to gather carbon-dioxide (CO2) data throughout the city's streets. Researchers then map this data into a fine resolution map that can track emissions over time as well as compare pollution density among neighbourhoods. It's the first time researchers have been able to gather emission data in such an accurate way, said UBC atmospheric-science professor, Andreas Christen. "What we want to do is assist planners and also generally decision makers in identifying areas where emissions happen [...] but also in having a system in place that you can use to validate or test emission-reduction efforts." CO2 can be an elusive pollutant when it comes to pinpointing its levels, he said. To prove there was a way to measure emissions directly at street level, Christen and UBC Geography graduate, Joseph Lee, drove five car2go vehicles equipped with sensors across a diagonal swath of Vancouver that stretches from Victoria-Fraserview up to Stanley Park. They conducted the experiment once in the winter and once in the summer and came back with data that could be traced back to a specific street or city block. They combined that data with information collected by sensors mounted on skyscrapers to provide a 3D model of CO2 emissions in Vancouver. "What is novel about our method is that we are able to combine multiple mobile sensors with tower data, and to consequently map emissions across large areas of a city in high detail," said Lee. Their results backed up the scientific community's calculated estimates. [Vancouver Metro](#)

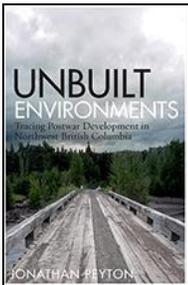
New Books

Pamela Moss and Courtney Donovan (Editors). 2017. [Writing Intimacy into Feminist Geography](#). Routledge. 242 pages. 9781472476777



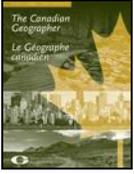
Intimacy, expressed through the feelings and sensations of the researcher, is bound up in the work of a feminist geographer. Tapping into this intimacy and including it in academic writing facilitates a grasping of the effects of power in particular places and initiates a discussion about how to access and tease out what constitutes the intimate both ethically and politically throughout the research process. [Writing Intimacy into Feminist Geography](#) provides valuable reflections about intimacy in the research process - from encounters in the field, through data analysis, to the various pieces of written work. A global and heterogeneous pool of scholars and researchers introduce personal ways of writing intimacy into feminist geography. As authors expand existing conceptualizations of intimacy and include their own stories, chapters explore the methodological challenges of using intimacy in research as an approach, a topic and a site of interaction.

Jonathan Peyton. 2017. [Unbuilt Environments: Tracing Postwar Development in Northwest British Columbia](#). UBC Press. 276 pages. ISBN 9780774833059



In the latter half of the twentieth century, legions of industrial pioneers came to northwestern British Columbia with grand plans for mines, dams, and energy-development schemes. Yet many of their projects never materialized or were simply abandoned midstream. *Unbuilt Environments* reveals that these failed resource projects had lasting effects on the natural and human environment. Drawing on a range of case studies to analyze the social and environmental impacts of unfinished projects, Jonathan Peyton considers development failure a productive concept for northwestern Canada. In this first analysis of the history of resource exploitation in this part of the world, he looks at the closed asbestos mine and town site at Cassiar, an abandoned rail grade (the Dease Lake Extension), an imagined series of hydroelectric installations (the Stikine-Iskut project), a failed LNG export facility (Dome Petroleum), and the much-debated Northwest Transmission Line. He finds that these unrealized projects and past development failures continue to shape contemporary resource conflicts in this region.

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



Tenley M. Conway and Murtaza A. Jalali. 2017. [Representation of local urban forestry issues in Canadian newspapers: Impacts of a major ice storm](#). The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien. DOI: 10.1111/cag.12355

Abstract: Urban forests are socio-ecological systems where residents play a major role due to the number of trees located on residential property. A better understanding of residents' relationship with urban trees is needed to illuminate system dynamics and evaluate management strategies. Residents receive information about trees from a variety sources, including local news media, but the influence of local news media on residents' interactions with urban trees has not been considered. This article examines newspapers' framing of urban forests, focusing on if and how the framing changed as a result of a major storm that highlighted urban forest disservices. To do this, we analyzed articles from the Toronto Star, Mississauga News, and Brampton Guardian for a two-year period surrounding the 2013 ice storm. Our results indicate newspapers use a variety of ecosystem service and disservice themes in their urban forest coverage, but after the ice storm there was an increase in the number of themes represented in the average article and a shift to more frequent use of disservice themes. The results highlight the unique contribution of news media to urban forestry discourse, and the impact a weather event can have on the way urban forests are framed.

Robert Wilton, Stine Hansen and Edward Hall. 2017. [Disabled people, medical inadmissibility, and the differential politics of immigration](#). The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien. DOI:10.1111/cag.12361

Abstract: This paper is concerned with the impact of medical inadmissibility provisions in Canada's immigration law on applicants with disabilities. The paper draws on key informant interviews, policy analysis, and Ministry of Immigration data on medical inadmissibility findings. We follow the lead of recent mobilities scholarship to examine how the immigration system is enacted, reproduced, and contested over time. From this perspective, we see that recent court challenges to the statutory provisions have created additional procedural space for applicants to contest findings of inadmissibility. However, the legitimacy of excessive demand as a basis for exclusion remains firmly in place, while recent immigration policy changes signal an intensification of measures to limit the social reproductive costs of immigration.



U Victoria PhD candidate Megan Adams interviewed for [UVic Women in Science](#). "It is my job to be curious and to think critically." Megan Adams, Geography PhD candidate, spoke about her passion, research, and offered advice for young women interested in science.

Hot Papers by Canadian Geographers

Laurence D. Andriashek and René W. Barendregt. 2017. [Evidence for Early Pleistocene glaciation from borecore stratigraphy in north-central Alberta, Canada](#). Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences. DOI:10.1139/cjes-2016-0175

Rishi R. Bastakoti and Conny Davidsen. 2017. [Framing REDD+ at national level: Actors and discourse around Nepal's policy debate](#). Forests 8:57. DOI:10.3390/f8030057

Rosemary-Claire Collard and Jessica Dempsey. 2017. [Capitalist natures in five orientations](#). Capitalism Nature Socialism 28:78-97.

Martha Dowsley and Chris Southcott. 2017. [An initial exploration of whether 'female flight' is a demographic problem in Eastern Canadian Arctic Inuit communities](#). Polar Geography 40.

Kristin M. Eccles, Sylvia Checkley, Darren Sjogren, Herman W. Barkema and Stefania Bertazzon. 2017. [Lessons learned from the 2013 Calgary flood: Assessing risk of drinking water well contamination](#). Applied Geography 80:78–85.

Terence Epule Epule, James D. Ford, Shuaib Lwasa and Laurent Lepage. 2017. [Vulnerability of maize yields to droughts in Uganda](#). Water 9:181. DOI:10.3390/w9030181

Leena Heinämäki and Thora Martina Herrmann. 2017. [From knowledge to action: How to protect sacred sites of Indigenous Peoples in the North?](#) In: Experiencing and Protecting Sacred Natural Sites of Sámi and other Indigenous Peoples. Editors: Leena Heinämäki and Thora Martina Herrmann. Springer Polar Sciences. 181-192.

Thora Martina Herrmann and Leena Heinämäki. 2017. [Experiencing and safeguarding the sacred in the Arctic: Sacred natural sites, cultural landscapes and Indigenous Peoples' rights](#). In: Experiencing and Protecting Sacred Natural Sites of Sámi and other Indigenous Peoples. Editors: Leena Heinämäki and Thora Martina Herrmann. Springer Polar Sciences. 1-8.

Ignacia Holmes, Catherine Potvin and Oliver T. Coomes. 2017. [Early REDD+ implementation: The journey of an indigenous community in eastern Panama](#). Forests 8:67. DOI:10.3390/f8030067

Alexander J. Koiter, Philip N. Owens, Ellen L. Petticrew and David A. Lobb. 2017. [The role of soil surface properties on the particle size and carbon selectivity of interrill erosion in agricultural landscapes](#). Catena 153:194–206.

Steven V. Kokelj, Trevor C. Lantz, Jon Tunnicliffe, Rebecca Segal and Denis Lacelle. 2017. [Climate-driven thaw of permafrost preserved glacial landscapes, northwestern Canada](#). Geology. DOI:10.1130/G38626.1

Cedar Morton, Duncan Knowler, Cecile Brugere, David Lymer and Devin Bartley. 2017. [Valuation of fish production services in river basins: A case study of the Columbia River](#). Ecosystem Services 24:101–113.

Manuel Verpaelst, Daniel Fortier, Mikhail Kanevskiy, Michel Paquette and Yuri Shur. 2017. [Syngenetic dynamic of permafrost of a polar desert solifluction lobe, Ward Hunt Island, Nunavut](#). Arctic Science.

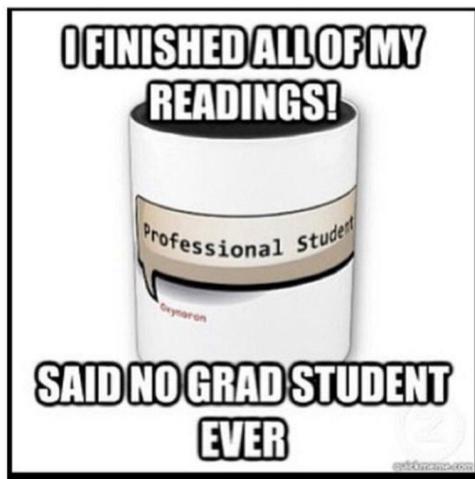
Other “Geographical” News

Study details tool to help professors measure the amount of active learning happening in their classrooms: Active learning happens when students participate in classroom discussions and solve problems, rather than just listening passively. And previous studies suggest that active learning results in greater learning gains and student retention rates than lecture-only courses. So researchers across natural science, technology, math and engineering fields and institutions worked to create and test a machine-learning algorithm that uses sounds to identify teaching styles in college and university classrooms. [Inside Higher Ed](#)

Underwater mountains help ocean water rise from abyss: At high latitudes, such as near Antarctica and the Arctic Circle, the ocean's surface waters are cooled by frigid temperatures and become so dense that they sink a few thousand meters into the ocean's abyss. Scientists have now identified a mechanism by which waters may rise from the ocean's depths to its uppermost layers. [ScienceDaily](#)

University of Toronto turning to laneway housing for its next residences: The University of Toronto hopes to unveil two tiny residences in fall of 2018 — new laneway homes that would serve as architectural guinea pigs as the school embarks on its plan to build up the property it owns just south of the Annex. Regal Victorian homes now stand sentinel throughout the tree-lined Huron-Sussex neighbourhood. Those living there — mostly students with families, faculty and visiting scholars — wanted to make sure that any development preserved the character of the area, according to Huron-Sussex Residents Organization president Julie Mathien. The university agreed. [CBCNews | Toronto](#)

Some Not So “Geographical” News



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