

GeogNews

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Memorial U's Rodolphe Devillers concerned about oil exploration in Newfoundland marine refuge:

The possible opening of tenders for oil exploration in a marine refuge for fishing activities deserves significant criticism from fishermen, scientists and conservation groups in Canada. Last December the government agency Fisheries and Oceans of Canada announced the closure of the well-known northeast slope of Newfoundland, with the aim of protecting corals and sponges that are a vital habitat for fish, and contributing to the conservation of biodiversity. However, weeks ago, the Oil Board of Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador requested oil exploration offers in the same area. Rodolphe Devillers, a geography professor at Memorial University who focuses on the oceans and has been very involved with science and policy regarding marine protected areas, is concerned. Devillers reflected that although we do not eat corals and sponges, these are a crucial habitat for fish like forests for birds, in addition to filtering water and acting as recycling agents. Scientific studies suggest that oil exploration also has consequences for marine life because during the phase of placement of the extraction platforms, sediments are stirred and fluids fall that when in contact with sponges and corals, avoid the filtration process of water and end up strangling them. While the number of oil spills has decreased in the last 50 years, the consequences of an accident are enormous. [Maritime Herald](#) | [CBCNews | Newfoundland and Labrador](#)

U Calgary's Shelly Alexander on conflicts between people and coyotes: The number of wildlife-related calls into the city is on the rise over the past month as officials remind Calgarians to stay wild smart. City officials received about 340 wildlife-related calls last month — around 100 of those calls involved coyotes. That number is a moderate increase over the previous month, which is likely due to the fact that it's denning season, when coyotes protect their dens and search for food to feed their pups. "We find that a fairly small proportion of those calls are truly aggressive," said Chris Manderson, an urban conservation lead with Calgary Parks. Manderson said he hasn't seen any data that indicates the city is seeing an uptick in the number of aggressive encounters. "I think what we've seen is an uptick in awareness and people are calling us more, which is kind of what we want." The city says coyotes are particularly active in the suburbs and natural areas, but can live anywhere in the city. University of Calgary wild canid expert Shelly Alexander says actual conflict between people and coyotes is extremely rare, but adds people still need to be aware. "Make sure you have excellent recall or have your dog on a leash," she said. "The second part of that is you don't want to leave food out that is going to attract them to the neighbourhood." [CBCNews | Calgary](#)

U Calgary's Geoffrey Hay Invents app to track energy escaping from your home: One day, Geoffrey Hay was surprised to come home and find his brand-new house cold. He was puzzled because he and his wife had loaded the place up with “energy-efficient everything we could think of.” Hay, an associate professor in UCalgary's Department of Geography in the Faculty of Arts and co-director, Foothills Facility for Remote Sensing and GIScience, realized energy was pouring out of his house. But how? And where? He wished he could just haul out his iPhone, pull up Google Maps and see where the energy – the heat – was leaving his home and then get connected to the right people to stop it. In an instant, Hay realized he could do all that. He just had to build it. “I was tingling,” he says of the vision that started [MyHEAT](#). “The idea came so fast, and I saw it all in just a millisecond.” Ten years later, MyHEAT is helping millions of Canadians make their homes more energy efficient, save money and reduce urban greenhouse gas emissions. Using research developed in Hay's lab, MyHEAT is also helping companies, utilities and other organizations understand their buildings' invisible heat loss and how to stop it. Using state-of-the art thermal cameras in aircraft, large scale data processing and leading-edge proprietary Geographic Object-Based Image Analysis (GEOBIA), MyHEAT shows a map where energy is leaking out of your house (in red for a lot, to blue for a little). MyHEAT also links you to local service providers to help you plug the leaks, from installing windows to weather stripping. “We could save something like \$25 million in energy costs in the city of Calgary alone, if people reduced their energy consumption by three per cent,” says Hay. [University of Calgary News](#)

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



Aimee Benoit, Tom Johnston, Ian MacLachlan and Doug Ramsey. 2018. [Identifying ranching landscape values in the Calgary, Alberta region: Implications for land-use planning](#). The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien. The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien

In recent years, ranching landscapes in the region of Calgary, Alberta have experienced intensifying land-use pressures related to urban growth and development. At the same time, Alberta's land-use policies have introduced voluntary, market-based incentives to encourage the conservation and stewardship of private land. Given this new emphasis, this study aims to better understand different perspectives of ranching landscapes among residents and landowners in two rural municipalities surrounding Calgary. Drawing on cultural landscapes and political ecology literatures, this paper identifies four broad categories of ranching landscape values that participants felt were important to maintain: lifestyle and community values; ecological values; production values; and economic values and property rights. Participants' diverse place meanings suggest a need to expand the ways in which landscapes are understood and assessed within local contexts, as a strategy for promoting private land stewardship and for resolving tensions in land-use planning processes.

Recent Theses and Dissertations

Geneen Russo. 2018. [Can BC's 40-year-old water quality objectives policy solve today's challenges for managing cumulative effects?](#) MSc thesis. Department of Geography, University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia. Supervisor: Michele-Lee Moore.

Hot Papers by Canadian Geographers

Chelsea Batavia, Michael Paul Nelson, Chris Darimont, Paul C. Paquet, William J. Ripple and Arian D. Wallach. 2018. [The elephant \(head\) in the room: A critical look at trophy hunting](#). Conservation Letters. DOI:10.1111/conl.12565.

Lucas Brehaut and Ryan K. Danby. 2018. [Inconsistent relationships between annual tree ring-widths and satellite-measured NDVI in a mountainous subarctic environment](#). Ecological Indicators 91:698–711.

Michelle A. Chaput and Konrad Gajewski. 2018. [Relative pollen productivity estimates and changes in Holocene vegetation cover in the deciduous forest of southeastern Quebec, Canada](#). Botany. doi.org/10.1139/cjb-2017-0193

Naznin Sultana Daisy, Hugh Millward and Lei Liua. 2018. [Trip chaining and tour mode choice of non-workers grouped by daily activity patterns](#). Journal of Transport Geography 69:150-162.

J.J. Gibson, S.J. Birks, Y. Yi, P. Shaw and M.C. Moncur. 2018. [Isotopic and geochemical surveys of lakes in coastal B.C.: Insights into regional water balance and water quality controls](#). Journal of Hydrology: Regional Studies 17:47–63.

Peter M Lafleur and Elyn R Humphreys. 2018. [Tundra shrub effects on growing season energy and carbon dioxide exchange](#). Environmental Research Letters. doi.org/10.1088/1748-9326/aab863

Michael Lait. 2018. [The paradox of nature and second homes: A case study of the eco-social impacts of an elite cottage community in Gatineau Park, Québec](#). Annals of Leisure Research 21:302-323.

Orly Linovski. 2018. [Shifting agendas: Private consultants and public planning policy](#). Urban Affairs Review. doi.org/10.1177/1078087417752475

Sébastien Rioux. 2018. [Capitalist food production and the rise of legal adulteration: Regulating food standards in 19th-century Britain](#). Journal of Agrarian Change. doi.org/10.1111/joac.12265

Wesley Van Wychen, Luke Copland, Hester Jiskoot, Laurence Gray, Martin Sharp and David Burgess. 2018. [Surface velocities of glaciers in western Canada from speckle-tracking of ALOS PALSAR and RADARSAT-2 data](#). Canadian Journal of Remote Sensing 44:57-66.



Queen's U Department of Geography & Planning welcomes three new faculty: Dr. **Laura Thomson** will join the Department as an Assistant Professor with a focus on glaciology in Canada's north. Dr. **Carolyn Prouse** will join the Department as an Assistant Professor and Queen's National Scholar with a focus on urban economic geographies. Dr. **Robert Way** will join our Department as an Assistant Professor with a focus on changes to permafrost in Labrador.

U Victoria postdoctoral fellow Kyle Artelle's op-ed on wildlife management practices in Canada and the US with regard to hunting was shared online by the [National Post](#).

Laurentian U's Bill Crumplin will run for the Green Party of Ontario in the upcoming provincial election. A professor of geography for 26 years, Crumplin has been acknowledged several times for his dedication and contributions to student success and in April 2018 he was the Laurentian University winner of the Ontario University Students Alliance's Teaching Excellence Award. [Sudbury Star](#)

U Toronto's Matti Siemiatycki explains the GTA's traffic problem on [CBC Toronto News](#)

Other "Geographical" News

Interactive AAG Map of Graduate Programs in the Americas: Students, are you considering attending graduate school in a geography program? Use the interactive map in the AAG Guide to Geography Programs in the Americas to help find the best fit for your goals! [AAG Guide to Geography Programs in the Americas](#)

Earth's atmosphere just crossed another troubling climate change threshold: For the first time since humans have been monitoring, atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide have exceeded 410 parts per million averaged across an entire month, a threshold that pushes the planet ever closer to warming beyond levels that scientists and the international community have deemed "safe." The reading from the Mauna Loa Observatory in Hawaii finds that concentrations of the climate-warming gas averaged above 410 parts per million throughout April. [The Washington Post](#)

Some Not So "Geographical" News



Fort St John oil & gas worker, Kristian Robert DeTremaudan has re-drawn the map



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