News Digest of the Canadian Association of Geographers
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Friends of GeogNews

This issue of *GeogNews* is the last. I decided some time ago that 500 issues of anything is more than enough for any one person. *GeogNews* began in 2008 while I had the privilege of serving as President of the Canadian Association of Geographers. Perhaps to the chagrin of Executive Members at the time, I did not seek out or receive permission to begin an enterprise that I saw as essential for communication with members of the Association. Nonetheless, I will confess to having not thought through the possibility that I would still be compiling items for the digest ten years later! I would like to thank members of the Association who generously allowed me to freely present items and news stories that I thought might be of interest to the Canadian geographical community – and beyond.

The first issue of *GeogNews* was posted to CAGList on December 23, 2008. If you go back to that issue you will see that it contains the basic elements of today's digest – save a few noteworthy additions. I look in particular to the '*Hot Papers by Canadian Geographers'* section that was added a few years later to illustrate the incredibly broad scholarly and community contributions made by Canadian geographers. The breadth of those endeavours certainly emphasizes why we sometimes find it difficult to bind our discipline together.

I will apologize to those of you who have come to think of Canada as a country largely composed of mountainous terrain draped by glaciers and snowfields. Too much time spent with a camera, in the remote backcountry of the British Columbia Coast Mountains, has meant that the rotating *GeogNews* header photo more-often-than-not had an alpine flavour.

I would like to specifically thank those in our community who generously acted as roving *GeogNews* correspondents. Whether this happened on an ongoing basis, or only now and then, it did serve to

lessen the task of compiling news items and ensured presentation of a broad spectrum of items. Additionally, I will belatedly thank the internet for providing access to a bazillion items for possible inclusion in the '*Some Not So "Geographical"* News' section. I hope someday to be forgiven for any copyright laws broken.

And what of the future? My understanding is that the topic of CAG communications is on the August AGM agenda. If you have thoughts, be sure to let the CAG know. In the meantime, the Twitter-derived @CanGeographers Weekly digest will continue to be posted to CAGList.

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McMaster U's Sean Carey on the profound changes taking place in Yukon's Wolf Creek research basin: Over the past 25 years, McMaster researcher Sean Carey has seen first-hand the profound changes taking place in the mountainous, subarctic landscape of Yukon's Wolf Creek research basin. Vast and pristine, Wolf Creek is a place that in winter can often only be accessed by helicopter or snow machine. Made up of dense forests, mountains and tundra, its network of observatories and research sites can be so difficult to reach that Carey and his team sometimes camp in the wilderness for months on end to conduct their research. "It's shocking to see how fast these mountains are changing" says Carey, a hydrologist and professor in the School of Geography and Earth Sciences, who leads the research taking place at Wolf Creek, an internationally recognized research site. "Cold is critical in mountain regions, and we're losing cold," he explains. "Things that were always there like snow packs that have persisted thousands of years are gone, ground that was frozen has thawed, vegetation is growing that never used to be there, storms in the mountains are becoming more severe – all this is having a huge influence on the water cycle." Carey is the lead researcher of Mountain Water Futures, part of the Global Water Futures research initiative. His project is aimed at understanding the changes taking place in the complex mountain ecosystems of western Canada and, using a range of cutting-edge technologies and computer modelling, better predict the water cycle to enable governments, industry and NGOs to plan for, and manage water risks. "The western mountains supply much of the water for public use, hydro-electric power generation, agriculture, and industry west of the Great Lakes," says Carey. "So it's all about managing mountain water. Will there be enough water to irrigate crops? Are communities in low-lying areas at risk for flooding? Water managers need to know so they can plan and adapt." To learn more, Carey and his research team are collecting a wide-range of data at Wolf Creek. Meteorological stations placed throughout the basin are tracking climate and weather patterns. Large flux towers that rise above the forest measure how trees breathe and how they cycle water. In addition, researchers are monitoring the thawing of the permafrost, as well as the timing of the snow-melt and its impact on water levels in streams. McMaster U Brighter World

Memorial U graduate student Anna Crofts reminds us that it is OK to take personal time off: This winter, my sister and her partner invited me on a trip to Peru. After the invite, I chatted with my supervisor about my timeline and goals and whether she thought taking a three-week vacation was a good idea. Without hesitation she responded with "of course, you have to go", later stating that taking time away from a project can be a good thing and can bring new ideas and renewed motivation when you return to the project. I have now been back in St John's for a couple days and definitely am feeling ready to jump back into working on my dissertation. A little while back, a friend sent along a great blog post, titled "A la recherche de temps perdu" by Dr. Aimee Morrison in which she argues about working in the right now and forgetting about "making up for lost time". I am going to follow her advice and not view my vacation as lost time that needs to be made up for, but as time that was needed to create a positive mindset for me to accomplish what's next. My Master Plan

U Lethbridge's Julie Young named a Tier II Canada Research Chair: Julie Young is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography. She was awarded a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Critical Border Studies, funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. Her research aims to establish the University of Lethbridge as a leading institution for critical border studies, with a focus on displacement and border control in settler colonial contexts. Her research program has three key objectives: to analyze migration management and resistance along the NAFTA corridor; to develop a community of scholars (locally, regionally, nationally, globally) around border studies in the context of settler colonial nation-states; and, to mobilize Lethbridge's strategic location as a borderlands city and regional hub negotiating indigenous-settler histories and contemporary relations and more recent experiences with refugee resettlement. By collaborating with students, colleagues and community members, Young and her team are analyzing how Canada develops and implements policies to manage migration regionally. They are also building a network of scholars focusing on border studies in the context of settler colonial nation-states. Their work draws upon Lethbridge's location as a borderlands city that continues to negotiate Indigenous-settler histories and relationships as well as more recent experiences with refugee resettlement and temporary migrant workers. Lethbridge UNews

Concordia U's Ted Rutland explores links between anti-blackness and urban planning: A new book by Ted Rutland, associate professor in the department of Geography, Planning, and Environment sheds light on the racist conceptions behind urban planning projects in Canada, and how they've defined what constitutes a viable life, and what does not. Displacing Blackness: Power, Planning, and Race in Twentieth-Century Halifax analyzes the connections between urban planning and blackness, particularly in Halifax, Nova Scotia in the twentieth century. The book began from a sense that there was something I could learn and needed to learn from the long history of Black resistance to urban planning in the Halifax region. The Black community in Halifax dates back to the eighteenth century, when a series of migrations began in which enslaved Black people from elsewhere in the Americas came to Nova Scotia and settled in segregated communities outside white cities and towns. The fact that Black Nova Scotians had land gave them a material basis for communal, religious, and socio-economic development from the get-go and ever since. It also put them in conflict with urban planning (broadly conceived). The initial goal of *Displacing Blackness* was to examine what this history of struggle indicated about the nature of urban planning, both in Halifax and elsewhere. In his critique, Rutland shows that throughout history, projects have consistently benefitted white people, while having serious consequences to the city's Black residents, despite urban planning promising to improve citizens' lives. Concordia DGPE

GeogNews Bites

York U's Raju Das promoted to Full Professor in the Department of Geography. Das teaches courses on radical political economy, international development, state-society relations, and social struggles. His current research focuses on Neoliberal industrialization, the rural periphery, and uneven development in India. Webpage

Queen U's Laura Cameron promoted to Full Professor in the Department of Geography and Planning. Laura's current work on historical geographies of nature involves the study of cultural encounters between people and places in several interrelated projects. Webpage | Queen's Geography Newsletter

Western U welcomes Diana Lewis who is joining the Department of Geography to teach in First the Nations Studies program. Lewis is coming from Dalhousie University, where she was the inaugural coordinator of, and lecturer in, the Indigenous Studies Program. She is Mi'kmaq from Sipekne'katik

First Nation in Nova Scotia, and holds a Master of Resource and Environmental Management degree. Her PhD research focuses on resource development, and the impacts of resource development on the health of Indigenous peoples, using a methodology that combines both Indigenous and western-based sciences. Western Social Sciences

Western U welcomes Jed Long, who ill be joining the Department January 1, 2019, to fill a GISci & Urban Environments position. Jed is coming from the University of St Andrews where he has been a Lecturer in GeoInformatics in the School of Geography and Sustainable Development. Jed received his BSc from the University of Guelph and his MSc and PhD from the University of Victoria. He also holds an Advanced Diploma in GIS from the Centre of Geographic Sciences.

Queen's U's George Lovell receives the Preston E. James Eminent Latin Americanist Career Award at the recent meeting of the Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers (CLAG) held in San José, Costa Rica. The award is named after the distinguished American geographer Preston E. James (1899-1996) and bestowed annually in recognition of a life-time achievement towards the understanding of the geography of Latin America. Queen's Geography Newsletter

Nipissing U's Sean O'Hagan suggests North Bay far from 'healthiest city': In letter to the Editor of the North Bay Nugget, Sean O'Hagan writes that North Bay should encourage urban development that actually promotes healthy living rather than paying it lip service….long before using lines like the "healthiest city in Canada." North Bay Nugget

U Victoria PhD alumni Nathan Bennett wins 2018 Early Career Conservationist award presented by Society for Conservation Biology who "noted that his research had provided critical insights into the role of indigenous people in conservation in Canada, the relationship between small-scale fishers and marine protected areas in Thailand and the Mediterranean Sea, and the effective and equitable governance of marine protected areas globally". UBC Institute for the Oceans and Fisheries

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Recent Theses and Dissertations

Zhihao Cao. 2018. Scour pool incision in bedrock canyons. Department of Geography, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia. Supervisor: Jeremy Venditti.

Hot Papers by Canadian Geographers

Gaëlle F. Gilson, Hester Jiskoot, John J. Cassano, Ismail Gultepe and Timothy D. James. 2018. The thermodynamic structure of Arctic coastal fog occurring during the melt season over East Greenland. Boundary-Layer Meteorology. doi.org/10.1007/s10546-018-0357-3

Janina Kowalski and Tenley M. Conway. 2018. Branching out: The Inclusion of urban food trees in Canadian urban forest management plans. Urban Forestry & Urban Greening. doi.org/10.1016/j.ufug.2018.05.012

L.L. Loseto, C. Hoover, S. Ostertag, Whalenc, T. Pearce, J. Paulic, J. Iacozz, and S. MacPhee. 2018. Beluga whales (*Delphinapterus leucas*), environmental change and marine protected areas in the Western Canadian Arctic. Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science. doi.org/10.1016/j.ecss.2018.05.026

Other "Geographical" News

Quebec to ban shale gas fracking, tighten rules for oil and gas drilling: The Quebec government is banning fracking for shale gas provincewide. The ban on fracking for shale gas will protect the low-lying Lower St. Lawrence region in particular. Under the new measures, which will amend Quebec's Petroleum Resources Act, passed in 2016, the government would also ban drilling for oil and gas in 13 waterways across the province. That includes the Lake of Two Mountains, Lake Memphremagog and the St. Lawrence River. CBCNews | Montreal

First record of bottlenose dolphins in Canadian Pacific waters: For Luke Halpin 'it was surprising to find a warm-water dolphin in British Columbian waters, and especially to find such a large number of common bottlenose dolphins within the group'. The exceptional features of this spotting are several. First of all, the location of the sighting, which is approximately 1000 km north the typical range of common bottlenose dolphins off the west coast of North America. Previous observations had only spotted single individuals, likely vagrant or accidentally occurring so far north compared to their usual habitat. But this is not the only surprise: although bottlenose dolphins are typically a group-living species, they are most often found in groups of 10-20 animals, which makes this sighting of 200 individuals even more interesting. In addition to this, the sighting was also the 'first offshore report of false killer whales in British Columbia', says Halpin, which are warm-temperature to tropical species. Blog Network

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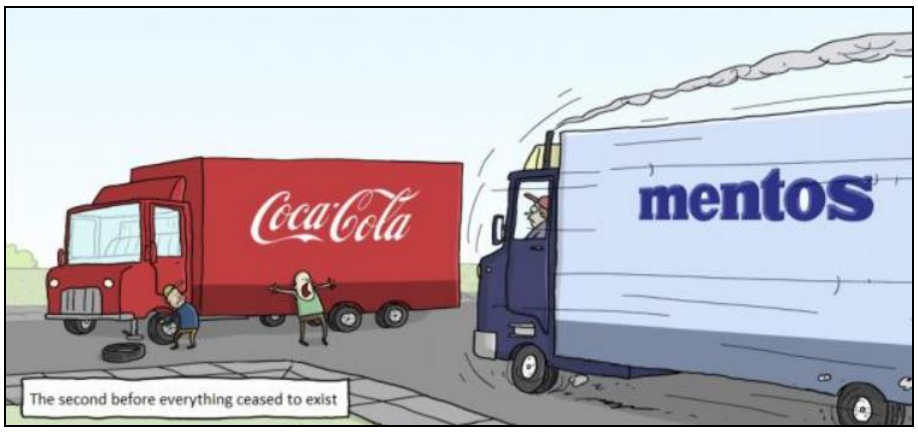
Some Not So "Geographical" News



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