

NRESi Bi-WEEKLY NEWS Oct 10 - Oct 21, 2016

A newsletter for faculty, staff, students and the community who participate in the Natural Resources & Environmental Studies Institute and NRES Graduate Programs

NRESI NOTES

FROM THE RESEARCH MANAGER

Hello everyone,

Well the fall semester keeps rolling along.

At this Friday's (Oct 21st) colloquium presentation Dr. Cindy Hardy from the Psychology Department will be introducing the Research Data Centre at UNBC. The 2016 NRESi Awards presentation will follow her talk. The following Friday, October 28th, Dr. Ken Otter will be presenting on the research he and his colleagues and graduate students have done on songbirds. A big thank you to both Drs. Hardy and Otter for stepping up at short notice to fill in for some cancellations. Both presentations are in room 7-150 and will be livestreamed.

Al Wiensczyk, RPF

Research Manager, NRESi

UPCOMING EVENTS

NRESI COLLOQUIUM

Dr. Cindy Hardy is our presenter for the October 21st Friday colloquium after which we will present the 2016 NRESi Awards. Dr. Ken Otter will be presenting on Oct 28th. Watch for announcements closer to the lectures confirming the presenter and topic. Lectures for the fall semester will be held in room **7-150**.

Planning for the winter 2017 colloquium series is currently underway. If you any suggestions for speakers, or if you would be willing to make a presentation yourself please contact me via email using the email address below.

TENTATIVE FALL SEMESTER COLLOQUIUM SCHEDULE

Presentation Date	Tentative Presenter and/or Topic	
Oct 21, 2016	Introducing RDC at UNBC—Dr. Cindy Hardy (UNBC)— followed by the NRESi Awards Ceremony	
Oct 28, 2016	Is suburbia an avian paradise, or ecological trap? - Dr. Ken Otter (UNBC)	
Nov 4, 2016	Responding to Climate Change in Northern BC. Vanessa Foord, (BC Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations)	
Nov 18, 2016	Gender and Participation at GOP21. Claire Martin (former CBC Senior Meteorologist) — Inspiring Women Among Us (IWAU) /Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions (PICS) sponsored speaker	
Nov 25, 2016	Dr. Susan Wood-Bohm—Executive Director—Biological GHG Management—Alberta Innovates	

REMINDER: Share your information about recent publications, grants, and/or other honours you have received with NRESi newsletter subscribers via our bi-weekly newsletter.

PLEASE EMAIL ALL INFORMATION AND MATERIAL TO: al.wiensczyk@unbc.ca

We're on the web at: www.unbc.ca/nres-institute/newsletter

NRESI COLLOQUIUM

Dr. Cindy Hardy

Psychology Department Chair, University of Northern British Columbia

Introducing RDC at UNBC

In partnership with Northern Health and the Northern Medical Program, UNBC is opening a Statistics Canada Research Data Centre (RDC@UNBC). Research Data Centres are secure facilities where

researchers can access confidential microdata owned by Statistics Canada. In this presentation, Dr. Hardy will provide an overview of the types of data available and the procedures researchers must follow to access the data. Available datasets include, for example, surveys of perceptions of neighbourhood environments, blood samples for measuring exposure to toxins, and census data. Data sets of possible interest to NRESi faculty, students, and researchers will be described.

Dr. Hardy's presentation will be followed by the 2016 NRESi Annual Awards presentation.

Friday, Oct 21, 2016

3:30 pm - 4:30 pm Room: 7-150

To participate remotely: http://www.unbc.ca/nres-institute/colloquium-webcasts

UPCOMING EVENTS

NRESI COLLOQUIUM

Dr. Ken Otter

Ecosystem Science and Management Program University of Northern British Columbia

Is suburbia an avian paradise, or ecological trap?



Chickadees and titmice have been used in both North America and Europe as model species of how birds adapt to varying habitats. As most species within this family are considered forest generalists and settle in a variety of habitats, they offer insights into how species react to landscape change. Our early work considered how differences in human-altered landscapes, such as changes in forest age and composition, were perceived as differences in habitat quality by birds, and showed that this could have dramatic effects on reproductive success and behaviour. Increasingly, though, work in our and other labs is beginning to focus on how birds respond to the increasing encroachment of suburbia. Urban sprawl can create challenges for birds, but also can yield potential benefits. Habitat structure may change with the transition from native forests to open parklands and suburban greenbelts, which may alter prey abundance or nesting opportunities, but suburbia can also provide artificial resources in the form of both food and nestling supplementation. Urban habitats also introduce noise that competes for acoustic space with avian communication. I will present data from our own and other studies that give insights into how birds respond to the challenges of urbanization, and discuss how some species may even benefit from settling in urban landscapes.

Friday, Oct 28, 2016

3:30 pm - 4:30 pm Room: 7-150

To participate remotely: http://www.unbc.ca/nres-institute/colloquium-webcasts

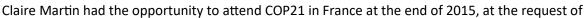
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IWAU/NRESi COLLOQUIUM

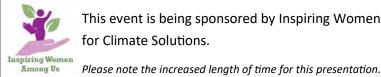
Claire Martin

Former CBC Senior Meteorologist

Gender and Participation at COP21



the Green Party of Canada and the newly minted Liberal government, to help Canada negotiate a new global climate plan. Inside the damp, cold, testosterone filled tarp covered walkways around the COP21 temporary facilities, Claire had the opportunity to watch world leaders wrestle over the terms of a legal document that will affect us for generations. But what about the women? Were they heard? Claire will introduce you to the "other" battle going on at COP21.



This event is being sponsored by Inspiring Women Among Us and the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions.



Friday, Nov 18, 2016

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

To participate remotely: http://www.unbc.ca/nres-institute/colloquium-webcasts

UPCOMING EVENTS

ART EXHIBITION

FILM SCREENING

Room: 7-150

CHANGE—Art and Science on Climate Change

October 21, 2016—January 8, 2017.

Two Rivers Gallery—725 Canada Games Way, Prince George.

Change is an exhibition that does more than call the phenomenon of climate change out. A collaboration between UNBC, the Two Rivers Gallery, and PICS, Change uses the permanent collection to offer insight, informative research and useful resources to assist in exploring solutions. This exhibition uses a mix of science and art to show a path forward.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wild Ways: Corridors of Life

October 25, 2016 6:30-9:00 pm

Canfor Theatre, UNBC

The Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative (Y2Y) invites you to a free screening of the

film Wild Ways: Corridors of Life. Wild Ways is a groundbreaking film about the challenges of preserving biodiversity on an ever more crowded planet.

From North America's Yellowstone to Yukon region to Southern Africa's 'elephant highways' stretching across five countries, explore how connectivity conservation offers hope to some of our planet's most cherished - but endangered

"Wild Ways demonstrates, through a message of hope, how some of the world's most beloved species can be preserved by linking the world's wildlife refuges through safe highway passage and open land," says Tim Burkhart, Y2Y's Peace River Break Coordinator.

Following the film is a discussion on the importance of ensuring connectivity for wildlife in the Wild Hart ranges, to the east of Prince George.

From the Kakawa Wilderness north through Pine Pass to the Williston Reservoir, the Wild Harts are an important corridor connecting central Rocky Mountain parks to the Muskwa-Kechick, providing critical habitat for woodland caribou and grizzly bears.

Ensuring this wildlife corridor remains intact is a priority for Y2Y in Northern BC - join us to be part of the conversation.

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CIRC WORKSHOP

Developing new tools for assessing the cumulative impacts of resource development across northern British Columbia: Integrating environmental, socioeconomic, and human health assessment methods.

Workshop 1: Scoping values, data availability and information gaps

October 26, 2016

Fort Nelson, British Columbia

The CIRC is facilitating this first in a series of three workshops in relation to the project "Developing new tools for assessing the cumulative impacts of resource development across northern BC: Integrating environmental, socioeconomic and human health assessment methods". This project is specifically oriented towards broad and inclusive public engagement to develop the next generation of cumulative impact assessment tools capable of integrating environmental, community, and health values to support land-use decision-making by local and regional governments. The purpose of this workshop is to foster dialogue in the Northern Rockies region on the cumulative environmental, community, and health impacts of resource development. It is also intended to solicit early feedback on the data and knowledge sources (including gaps) that will inform the preliminary basis for the development of the assessment tool.

Please RSVP to Madeline Wilson (Madeline.Wilson@unbc.ca) if you would like to attend this workshop.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Managing Decarbonization—The cases of Germany and Canada



October 27-28, 2016 C.K. Choi Building, 1855 West Mall, UBC, Vancouver, BC.

Join us at this upcoming conference hosted and led by the UBC Institute for European Studies in partnership with PICS.

This international conference is **open to the public and free of charge**, made possible by the Foreign Ministry of the Federal Republic of Germany. Conference proceedings will focus on climate policies to support cohesive growth and innovation for the environment and the economy. The event aims to bring Canadian and German academics and politicians together to share their thoughts on the ethical and political-economic dimensions of climate change, as well as necessary technology and innovation, and national and subnational strategies, to address it. Please register to attend in person, or feel free to watch the live webcast using the webcast links provided.

Kevnotes

Honourable Mary Polak MLA, Minister of Environment, British Columbia (tbc)

Franzjosef Schafhausen, Head of Section Transformation of the Energy System, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU)

Jürgen Trittin, former Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Co-Chairman "Kommission zur Überprüfung der Finanzierung des Atomausstiegs.

Panelists

Lukas Meyer, University of Graz	Jakob Peter, University of Cologne	Gernot Wagner, Harvard University
James Meadowcroft, Carleton University, Ottawa	Eva Schmid , Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research	Klaus Berger, Vice President, Fuel Cell Division, Mercedes-Benz Canada
Karoline Augenstein, Wuppertal Institut	Jonn Axsen, Simon Fraser University	Mark Purdon , Americana, Université de Montreal
Kathryn Harrison, UBC	Kerstin Tews, Free University Berlin	Sumeet Gulati, UBC
Juan Fercovic, UBC	Oliver Heidrich, Newcastle University	

To register (free): http://managingdecarbonization.arts.ubc.ca/participant-sign-up/

Live Webcast—Opening Day

Live Webcast—Conference Day

<u>Webcast viewing requirements test</u> - Please perform test to ensure you are able to watch with enough streaming bandwidth and the latest browsers.

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5th BC Protected Areas Research Forum

December 5-7, 2016

Cadboro Commons, University of Victoria

The **BC Protected Areas Research Forum (BCPARF)** is a bi/tri-annual gathering of British Columbia (and neighbours) parks and protected areas managers and researchers from government, First Nations, academia (faculty and students), industry, non-governmental organizations and private sectors whom are involved and interested in the ecological and social dimensions of protected areas planning and management.

Call for presentations, research and management snappers, posters, workshops, and special sessions and side-meetings is **now open** with an online submission form. **Submission deadline has been extended to OCTOBER 21st!!!**

Please visit the conference website http://www.unbc.ca/bc-protected-area-research-forum for submission forms, registration info, the preliminary conference program, and other research forum information.

TRAVEL & CONFERENCES

Roger Wheate gave a talk on Tuesday (Oct 18) on Mapping the Glaciers of western Canada, Georgia, and Norway at Christ Church Canterbury University, Kent, UK. Next week, he attends the annual Nordic Branch meeting of the International Glaciogical Society in Tromsø, Norway, before wending his way back to New Caledonia on October 31.



Dr. Catherine Nolin traveled to Kent State University (October 10-12) at the invitation of the Institute for the Study and Prevention of Violence & the Departments of Geography & Anthropology for a 2-evening event called "Documenting Violence: Seeing the Disappeared." Dr. Catherine Nolin & her research colleague and documentary photographer James Rodriguez spoke on their research on documenting the search for the 'disappeared' in Guatemala's internal armed conflict.

Dr. **Gail Fondahl** attended an International Arctic Science Committee (IASC - iasc.info/) Strategy Think Tank in Akureyri, Iceland on 10-11 October, to work on a strategic plan for IASC for the next decade, following the outcome of the Third International Conference in Arctic Research Planning exercise of 2014-2015 (ICARP-III - http://icarp.iasc.info/). Gail chairs one of IASC's five working groups, that on Social and Human Sciences.





Dr. Catherine Nolin gave a public lecture and key note address at the (Dis)placing the Borders of North America conference organized by the Institute on Globalization and the Human Condition at McMaster University on October 13th. The talk was titled: "Transnational Ruptures in a Time of Impunity: Genocide, Mining, and Migration."

Over the weekend of October 1-2, Postdoctoral Research Fellow Dr. Christopher Darvill took the GEOG 111 (Theory and Practice of Physical Geography) class on their field course to Quesnel Lake, Gavin Lake, Pinnacles Provincial Park, and more.

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Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions (PICS) news

PICS has hired two consultants to evaluate PICS activities with the objective of identifying opportunities in research, educational activities and communications/outreach for the next five to ten years. John Talbot and Steve Lonergan will be visiting the four partner universities (UNBC, UVic, UBC and SFU) and speaking with past and present members of the PICS program committee, past and present fellows, and other PICS affiliated people for their views and suggestions. This will be an opportunity to comment on the direction and priorities of PICS for the future.

The discussion/focus group will take place at UNBC on November 2nd. If you'd like to participate or want more detail on this process, please visit Michelle Connolly in the Green Centre, contact her by email at michelle.connolly@unbc.ca, or phone 250 960 6378.

The consultants will be posing the questions below to the group:

Leadership, Structure and Services

- What do you see as the strengths and challenges of PICS and its current partnership model among the four universities?
- Do you have any suggestions on how the current partnership could be improved?
- What new partners should PICS be working collaboratively with in the future?
- Do you have any comments on how the current services provided by PICS are operating?

Research

- We very much enjoyed attending the PICS Annual Forum on October 12th in Vancouver, and hearing about the five major projects. Should PICS continue to focus on these five areas (after the initial five years), or are there other topics that should be examined?
- Are there trends in mitigation or adaptation that PICS should examine in addition to the "Big 5" projects?
- Do you have any suggestions regarding the role of PICS as a leader or catalyst of research on climate change solutions?

Attitudes and Policies

- Has PICS been effective at communicating research results in a way that influences the discussion/policy on climate change solutions?
- What role can PICS play to better influence policy?
- Are there other communication and outreach activities that PICS should pursue?

Education and Community Engagement

- Can you suggest additional education and capacity building activities that PICS should pursue?
- Are there other organizations (government, academic, private, NGO) that PICS should be working with?

Other

- Are there other services or opportunities that PICS should be doing to reduce our carbon emissions in the future?
- Are there other key individuals or groups that we should be interviewing?

IN THE NEWS

Research:

Congratulations to Geography's **Dr. Ellen Petticrew**, Environmental Sciences's **Dr. Phil Owens** & their research team for securing \$800,000 to continue their important research post- Mount Polley mining disaster. Exciting news!

See: http://www.ckpg.com/2016/10/05/unbc-research-at-mt-polley-continues/#.V Z2th0 BOk.twitter

Read: http://www.unbc.ca/releases/41386/federal-funds-supporting-quesnel-lake-research

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Cumulative Impacts Research Consortium (CIRC) news

Journal of Sustainable Forestry http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/10549811.2016.1228071

Come work with us!

The CIRC is hiring two student Research Assistants; One starting in November (application deadline November 1— extended) and the other starting in January (application deadline December 9, 2016). Please contact either Madeline Wilson (Madeline.Wilson@unbc.ca) or Chris Buse (Chris.Buse@unbc.ca) for the job postings for the two positions.

The CIRC is participating in a 1/2 day workshop in Fort St John on November 29, 2016 to discuss cumulative impacts and resource development in the Peace Region, and start the conversation on Cumulative Impact Assessment tools.

Corporate Mapping Project: Up to three Research Assistantships for Masters students to work under the supervision of Professor Fiona MacPhail and/or Paul Bowles (Dept. of Economics, UNBC) are available as part of the multi-year research and engagement project Mapping the power of the carbon-extractive corporate resource sector ("Corporate Mapping Project"). For more information about the Corporate Mapping Project, please see www.corporatemapping.ca Students interested in the positions are should contact Drs. MacPhail and Bowles as soon as possible (email: fiona.macphail@unbc.ca and paul.bowles@unbc.ca).

PUBLICATIONS

Laura M Ryser, Greg Halseth, Sean Markey, and Marleen Morris (2016). New mobile realities in mature staples-dependent resource regions: Local governments and work camps *Environment and Planning C: Government and Policy 0263774X16668171*, first published on September 14, 2016 doi:10.1177/0263774X16668171 http://epc.sagepub.com/content/early/2016/09/14/0263774X16668171.short

Darvill, C. M., Stokes, C. R., Bentley, M. J., Evans, D. J. A. and Lovell, H. (2016), Dynamics of former ice lobes of the southernmost Patagonian Ice Sheet based on a glacial landsystems approach. J. Quaternary Sci.. doi:10.1002/jqs.2890

Congratulations to Som Pun (MA NRES Geography '14) and his supervisor **Dr. Greg Halseth** on the publication of this research article in the Journal of Sustainable Forestry based on Som's Master's-level research at UNBC. Som Bahadur Pun (2016) <u>The implications and challenges of First Nations forestry negotiations in British Columbia, Canada: The Tl'azt'en Nation experience</u>

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IN THE NEWS

(Government press releases)

Implementing Truth and Reconciliation actions in public post-secondary institutions

Oct 20, 2016- Vancouver. Leaders from public post-secondary institutions and Aboriginal institutes of higher learning met to discuss how to implement the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report Calls to Action within the public post-secondary education system in British Columbia.

For more details...

India trade mission highlights B.C. forest products, financial and economic ties

Oct 20, 2016- Vancouver. Finance Minister Michael de Jong is leading an investor tour to India to advance bilateral trade and investment opportunities for B.C. businesses, and to promote the province's stable economy.

For more details...

Factsheet: Growing trees for carbon credits on land in the ALR

Oct 20, 2016 – Victoria. In July 2016, The British Columbia government provided clarity to businesses and individuals considering planting trees for things like carbon sequestration on land in the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR). They will need to apply for permission from the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) first.

For more details...

Province kicks off public consultation on B.C. species at risk

Oct 19, 2016— Victoria. Over the next six weeks, British Columbians are invited to share their ideas on new ways to protect species at risk in B.C., and how to better support activities such as monitoring, research and stewardship.

For more details...

Factsheet: What the B.C. government is doing to support wild salmon

Oct 19, 2016—Victoria. The B.C. government supports sustainable management of wild fisheries by: Participating in international negotiations that result in responsible, science-based fishery allocations.

For more details...

Experts find 'high level of rigour' in grizzly management

Oct 18, 2016—Victoria. The Province is taking steps to enhance its already world-class grizzly bear management procedures in light of recommendations from an expert panel, Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations Steve Thomson announced today.

For more details...

Province expands effort to control spruce beetle

Oct 18, 2016—Victoria. An updated inventory of spruce beetle-damaged forest in the Prince George and Mackenzie districts shows an increase in the number of hectares that have been affected compared to this time last year, according to preliminary results of aerial surveys over the summer.

For more details...

Provincial investment bolsters wood innovation and sustainable design

Oct 17, 2016—Prince George. With \$2.25 million in provincial funding, the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC) has a new Tall Wood and Hybrid Structures Engineering Research Chair to drive innovative wood design and bolster its master of integrated wood design program.

For more details...

Minister of Natural Gas Development responds to PNW LNG export approval

Oct 14, 2016—Victoria. Minister of Natural Gas Development Rich Coleman has issued the following statement following the National Energy Board's issuance of a 40-year export licence to Pacific NorthWest LNG: For more details...

Increased cycling investment supports healthy, active communities

Oct 14, 2016—Victoria. The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is committing \$8 million in BikeBC funding to communities for 2017-18, to enhance and expand cycling infrastructure such as bike lanes, multi-use paths and trails, and cycling/pedestrian bridges. This includes an additional \$2 million recently announced at UBCM.

For more details...

Moose management gets \$1.2-million boost in light of Gorley report

Oct 12, 2016—Victoria. The Province is investing \$1.2 million to help increase moose populations following the release of a multi-level strategy to restore B.C.'s moose populations, Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations Minister Steve Thomson announced today.

For more details...

\$2.5-million investment will help to address flood risk in Peace Region

Oct 7, 2016—Dawson Creek. The Government of British Columbia is providing \$2.5 million to the Peace River Regional District (PRRD) to undertake debris removal and preventative work, designed to reduce flood risk in the region.

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LITO AROCENA STUDENT AWARDS

Last December, dear colleague and founding UNBC faculty member, Lito Arocena passed away after a short battle with cancer. In honour of his memory, a UNBC memorial fund was established to support three student awards, which have recently been instituted:

- **Dr. Joselito (Lito) Arocena Memorial Scholarship** (\$1000). Available to a full time undergraduate student who has completed 90 credit hours and is pursuing a Bachelor of Science honours or majors degree in one of the following: Biology, Environmental Science, Geography, or Natural Resources Management. Criteria: Academic excellence
- **Dr. Joselito (Lito) Arocena Memorial Undergraduate Thesis Prize** (\$250). Awarded for the best thesis presented by undergraduate students completing an undergraduate major or honours degree in one of: Biology, Environmental Planning, Environmental Science, Environmental Studies, Geography, Natural Resources Management, or Nature-based Tourism Management.
- **Dr. Joselito (Lito) Arocena Memorial Graduate Prize** (\$250). The Prize will be awarded to the student nominated by the NRES Graduate Program for the UNBC Governor General's Gold Medal.

Thanks to contributions from donors and UNBC, the fund is currently large enough to endow the \$1000 scholarship in perpetuity. However additional contributions are needed to permanently endow the two prizes, and to increase the amounts awarded over time. If anyone would like to contribute to this fund, through payroll deductions or otherwise, please go to www.unbc.ca/giving or www.unbc.ca/giving/employee-giving for more information.

SUSAN STEVENSON MEMORIAL AWARD

As its first project of this kind, the Natural Resources and Environmental Studies Institute (NRESi) has established the Susan Stevenson Scholarship Fund, in memory of wildlife ecologist and NRESi member Susan Stevenson. During a 35-year career built primarily in the BC central interior, Susan designed and implemented important research and inventory projects related to mountain caribou habitat, lichen biology, and silvicultural systems, collaborating with a diverse range of researchers, and gave generously of her expertise to the next generation of scientists. Susan exemplified the Institute's values of interdisciplinary curiosity and unselfish collaboration, and enriched the lives of all those who worked and studied with her.

Efforts have succeeded in reaching the goal of \$15,000 that will be matched by UNBC to allow for an annual award. Additional contributions to the fund are welcomed. The inaugural award will be presented in the 2016-2017 academic year. NRESi would like to thank everyone who contributed to the scholarship!

The following award criteria for the Susan Stevenson Memorial Award have been developed:

Value: \$1,000

Eligibility: Available to a full or part time female graduate student enrolled in either the Masters (NRES) or PhD (NRES) degree programs with a research emphasis in one or more of: wildlife ecology, plant biology, forest ecology, or innovative silvicultural systems and practices that emphasize wildlife management and biodiversity objectives.

Criteria: Satisfactory Academic Standing (3.0 GPA)

Conditions: Student is unable to receive this award more than once.

Recipient Selection: Senate Committee on Scholarships and Bursaries on recommendation of the NRESi Steering Committee. Applicants will provide a statement, not exceeding 500 words in length, explaining how their intended research fits within the areas specified for his award.

COLLOQUIUM ARCHIVE

Did you miss a colloquium or special lecture this semester? Visit NRESi's webcast archive to catch up! They can be found on the NRESi Youtube channel.

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