



NRESi WEEKLY NEWS

August 4 - 28, 2015

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

NRESi NOTES

FROM THE DIRECTOR & RESEARCH MANAGER

Hi everyone,

We have some great news to start the newsletter! Thanks to your donations and contributions from the family and friends of Susan Stevenson, we have reached our goal of \$15,000 to the Susan Stevenson Scholarship Fund! Thanks to everyone who donated, as well as to the NRESi membership who decided at their Annual General Meeting to move other student support funds towards this initiative. The money raised was matched by UNBC and we hope to present the inaugural award in the 2016-2017 academic year. Special thanks goes to David Stevenson, for his efforts and spreading this initiative through his networks, as well as accepting NRESi's invitation for continued participation as we move to the next steps!

A reminder to NRESi members to consider nominating colleagues and community members/organizations for this year's NRESi awards. Information and criteria can be found on our [website](#). The deadline for nominations is Friday, September 18th, 2015. Awards will be presented at the NRES Graduate Icebreaker on October 16th.

For those looking forward to the return of the colloquium, the first presentation for 2015-2016 will take place on Friday, September 18th during the regular 3:30-4:30 timeslot. We've been assigned room 8-166 for the fall term and will have both Livestream and Elluminate available for remote participants.

Happy Friday!

Leanne Elliott
NRESi Research Manager



Goldensides Hike in Tombstone Territorial Park, Yukon. Photo credit: L. Elliott

REMINDER: Share your information about recent publications, grants, and/or other honours you may have received with others interested in future NRESi issues.

PLEASE EMAIL ALL INFORMATION AND MATERIAL TO: leanne.elliott@unbc.ca

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

THESIS DEFENSE NOTICE

GRADUATE THESIS DEFENCE

Ms. Jingjing Shi is a candidate for the degree:

Master of Science in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (Environmental Science)

Ms. Shi will be defending her thesis entitled:

“Elemental Sulfur Amendment Decreases Bio-Available Cr-VI in Soils Impacted by Leather Tanneries”

Supervisor: **Dr. Joselito Arcena**

Date: **August 31, 2015** Time: 10:00am Room: 6-306 (PG Campus)

PUBLICATIONS

Burton, P.J., M. Svoboda, D. Kneeshaw, and K.W. Gottschalk. 2015. Options for promoting the recovery and rehabilitation of forests affected by severe insect outbreaks. Pages 495 to 517 in *Restoration of Boreal and Temperate Forests*, Second edition, edited by J.A. Stanturf, CRC Press, Boca Raton, Florida.

Gower, T.L., **P.J. Burton**, and M. Fenger. 2015. Integrating ecosystem restoration into mainstream land management in British Columbia, Canada. Pages 271 to 297 in *Restoration of Boreal and Temperate Forests, Second Edition*, edited by J.A. Stanturf, CRC Press, Boca Raton, Florida.

Kobylynski, A., **Fredeen, A.L.** 2015. Importance of Arboreal Cyanolichen Abundance to Nitrogen Cycling in Sub-Boreal Spruce and Fir Forests of Central British Columbia, Canada. *Forests* 6(8): 2588-2607. doi:10.3390/f6082588. Available online [here](#).

Ania Kobylynski was a NRES graduate student who defended in April 2015. The article was part of a special issue on Nitrogen and Phosphorus Nutrition of Trees and Forests.

LaZerte, S.E., **Otter, K.A.** & Slabbekoorn, H. 2015. Improving urban acoustics: Urban noise is more detrimental than urban habitat to transmission of chickadee vocalizations. *Bioacoustics*, DOI: 10.1080/09524622.2015.1060531 (published online 25 Aug 2015)

This is from Stefanie LaZerte's PhD that she defended in April 2015 and she is currently a Postdoctoral Researcher in Ken Otter's lab.

Turner, Christopher and **Gail Fondahl** (2015), "Overlapping claims" to territory confronting treaty-making in British Columbia: Causes and implications. *The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien*. doi: 10.1111/cag.12205
Chris Turner is a PhD Candidate in NRES.

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TRAVEL & CONFERENCES

Bunu Sharma presented a talk entitled "The changing contribution of Snow to Hudson Bay River Discharge" at the 2nd International Conference on Polar Climate and Environmental Change in the Last Millennium in Torun, Poland on Monday, August 24th, 2015. Stephen Déry was co-author on this presentation and Bunu is in the NRES M.Sc. program.

Gail Fondahl participated as a lecturer in the 1st Korea Arctic Academy, a joint initiative of the Korea Maritime Institute (KMI) (in Busan) and the University of the Arctic, speaking on 'Arctic Cultures and Society'. The Academy brought together 19 Korean students (Undergrad-PhD) and 11 students from around the Circumpolar North (6 of them indigenous) for a week of lectures, field trips, and student presentations. South Korea became an Observer State of the Arctic Council in 2013, and KMI is responsible for improving Koreans' knowledge of the Arctic, including its peoples and cultures. (KMI was a sponsor of the Eighth International Congress on Arctic Social Sciences, held at UNBC in May 2014.)



Top: Gail with two students (Even [Siberian] and Korean), 1st Korea Arctic Academy
Photo submitted by G. Fondahl



Above: Participants of 1st Korea Arctic Academy. Photo submitted by G. Fondahl

IN THE NEWS

Stay up-to-date with the latest NRESi and member news by following us on Twitter: [@UNBC_NRESi](https://twitter.com/UNBC_NRESi)

The UNBC research project exploring the cancer-fighting properties of mushrooms, including NRESi members **Hugues Massicotte and Keith Egger**, continues to see media attention. Hugues was recently interviewed with Radio Canada. Listen to the French podcast [here](#). In addition, Faran Rashid, a UNBC undergraduate student, will be isolating compounds from wild mushrooms to see if they can kill brain cancer cells. This is made possible by funding from the Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada. Learn more in this [CKPG newsclip](#), [PG Citizen](#) article, and on [My Prince George Now](#).

Nikolaus Gantner, together with fellow researchers, have discovered some new characteristics of lake trout and their ability to be born and raised in diluted saltwater ecosystems. Learn more in this [PG Citizen article](#) and also in [My Prince George Now](#).

This month is the one-year anniversary of the Mount Polley tailings pond disaster. NRESi members **Ellen Petticrew and Phil Owens** continue in their monitoring efforts, looking at the effects the breach is having on the ecosystem. They were interviewed recently by [CKPG News](#).

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IN THE NEWS

The number of wasps are on the rise this year, due to warm and dry weather. **Staffan Lindgren** explains more in this [CKPG News](#) interview.

Brian Menounos has partnered with Kokanee beer to support glacier research. Check out the media coverage of this new project from [Globe & Mail](#), [Times Colonist](#), [Ameri Publications](#), [newsmaine](#), and [Starmine News](#).

Todd Whitcombe talks about the safety of plastic water bottles in this [CKPG News](#) interview and why being hungry can turn to anger, aka being 'hangry' in this [CKPG News](#) clip.

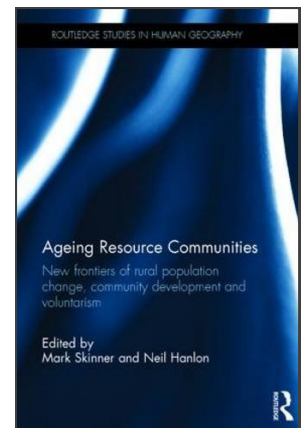
Todd Whitcombe also wrote an article in the PG Citizen, talking about elements and their role in the universe. Read it [here](#).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Geography Program is pleased to welcome Sinead Earley (PhD candidate, Department of Geography, Queen's University) and Alex Koiter (NRES PhD candidate, UNBC) who are joining our program for the 2015-2016 academic year as Lecturers. Sinead comes to us from the Department of Geography at Queen's University in Kingston & will be located in 8-213. Alex is completing his doctoral degree in the Natural Resources and Environmental Studies graduate program here at UNBC and has a new office in 10-2504.

Catherine Nolin was recently elected as a board member of the Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers (CLAG) and serves on the Publications Committee. More information can be found [here](#).

Congratulations to Geography's **Neil Hanlon** and his colleague Dr. Mark Skinner on their forthcoming book "Ageing Resource Communities" to be published by Routledge this fall. This timely edited collection emerged from the international symposium the two co-hosted in Tumbler Ridge last summer.



DID YOU KNOW?

Twenty-five solar panels were installed on the roof of UNBC's Conference Centre this month. It is anticipated they will create 5,000 kWh of electricity per year and will tilt to follow the sun's path to optimize energy generation. They will be used in teaching for university, high school and elementary students, as well as sources of data in student studies. This project is in part thanks to the Highglen Montessori Elementary School, who had a fire in 2013 and donated 16 of the panels to UNBC. The other nine were purchased. Congratulations to everyone involved and continuing to move UNBC forward as Canada's Green University!



Photo credit: UNBC Communications

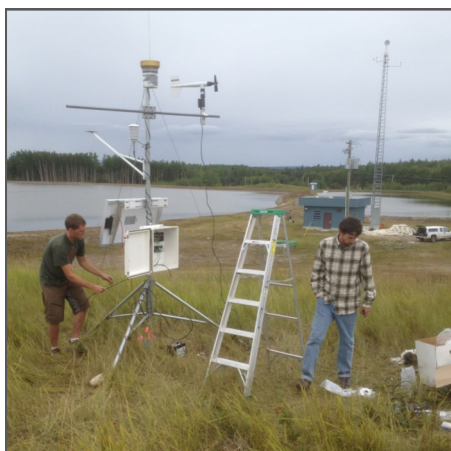
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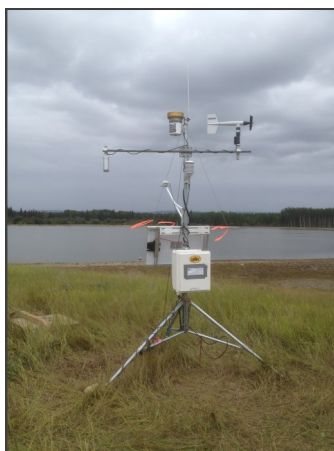
NRESi MEMBER RESEARCH

Over the past weeks, **Stephen Déry** and his research team have been installing a full weather station at the Harald Hansen reservoir west of Dawson Creek. It is located in the lower Kiskatinaw watershed, which is the source of drinking water for Dawson Creek. This is part of Hunter Gleason's NRES M.Sc. degree he is starting this fall. Hunter will be working to predict the timing, volume and water quality of the Kiskatinaw River during the spring freshet. His research project is made possible with support from the City of Dawson Creek in collaboration with the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations. Mark Taylor has been working in Stephen's group as a Research Assistant. The team also had fieldwork supervision responsibilities covered by their honorary NRES member, Angel the shih-tzu!

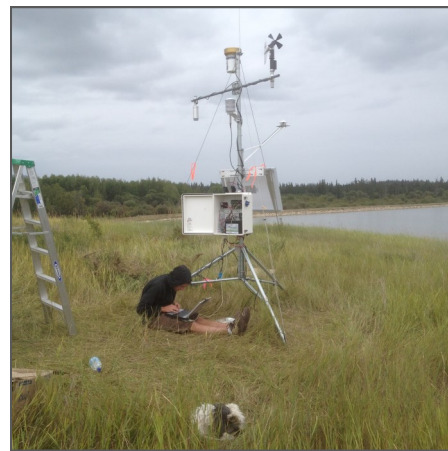
Left: Mark Taylor and Hunter Gleason setting up the weather station



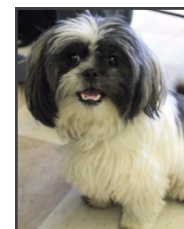
Centre: Installed weather station



Right: Mark Taylor and Angel



****Are you a NRESi member with some research starting up or underway that would be of interest to our newsletter readers? Send along a sentence or two! Pictures showing your work and that of your students and/or research staff is great, too! ****



Right: Honorary NRES member, Angel, clearly happy with the team's work to date! ;)

ACADEMIC SUCCESS CENTRE STUDENT RESOURCES

There are many resources available to students through the Academic Success Centre. More info can be found on their website: www.unbc.ca/asc

Academic Success Centre

10-2584

2nd floor Teaching & Learning Building

960-6367 / asc@unbc.ca

- One to One tutoring
 - Mathematics, Statistics, Physics
 - Commerce, Economics
 - Writing, Study skills
- Drop-in tutoring
 - MACE, Writing help in the library
- Supplemental Instruction
- Online Writing help (unbc.askonline.net)
- Reference materials and online resources
- Workshops

All of our services are FREE to UNBC students - follow the paw prints!



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CUMULATIVE IMPACTS RESEARCH CONSORTIUM

The **Cumulative Impacts Research Consortium (CIRC)** is pleased to invite you to its upcoming launch event being held on **October 2-3, 2015 at the UNBC Campus in Prince George, BC.**

CIRC was created in the wake of a January 2014 forum hosted by the Community Development Institute, the Health Research Institute and the Natural Resources and Environmental Studies Institute at UNBC. The forum explored how to tackle the cumulative impacts of resource development across BC's northern regions. To continue fostering these conversations through dedicated research and community engagement, CIRC will investigate environmental, community and health impacts associated with resource development. For more information on CIRC, please visit www.unbc.ca/cumulative-impacts.

The October launch event will: introduce CIRC's vision, academic leads, and advisory committee; share and discuss examples of research and practice on cumulative impacts across northern BC; and, provide opportunities for participants to share their concerns and help shape CIRC's future research and public engagement activities. We will also be launching a new book produced by UNBC researchers and northern community partners resulting from the January 2014 forum entitled: *The Integration Imperative: Cumulative Environmental, Community and Health Impacts of Multiple Natural Resource Developments*.

This event is open to the public and will take place on the evening of Friday October 2nd (6:30-9:00PM) and Saturday October 3rd (8:00AM-4:00PM). Light refreshments will be provided on Friday evening, with coffee and lunch provided to registered participants on Saturday. **We encourage you to RSVP (for attendance in person, or online for the Friday evening event) to help us plan accordingly.** A full schedule will be made available closer to the date of the event. For more information and to RSVP, please contact Chris Buse at: email - chris.buse@unbc.ca , 250.960.5778 (office) or 1.778.349.4242 (cell)

SUSAN STEVENSON SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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. Next steps will be to identify award criteria. The inaugural award is hoped to be presented in the 2016-2017 academic year. NRESi would like to thank everyone who contributed to the scholarship! More information will follow in the coming months, as well as award criteria for students interested in applying.

COLLOQUIUM ARCHIVE

Did you miss a colloquium or special lecture? Visit NRESi's webcast archive to catch up! They can be found [here](#).

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