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## Second Annual Polar Day at UNBC



On February 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, the Northern Studies Program will be hosting the Second Annual UNBC Polar Day. This year's keynote presenter is internationally-renowned anthropologist and Arctic researcher, **Dr. Hugh Brody (Canada Research Chair in Aboriginal Studies at the University of the Fraser Valley)**. Dr. Brody will be presenting on "Indigenous Land Use in the Canadian Arctic" from 1:00-3:00 in the Weldwood Theatre (7-238) on Thursday February 9<sup>th</sup>.

Polar Day will also feature **award-winning documentary film maker and environmental activist, Mark Terry**. He will be showing his latest film, *The Polar Explorer*, on Wednesday February 9<sup>th</sup> from 7:00-9:00 in room 7-212. Admission is free. This film, made in partnership with the United Nations Programme, was the only one officially invited by the UN to be screened to delegates and world leaders attending COP16, the Climate Change Conference in Cancun last December.



The film reports on the latest scientific discoveries related to climate change in the Arctic and the Antarctic. Mark will also be holding a **film-making workshop** on Wednesday February 9<sup>th</sup> from 2:00-4:00 in room 5-176. Everyone is welcome. The Northern Research Group will be hosting a **Polar Expo** in the Wintergarden on Thursday February 9. The Expo will feature current research on the Arctic and Antarctic, as well as a **Polar Café** where students, faculty, staff and community members will have an opportunity to meet with our Polar Day guests, Hugh Brody and Mark Terry.

# Student Profile – Leandra Grenier-Green

Northern Studies Major Leandra Grenier-Green moved from Edmonton to pursue a degree in Northern Studies at UNBC and is currently in her second year. Her passion for all things northern began with a family trip to Yukon and Alaska when she was 10 years old. She was captivated by the fascinating history and culture of the region. Since then she has spent worked in Inuvik, camped on the Arctic Ocean at Tuktoyaktuk, independently read Arctic literature and is now starting a semester abroad in Arctic Norway. Leandra is fascinated by how underappreciated Canada's north is, despite its great importance, by many Canadians. She hopes to learn about the circumpolar north from a Scandinavian perspective on her upcoming time in Norway. To follow Leandra on her semester abroad, check out her blog at: <http://fromcariboutoreindeer.blogspot.com/>



## Conferences



### IPY 2012 Conference: From Knowledge to Action

The IPY 2012 Conference will be held in Montreal on April 22-27. Occurring at a pivotal time for the environment of our planet, the International Polar Year (IPY) 2012 Conference draws international attention to the Polar Regions, global change, and related environmental, social and economic issues. *From Knowledge to Action* will bring together over 2,000 Arctic

broad range of interested parties from academia, industry, non-government, education and circumpolar communities including indigenous peoples. The IPY 2012 Conference will contribute to the translation of new polar scientific findings into an evidence-based agenda for action that will influence global decisions, policies and outcomes over the coming years. For more information see: <http://www.ipy2012montreal.ca/index.php>

Arctic and Antarctic researchers, policy and decision-makers, and a broad range of interested parties from academia, industry, non-government, education and circumpolar communities including indigenous peoples will be in attendance. The IPY 2012 Conference will contribute to the translation of new polar scientific findings into an evidence-based agenda for action that will influence global decisions, policies and outcomes over the coming years. For more information see: <http://www.ipy2012montreal.ca/index.php>

## **2012 ACUNS' Student Conference on Northern Studies**

The Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies (ACUNS) Student Conference on Northern Studies is a triennial event largely organized by a committee of graduate students. The conference provides a unique opportunity for young researchers to meet and exchange ideas with others who share similar academic interests. Through the organizing experience students also have an opportunity to develop professional experience, forge links with government and community stakeholders, and make national and international connections.

This is the 10<sup>th</sup> tri-annual student conference. It will take place in Val D'Or, QC and is hosted by [Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue \(UQAT\)](http://www.uqat.ca) from November 1-3, 2012. UQAT is a truly northern university, as shown by its numerous research and teaching activities rooted in the territories of Abitibi-Témiscamingue, Nord-du-Québec and Nunavik. UQAT's professors and students enjoy an international recognition for their work on forest ecosystems, the mining industry, community development, Aboriginal Studies, multimedia creation, international health, teaching and organizational management. For more information see: <http://acuns.ca/website/conferences/>.

## **Research Opportunities & Resources**

The latest newsletter of the **International Centre for Northern Governance and Development** (University of Saskatchewan) is available at: [http://artsandscience.usask.ca/icngd/ICNGD\\_Newsletter2-1\\_Jan2012.pdf](http://artsandscience.usask.ca/icngd/ICNGD_Newsletter2-1_Jan2012.pdf)

**Permafrost Environmental Consulting** has released a twelve-volume environmental library titled "Hydrocarbon Contaminants in Freezing Ground and Permafrost Terrain" This library is now equipped with a licensed database which students, professors and researchers working on northern projects can use for spill site containment and remediation up of hydrocarbon and chemical spills in soils and permafrost affected sediments. For more information about these resources and other permafrost and infrastructure books and databases, see [www.permafrost.ca](http://www.permafrost.ca).

**The University of Tromsø Library** is launching a new service January 26, 2012. The service gives everybody free access to research documents within the thematic scope of the high north. This will be a very useful service for anyone interested in the high north, be it journalists, decision makers in business and public administration, politicians, NGOs, students and researchers, and anyone else with an interest in the high north, says academic librarian Leif Longva at the University of Tromsø. For more information, see: <http://highnorth.uit.no>