



NRESi WEEKLY NEWS

August 18 - 22, 2014

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

NRESi NOTES

FROM THE DIRECTOR & RESEARCH MANAGER

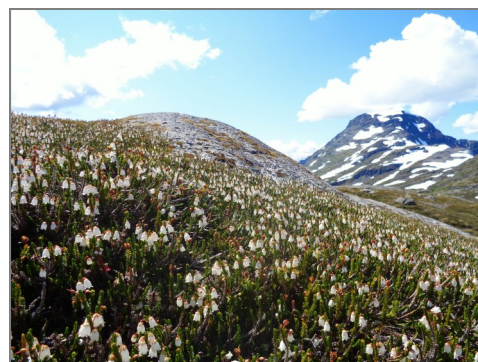
Hello everyone,

We are in a very exciting time, not only for NRESi, but also UNBC! Keep reading for all the details.

Today I would like to **announce that NRESi's new Director, as of September 1st, will be Darwyn Coxson!** Please join me in welcoming him to the role! Darwyn has demonstrated leadership experience, is bringing some ideas to continue moving us forward, and has the opportunity to further engage in relevant work with our members, partners, and the community. At this time, we would like to extend our thanks to Bill McGill, for leading the Institute as Director and acknowledge his work on our behalf. We also appreciate the efforts of the Search Committee over the past few months. Thanks go out to: Art Fredeen (Chair), Kyle Aben, Alex Koiter (NRES Graduate Student rep), Loraine Lavallee, Kathy Lewis (Program rep), Brian Menounos, and Phil Mullins.

On Tuesday, September 2nd, UNBC will be kicking off its 25th anniversary year!

A community event will be held at the UNBC PG campus from 1pm-3pm and we invite you to join us. NRESi will be participating in the event through it's leadership in the ceremonial tree planting, that will be taking place in the Ceremonial Circle (inside the bus loop). In



All photos in this week's newsletter were taken on July 22 and 23, 2014 by Dezene Huber, while he and Aynsley Thielman (NRESi BMAP postdoc) were doing helicopter-assisted reconnaissance and invertebrate sampling on Nimbus Mountain, about 25 miles SE of Terrace, BC.

Above: Heather patch on Nimbus Mountain
Photo: D. Huber



addition, all participants will receive a tree seedling to be part of NRESi's 16,000 tree initiative recognizing the university's original petition signers. After the official opening, there will be an opportunity for attendees to take in some tours of various areas on campus. At this time, NRESi with other UNBC volunteers, will be leading an event where participants may plant their seedling in the Forests for the World. We hope many of you will join us as we kick-off the anniversary!

Spires in region around Nimbus Mountain, BC
Photo: D. Huber

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

For the anniversary event on September 2nd, I am looking for volunteers to help with the seedlings and the planting event. We are looking for assistance on the below tasks, as well as preparing the seedlings (workbee September 1st from 1pm-4pm). Please let me know if you're able to help out!

- Setting up NRESi's event table with seedlings at the ceremonial loop (am), being at the table to direct people (1pm-3pm), and taking it down after the event (after 3pm)
- Distribute trees to kickoff attendees through the crowd (1pm-2pm)
- People to lead the group to the planting site (at 2pm and 2:30pm)
- Be tree planting mentors and provide support to the community for planting itself at the site (2pm-3pm)
- Taking planting equipment to (am) and from (after 3pm) site

This is final a reminder to NRESi members that **today (August 22nd) is the last day to nominate your fellow members and/or community colleagues or organizations for one of NRESi's three awards.** More information can be found on our [website](#).

Thanks this week go out to Dezene Huber for some great photos from his research around the Nimbus Mountain!

Have a great weekend!

Leanne Elliott
NRESi Research Manager

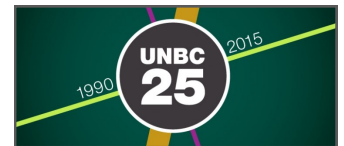
Flowers on Nimbus Mountain, BC
Photo: D. Huber



UPCOMING NRESi EVENTS

UNBC 25th ANNIVERSARY KICK-OFF

[NRESi Ceremonial Tree Planting & Seedling Planting Event](#)



NRESi will be planting a ceremonial tree on the Prince George campus during UNBC's 25th Anniversary Kick-Off. This will be a public event in conjunction with other opening ceremony activities and Orientation Day. All are welcome! This tree will be a lasting legacy of this important milestone, as well as be a symbol of the other 16,000 trees NRESi will be planting in the spring of 2015. All attendees of the event will receive a seedling of their own, to be part of the initiative to honour and recognize UNBC's past, as well as ongoing, community support!

In addition, NRESi is co-organizing a tree planting event with the Anniversary Committee. Anyone wishing to plant their seedling in UNBC's Forests for the World is welcome to participate. This will take place following the kick-off event.

Schedule and Locations of Public Events & Activities:

1. Ceremonial Tree Planting: **1pm-1:30pm** at the Ceremonial Loop (bus loop)
2. Networking & Mingling: **1:30pm-2pm** at the Ceremonial Loop (bus loop)
3. Seedling Planting: **2pm-3pm**, meet at NRESi's table by Ceremonial Loop (bus loop)

SEPTEMBER 2nd, 2014

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

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

THESIS DEFENCE NOTICE

GRADUATE THESIS DEFENCE

Ms. Anke Krey is a candidate for the degree:

Doctor of Philosophy in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies

Ms. Krey will be defending her thesis entitled:

“Mercury in the Brain of Polar Bears (*Ursus maritimus*) and Ringed Seals (*Pusa hispida*)”

Co-Supervisors: **Dr. Laurie Chan and Dr. Andrea Gorrell**

Date: **August 25, 2014** Time: 9:00am Room: 5-140D (PG Campus)

THESIS DEFENCE NOTICE

GRADUATE THESIS DEFENCE

Mr. Gopal Saha is a candidate for the degree:

Doctor of Philosophy in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies

Mr. Saha will be defending his thesis entitled:

“Investigation of Groundwater - Surface Water Interaction in the Riparian Zone Under the Effects of Climate and Land Use Changes”

Co-Supervisors: **Dr. Jianbing Li and Dr. Ron Thring**

Date: **August 27, 2014** Time: 9:00am Room: 6-205/211 (PG Campus)

RESEARCH & ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITY

The City of Prince George contains a hidden gem, Parkridge Creek, which provides an opportunity for biologists, hydrologists, urban planners and environmentalists alike. Parkridge Creek is a unique, seven kilometre long urban fish-bearing Creek and wildlife corridor that drains into the Fraser River, near Malaspina Ridge sub-division in College Heights. The headwaters of Parkridge Creek are south of Shane Lake and southwest of UNBC at Vanway. Close to UNBC, much of the Creek is easily accessible by bus or vehicle.

This creek is home to salmon and trout, bears, ungulates, owls, small fur-bearers, and a plethora of flora and fauna dependent on a healthy creek-side environment. Archeological studies have revealed evidence of aboriginal habitation for millennium along the banks of the Creek.

The biological and physical components, as well as the community/social aspects of Parkridge Creek are substantial. Yet, Parkridge Creek's riparian area and the watershed from which it draws are under new and increasing threats. Development north of Parkridge Creek began in the 1970's. Today, the degradation of the Creek and riparian areas

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

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

RESEARCH & ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITY (continued)

continues. New development is increasing at a pace faster than can be effectively monitored by the Municipality. Some areas around the Creek have been designated parklands, but financial commitments to the maintenance and preservation of these essential areas has been minimal.

This beautiful Creek presents a tremendous, accessible opportunity for students of natural resources, wildlife and urban planning alike. Potential funding exists for habitat preservation and enhancement studies.

For more information about the history of Parkridge Creek and possible sources for potential funding contact:
Ron Manning - ronjmanning@gmail.com or Jan Manning - jandmanning@gmail.com [Website under construction.]

REGIONAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITY



FISH AND WILDLIFE
COMPENSATION PROGRAM

APPLY FOR FUNDING FROM THE FISH & WILDLIFE COMPENSATION PROGRAM

The Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program – Peace will accept funding applications this fall for fish and wildlife projects to be delivered in the region in 2015.

- A completed Notice of Intent form must be submitted by October 10, 2014. This will help make sure your project idea aligns with our Action Plans and enables early engagement of First Nations.
- Funding Applications must be submitted by November 21, 2014. Application forms, and the Notice of Intent form, will be online by Sept. 1, 2014.
- Read our Action Plans for lakes, reservoirs, streams, uplands, riparian areas/wetlands and species of interest. Learn more at www.fwcp.ca.

If you have project ideas or questions, please contact Dan Bouillon, Program Manager at dan.bouillon@bchydro.com or 250 783 7509.

The Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program is a partnership between BC Hydro, the Province of B.C., First Nations, and the public, to conserve and enhance fish and wildlife impacted by the construction of BC Hydro dams.

4275

In partnership with:

BC Hydro
FOR GENERATIONS



Canada

Fisheries and Oceans
Canada

Ministry of Oceans
Canada

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

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

TRAVEL & CONFERENCES

Nicole Sukdeo (Research Associate, BMAP project) recently presented a poster at the IUMS (International Union of Microbiological Societies) Congress held in Montreal, July 27-August 1, entitled "Shifts in microbial community composition and function accompanying the perturbation of soil structure in a microcosm system", co-authored with Ewing Teen, Michael Rutherford, Hugues Massicotte and Keith Egger.

Also from Montreal, but earlier in June (June 15-18), Hugues Massicotte, Linda Tackaberry and M.Sc. Student Kirsten Kilde attended the 50th Canadian Botanical Association meeting, held at the superb Botanical Garden. Kirsten presented a talk on "Interior Douglas-fir ectomycorrhizal fungi populations in extreme bedrock-derived soils of central BC" co-authored by Hugues Massicotte and Paul Sanborn. We mentioned in a previous newsletter that Dr. Jane Young was also recognized for her years of service for the Association, by receiving the Mary Elliott Award at that meeting.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Phil Owens, Ellen Petticrew, and other UNBC staff continue to be in the news regarding their efforts and insights as a result of the Mount Polley tailings pond breach. The coverage ranges from topics on ongoing water testing, effects on salmon, and the actions of First Nations as a result of the risk. Connect to the media here:

- [250 News](#)
- [CKPG TV](#) (video)
- [Undercurrent News](#)
- [Huffington Post](#)

Kyle Aben and Peter Jackson discuss carbon as it relates to forestry: [CKPG TV](#) (video)

PUBLICATIONS

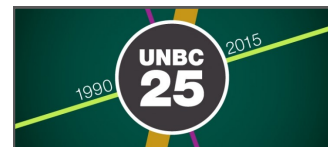
Hanlon, N, Skinner, MW, Joseph, AE, Ryser, L, **Halseth, G**. 2014. Place integration through efforts to support healthy aging in resource frontier communities: the role of voluntary sector leadership. *Health & Place* 29: 132-139.

Pitkänen, K, Adamiak, C, **Halseth, G**. 2014. Leisure activities and rural community change: valuation and use of rural space among permanent residents and second home owners. *Sociologia Ruralis* 54 (2): 143-166.

UPCOMING NRESi EVENTS

[NRESi Anniversary Panel Discussion](#)

UNBC 25th ANNIVERSARY



NRESi will take an opportunity during one of its weekly colloquium sessions to conduct a special 25th anniversary panel discussion. This event will allow time for reflection from faculty, staff and students on the history and successes of NRESi, as well as create a dialogue regarding opportunities for the future.

SEPTEMBER 19th, 2014

3:30pm - 4:30pm
Location: UNBC PG Weldwood Theatre
& Livestream

RECEPTION to FOLLOW

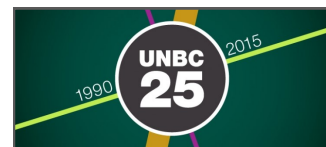
REMINDER: Share your information about recent publications, grants, and/or other honours you may have received with others interested in future NRESi newsletter issues.

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

UPCOMING NRESi EVENTS

UNBC 25th ANNIVERSARY

NRESi's Legacy Planting Project



In honour of the 16,000 UNBC petition signers in northern British Columbia communities and beyond who showed their support of establishing UNBC, NRESi will be planting 16,000 trees to recognize their contributions. The trees will also be registered as a carbon capture and offset initiative, anticipated to sequester up to 7,000 tonnes of carbon over the next 100 years. In addition, NRESi is working with UNBC campuses and properties to plant ceremonial trees. This will also provide a lasting legacy of this important milestone and a reminder of the communities' role in making the vision of a northern university in BC a reality.

SPRING 2015

Location: Across UNBC Campuses & Properties

SHARE YOUR PHOTOS & STORIES

Do you have a favourite photo, story or update from your research that you would like to share with your fellow members and the broader NRESi community in the newsletter? Send them to Leanne to include in an upcoming edition!

PEACE FISH & WILDLIFE COMPENSATION PROGRAM

NRESi is working with the Program Manager and other representatives involved with the Peace Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program, to explore opportunities that we can submit as an Institute in their next call this fall. We hope to have an information session for members and partners in June to learn more about what could be possible and begin discussions on project ideas. Watch for more details in the coming weeks. To learn more about the program, visit: http://www.bchydro.com/about/sustainability/environmental_responsibility/compensation_programs.html Have ideas coming to mind already? Please contact Leanne!

COLLOQUIUM ARCHIVE

Did you miss a colloquium or special lecture? Visit NRESi's webcast archive to catch up! This can be found through the following link: <http://www.unbc.ca/nres-institute/colloquium-series/archived-colloquium-series>

ARCHIVE OF PAST EVENTS

Information, links, proceedings, and other information from past NRESi hosted and co-led events can be found at: <http://www.unbc.ca/nres-institute/special-events>. This site currently includes information about the Forest Tenure events (Annual Lecture and workshop) and a link to the Cumulative Effects Workshop site.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Get the latest info from NRESi and updates on its members through our new Twitter [account](#). Watch for our Facebook page to be released soon!

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

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