



NRES WEEKLY NEWS

July 2009

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

CONGRATULATIONS

THESIS DEFENCES

Congratulations to Irene McKechnie on the successful defence of her MSc NRES (Biology) thesis "Propagation Methods and the Effectiveness of Fungal Inoculation on *Vaccinium* Species Native to Central British Columbia" (supervisor: **Dr. Hugues Massicotte**).

Congratulations to Caroline von Schilling on the successful defence of her MSc NRES (Geography) thesis: "Entropy Debt: A Link to Sustainability?" (supervisor: **Dr. Darwyn Coxson**).

AWARDS

Christine Creyke (MA NRES - Geography, supervisor: **Greg Halseth**) of the Tahltan First Nation was awarded a Northern Resident Award for Graduate Studies (\$10,000) through the Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies (ACUNS). The award supports Christine's graduate thesis research: *The Tahltan First Nation and our Consultation Process with Mining Industry; How a Land Use Plan can Improve Community Based Consultation*.

NRES grad student Lesley Dampier, co-supervised by **Paul Sanborn** and John Clague (SFU; ESM adjunct), won first prize in the student poster competition at the recent Canadian Quaternary Association meetings at Simon Fraser University. Lesley also won a travel award from the Canadian Society of Soil Science to assist her with attending the next CSSS annual meeting in Guelph, Ontario, in August.

Courtney LeBourdais (MA NRES - Geography, supervisor: **Catherine Nolin**) was awarded a SSHRC Master's Graduate Scholarship. Courtney's project *Marriage Migration in Northern British Columbia: Place and Identity among Foreign Brides* will explore the settlement and integration experiences of women who have immigrated to communities in northern British Columbia for the purpose of marriage through international correspondence agencies.

Lorraine Naziel (MA IDIS, supervisor: **Catherine Nolin**) of the Wet'suwet'en First Nation was awarded a Minerva Education Award and invited to give a keynote address at the Minerva Foundation of BC Conference "Learning to Lead: Combining our Strengths" at St. John's College, UNBC, June 12-14. The vision of this Leadership Development Program is to empower Aboriginal women, to create space for them to connect — with other women leaders and with themselves — and to enable them to gain deeper knowledge of their own values and passions.

PUBLICATIONS

Bois, C., Janzen, D.T., **Sanborn, P.T., Fredeen, A.L.** (2009) "Contrasting total carbon stocks between ecological site series in a subboreal spruce research forest in central British Columbia." *Canadian Journal of Forest Research*, 39(5) May: 897-907

de Leeuw, S. (2009) " 'If anything is to be done with the Indian, we must catch him very young': Colonial constructions of aboriginal children and the geographies of Indian residential schooling in British Columbia, Canada". *Children's Geographies*, 7(2) May: 123-140

Fondahl, G., Wright, P., Yim, D., Sherry, E., Leon, B., Bulmer, W., **Grainger, S., Young, J.** (2009) *Co-Managing Research: Building and Sustaining a First Nation-University Partnership*. Prince George, BC: Community Development Institute, pp 96.

TRAVEL

Oscar Garcia attended the 2009 Western Mensurationists' Meeting in Vancouver, Washington, 21-23 June.

Sybille Haeussler attended the North American Forest Ecology Workshop (NAFEW) in Logan, Utah, 23-25 June where she presented "Ecosystem dynamics in a nonlinear world".

Hugues Massicotte and Linda Tackaberry (Research Associate) were in Wolfville, Nova Scotia for the Canadian Botanical Association meeting (May 18-21) where they presented:

Massicotte, H.B., Tackaberry, L.E., **Green, D.S.** "A cure for the blues: soil properties may impact mycorrhiza formation, early growth and relocation success of whitebark pine".

Paul Sanborn and **Hugues Massicotte**, assisted by Linda Tackaberry and Ekaterina Daviel, had a successful trip to Nainokoon Provincial Park (Graham Island, Haida Gwaii). They examined soil formation and plant communities on a 6500-year sequence of coastal beach ridges, in collaboration with UVic geomorphologist Ian Walker. This remarkable area has great potential for follow-up studies on forest ecology, soil ecology, and wetland soil genesis.

Paul Sanborn and summer research assistant Ekaterina Daviel will be doing field work in central and southern Yukon from June 25th until approximately July 15th. They will examine ancient soils in the Klondike goldfields near Dawson City, soils on lava flows (<10,000 to >1 million years old) near Ft. Selkirk, and aeolian deposits at Kluane Lake.

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

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

PLEASE EMAIL ALL INFORMATION AND MATERIAL TO MICHELLE KEEN: keenm@unbc.ca