



NRESi Bi-WEEKLY NEWS

November 16 - November 27, 2015

**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

I am slowly getting settled in to my position as NRESi research manager and would like to thank everyone for your warm welcome as well as for all of your help and advice in getting me up to speed in my new role. There are many exciting projects and activities currently underway with many more planned and I am looking forward to helping with them in any way that I can. For the NRESi newsletter the current plan is to send them out every two weeks during the school year instead of weekly as in the past. So you can expect to see the next newsletter in your inbox on Friday, December 4th. Please remember to send me any information that you would like included in the newsletter by the Tuesday of the same week - so for the next newsletter by Tuesday, December 1st.

Al Wiensczyk, RPF
Research Manager, NRESi

FALL COLLOQUIUM SCHEDULE

The NRESi's 2015 fall colloquium series is soon coming to an end! Here's who we have slotted in for the remainder of the semester. Please note that presenters may change. Watch for announcements closer to the lectures confirming the presenter and topic. Lectures for the fall semester will be held in 8-166 with the exception of the final colloquium this semester which will be held in room 7-212, and in the winter in 7-212 (to be confirmed in January).

Presentation Date	Tentative Presenter and/or Topic
Nov 20, 2015	Joint Presentation as part of Inspiring Women Among Us Events (Nov 13-25, 2015) Patrick Earley, Community Advocate for the Wikimedia Foundation; Wikipedia Editor "How do you solve a problem like Marie Curie? Wikipedia's efforts to ensure balanced representation in science content and contributors."
Nov 27, 2015	Mark Groulx, Lecturer at UNBC, Environmental Planning. "For the love of place: Exploring opportunities for place-based climate change adaptation in Churchill, Manitoba."
Dec 4, 2015	Special NRESi Film screening of "This Changes Everything" (2015) Followed by a post-film panel discussion with NRESi members Dr. Art Fredeen, Dr. Greg Halseth and a grad student. If possible, please bring a non-perishable item for the NUGGS Food Shelf. *Room 7-212 - Unfortunately Livestreaming of this colloquium is not possible.

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: al.wiensczyk@unbc.ca

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

NRESi COLLOQUIUM

Patrick Early

Community Advocate for the Wikimedia Foundation, Wikipedia Editor

[How do you solve a problem like Marie Curie?](#)

[Wikipedia's efforts to ensure balanced representation in science content and contributors](#)



In January 2016, the publicly edited, freely available online encyclopedia Wikipedia turns fifteen years old. A lot has changed in that time; what started as a hodgepodge of often-dubious user-submitted facts has evolved into a referenced and generally reliable reference work used by billions of people across the world. But Wikipedia still faces formidable problems. Primary among these is the lack of diversity in the demographics of its contributors, or “Wikipedians”. Numbers vary, but participation remains largely male, white, and based in wealthy Western nations. This disparity leads to bias and “content gaps”, where topics that don’t appeal to the dominant group are often either non-existent or underdeveloped. However, unlike bias in other, traditional forms of media, this problem can be directly addressed by the public. Through social and participatory editing events, known as “editathons”, content gaps can be filled, and a broader range of voices brought into knowledge creation. This presentation will explore some of the challenges represented by Wikipedia and the Wikimedia projects, and look at some of the solutions being crafted by Wikipedians, institutions, scholars, cultural professionals, and the general public. It will complement UNBC’s very first editathon, which takes place Saturday, Nov. 21, 10 am to 3 pm in Room 5-234 of the Geoffrey R. Weller Library.

Friday, Nov 20th, 2015

3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Room: 8-166

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

NRESi COLLOQUIUM

Dr. Mark Groulx

Assistant Professor, School of Environmental Planning, UNBC

[For the love of place: Exploring opportunities for place-based climate change adaptation in Churchill, Manitoba](#)



The need for proactive climate change adaptation is broadly recognized. Local governments are already working to identify probable impacts, assess key vulnerabilities, and define opportunities for resilience building. At the same time, current adaptation approaches do not generally recognize the importance of intangible community dimensions like risk perceptions or local values. This is an issue because these dimensions can simultaneously contribute to community vulnerability and help identify a culturally appropriate adaptive pathway. Using Churchill, Manitoba as a case study, this presentation will explore the efficacy of an emerging place-based adaptation model that can address deficiencies in current adaptation processes. Paradoxically, the global climate change agenda and its influence on the Polar Bear Capital of the World (i.e., Churchill, Manitoba) have contributed to a sense of disempowerment that is suppressing opportunities for local climate action. One way for adaptation planning to overcome such barriers may be to recognize that citizens’ experiences with local climate change are intertwined with their social connections to the landscape and their sense of place identity.

Friday, Nov 27th, 2015

3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Room: 8-166

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UPCOMING EVENTS (CON'T)

NRESi COLLOQUIUM

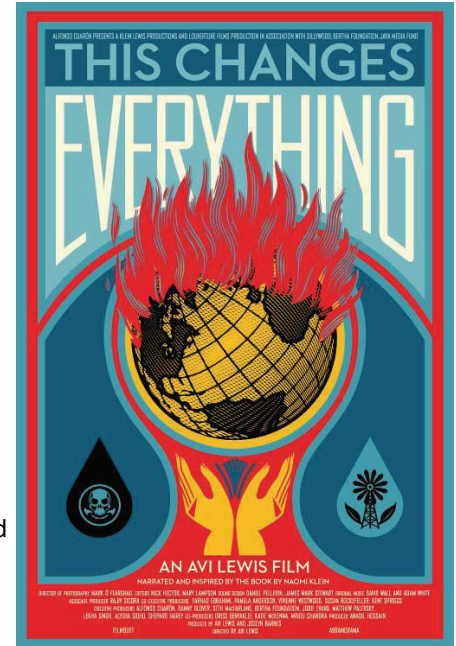
Special NRESi Film Screening of [“This Changes Everything” \(2015\)](#)

The final NRESi colloquium session of the semester will be a screening of “This Changes Everything”. Directed by Avi Lewis, and inspired by Naomi Klein’s international non-fiction bestseller, This Changes Everything was filmed in nine countries and five continents over four years. This documentary is an epic attempt to re-imagine the challenge of climate change. We encourage you to join us (and bring a friend!) and help create positive change.

Following the film, there will be a panel discussion with NRESi members **Dr. Art Fredeen**, **Dr. Greg Halseth** and a **grad student (TBA)**.

Please note that an earlier FREE screening is planned for Wednesday, November 25th in Rm. 7-212 at 7pm (doors open at 6:30). Co-hosted by Geography, First Nations Studies, UNBC’s Green Centre, Prince George Public Interest Group (PGPIRG), and Development and Peace.

If possible, please bring a non-perishable item for the NUGGS Food Shelf.



Friday, Dec 4th, 2015

3:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Room: 7- 212

Unfortunately LiveStreaming of this event is not permitted. Our apologies to our colloquium participants from afar.

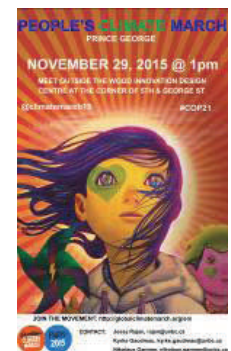
UPCOMING EVENTS

Garden Design - Saturday, Nov 28th 2:00 pm - Room 7-212 UNBC, Prince George.

The David Douglas Botanical Garden Society Weed Free Lecture series is presenting this lecture by **Egan Davis**, UBC Botanical Garden. Mr. Davis is an award winning gardener with a lifelong passion for horticulture. His diverse background includes garden design, landscape construction, botanical garden operations and greenhouse and nursery production. He managed collections at VanDusen Botanical Garden and was the foreman at Park & Tilford Gardens. Through his outreach activities such as television, radio, print and lectures at conferences and garden clubs, Egan has been a strong advocate for the horticulture industry. By serving on the board of directors of HortEd BC, Egan has been involved with developing industry standards and policies. He has been a leader in the industry for many years by participating in senior roles at BC Landscape and Nursery Association events. Egan has taught horticulture in botanical garden, college and university settings and he brings the same passion and infectious enthusiasm for gardening to his teaching. When Egan is not teaching or working in the garden, he loves to explore the natural world by hiking and traveling to exotic ecological destinations.

Global Climate March - Sunday, Nov 29, 2015 1:00 pm - Wood Innovation and Design Centre, Prince George.

A public march is being organized by Jessy Rajan, Kyrke Geaudreau and Nikolaus Gantner to raise awareness about Climate Change and the COP21 meeting in Paris. The march will start at the Wood Innovation and Design Centre in downtown Prince George at 1 pm.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Western Division of Canadian Association of Geographers Conference—March 11-12, 2016—UNBC Prince George

The Geography Program at UNBC is pleased to announce that the 58th Annual Meeting of the Western Division of the Canadian Association of Geographers (WD-CAG) will be held **March 11-12, 2016** at UNBC's Prince George Campus. In the coming weeks, organizers will send out a call for abstracts, and provide information on conference registration, accommodations, field trips and the banquet. This is a warm, welcoming and affordable conference for NRES graduate students! <http://www.unbc.ca/geography/unbcgeography-hosting-wdcag-2016>

PUBLICATIONS

Leggat, M., Owens, P.N., Stott, T.A., Forrester, B., Déry S.J., Menounos, B. (2015). Hydroclimatic drivers and sources of suspended sediment flux in the proglacial zone of the retreating Castle Creek glacier, Caribou Mountains, British Columbia, Canada. *Earth Surface Processes and Landforms*, 40, 1542-1559.

Koiter, A.J., Owens, P.N., Petticrew, E.L. and Lobb, D.A. (2015). The role of gravel channel beds on the particle size and organic matter selectivity of transported fine-grained sediments: implications for sediment fingerprinting and biogeochemical flux studies. *Journal of Soils and Sediments*, 15, 2174-2188.

Dr. Phil Burton defends the value of a Ph.D. in the sciences in a letter to the editor of *University Affairs*, which is highlighted on page 4 of the latest issue: <http://www.universityaffairs-digital.com/universityaffairs/201512?pg=6#pg6>

TRAVEL & CONFERENCES

Catherine Nolin & MA NRES graduate JP Laplante attended the CICADA conference in rural Quebec (Centre for Indigenous Conservation and Development Alternatives: <http://cicada.world>) on October 22-27, 2015. The conference brought CICADA's Canadian-based researchers and their Indigenous community research partners into conversation about completed research projects and intense workshops to develop mutually-beneficial research and action.

At the joint annual meeting of the Entomological Society of Canada and Entomological Society of Quebec held Nov 8-11, 2015, in Montreal, Staffan Lindgren finished his tenure as President of the ESC. He will now serve as Chair of the Scholarship Trust Fund until the next AGM, which will be held in association with the International Congress of Entomology in Orlando, Florida, next September. Other UNBC attendees at the Montreal JAM were Dezene Huber, Lisa Poirier, and graduate students Ian Higgins and Rylee Isitt. Ian Higgins presented on "Carabid biodiversity in disturbed and undisturbed Interior Cedar Hemlock habitats of British Columbia", Rylee Isitt presented on the "Geographical variation in the aggregation pheromone blend of spruce beetle, *Dendroctonus rufipennis*", and Dezene Huber presented a poster on the Caddisflies of the Crooked River, British Columbia. UNBC Alumni in attendance included Dr. Rob Higgins and former post-doctoral fellow Marla Schwarzfeld, who now works at the Canadian National Collection in Ottawa.

Sina Abadzadesahraei, Stephen Dery and John Rex. (24 November 2015). Impacts of Climate Change and Natural Gas Operations on the Hydrology of Northeastern BC, Canada: Quantifying the Water Budget for Coles Lake. 17th International Conference on Water Resources and Wetlands, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Siraj ul Islam and Stephen Dery. (30 October 2015). Future climate change impacts on snow and water resources of the Fraser River Basin, British Columbia. CanSISE West Workshop, Victoria, Canada

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TRAVEL AND CONFERENCES (con't)

Michael Allchin and Stephen Dery. (30 October 2015). Biome-Level Analysis of Trends in Northern Hemisphere Snowcover Duration and Extent, 1971-2013. CanSISE West Workshop, Victoria, Canada

Stephen Dery. (23 October 2015). Cariboo Mountains, BC and related studies. INARCH Inaugural Workshop, Kananaskis, Canada

D. H. Kang, H. Gao, X. Shi, S. ul Islam, W. Younas and S. Dery. (24 October 2015). Mountain snow and hydrological change modelling. INARCH Inaugural Workshop, Kananaskis, Canada

Drs. Phil Owens and Ellen Petticrew gave an invited presentation on the aquatic impacts of the Mt Polley disaster at the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC (APEG-BC) annual conference in Kelowna in October.

Gail Fondahl presented the invited paper "The BAM (Baikal-Amur Mainline Railroad): Historic Dimensions" at a workshop for the research project, *Configurations of Remoteness (CoRe): Entanglements of Humans and Transportation Infrastructure*, held at the University of Vienna, on 9 November, 2015.

Dr Fondahl also presented a keynote lecture entitled, "The Russian North—A Nadir of Circumpolar Indigenous Self-determination? Twenty-first Century Developments" at a workshop on the Sovereignty and the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as part of a conference on "Security and Governance in the Globalized Arctic: Nordic to International Perspectives" held November 13, 2015 in Aarhus, Denmark.

Dr Phil Burton gave an invited presentations on Massive forest pest outbreaks in western North America: some cautionary lessons," at ENERWOODS workshops on forest management for bioenergy, sponsored by the Nordic Energy Ministers, 25 and 27 August, 2015, Nødebo, Denmark, and Stockholm, Sweden.

Nikolaus Gantner attended the ELOKA 'Sharing Knowledge' workshop in Boulder Colorado in late September. His report to APECS is below: <http://www.apecs.is/news/apecs-news/1220-apecs-participates-in-eloka-sharing-knowledge-workshop-in-boulder-co-usa.html>

IN THE NEWS

Glacier Change

WATCH: Dr. Brian Menounos on Global News talking about his research on BC glacier change.

<http://globalnews.ca/video/2303377/bc-glaciers-melting-at-alarming-rate/> and <http://www.cbc.ca/player/play/2677503613>

Jessy Rajan, Todd French, and Nikolaus Gantner organized a screening of the "Silence of the Labs" at UNBC in conjunction with [Evidence for Democracy](#) in mid-October. Media coverage included

- <https://www.ckpg.com/2015/10/13/unbc-hosts-silence-of-the-labs-screening/>
- <http://www.princegeorgecitizen.com/news/local-news/screening-shows-the-silencing-of-scientists-1.2083763>
- <http://www.250news.com/2015/10/10/should-public-have-access-to-government-scientific-findings/>



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

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

As the Chair of the APECS Canada-ASA Mentor Awards committee, Nikolaus Gantner will be presenting the 2015 APECS Canada-ASA Mentor Award to this year's recipient at the NCE ArcticNet meeting in Vancouver in early December (award to be announced at the meeting's banquet). More on the award: <http://www.apecs.is/get-involved/national-committees/apecs-canada/apecs-canada-asa-mentor-award.html>

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The Sturgeon Conservation Centre is still looking for volunteers at the hatchery in Vanderhoof. They will be marking and tagging juvenile sturgeon on Wednesday to Friday (excluding holidays) for approximately 3 more weeks. Their marking and tagging day typically starts at 10:00 am and they wrap up for the day by 3:30 pm. They are looking for two to three volunteers each day.



If you would like to volunteer one or more days of your time to contribute to this very worthwhile initiative please contact Wayne Salewski at Salewski@telus.net or Mike Manky at Mike.Manky@gofishbc.com.

Please feel free to share this announcement with anyone who you think might be interested.

For more information on the recovery initiative visit <http://www.nechakowhitesturgeon.org/>

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.

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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