

# NRESi WEEKLY NEWS

## December 8 - 12, 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,

It's hard to believe it's the holidays! This year has flown by. As the last newsletter of 2014, I wanted to take a moment to wish you all the very best of the season, filled with as much laughter and happiness as possible, with memories to last a lifetime!

Happy New Year and we look forward to connecting with you in 2015!

Leanne Elliott  
NRESi Research Manager

It's a double rainbow! Taken at the UNBC Prince George campus on Tuesday afternoon.

Photo credit: Jennifer Greene, UNBC Residence Life Coordinator



A beautiful photo of the sky over the UNBC Prince George campus on Tuesday afternoon.

Photo credit: UNBC Communications



**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](mailto:leanne.elliott@unbc.ca)**

**We're on the web at : [www.unbc.ca/nres-institute/newsletter](http://www.unbc.ca/nres-institute/newsletter)**

## OTHER UNBC EVENTS

TERRACE LECTURE  
SERIES  
4837 Keith Avenue,  
Terrace, BC  
12:00pm - 1:00pm

### Local and Global Insights into the Future of Northern Mixedwood Forest Ecosystems

Dr. Ché Elkin

FRBC-Slocan Mixedwood Ecology and Management Chair, UNBC Associate Professor,  
Ecosystem Science and Management

December 18, 2014

This presentation will also be available to remote participants by following on [Livestream](#).

Abstract: Northern mixedwood forests provide a range of ecosystem services, including timber production, carbon storage, the maintenance of biodiversity and recreational opportunities. Regional climate drivers, along with forest disturbances and forest management practices, are some of the main factors which influence how these ecological systems will change through time. Using local and global examples, I will overview how interactions between these factors are projected to influence the future ecological and economic resilience of mixedwood systems, and highlight some of the challenges that we face with regard to future mixedwood forest management.

## THESIS DEFENSE NOTICE

### GRADUATE THESIS DEFENCE

Ms. Bann Zahir is a candidate for the degree:

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

Ms. Zahir will be defending her thesis entitled:

**“Water Conservation: An Adaptation of the Cascade Analysis for Complex Urban Facilities ”**

Supervisor: **Dr. Ron Thring**

Date: **December 15, 2014** Time: 9:00am Room: 6-205/211 (PG Campus)

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## THESIS DEFENSE NOTICE

### GRADUATE THESIS DEFENCE

Ms. Alexandria McEwan is a candidate for the degree:

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

Ms. McEwan will be defending her thesis entitled:

**“The Habitat Ecology of the Post-Metamorphic Coastal Tailed Frog (*Ascaphus truei*)”**

Supervisor: **Dr. Chris Johnson**

Date: **December 16, 2014** Time: 9:00am Room: Senate Chambers (PG Campus)

## THESIS DEFENSE NOTICE

### GRADUATE THESIS DEFENCE

Mr. Christopher Konchalski is a candidate for the degree:

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

Mr. Konchalski will be defending his thesis entitled:

**“Sensitivity of Western Redcedar to Climate and Western Hemlock Looper in British Columbia’s Inland Temperate Rainforest”**

Supervisor: **Dr. Kathy Lewis**

Date: **December 19, 2014** Time: 9:00am Room: Senate Chambers (PG Campus)

## THESIS DEFENSE NOTICE

### GRADUATE THESIS DEFENCE

Ms. Jocelyn Joe-Strack is a candidate for the degree:

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

Ms. Joe-Strack will be defending her thesis entitled:

**“Mercury, Sulfur-Reducing Bacteria and Organic Matter in the Subarctic Lake Sediments of Kusawa Lake, Yukon ”**

Supervisor: **Dr. Ellen Petticrew**

Date: **December 19, 2014** Time: 10:30am Room: 6-205/211 (PG Campus)

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## TRAVEL & CONFERENCES

Gail Fondahl recently traveled to Brest, France, for a meeting of the Scientific Council of the French Polar Institute Paul-Emile Victor ([www.institut-polaire.fr](http://www.institut-polaire.fr)), to which she was recently appointed.

## IN THE NEWS

The news is from NRESi's social media connections to UNBC and others. See the original posts and hear the latest first by [following us!](#)

Stephen Déry was in the news talking about the warm weather we've been recently having and Kathy Lewis was also interviewed, talking about the Oval. Check it out [here](#).

UNBC's President Daniel Weeks and VP Research Ranjana Bird were interviewed this week, talking about the new federal research funding program announced on December 4th. Watch it [here](#). More information about the Canada First Research Excellence Fund can be found [here](#), as well as the [press release](#) that has links to additional information.

The Fall 2014 version of UNBC's Update magazine has been released, including highlights from the 25th Anniversary Kick-Off on September 2nd (including some pics from NRESi's tree planting events) and how NRESi members Phil Owens and Ellen Petticrew continue to work in the aftermath of the Mount Polley tailings pond breach. Read it [here](#).


Ever wonder what the UNBC Prince George campus looks like from above? Check out this wintery, nighttime aerial drone video by UNBC Continuing Studies Coordinator Rob Bryce [here](#).

UNBC announced it has started to receive nominations for the position of Chancellor. Read the press release [here](#).

## INFO FOR STUDENTS

Below is some information about support to UNBC students. Professors, please pass this information onto your students, so they are aware of the services available and how they can access them. ASC's website: <http://www.unbc.ca/academic-success-centre>



### Academic Success Centre



10-2584  
2<sup>nd</sup> floor Teaching & Learning Building  
960-6367 / [asc@unbc.ca](mailto: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](http://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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## SUSAN STEVENSON SCHOLARSHIP FUND

As its first project of this kind, the Natural Resources and Environmental Studies Institute (NRESi) is building a fund to support a scholarship 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. The Institute invites you to join it in supporting the Susan Stevenson Scholarship Fund:

1. Visit UNBC Development Office's website: [www.unbc.ca/giving](http://www.unbc.ca/giving)
2. Click on the grey **Make a Gift** button
3. Enter the information requested
4. When you reach the question of **Please direct my donation to:** select **Other**
5. **Important** - In the **Comments** area, add that you would like your gift to be contributed to the **Susan Stevenson Scholarship Fund**

## 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!

## 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.

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