



NRESi WEEKLY NEWS

August 5 –8, 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,

As many of you have heard, UNBC has recently announced its new President. NRESi joins the UNBC community in welcoming Dr. Daniel Weeks, who is coming to us from the University of Lethbridge. Dr. Weeks will be officially starting in his new role September 1st, with the transition beginning over the coming month. The press release can be found [here](#) and video [here](#). NRESi looks forward to meeting Dr. Weeks and working with him on your behalf during his term!

Allan Costello has been busy organizing our colloquium presentation schedule for the fall and winter semesters. There are three spots open in the fall (October 3, 10, 24), as well as a number available in the winter term. We encourage you to share your work to the group and if you have suggestions of visiting scholars or colleagues who also have interesting activities underway, we welcome your ideas. Contact Allan at: Allan.Costello@unbc.ca

We have reopened the call for nominations for NRESi's awards, to be presented at our Special Anniversary Panel Colloquium event on September 19th. NRESi members are invited to nominate other members for the **Lifetime Achievement** (career recognition) and the **Distinguished Scholar** (short-term achievements over the past 12 months). A third external recognition has been developed, the **Community Advancement** award, for individuals or organizations in our community committed to goals similar to NRESi. Nominations are a short letter describing how the individual or organization has achieved the outlined criteria. The descriptions may be found on our [website](#). Please send me your nominations by **August 22nd**.

Thanks to Roger Wheate for this week's great photo!

Leanne Elliott
NRESi Research Manager

"The dual advantage of doing mountain research in Norway: high elevation roads with easy access to trails and glaciers, and a bevy of female followers ..." Vikafjell, Sognefjord, June 2014.
Some results of glacier mapping in western Canada and Norway will be included in the colloquium series this fall.

Photo: R. Wheate



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

TRAVEL & CONFERENCES



UNBC Geography + Rights Action Field School went to Guatemala, May 2014. Catherine Nolin (back row, centre) along with ten undergraduate & two graduate students are shown at La Puya where they met with community members to understand resistance to mining expansion and calls for consultation. The field school blog is at: <http://blogs.unbc.ca/nolin/> and the Facebook page is: <https://www.facebook.com/UNBCGuate2014>.



UNBC Geography + Rights Action Field School went to Guatemala, May 2014. Catherine Nolin (back row, centre) along with ten undergraduate & two graduate students are shown at ASCRA - Pacux Sustainable Agriculture and Cultural Restoration Center – an initiative developed by NRES Geography alum Nathan Einbinder (The Rio Negro Project) and community leader Crisobal Osorio Sanchez. ASCRA's objective is to improve the lives of at-risk Maya-Achi youth, ages 13-17, by teaching them about sustainable growing techniques and small business management, along with supporting the on-going process of cultural and community restoration. See: <http://rionegroproject.blogspot.ca/>

Phil Owens and Ellen Petticrew attended the International Symposium on the Interactions between Sediments and Water at Rhodes University in Grahamstown, South Africa, in July. They gave oral presentations on the following:

- 1) Petticrew EL, Reiffarth D, Owens PN and Lobb DA. Time, space and variability - the factors affecting the use of fatty acids as a tracer.
- 2) Owens PN and Rutherford M. Storage of contaminants in the bed sediments of urban rivers: implications for aquatic ecosystems

This conference represents the 14th in a series that started nearly 40 years ago in Amsterdam based on an idea initiated in Winnipeg. The next one will be in Italy in 2017.

MEMBERS ANNOUCEMENTS & UPDATES

Tracy Summerville has recently joined the governing council for the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) for a three-year term. Read more [here](#).

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MEMBERS ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES (continued)

Greg Halseth and the Community Development Institute will be hosting the Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation National Conference in Prince George from September 25th to 28th. To read the article and find a link to the conference's website, click [here](#).

Staffan Lindgren has updated the UNBC Reef Tank blog and continues to maintain the tanks around the UNBC Prince George campus. To learn in the latest post about how sea slugs steal defenses from their prey, click [here](#).

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Phil Owens has been involved in investigating the damage as a result of the Mount Polley tailings pond breach. He has been interviewed in two recent articles ([Global News](#) and [Prince George Citizen](#)), as well as in a video where he, **Ellen Petticrew**, Sam Albers (Quesnel River Research Centre), and graduate students describe the monitoring underway to understand the extend of impact from the disaster (click [here](#) to watch the video).

Ellen Petticrew was one of the experts interviewed discussing the risk to salmon as a result of the Mount Polley tailings pond breach. Read the article [here](#).

Recent NRESi and NRES headlines from UNBC's newsroom archive:

- 1) **Serena Black**, an NRES graduate student, is exploring agricultural potential in the north. See the article [here](#).
- 2) **Ken Otter** talks about the effects of wind turbines on birds in UNBC's newsroom (click [here](#)).

PUBLICATIONS

Johnson, CJ, Russel, DE. 2014. Long-term distribution responses of a migratory caribou herd to human disturbance. *Biological Conservation* 177:52-63.

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!

UPCOMING NRESi EVENTS

NRESi Ceremonial Tree Planting

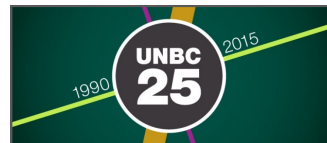
NRESi will be planting a ceremonial tree on the UNBC Prince George campus during a special event to kick off UNBC's 25th anniversary year. This will be in conjunction with other opening ceremony activities and Orientation Day. It will be a lasting legacy of this important milestone, as well as be a symbol of the other 16,000 trees to be planted in spring 2015 across UNBC campuses and properties.

SEPTEMBER 2nd, 2014

12:45pm - 1:15 pm

Location: To be confirmed

UNBC 25th ANNIVERSARY



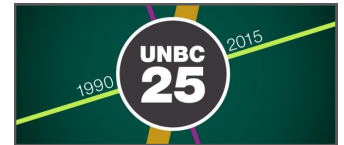
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UPCOMING NRESi EVENTS

UNBC 25th ANNIVERSARY

NRESi Anniversary Panel Discussion



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

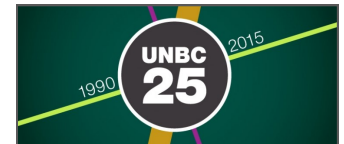
3:30pm - 4:30pm

Location: To be confirmed

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 be split between the UNBC Prince George Greenway trail and the John Prince Research Forest. 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

UPCOMING UNBC EVENT

Knowledge Exchange and Exploration: A Gathering for Aboriginal and Academic Communities

UNBC, in partnership with the College of New Caledonia, the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation, Carrier Sekaniribal Council, and the Prince George Native Friendship Centre, is pleased to be co-hosting this gathering and offer conference participants the opportunity to network, engage, and hear about some of the exciting initiatives happening in communities throughout northern British Columbia and beyond.

This conference brings together representatives of Aboriginal Nations and organizations and academics from British Columbia and elsewhere to discuss and develop best practices for education and research involving Aboriginal communities and organizations. The primary focus is relationship building and developing best practices when working with communities.

Aboriginal communities face increasing requests from academic researchers to do research in their communities and on their lands. Enhancing understanding about appropriate research conduct is critical to respectful and mutually productive research relationships.

More information can be found at: <http://www.unbc.ca/knowledge-exchange-and-exploration-gathering>

OCTOBER 16-18, 2014

Location: UNBC Prince George campus

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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.

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