

ICNGD News

April-May 2012



During the IPY Conference, the ICNGD and North-Eastern Federal University (NEFU) entered into a MOU around Northern health cooperation. ICNGD and NEFU representatives pictured below.

Early Career Polar researchers attending the International Polar Year (IPY) Conference – Montreal, April 22-27, 2012



Inside this issue...

-  Greenhouses to play a role in Northern food security
-  Report on ICNGD Provincial North conference
-  International Polar Year 2012 Conference highlights

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International Centre for Northern Governance and Development



Message from the Director

The past two months have been busy ones at the ICNGD on a few different fronts. As we approached the application deadline for the Fall 2012 intake of our Master of Northern Governance and Development program, our Grad Committee has been in full swing reviewing applications. With only 12 spots available and a much greater number of qualified candidates, this was no easy task. One thing is clear: the MNGD program is attracting talented and ambitious Northerners who are blowing us away with their abilities and vision.

Our Centre's research and MNGD program arms were in full swing these past few months as well, with the final arrangements for a national conference on Northern provincial affairs hosted by the ICNGD at the U of S. We were thrilled that *Moving the North South* succeeded in attracting many of the country's foremost experts in this important and all too often overlooked area of public policy. I am really looking forward to seeing where these conversations and outcomes will take us in the months and years ahead!



Lastly, the International Centre for Northern Governance and Development is thrilled to recognize their first graduate of the Master of Northern Governance and Development (MNGD) program. Mark Korthuis, who was one of five students in the program's pilot year (2010), completed his course requirements in time for a June 2012 convocation. Congratulations Mark!

~ Greg Poelzer

*Bringing the North to the university and
the university to the North*

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Research News

Northern Greenhouses

Under the leadership of Centre Member, Karen Tanino, the ICNGD is undertaking community-applied research in the area of Northern food security. The research will examine the utility of using greenhouses to support a healthy and cost-effective food supply in Northern remote communities.

Tanino, who is a professor of Plant Sciences in the College of Agriculture and Bioresources at the University of Saskatchewan,

is also the University of the Arctic Lead on Food Security. This field of research is widely considered ground-breaking and a number of other Northern regions from around the globe will be paying close attention to the progress.

On July 18, 2012, as part of the U of S "Adapting Crops to Change" conference, the ICNGD will host a mini symposium on the topic of northern greenhouses which will serve as an introduction to the topic. Email heather.exner@usask.ca to register.

This event will be followed by a Northern Greenhouse Workshop in Saskatoon Nov. 7-8. To register, visit www.picatic.com and browse events by keyword 'Greenhouse'.



Dr. Karen Tanino

Program News

Moving the North South Conference

The ICNGD hosted over a dozen of the country's leading experts in the Provincial Norths at a conference held at the U of S on May 22-23. Participants included researchers from Lakehead, Laurentian, Laval, UNBC, University of Manitoba, and the Labrador Institute. The MNGD class contributed to the discussions as student rapporteurs.

Researchers shared their latest findings related to Northern Aboriginal entrepreneurship; capacity-building through education; the role of governance in economic development; and, resource usages, sustainable planning and development. *Moving the North South* brought much needed attention to the Provincial North's role in the Canadian economy.

The conference ended with a commitment to continue discussions this fall as well as work cooperatively on a publication summarizing the conference participants' research. For more info: heather.exner@usask.ca.



Université Laval's Dr. Thierry Rodon speaks on *The Political Development of Quebec's North between Public & Ethnic Government*.



Master of Northern Governance and Development students participate in the conference as student rapporteurs.

International Connections

International Polar Year (IPY) Conference

ICNGD Post-Doctoral Fellow, Gerlis Fugmann, who's conducting research on comparative economic development in the Circumpolar North, was one of the lead organizers of the International Polar Year Conference that took place in Montreal between April 22-27, 2012. Her involvement in the International Steering Committee of the conference stemmed from her position as Past President of the Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS).

Additionally, the ICNGD was represented by Centre Members Alec Aitken, Bram Noble, Lois Berry and Doug Clark, as well as Research Officer Heather Exner-Pirot and student researcher Stephen Higham—all of whom presented at the conference.

The IPY 2012 Conference attracted over 3,000 participants from around the world and was declared the largest polar conference ever. The conference's

focus was putting knowledge into action and was therefore attended by, not just scientists and researchers, but also Northerners, Aboriginal leaders, educators, industry, policy-makers, and members of the general public with an interest in Polar affairs.

The conference concluded with a commitment to maintain the momentum of the IPY to address global issues arising through the fast changes in the polar regions. A large emphasis was placed on including indigenous knowledge and perspectives in discussions.



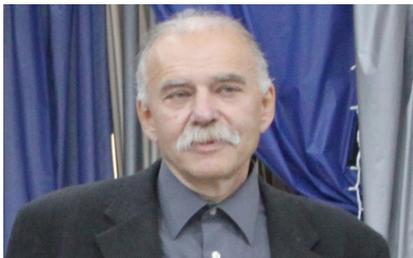
Fugmann in front of the Canadian Coast Guard icebreaker, Amundsen, during the IPY Conference in Montreal.

Community Networks

Bill McLaughlin Retires

Long-time and passionate advocate of Northern-based education, Bill McLaughlin, retired as the CEO of Northlands College in April 2012.

On behalf of the ICNGD staff and membership, all the best in your next life chapter and thank you.



Bill McLaughlin

NASA Conference a Success

The U of S Northern Administration Students Association (NASA) hosted approximately 150 secondary students from Northern Saskatchewan communities at the U of S campus May 9-11, 2012 for the *Annual Exploration Conference*.

The conference is an opportunity for Northern Saskatchewan students to explore the campus in a supportive environment with their peers. The conference is entirely student organized and delivered and is a giant success every year.

Congratulations once again NASA!

English River site opens

The U of S' new Office of First Nation & Métis Engagement at English River held its official grand opening on May 9, 2012.

The ICNGD congratulates the entire English River team and wishes them much success.



Candace Wasacase-Lafferty
Director, First Nation & Métis Engagement
English River

Spotlight on Centre Member

Dr. Lorna Butler

Lorna is a Full Professor and Dean at the University of Saskatchewan's College of Nursing. She received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Mount Saint Vincent University in Nova Scotia, Masters of Nursing from Dalhousie, and her PhD from the University of Toronto, Institute of Medical Science.

In the role of Dean, College of Nursing, the opportunity to influence change is an important one. She has spearheaded the plans for creating learning spaces for students across the province through community engagement in rural and remote areas - including Northern Saskatchewan communities - as well as through the more traditional on campus experience. The design and delivery of the program recognizes the ongoing learning needs of nurses working in a knowledge intensive health care environment and their need for life long learning. She understands that program development is broader than nursing and should aspire toward a model that is transferable within the Academic Health Sciences.

Under Lorna's guidance and leadership, the College of Nursing is expanding its connections

to Northern Saskatchewan communities where they are looking to offer alternative education delivery as well as provide added resources to support the transition of graduates into Northern employment. You can reach her at lorna.butler@usask.ca.



Student Profile



Mark Korthuis

Mark Korthuis is an enthusiastic advocate of the North's potential and ascribes to the Harvard Project's finding that strong sovereignty, institutions, culture,

and leadership are critical to both current and future social and economic development in Saskatchewan's North. He has held the positions of Program Assistant and Outreach Coordinator with the ICNGD where he helped ensure alternative education programs and models were available to Northern Saskatchewan regions.

Mark embarked on the MNGD program to build his own capacity and to better understand the complex issues, challenges, and opportunities present in Northern Saskatchewan. His area of research interest was northern governance and specifically the role that governmental entities play in good governance and sustainable development in Northern Saskatchewan.

His research internship was with Cameco where he was able to work with his academic and industry supervisors to provide four recommendations on how industry can better engage with specific governmental and non-governmental entities in Northern Saskatchewan.

After successfully completing his MNGD program requirements in January 2012, Mark is the first graduate of the MNGD's 2010 pilot cohort. He is currently employed by the Aboriginal-led, northern-focused Credenda Virtual School as a Development Officer where he uses his professional and academic experiences to engage Credenda's new and existing partners in the northern regions of Saskatchewan.

Upcoming Events

Northern Economic Summit: What Is It?

ICNGD staff and researchers will take part in the largest annual conference of Northern Saskatchewan stakeholders in November 2012.

Representatives of government, First Nations, industry, researchers, entrepreneurs, and others with a vested interest in Northern Saskatchewan will gather in La Ronge, Saskatchewan for the purposes of sharing best practices and mapping out a plan for the way forward.

National Aboriginal Day

On June 13, 1996, the Governor General of Canada proclaimed June 21st to be National Aboriginal Day, offering Aboriginal peoples an excellent opportunity to share their rich, diverse cultures with family members, neighbours, friends, and visitors (*).

The International Centre for Northern Governance and Development urges all of its friends, partners, and stakeholders to take part in the celebrations.

* SOURCE: Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada



International Centre for Northern Governance
and Development (ICNGD)



UNIVERSITY OF
SASKATCHEWAN

2012 Prairie Political Science Association Annual Conference

Transformations in Politics

The University of Saskatchewan's Political Studies Department, with support from the International Centre for Northern Governance and Development and the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy, will host this conference in Saskatoon on Sept. 21-22, 2012.

Discussions will centre around the transformations taking place in contemporary politics as a result of significant political change and the introduction of fast-paced communications.

Transformations in Politics will feature opportunities to present papers and participate in workshops, panel discussions, and professional development sessions. Researchers - including graduate students - interested in presenting, or otherwise taking part, are invited to submit a proposal by June 30, 2012. Proposals should be emailed to david.mcgrane@usask.ca.