






Karasjok, Norway
(outside The Sami Parliament of Norway)



MNGD student Marie Campeau
(outside Snow Hotel in Kirkenes)

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-  ICNGD unveils new logo; names contest winners
-  Dr. Ken Coates named Co-Director, Research

Message from the Director

I have just returned from 10 days abroad in beautiful Northern Norway where myself and my colleague Bonita Beatty led a 10-day international field school for students in the Master of Northern Governance and Development (MNGD) program. If the feedback we're hearing has one theme it's that the experience was "awesome".

In addition to their international coursework and field research, students visited the Canadian International Centre for the Arctic Region, Centre for Sami Studies, Norwegian Polar Institute, Sami Parliament of Norway, Barents Institute, and the unforgettable Snow Hotel in Kirkenes, Norway.

The opportunity to explore a northern region of the world – outside of Saskatchewan and even Canada – is an experience I know these students will never forget. There are many differences to be sure, but



what I think students found most intriguing are the similarities.

As these students approach the end of their program and prepare to enter (or in many cases re-enter) the workforce, I know they'll be able to draw on a whole new perspective that will assist them wherever they go.

~ Greg Poelzer

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

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Research News

Saskatchewan First Nations Economic Development Forum

A working committee, made up of volunteer representatives from Saskatchewan economic development agencies, put together this forum in Saskatoon on March 13 and 14.

The ICNGD, a co-sponsor, was pleased to see lots of Northern representation including individuals from Kitsaki Management, Meadow Lake Tribal Council, and northern industry.

The forum showcased examples of successful projects and assessed the need for the establishment of a First Nations association/network for economic and business development practitioners.

Master of Northern Governance and Development student Jim Searson is developing the follow-up report to the forum as part of his internship. This feedback will be available in the weeks to come.

For more info: Office of the Treaty Commissioner at (306) 244-2100.



From left: Chief Tammy Cook-Searson (LLRIB) and Chief Velma Night (Saulteaux First Nation) at the Forum.

Program News

Master's Orientation

Master of Northern Governance and Development (MNGD) students attended an official student orientation on Feb. 29, 2012.

The day long agenda included several lectures and workshops as well as an internship orientation at Cameco headquarters where students were introduced to their industry and academic supervisors.



MNGD students participate in a workshop on referencing in research papers led by writing assistant, Tanya Andrusiezco.



Students stopped at Norway's world famous Snow Hotel.

Field School

Every student in the MNGD program has the opportunity to learn in and explore a northern region outside Canada. Between March 23 and April 2, the most recent cohort of MNGD students travelled to Northern Norway where they discussed such

topics as indigenous research methodologies, traditional land uses and their development, and socio-economic variations in the Arctic.

The students will apply their learning to their applied research projects to be conducted in Northern Saskatchewan communities.

International Connections

Food Security Network

Centre Member Karen Tanino, lead of the UArctic Thematic Network on Food Security, is working with the ICNGD on food security, solar greenhouse technology, and sustainable energy sources for northern communities. The group is also partnering with the Buffalo Narrows Economic Development Corporation to examine the possibility of a biomass-heated greenhouse.

As part of her work in this area, Dr. Tanino was in Akuyeri, Iceland this winter meeting with the other UArctic Thematic Network member leads.

Thematic Network member leads in Akuyeri, Iceland.



From left: Nikolay Semenovich Diachkovskii of the North-Eastern Federal University (Yakutsk, Russia) and Heather Exner-Pirot and Greg Poelzer of the ICNGD.

ICNGD hosts Russian delegations

The ICNGD hosted a delegation from Russia's Northern Arctic Federal University (Arkhangelsk) March 4-6 and a separate delegation from the North-Eastern Federal University (Yakutsk) March 16-20.

Both visits were productive and resulted in the establishment of frameworks for future collaboration.

Outreach Activities

Representatives of the ICNGD and U of S named the winners of the ICNGD *New Logo Contest* at Churchill Community High School (La Ronge, SK) during a special midday presentation on March 28, 2012. The contest was an opportunity for secondary and post-secondary students in northern communities to create a logo that they believed captured the North's essence as well as represented the ICNGD's work.

The ICNGD new logo, unveiled at the event, has a shape that represents coniferous trees, northern lights, and the shape of Saskatchewan. The eight segments depicted are symbolic of the Arctic Eight countries, representing the ICNGD's international connectivity in working in partnership to create something whole. The idea of forward-moving education and research and development is represented through the dynamics of the visual, illustrating free-flowing thoughts, dynamic ideas, and the movement in the North towards increased capacities and a more prosperous future.



From left, front row: The winners of the ICNGD *New Logo Contest* were: Destiny Schafer (3rd place, awarded a digital camera); Tessa Shaw (1st place, awarded a personal laptop), and; Matthias Chiefcalf (2nd prize, awarded an iPod Touch). Standing in back: Visual Arts teacher Ms. Joni Stephens, who introduced the contest in her art classes at Churchill Community High School.



International Centre for Northern
Governance and Development

New ICNGD logo, unveiled in La Ronge on March 28, 2012.

Spotlight on Centre Member

Dr. Ken Coates **ICNGD Co-Director, Research**

Longtime Centre Member Ken Coates has recently landed at the University of Saskatchewan and, in addition to his role as Canada Research Chair, he has assumed the position of Co-Director, Research at the ICNGD. We are thrilled to welcome him aboard!

Ken is a well-known historian specializing in the history of the Yukon and Northern Canada in general, who has written many books both for academic and trade audiences. His career has taken him across Canada and around the world with posts at the universities of Waterloo, Victoria, Northern British Columbia, Waikato (New Zealand), and New Brunswick.

Ken will work out of the newly renovated Diefenbaker Building where he will serve as Canada Research Chair in Regional Innovation at the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy. His current priority is to coordinate an international collaborative research project on scientific and technological innovation in the Circumpolar world.

You can reach Ken at ken.coates@usask.ca.



Student Profile



Tamara Popova **MNGD student** **(international stream)**

Tamara considers herself a northern Indigenous person, with her home community of Yakutsk located in northeastern Siberia.

Her northern roots are what drew her from across the globe to enroll in the Master of Northern Governance and Development (MNGD) program.

“This master’s program is a great opportunity for any northerner to better understand our homelands and the current and future issues of the whole circumpolar world. The North matters and this program recognizes the value of Northern people—our vision and spirit.”

Being able to speak her Indigenous language, Yaukut, as well as Russian, English and some basic French also helped with her decision to live and study in Canada. She will graduate this year, and plans to remain in Saskatchewan.

“I am hoping to work for an Aboriginal organization here in Saskatchewan, because being indigenous from the Siberian part of Russia, Aboriginal issues are close to my soul, and here one can see the emergence of something new—hopes, ideas and approaches infused with Aboriginal wisdom and spiritual content.”

Tamara currently holds a Bachelor of Arts in Economics with a specialization in international finance from Northeast Federal University (Institute of Finance and Economy) in Yakutsk, Russia.

Get Involved

IPY Conference: Apr. 22-27 (Montreal)

The International Polar Year (IPY) 2012 Conference draws international attention to the Polar Regions, global change, and related environmental, social and economic issues. The conference will bring together over 2,000 researchers, policy-makers, and others with a vested interest in Arctic and Northern affairs. For more info or to register, contact the ICNGD's Gerlis Fugmann – also a member of the IPY Conference Steering Committee – at gerlis.fugmann@usask.ca or 966-4362.

NArFU Visiting Professorships

Russia's Northern Arctic Federal University (NArFU), a partner of the ICNGD and the University of Saskatchewan, has visiting professorship opportunities that are open to uSask faculty members.

If you are involved in – or embarking on – an area of research that could be enriched by this opportunity, please contact the ICNGD's Graduate and Research Officer, Heather Exner-Pirot at heather.exner@usask.ca or 966-1624.



International Centre for Northern Governance
and Development (ICNGD)



UNIVERSITY OF
SASKATCHEWAN

In NASA news...

Staff and members of the ICNGD were pleased to attend the 3rd Annual Formal and AGM held by the Northern Administration Student's Association (NASA) on March 19, 2012. In addition to celebrating the accomplishments of the year past, the NASA executive offered a preview of their Annual Exploration Conference, which will take place May 9-11, 2012. This conference is an opportunity for Northern Saskatchewan students to experience the U of S campus and determine if it's the place for them. For more info, email president@nasa-sk.ca.

Moving the North South:

Understanding the Importance of the Provincial North in the Canadian Political Economy

The ICNGD is hosting a two-day conference on Northern Saskatchewan and its place in the Canadian political economy May 22-23, 2012. This event will include sessions on innovation, entrepreneurship, community development, and the way forward. There will also be an evening reception and keynote speaker who will speak to personal experience with economic development in Northern Saskatchewan. For more info, email heather.exner@usask.ca.