

AINA NEWS

AINA Awarded \$3.4 Million for Kluane Lake Research Station

In April 2009, AINA was awarded \$3.4 million from the Government of Canada's Arctic Research Infrastructure Fund to upgrade the Kluane Lake Research Station (KLRS). The announcement, made by Chuck Strahl, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, is part of the federal government's strategy to strengthen the North by investing in research, housing, and social and economic development.

Since 1961, the station in the southwest Yukon has been heavily used by researchers from a wide variety of disciplines. "Pick your field, it's there," says Benoît Beauchamp, AINA Executive Director, citing a long list that includes geology, geography, glaciology, zoology, botany, high-altitude physiology, and anthropology.

The station provides an entry point to the Icefield Ranges of the St. Elias Mountains, and it is this unique location that appeals to such a diverse group of researchers. The base station is located at an elevation close to sea level. Yet within minutes, researchers can fly to the tops of some of the highest mountains in Canada. Between the two extremes lie dozens of unique ecosystems.

Infrastructure funds will be used to increase sleeping space; rebuild laboratories, kitchen, and dining facilities; and purchase green energy technologies. The monies will also help improve the station's communication technologies.

Inuvialuit Settlement Region Database Reaches Milestone

The Inuvialuit Settlement Region Database now describes more than 10,000 publications and research projects about the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR) in Canada's Northwest Territories and Yukon. The database is available at www.aina.ucalgary.ca/isr.

The database covers all subjects and includes the land and marine areas of the ISR. Publications of all types, especially grey literature, are included. More than 2000 database records have links to PDF files of online publications. The database's coverage of research projects is based on information from the five territorial and federal agencies that license research in the ISR.

The Inuvialuit Settlement Region Database is maintained by the Joint Secretariat - Inuvialuit Renewable Resource Committees and AINA's Arctic Science and Technology Information System (ASTIS), and it is funded by Shell Canada Limited and MGM Energy Corporation.

Book on Bernier Translated by William Barr

AINA and Baraka Books have published an English translation of a book on little-known Arctic explorer Joseph-Elzear Bernier. Written by Quebec scholar Marjolaine

Saint-Pierre, *Joseph-Elzear Bernier, Champion of Canadian Arctic Sovereignty* was translated by AINA research associate and Arctic historian William Barr.

Bernier was a Quebec-born mariner and explorer who played a critical role in staking Canada's claim to the Arctic. He explored the region extensively. On July 1, 1909, he posed with 34 men for a group photograph on Melville Island. The photo was staged in front of Parry's Rock, on which Bernier mounted a plaque that claimed "the whole Arctic archipelago" for Canada.

Although he is a somewhat forgotten hero, Bernier's actions that day laid the foundation of Canada's diplomatic and possibly legal case for Arctic sovereignty.

Proceedings of the Canadian Permafrost Conferences Now Online

The proceedings of the five Canadian Permafrost Conferences (1962–1990) are now available for searching and viewing at www.aina.ucalgary.ca/cpc.

PDF files of the proceedings can be viewed sequentially, and a database containing 187 records describing the papers and other items that appeared in the proceedings can be searched for words in titles and abstracts, broad or detailed subject and geographic categories, authors, and conference numbers.

The Geological Survey of Canada (Natural Resources Canada) provided support for digitizing the conference proceedings and funding for AINA's Arctic Science and Technology Information System (ASTIS) to index the papers and create the website. The support for this initiative provided by the Canadian National Committee for the International Permafrost Association is appreciated.

ASTIS News

The coverage of AINA's Arctic Science and Technology Information System (ASTIS) continues to improve on many fronts. The main ASTIS database now describes 68,700 publications and research projects about northern Canada and provides links to PDF files of 14,000 publications.

The Canadian IPY Publications Database, which is funded by the Government of Canada Program for International Polar Year 2007–2008 and EnCana Corporation, now describes 1400 Canadian IPY publications. The database, which is a subset of the international IPY Publications Database, lets you search for the publications of individual Canadian IPY projects.

As part of the Université du Québec à Montréal IPY project Hearing and Sharing the Voices of Nunavik, 700 articles from Makivik Magazine and other Makivik Corporation publications have been added to the Nunavik Bibliography by the McGill University Library. The Nunavik Bibliography is a joint project of Makivik Corporation, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, the Canadian Circumpolar Institute, the Centre d'études nordiques, and ASTIS. Additional partners are welcome.