

NORTHERN NEWS

Inuvialuit Settlement Region Database Now Available

There is a pressing need for information about north-west Canada's Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR). As regulatory work begins on the Mackenzie Gas Project, all levels of government, Inuvialuit organizations, and the private sector must plan for increased development and improved physical and social infrastructure in a region where traditional harvesting must be protected and where the impact of climate warming is expected to be the greatest in Canada.

The Inuvialuit Settlement Region Database, which describes more than 8400 publications and research projects about the ISR, will help to meet this need. The database was created by the Joint Secretariat Inuvialuit Renewable Resource Committees and AINA's Arctic Science and Technology Information System (ASTIS) and is funded by Shell Canada. It is available at www.aina.ucalgary.ca/isr.

The Inuvialuit Settlement Region Database covers all subjects and includes the land and marine portions of the ISR. Publications of all types, especially grey literature, are included. The database's coverage of research projects is based on information from the five territorial and federal agencies that license research in the ISR.

Coverage of publications about the ISR in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region Database is not yet comprehensive. We welcome suggestions about publications that should be added and other improvements that could be made to the database and the website.

Permafrost Glossary Now Available Online

This spring the *Multi-Language Glossary of Permafrost and Related Ground-Ice Terms* became available online. Compiled and edited by AINA Research Associate Robert O. van Everdingen, the full glossary with illustrations and multi-language terms was published in print form in 1998. The English version of the 1998 glossary without illustrations was published on the Circumpolar Active-Layer Permafrost System (CAPS) CD-ROMs, but through the efforts of Dr. van Everdingen, the full, illustrated, multi-language version of the glossary is available at <http://nsidc.org/fgdc/glossary>. The glossary includes terms in Chinese, English, French, German, Icelandic, Italian, Norwegian, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Spanish, and Swedish.

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2005 Scholarship Winners

Shawn Morrison, a doctoral candidate in the Department of Biological Sciences, University of Alberta, is the 2005 winner of the Jennifer Robinson Scholarship. Shawn's

doctoral research focuses on the foraging ecology and population dynamics of collared pikas (*Ochotona collaris*) in an alpine valley near Kluane Lake in the southwestern Yukon.

Another doctoral student in Biological Sciences at the University of Alberta, Jane Kirk, is the winner of the 2005 Lorraine Allison Scholarship. For her doctoral research, Jane is studying the cycling of mercury in the Arctic environment, particularly the role of open-water areas such as polynyas in the concentration and movement of mercury in the Arctic biosphere.

Grant-in-Aid Program Recipients for 2005

Twenty-one applications for the Grant-in-Aid Awards were submitted this year and sufficient funds were available to fund eight. The committee congratulates the following recipients of this year's competition for awards. Kyle Elliot, University of Manitoba, is studying the foraging behaviour of thick-billed murres in northern Hudson Bay; Alexia Kelley, University of Virginia, is conducting research on buried seeds and succession in Arctic frost-boil ecosystems along a high-latitude temperature gradient; Trevor Lants, University of British Columbia, is investigating climate change, disturbance, and tall shrub dynamics in the Mackenzie Delta; Amber Lincoln, Oxford University, is revisiting a historic collection to look at the shifting meaning of objects across British museums and Inupiaq communities; Shelley Marshall, Simon Fraser University, is investigating the behavioural effects of bear viewing on the time budget of grizzly bears along the Fishing Branch River, Yukon Territory; David Miller, University of Alaska Fairbanks, is developing a simple method for monitoring seasonal patterns of growth in Alaskan eelgrass; Jennifer Turner, McGill University, is researching the adaptive strategies for Inuvialuit communities that are coping with climate change in the Canadian Arctic; and Don Youngblut, Carleton University, is looking at a multi-proxy approach to study paleo-environmental variability and ecosystem response in southwest Yukon.

This concludes the program's 11th year, and we look forward to continuing this very rewarding function of the AINA. All funds awarded over these years represent annual contributions from the membership. All contributions are distributed directly to recipients; none are used for administrative purposes. The Grant-in-Aid committee members—Stephen Braund, Erich Follmann, Peter Johnson, and Matthew Sturm—all volunteer their time to participate in this valuable program.

Proposals for 2006 are due on 1 February. Please refer to the AINA website for information on applications, or contact Dr. Erich H. Follmann, Institute of Arctic Biology, P.O. Box 757000, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-7000, U.S.A. Phone: (907) 474-7338; Fax: (907) 474-6967; e-mail: ffehf@uaf.edu.