

AINA NEWS

New Award for AINA U.S. Chair Carl Benson

In early November 2012, Carl Benson, Chair of the Arctic Institute's U.S. Corporation and Professor Emeritus of Geology and Geophysics, became the first recipient of the Roger Smith Lifetime Achievement Award from the Geophysical Institute (GI) at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Created in honour of former GI director Roger Smith, the award will be given annually to a GI faculty member for outstanding service to the Institute. Congratulations, Carl!



Carl Benson (Photo by Christine Simko, Design Services, Geophysical Institute).

AINA Fellow Receives Diamond Jubilee Medal

AINA Fellow Donat Savoie was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal on February 23, 2013. Mr. Savoie has worked with the Inuit of Canada, and especially with the Inuit of Nunavik (northern Québec), for 45 years. During his 36 years with Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, he fulfilled many roles, including those of chief of the Eastern Arctic Section (Northern Research Division), director of Circumpolar and Scientific Affairs, and chief federal negotiator for the Nunavik Self-Government Project.

The Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal was created in 2011 to commemorate Queen Elizabeth's 60th

anniversary as sovereign of the British Commonwealth. Three versions of the medal were created: one in the United Kingdom, another in Canada, and a third for eight Caribbean member countries of the Commonwealth. The Canadian medal is being awarded to 60 000 citizens who have made a significant contribution to the country over the past 60 years. Congratulations, Donat!

ASTIS News

The Arctic Science and Technology Information System (ASTIS), Canada's national northern database, now contains 77 400 records describing publications and research projects about northern Canada and the circumpolar Arctic, as well as links to PDF files of more than 20 900 online publications. We could not have attained this growth without the help of our sponsors in 2012–13. We gratefully acknowledge BP, the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (CAPP), Chevron, ConocoPhillips Canada, TransCanada, and the McLean Foundation. Thank you very much for your support. ASTIS has a mandate to make information about northern Canada more accessible to all and can be accessed for free online at www.aina.ucalgary.ca/astis. Three of ASTIS's 15 subset databases have also experienced considerable growth in recent months: the Yukon Biodiversity Database, the Northern Contaminants Program (NCP) Publications Database, and the Inuvialuit Settlement Region Database.

The Yukon Biodiversity Database (www.aina.ucalgary.ca/yb) now contains 8100 records and is an invaluable source of publications and research projects about the biology of the Yukon and Beaufort Sea. Over 460 new records were added to this database in 2012–13, thanks to the generous support of the Alaska Pipeline Project and Wildlife Conservation Society Canada.

The NCP Publications Database, developed for Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, now contains 2830 records describing publications that have resulted from the Northern Contaminants Program. The database can be accessed online for free at www.aina.ucalgary.ca/ncp. The Northern Contaminants Program works to reduce (and if possible, eliminate) contaminants in traditionally harvested foods, while providing information that helps individuals and communities to make informed decisions about their food use.

Over 300 new records were added to the Inuvialuit Settlement Region Database (www.aina.ucalgary.ca/isr) in 2012–13, bringing the total number of records in this database to 12 300. The Inuvialuit Settlement Region Database describes publications and research projects about the Inuvialuit Settlement Region in Canada's Northwest Territories and Yukon. This database is maintained by both ASTIS and the Inuvialuit Joint Secretariat and was funded in 2012–13 by Chevron Canada, ConocoPhillips Canada, and MGM Energy. Both ASTIS and the Inuvialuit Joint Secretariat are grateful to the corporate sponsors of this important database.