



UN/PREDICTABLE ENVIRONMENTS

Politics, Ecology, Agency

Digital Conference | May 20-21, 2021

Program Booklet

Theme

In the past year, unstoppable wildfires, devastating floods, powerful hurricanes, and the deadly Coronavirus pandemic have resulted in widespread death, despair, and destitution. The very terrain of global environmental action has been riven by political dramas and realignments played out on the international stage. Such un/predictable environments remind us not only of the interconnectedness of human systems with more-than-human ecologies, but also how multiple crises can converge and accumulate to produce intersectional impacts.

Our capacity to respond to environmental calamities depends upon how we understand the uncertainties associated with precipitous changes, the nature of vulnerabilities, and our ethical commitments to anticipatory and ongoing care and repair of the natural world. To foster transformative debate across three continents, we have proposed a digital conference at the convergence of critical and emancipatory practices around research, scholarship, art, and activism. The conference aims to explore how we undertake to predict and avoid socio-ecological harm and disasters. How do we frame the issue of 'un/predictability' in our narratives, solutions and practices, and how un/predictable are the intended outcomes?

Keynote events and sessions will be held online, and organised according to time zones of each of the organizing partners, who are located in Vancouver, Belfast, and Allahabad.

While this conference is virtual, UBC-Vancouver is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Musqueam people. The land it is situated on has always been a place of learning for the Musqueam, who for millennia have passed on their culture, history, and traditions from one generation to the next on this site. Given that this conference is taking place in many lands and homes simultaneously, we invite conference attendees to reflect on the caretakers, educators, and stewards of the lands that they reside on.

Organizing partners



THE UNIVERSITY
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
Public Humanities

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Social Sciences and Humanities
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en
sciences humaines du Canada

Canada

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Program



🕒 Vancouver, Canada (PST)	🕒 Belfast, UK (BST)	🕒 Allahabad, India (IST)	Session Name
THURSDAY, MAY 20			
1:00 AM - 1:30 AM	9:00 AM - 9:30 AM	1:30 PM - 2:00 PM	Conference opening
1:30 AM - 2:30 AM	9:30 AM - 10:30 AM	2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Keynote 1: "Traditional Knowledge, Environment Protection and Human Rights" Professor Pooran C. Joshi, University of Delhi, India
3:00 AM - 4:10 AM	11:00 AM - 12:10 PM	3:30 PM - 4:10 PM	Paper Session 1: "State and Environmental Politics"
4:30 AM - 5:40 AM	12:30 PM - 1:40 PM	5:00 PM - 6:10 PM	Paper Session 2: "Environment and Agency"
6:00 AM - 7:10 AM	2:00 PM - 3:10 PM	6:30 PM - 7:40 PM	Paper Session 3A (parallel session): "Environment in the Anthropocene" Paper Session 3B (parallel session): "Environment and Society"
7:10 AM - 8:00 AM	3:10 PM - 4:00 PM	7:40 PM - 8:30 PM	Social hour
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	8:30 PM - 9:30 PM	Special Event: "Extractivism and 'Sacrifice Zones'" Roundtable
9:30 AM - 10:40 AM	5:30 PM - 6:40 PM	10:00 PM - 11:10 PM	Paper Session 4: "Embodied Knowledges and Multiple Cosmopolitical Approaches to Environmental Change"
11:00 AM - 11:15 AM	7:00 PM - 7:15 PM	11:30 PM - 11:45 PM	Welcome from Musqueam and a message from UBC
11:15 AM - 12:15 PM	7:15 PM - 8:15 PM	11:45 PM - 12:45 AM	Keynote 2: "Dear Forest: Writing Across Breaking-Points with More-Than-Human Worlds" Dr. Hilary Cunningham Scharper, University of Toronto, Canada
1:00 PM - 2:10 PM	9:00 PM - 10:10 PM	FRIDAY, MAY 21 1:30 AM - 2:40 AM	Paper Session 5: "Oecologies and the Environmental Humanities at UBC"
2:30 PM - 3:30 PM	10:30 PM - 11:30 PM	3:00 AM - 4:00 AM	UBC Environmental Humanities: Infrastructure & Initiatives
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM	11:30 PM - 1:00 AM	4:00 AM - 5:30 AM	UBC Environmental Humanities: Lightning Talks to Launch the new UBC Environmental Humanities Research Network

🕒 Vancouver, Canada (PST)	🕒 Belfast, UK (BST)	🕒 Allahabad, India (IST)	Session Name
THURS, MAY 20		FRIDAY, MAY 21	
6:00 PM - 7:10 PM	2:00 AM - 3:10 AM	6:30 AM - 7:40 AM	Paper Session 6: "Artistic Expression, Activism, and Technological Imaginaries"
11:30 PM - 12:40 AM	7:30 AM - 8:40 AM	12:00 PM - 1:10 PM	Paper Session 7A (parallel session): "Pandemic Environments" Paper Session 7B (parallel session): "Environmental Rights and Advocacy"
FRIDAY, MAY 21 1:00 AM - 2:00 AM	9:00 AM - 10:00 AM	1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	Keynote 3: "Compassionate Metabolism: Caring for Un/Predictable Futures" Dr. Susanne Pratt, University of Technology Sydney, Australia
2:30 AM - 3:40 AM	10:30 AM - 11:40 AM	3:00 PM - 4:10 PM	Paper Session 8A (parallel session): "Exhibiting and Performing the Environment" Paper Session 8B (parallel session): "Migration, Displacement and (Im)Mobilities"
4:00 AM - 5:10 AM	12:00 PM - 1:10 PM	4:30 PM - 5:40 PM	Paper Session 9A (parallel session): "Environmental Aesthetics" Paper Session 9B (parallel session): "Vulnerability and Sustainable Livelihoods"
5:30 AM - 6:40 AM	1:30 PM - 2:40 PM	6:00 PM - 7:10 PM	Paper Session 10A (parallel session): "Impacts of Climate Change" Paper Session 10B (parallel session): "Development and Disasters"
7:00 AM - 8:10 AM	3:00 PM - 4:10 PM	7:30 PM - 8:40 PM	Paper Session 11A (parallel session): "Socio-Ecological Environments" Paper Session 11B (parallel session): "'Cultivating' Environments"
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM	4:30 PM - 5:30 PM	9:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Social hour and awarding of the Art Prize



Keynote



Social hour



Special event

Vancouver, Canada (PST)

Belfast, UK (BST)

Allahabad, India (IST)

Session Name

FRIDAY, MAY 21

9:30 AM - 10:30 AM	5:30 PM - 6:30 PM	10:00 PM - 11:00 PM	Keynote 4: "Embracing Mutual Vulnerability in a Time of Planetary Crisis and Uncertainty" Dr. Peter F. Cannavò, Hamilton College, U.S.A.	
11:00 AM - 12:10 PM	7:00 PM - 8:10 PM	11:30 PM - 12:40 AM	Paper Session 12A (parallel session): "Shifting Agencies and Human Relationships with Fire, Water, and Ice" Session 12B (parallel session): "Roundtable on Urban Ecological Art in COVID-19"	
12:30 PM - 1:40 PM	8:30 PM - 9:40 PM	SAT., MAY 22 1:00 AM - 2:10 AM	Paper Session 13: "Managing Change Amidst Uncertain Environments"	
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	10:00 PM - 11:00 PM	2:30 AM - 3:30 AM	Film Event: "A Conversation on Language, Land, and Stories"	
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM	11:00 PM - 12:00 AM	3:30 AM - 4:30 AM	Film Event: "Seals, Ships, Oil and Water: Film as an Indigenous Intervention in Crisis"	
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM	SAT., MAY 22 12:00 AM - 2:00 AM	4:30 AM - 6:30 AM	Film Event: <i>Protect</i> , Film Screening and Conversation with the Director	

END OF CONFERENCE



Keynotes



Keynote 1

"Traditional Knowledge, Environment Protection and Human Rights"

Pooran C. Joshi, University of Delhi, India

Bio: Professor P. C. Joshi is a distinguished medical anthropologist working at the interface of culture, climate change and public health. He was a delegate to United Nations Framework Climate Change Conference in 2008 and the recipient of the Indira Priyadarshini Vriksha Mitra National Award. Professor Joshi has served in various government advisory positions in India, and is currently Acting Vice-Chancellor at the University of Delhi.

Abstract: Environment protection is largely addressed in the language of science. In the context of climate change, unpredictability of the environment and its disastrous consequences, scientific knowledge is considered as the only way to deal with this issue. This has led to scientism where-in a hegemony is created between the possessor of such knowledge and the 'others.' On the pretext of managerialism and conservation, alternative ways and knowledge of relating to the environment has been overlooked.



Keynote 2

“Dear Forest: Writing Across Breaking-Points with More-Than-Human Worlds”

Hilary Cunningham Scharper, University of Toronto, Canada

Bio: Dr. Hilary Cunningham Scharper is both a cultural anthropologist and a Canadian novelist. Her academic interests encompass multispecies ethnography, critical animal studies, sentient landscapes and land ethics. Her ethnographic practice engages with visual, sensory and arts-based methodologies. Writing as Hilary Scharper, she also publishes literary fiction. Her recent novel *Perdita* is the first of a series of “eco-gothic” stories set in the Great Lakes.

Abstract: Critically addressing issues of authorial power and the asymmetries of representation has a long tenure in anthropology. But what if that experimentation is extended to more-than-human worlds? What kinds of conversations might evolve, especially those informed by the unpredictability, urgency and escalation of anthropogenic climate chaos? With human/more-than-human relationships stretched to breaking-points, what forms of collaboration might ensue?

Dear Forest is a walk-in-a-dark-woods—both ethnographic and fictional—and explores “author-ity,” and “relational-research” in a world where the possibility of unlimited human/nonhuman “co-constitutions” can no longer be taken-for-granted.



Keynote 3

“Compassionate Metabolism: Caring for Un/Predictable Futures”

Susanne Pratt, University of Technology Sydney, Australia

Bio: Dr. Susanne Pratt lectures at the Faculty of Transdisciplinary Innovation, University of Technology Sydney. Her work focuses on art, digital storytelling, futures studies, innovative social research methods, public engagement, environmental humanities, feminist politics of care, transdisciplinary pedagogy and science & technology studies. She explores how creative practices of care can both enact and problematize engagement with environmental health concerns.

Abstract: As the aftermath of the 2019-20 fires in Australia smolder under the headlines of a global pandemic and other evolving disasters, various ecologically focused visions of the future are being imagined, predicted, exhausted and enacted. In this performative presentation, I will provide a transdisciplinary perspective, as an artist and researcher, on metabolising un/predictable futures. I offer the notion of “compassionate metabolism” as a means of exploring how activist-artists and artful-activists are shifting extractive imaginaries into more regenerative futures.



Keynote 4

“Embracing Mutual Vulnerability in a Time of Planetary Crisis and Uncertainty”

Peter F. Cannavò, Hamilton College, U.S.A.

Bio: Peter F. Cannavò is Professor of Government at Hamilton College in Clinton, New York. He is the author of *The Working Landscape: Founding, Preservation, and the Politics of Place* (The MIT Press, 2007), and co-editor, with Joseph H. Lane, Jr., of *Engaging Nature: Environmentalism and the Political Theory Canon* (The MIT Press, 2014). He is currently working on *To the Thousandth Generation: The Green Civic Republican Tradition in America*, under contract with The MIT Press.

Abstract: Climate change and global pandemics are forcing contemporary society to deal with radical uncertainty about the immediate and long-term future. Ongoing changes and crises in our social and physical environment threaten societies' capacities to organize themselves and build and maintain effective infrastructure. Such crises unfortunately create an opportunity for those with authoritarian ambitions. Alternatively, though, we may draw on our shared vulnerability in the face of crisis and uncertainty to advance a civic republican framework of mutual aid, non-domination, and democratic engagement. Such a society can be more equitable, humane, and resilient in dealing with turbulent times ahead.

Sessions

(in order of appearance)

Paper Session 1: State and Environmental Politics

Chair: **Maruška Svašek**, Queen's University Belfast, UK

Presenters:

- “Constitutional Climate Litigation in the United States” | **Valentina Dotto**, Birmingham City University, UK
- “Recurrent Floods and Un/predictable Futures: Exploring Livelihood Issues in Flood-affected areas of Eastern Uttar Pradesh” | **Prashant Khattri**, University of Allahabad, India
- “Bookending Growth: Empire, Ecocide and Ireland” | **John Barry**, Queen's University Belfast, UK

Paper Session 2: Environment and Agency

Chair: **John Barry**, Queen's University Belfast, UK

Presenters:

- “Climate Change Action and Corporate Responsibility: An Opportunity in Crisis” | **Samiksha Kanaujia** and **Vasudha Singh**, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, India
- “Understanding Un/Predictability through Urban Environmental Activism in Delhi, India” | **Fizala Tayebulla**, Centre for Urban Ecology & Sustainability, Ambedkar University Delhi, India
- “Blue Revolution and the Politics of Resource Conflict: An Anthropological Study of Risk, Uncertainty and Livelihood Security of the Artisanal Fishers in Palk Bay Strait, Tamil Nadu, India” | **Nidhi Rao**, TERI School of Advanced Studies, India

Paper Session 3A: Environment in the Anthropocene

Chair: **Niamh Small**, Queen's University Belfast, UK

Presenters:

- “Inclusive Horizon Scanning for Preventing Green Crime in Northern Ireland after Brexit” | **Juneseo Hwang**, Queen's University Belfast, UK
- “Impact of Climate Change and Human Activities on Socio-ecology of Gaddi Tribe of Western Himalayas” | **Shivanshi Nehria** and **Abhik Ghosh**, Panjab University Chandigarh, India
- “Speculative Ecologies of Marine Change and Pollution as Emergent Matters of Care” | **Sven Bergmann**, Deutsches Schiffahrtsmuseum · German Maritime Museum, Leibniz Institute for Maritime History, Germany

Paper Session 3B: Environment and Society

Chair: **Prashant Khattri**, University of Allahabad, India

Presenters:

- “Locating ‘Unpredictability’ and ‘Environmental disaster’ in the Himalayas: Anthropological Reflections on Flash Floods of 2010 in Leh Ladakh” | **Urfat Anjem Mir**, Dr Ambedkar University Delhi, and **Sonam Joldan**, Ladakh University
- “Predicting Unpredictability: Examining Climate-induced Threats to Social Cohesion and Conflict Prevention in the Sahel” | **Stephen Murray**, Queen's University Belfast, UK
- “Socio-Material Bricolage: Co-design of Institutions by Materialities and Society in Turkey” | **Adnan Mirhanoğlu**, KU Leuven, Belgium

Special Event: Extractivism and ‘Sacrifice Zones’ Roundtable

Chair: **John Barry**, Queen's University Belfast, UK

Speakers:

- **Lynda Sullivan**, Friends of the Earth Northern Ireland
- Councillor **Donal O’Cofaigh**, ‘Save Our Sperrins’ Campaign
- **V’cenza Cirefice**, researcher on anti-extractivism, National University of Ireland, Galway
- Councillor **Emmet McAleer**, ‘Save Our Sperrins’ Campaign
- **Toni Devine**, Save Inishowen from Goldmining

Paper Session 4: Embodied Knowledges and Multiple Cosmopolitical Approaches to Environmental Change

Chair: **Tracey Heatherington**, University of British Columbia, Canada

Presenters:

- “Performing foreseeable environments through ‘cabañuelas’ in the Andes” | **Jorge Legoas**, Queen’s University, Canada
- “Co-constructing More Liveable Futures: Biodiversity Conservation, Nonhuman Agency and Posthuman Cosmopolitics” | **Heather Alberro**, Nottingham Trent University, UK
- “Nature without Certainty? Considering Emergent Possibilities for Transformative Conservation” | **Jim Igoe**, University of Virginia, USA

Paper Session 5: Oecologies and the Environmental Humanities at UBC

In partnership with UBC Public Humanities Hub.

Chair: **Lane Hall**, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee, USA

Presenters:

- “An Otherwise Unremarkable Oak: Shakespeare, Ecology, and Urban Development in Early Twentieth-century Vancouver” | **Patricia Badir**, University of British Columbia, Canada
- “The Trouble with Existential Risk” | **Derek Woods**, University of British Columbia, Canada
- “It’s Raining Potatoes!” | **Vin Nardizzi**, University of British Columbia, Canada

UBC Environmental Humanities Infrastructure & Initiatives

In partnership with UBC Public Humanities Hub.

Chair: **Mary Chapman**, University of British Columbia, Canada

Speakers:

- “The UBC Sustainability Initiative: Supporting UBC faculty and students to act on the planet’s most urgent sustainability problems” | **Tara Ivanochko**, Professor of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences, and Academic Director, UBC Sustainability Initiative (USI), UBC, Canada
- “Humanities Courses in the Minor in Environment and Society” | **David Tindall**, Associate Professor of Sociology and Academic Chair of the Minor in Environment and Society, UBC, Canada
- “SEEDS Sustainability Program: Creating Applied Research & Partnerships” | **Liska Richer**, Manager, SEEDS Sustainability Program, Campus + Community Planning, and Instructor, Faculty of Land and Food Systems, UBC, Canada
- “UBC’s zeroemissionuniversity petition” | **Anna Casas**, Assistant Professor of French, Italian and Hispanic Studies, and co-drafter of UBC’s zeroemissionuniversity petition, UBC, Canada
- “Connecting and empowering university and community stakeholders to take bold climate action for a just future” | **Meghan Wise**, PhD Student and Campus Climate Initiatives Lead, Climate Hub, UBC, Canada

UBC Environmental Humanities: Lightning Talks to Launch the new UBC Environmental Humanities Research Network

In partnership with UBC Public Humanities Hub.

Event description: This event will launch a new Public Humanities Hub-sponsored Environmental Humanities Research Network at UBC. Come hear what UBC colleagues are working on and how you can join the new Environmental Humanities Research Network. Join a breakout room discussion to meet colleagues and share information about what you are working on!

Chair: **Mary Chapman**, University of British Columbia, Canada

Speakers:

- “Watersheds: Environmental histories of water and electricity” | **Matthew Evenden**, Professor of Geography and Associate Vice President (Research), UBC, Canada
- “We are an apocalyptic people: Indigenous Responses to Environmental Crises” | **Dallas Hunt**, Assistant Professor of English, UBC, Canada
- “Archives of Contamination and Survivance: Practicing History in Radiogenic Communities” | **Sarah Fox**, PhD student in History, UBC, Canada
- “Imagining the Arctic” | **Katia Bowers**, Assistant Professor in Central, Northern and Eastern European Studies, UBC, Canada
- “Narrating the energy-climate impasse through lived experiences of stories” | **Derek Gladwin**, Assistant Professor of Language and Literacy Education, UBC, Canada
- “The Climate Emergency & Legal Disruption” | **Jocelyn Stacey**, Assistant Professor, Peter A. Allard School of Law, UBC, Canada

Paper Session 6: Artistic Expression, Activism & Technological Imaginaries

Chair: **Kendra Jewell**, University of British Columbia, Canada

Presenters:

- “The Techno-Tamaladas” | **Praba Pilar**, The Hindsight Institute
- “Craft and Climate Change” | **Seema Goel**, Manitoba Craft Council, Canada
- “Sustainable Tools and Performance Activism for a Just Transition” | **Kimberly Richards**, University of Alberta, Canada
- “Rhetoric Spreading like Wildfire” | **Andreas Rutkauskas**, University of British Columbia, Canada

Paper Session 7A: Pandemic Environments

Chair: **Tom Marshall**, Queen's University Belfast, UK

Presenters:

- “Impact of COVID-19 on chronic kidney disease patients and renal transplantation” | **Rita Kumari**, Panjab University, **Anil Kishore Sinha**, Panjab University, **Ashish Sharma**, Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education & Research, **Kewal Krishan**, Panjab University, and **Ritu Nehra**, Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education & Research, Chandigarh, India
- “Bio-Power and Bio-Politics during Covid-19 Pandemic: Few Reflections from Nationwide Lockdown in India” | **Sonia Kaushal**, Dr. Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, **Sarvendra Yadav**, Dr. Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, and **Antu Saha**, independent author, Sagar, India
- “Spanish Flu and Covid-19: Anthropological Reflections on Pandemics in Rajasthan, India” | **Kalyani Sahal**, University of Delhi, India

Paper Session 7B: Environmental Rights and Advocacy

Chair: **Louise Taylor**, Queen's University Belfast, UK

Presenters:

- “‘Environmental Sociology’ in India: Politics, Research and Activism” | **Sumit Saurabh Srivastava**, University of Allahabad, India
- “Himalayan Pastoralism: Politics, Resource Rights and Access” | **Ubaid Ahmad Dar**, Indira Gandhi National Open University, India
- “Disaster Capitalism in a Neo-Liberal World: A Case Study of Environmental Advocacy in Post Pandemic South Asia” | **Kalindi Sharma**, Amity University, India

Paper Session 8A: Exhibiting and Performing the Environment

Chair: **Fiona Magowan**, Queen's University Belfast, UK

Presenters:

- “Slow Violence ≠ Catastrophism? Un/Predictability discussed through the work by Lara Almarcegui” | **Helene Romakin**, ETH Zurich, Switzerland
- “An Exhibition to Navigate an Un/predictable Environment” | **Lina Patmali** and **Bouthayna Baltaji**, National Museum of Qatar
- “Un/predictable Choices: Artistic Border Crossings at the Time of the Anthropocene” | **Maruška Svašek**, Queen's University Belfast, UK

Paper Session 8B: Migration, Displacement and (Im)Mobilities

Chair: **Evi Chatzipanagiotidou**, Queen's University Belfast, UK

Presenters:

- "Cities for Tomorrow: Urban Planning and Climate Refugees" | **Himani Rathore**, University of Delhi, India
- "Making International Climate Migration Governance Inclusive" | **Keysha Jaime**, Queen's University Belfast, UK
- "Tradition and Practice in Demise: Un/Predictable Future of the Fisherfolks in Kashmir Valley" | **Hashmat Habib**, Indira Gandhi National Open University, India

Paper Session 9A: Environmentalist Aesthetics

Chair: **Ioannis Tsioulakis**, Queen's University Belfast, UK

Presenters:

- "A BRICOLAGE OF EXPRESSIONS: An Art in Hiding and a Sustainable Aesthetic. An Ethnographic Study of the Visual and Auditory Ethno-Aesthetics of a Zeme Naga Village" | **Suramya P. Dasgupta**, University of Delhi, India
- "How Music Makes the People Come Together: Examples from Bergama, Turkey" | **Elif Akin**, Izmir University of Economics, Turkey
- "The Unpredictable 'Oikos': Agency, Memory and Migration in Contemporary Indian Poetry" | **Debashree Sinha**, Amity University, India

Paper Session 9B: Vulnerability and Sustainable Livelihoods

Chair: **Prashant Khattri**, University of Allahabad, India

Presenters:

- "Drought-induced Migration as a Sustainable Livelihood Strategy: A Case of District Shahdol, Madhya Pradesh" | **Badsha Sarkar**, TERI School of Advanced Studies, India
- "Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) – an un/predictable education in Northern Ireland?" | **Karen Kerr**, Queen's University Belfast, UK

Paper Session 10A: Impacts of Climate Change

Chair: **John Barry**, Queen's University Belfast, UK

Presenters:

- "Impact of Unpredictable Climate Conditions on the Livelihood: A Case Study" | **Jagriti Mehta** and **A.K. Sinha**, Panjab University, Chandigarh, India
- "Climate Change and Scarcity of Water: A Case Study of Leh (Ladakh, India)" | **Tashi Lundup** and **Sonam Joldan**, University of Ladakh, India
- "Unprecedented Disastrous Wetness" | **Luisa Cortesi**, Erasmus University, The Netherlands

Paper Session 10B: Development and Disasters

Chair: **Maruška Svašek**, Queen's University Belfast, UK

Presenters:

- "(Un)predictability of Environmental Disasters and the 'Predictability' of Populist Regimes: Comparing USA and India and Their Right-Wing Regimes' Responses to Natural Disasters" | **Subhadra Mitra Channa**, University of Delhi, India
- "'The consequences are obvious': Resigning to and Resisting Forest Logging in Estonia" | **Aet Annist**, Tallinn University, Estonia
- "Crossroad of Development: Climate Change, Water-Induced Disasters, and the Urgency of Foresighted Policies" | **Farhat Naz** and **George Kodimattam Joseph**, Indian Institute of Technology Jodhpur, India

Paper Session 11A: Socio-Ecological Environments

Chair: **Amanda Slevin**, Queen's University Belfast, UK

Presenters:

- "Impact of Flood on Physical Growth among the Children and Adolescent of District Rudraprayag, Uttarakhand, India" | **Anurag Chaurasia**, Dr. Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, India
- "Navigating volatility in the Mackenzie Delta, Canada" | **Franz Krause**, University of Cologne, Germany
- "Finding Peace in The Middle of Chaos" | **Louise Taylor**, Queen's University Belfast, UK

Paper Session 11B: 'Cultivating' Environments

Chair: **Toshi Pandey**, University of Allahabad, India

Presenters:

- "Shifting Cultivation and Soil Erosion in North Eastern India: A Study of Environmental Narratives and its Politics" | **Oinam Hemlata Devi**, Ambedkar University Delhi, India
- "Transition in Socio-ecology: Pastoralists and Ecosystem Services among Gaddi of Himachal Pradesh, India" | **Abhik Ghosh Simmy**, Panjab University, Chandigarh, India

Paper Session 12A: Shifting Agencies and Human Relationships with Fire, Water, and Ice

Chair: **Jonathan Eaton**, University of British Columbia, Canada

Presenters:

- "Feeling the Fireline: The Social Production of Embodied Environmental Knowledge in Wildland Firefighter Communities" | **Jordan Thomas**, Univ. of California, Santa Barbara, USA
- "Ecologies, Lost and Found, in the Ethnography of Flood Control" | **Stephanie C. Kane**, Indiana University Bloomington, USA
- "Ice as Infrastructure: Uncertainty and Unpredictability on the Northern Sea Route" | **Alla Bolotova**, Aalto University, Finland

Session 12B: "Urban Ecological Art in COVID-19" Roundtable

Chair: **David Maddox**, The Nature of Cities

Speakers:

- **Kirby Manià**, University of British Columbia, Canada
- **Dimitra Xidous**, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland
- **Dylan Brennan**, Poet, Ireland
- **Joanna Walsh**, Author, Ireland

Paper Session 13: Managing Change Amidst Uncertain Environments

Chair: **Karine Gagné**, University of Guelph, Canada

Presenters:

- "Relational Transformations: Living Political and Environmental Change in Nepal" | **Sara Shneiderman**, University of British Columbia, Canada
- "Freshwater Time Bomb" | **Kristin C. Doughty**, University of Rochester, USA
- "A Day at a Time: Converging Crises and Seismic Uncertainty in Vancouver, Canada" | **Jonathan Eaton**, University of British Columbia, Canada



Film Events

A Conversation on Language, Land, and Stories

Host: **Daniel Heath Justice**, University of British Columbia (UBC), Canada

Speakers:

- **Bernard C. Perley**, Institute for Critical Indigenous Studies, UBC
- **Larry Grant**, Musqueam Elder, and Musqueam Language Program, UBC

Event description: Our conference events held in Coast Salish Territory (Vancouver) began with an official welcome from Musqueam First Nation Elder Larry Grant, who told us a little about the Indigenous history of the unceded territories that the University of British Columbia now sits upon. In the short documentary, *Writing the Land* (Dir. Kevin Lee Burton, 2007), Elder Larry discusses the meaning and importance of the hən'qəmin'əm' language, and the vitality of Musqueam traditions and ways of knowing the landscape, in the heart of Vancouver city. Courtesy of the National Film Board of Canada, you may stream this remarkable film (7-min) anywhere, anytime. Join us today for a live conversation, hosted by Daniel Heath Justice, a member of the Cherokee Nation and Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Literature and Expressive Culture at UBC, with Larry Grant and Bernard C. Perley, who is Director of Critical Indigenous Studies at UBC, and a member of Tobique First Nation.

Seals, Ships, Oil and Water: Film as an Indigenous Intervention in Crisis

Host: **Molly Doane**, University of Illinois Chicago, USA

Speaker: **hagwil hayetsk** / **Charles R. Menzies**, University of British Columbia, Canada

Event description: Gitxaala Nation, an Indigenous community on the north west coast of North America, is a marine community. In fact one rendering of our name is people of the saltwater. The current crises of ecology and capitalism reinforce longstanding issues of economic and

social marginalization. In truth Gitxaala has experienced two centuries of crisis. The current moment is not exceptional. The arrival of k'amksiwah (settlers) ushered in an era of disease: small pox, measles, flu, that ravaged our Nation. Then followed the social crises of displacement and marginalization caused by colonialism. This was compounded by economic disruptions. In the past two decades Gitxaala has taken a more militant revanchist approach to asserting authority and jurisdiction over its own lands and water in the face of expanding energy extraction and transport (oil and gas exploration and transport). Film has formed a small part of the tactical arsenal. This presentation will screen four short films, fragments actually, that have been produced over the past two decades.

Films: *Touring Shell Corp*; *Smoking Salmon*; *Seals for Dinner*; *Naming the Harbour*

Protect, Film Screening and Conversation with the Director

Host: **Candis Callison**, University of British Columbia, Canada

Speaker: **Deidra Peaches**, Diné, Writer/Director/Cinematographer/Producer/Editor, Paper Rocket Films

Event description: Join Host Candis Callison, from the UBC School of Journalism, Writing and Media and Tahltan First Nation, with Diné Filmmaker Deidra Peaches for a debrief and Q&A session about her fabulous new documentary *Protect*, which documents 24 Indigenous community members and allies as they caravan across the US on the 2016 Protect Our Public Lands Tour. Indigenous land defenders are on the front lines of fossil fuel extraction all across our un/predictable world, and we're very excited and grateful Deidra has agreed to be in conversation with us. Don't miss it!

Speaker Bio: Deidra Peaches is a Director, Producer, Indie filmmaker, Editor, and Writer. In 2009 her documentary *Shimasani* debut at the Imaginative Film Festival in Toronto, Canada. In 2011, Peaches Produced and Co-Edited *The Rocket Boy* (2011), an official selection at the 2011 Sundance Film Festival, which led Peaches and Jake Hoyungowa (cinematographer) to co-found the independent media company Paper Rocket Productions. In 2013 Paper Rocket Productions released, *Tó éí iiná át'é* (2013), which premiered in Paris, France for the Festival Ciné Alter'Natif 2012. In 2020, Peaches documented the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic among the Dine' (Navajo) populations in the southwest.

Conference organizing team

Queen's University Belfast

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