

SPRING / SUMMER

2008

VOLUME 25 NUMBER 1

# LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY

ALUMNI MAGAZINE

Steve Colombo on  
CLIMATE CHANGE

DO SOMETHING!

THE WIFI  
ISSUE

MICHELLE & DARREN McCHRISTIE

Creators of SUPERIOR OUTDOORS

Magazine of the North Shore





Basketball Nordic Skiing Women's Volleyball XC Running Me  
Men's Hockey Track Women's Basketball Wrestling Men's Ba  
Basketball Nordic Skiing Women's Volleyball XC Running Me  
Men's Hockey Track Women's Basketball Wrestling Men's Ba  
Basketball Nordic Skiing Women's Volleyball XC Running Me



Ca  
St

Sma  
mail  
brov

The Bl

## MAKING LOCAL SPORTS HEROES

[thunderwolves.ca](http://thunderwolves.ca)

Basketball Nordic Skiing Women's Volleyball XC Running Me  
Men's Hockey Track Women's Basketball Wrestling Men's Ba  
Basketball Nordic Skiing Women's Volleyball XC Running Me  
Men's Hockey Track Women's Basketball Wrestling Men's Ba  
Basketball Nordic Skiing Women's Volleyball XC Running Me  
Men's Hockey Track Women's Basketball Wrestling Men's Ba



# CONTENTS

## FEATURES



### Superior Outdoors 10

*Magazine creators Michelle and Darren McChristie stake out their claim to cover outdoor adventure on the North Shore*  
by Janet Fuchek

### Making Climate Change Real 12

*A profile on Professor Steve Colombo, research scientist with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources*  
by Frances Harding

### Lakehead Says No to WiFi 14

*Lakehead University takes a precautionary approach to the widespread application of WiFi technology*  
by Eleanor Abaya and Fred Gilbert

## DEPARTMENTS



### Campus News 3

### Athletics 16

### Class Notes 18

### Communications 22

## GOING FOR GREEN



Approximately 700 spruce, birch, pine, larch, green ash, and apple trees were planted last year to beautify the Thunder Bay campus and to promote a sustainable community. According to Director of Physical Plant Hugh Briggs (BAdmin'06), a healthy tree stores about 13 pounds of carbon annually. Lakehead University is currently working with EarthWise Thunder Bay to develop a community environmental action plan.

**[www.earthwisethunderbay.com](http://www.earthwisethunderbay.com)**

Turn the page to read more on how Lakehead is reducing its environmental footprint.

COVER Photography by Peter Puna



## COMMITTED TO SUSTAINABILITY

► BY FRANCES HARDING

Editor

Email: [editor@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:editor@lakeheadu.ca)

We all know that universities must play a leading role in responding to the crisis of environmental pollution and the degradation of our natural resources.

What you might not know is that more than 350 presidents, rectors, and vice chancellors of universities around the world, including Lakehead University's President, have endorsed a 10-point action plan for incorporating sustainability and environmental literacy in teaching, research, operations, and outreach.

It is called the Talloires Declaration and you can read more about it online (<http://www.iisd.org/educate/declarat/talloire.htm>).

In past issues of *Lakehead University Magazine*, we have celebrated Lakehead's remarkable success in reducing greenhouse gasses and improving energy efficiency. In this issue, we highlight some of the actions our students, faculty, alumni, and staff are taking to effect change — including the Do Something awareness campaign urging high school students to do something about war, poverty, pollution, and climate change.

Our cover story celebrates two young graduates — Darren and Michelle McChristie — who are championing outdoor recreation opportunities around the North Shore with a spirited new magazine called *Superior Outdoors*. Their vision and entrepreneurial drive is an inspiration to us all.

Next we feature a more seasoned Lakehead graduate and Adjunct Professor of Forestry, Steve Colombo, who shares his wisdom on climate change.

Finally, we have a conversation with Lakehead President Fred Gilbert who discusses his views on the health risks associated with the widespread application of high-frequency wireless local area network technology, otherwise known as WiFi.

I sincerely hope you enjoy this issue of *Lakehead University Magazine* — in print and online — and that you keep us apprised of your current mailing address. And remember, if you have comments, story ideas, or news you would like to share with your classmates, please let us know. ■



LAKEHEAD  
UNIVERSITY  
ALUMNI MAGAZINE

CONTRIBUTOR  
VOLUME 25 NUMBER

Lakehead University Alumni Magazine is published twice a year by the Office of Communications which is responsible for establishing policy, editorial direction, and content. The views expressed or implied do not necessarily reflect those of Lakehead University or the Office of Communications.

Publications Mail Agreement Number 40062450

### OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

Director of Communications: Eleanor Abaya  
Editor: Frances Harding  
Webmaster: Tove Tronslien  
Advertising Sales: Cathy Ridley  
Telephone: 807-766-7159, Fax: 1-807-346-7770,  
Email: [cridley@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:cridley@lakeheadu.ca)

### Magazine Editorial Advisory Committee

Eleanor Abaya  
Elle Andra-Warner  
Frances Harding  
Gillian Siddall  
Mark Tilbury

### ADDRESS CHANGES

Office of Alumni Relations  
Lakehead University  
955 Oliver Road, Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada P7B 5A1  
Telephone: 1-800-832-8076  
Fax: 1-807-343-8999  
Email: [alumni@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:alumni@lakeheadu.ca)

### ALUMNI ASSOC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Mark Tilbury  
Vice President: Glendon Tremblay  
Board of Governor Representative: David Heroux  
Treasurer: Brian Stroud  
Past President: Vonnie Cheng  
Secretary: Diane Thompson  
Executive Director: Rob Zuback  
LUSU Representative: Richard Longtin  
Daniel Mackie  
Sean Hannaford  
Bill Keeler  
Shelley Trewin  
Joe Quaresima  
Julie Campbell  
Brian Holm  
Liana Frenette  
Rob Jamieson  
Marc Gagnon

### OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT

Vice-President: John Singer  
Director: Bonnie Moore  
Development Officer/Major Gifts: Laurie Hill  
Annual Fund Officer: Jennifer Mihalchin  
Capital Campaign Manager, Orillia: Lee Pigeau  
Manager, Alumni Relations: Rob Zuback

## Whither the Lakehead Pool?

In the Fall/Winter 2007 issue of *Lakehead University Magazine* we reported on a proposal to address the deferred maintenance costs associated with the Lakehead pool.

For an update on the latest developments visit <http://www.lakeheadu.ca/pool/> ■





## Reducing our Environmental Footprint

Lakehead University is identifying sustainable practices and other ways to lessen its environmental footprint in Orillia and Thunder Bay.

**Energy Wise:** Work continues on Phase II of a \$23.3-million campus renewal program in Thunder Bay, which has reduced Lakehead's greenhouse gas

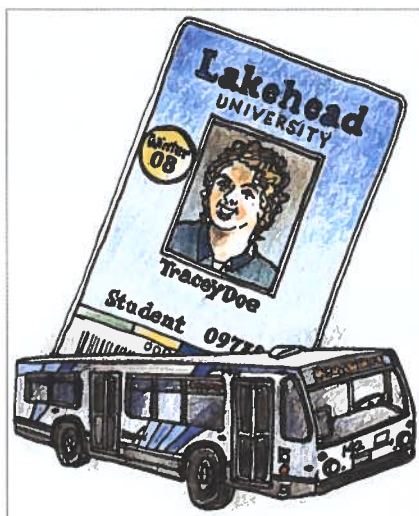


emissions by approximately 4,600 tonnes per year and reduced its use of energy per square metre by over 40% since 2004. Last October, Lakehead was presented with a cheque for \$71,783 from Union Gas in recognition of its energy conservation program, and was featured in the company's fall 2007 Energywise publication, promoting better energy management among public institutions.



**LEED Building:** Lakehead's new campus building in Orillia will be seeking LEED certification at the Platinum level. The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) ranking system was established by the U.S. Green Building Council and is rapidly becoming the industry standard to measure the degree of sustainability.

**Student Bus Pass:** Students in Thunder Bay may now pick up a U-Pass from Transit Thunder Bay, entitling them to unlimited bus travel from September through April. The cost is \$70 and is included in the student activity fee.



Since the U-Passes were first issued last fall, transit ridership by Lakehead students has increased by 46% over last year.

**Reduce, Reuse, Recycle:** Recycling programs are in place in Thunder Bay for cardboard, paper, glass, metal, batteries, fluorescent lamps, oil, grease, print cartridges, cell phones, ink-jet cartridges, and e-waste. Styrofoam products in the cafeteria have been replaced with china and biodegradable containers.

**Buy Local:** Whenever possible, Lakehead's food service provider purchases food from local companies



including Thunder Bay's George's Market, De Bruins Greenhouse, Thunder Oak Cheese Farm, and B & B Farms.

**Take a Bike:** Students who ride their bike to Campus in Thunder Bay are now able to park in the Bike Shack, a secure, non-heated facility beside the William H. Buset Music and Visual Arts Building.

**Tune In:** Read Professor Reg Horne's story "Orillia Students Do Something" in the online issue of Lakehead University Magazine to find out what his class is doing about the environment (<http://magazine.lakeheadu.ca>). ■





## A Portfolio Approach

Professor Bill Parker is speaking up about the responsibilities Professional Foresters have for conserving the forest's genetic base.

Parker is a forest geneticist who has spent much of his career modeling tree growth based on climate variables such as precipitation and temperature. By the use of common garden tests, he has been able to assist government and industry by developing a reduced number of effective breeding zones for jack pine and black spruce, thus saving millions of dollars destined to be spent on unneeded tree improvement programs.

Recently, Parker teamed up with Professor Kevin Crowe to apply a well-known economic theory of portfolio diversity to ensure that Ontario forests flourish in times of climate change.

The *Theory of Portfolio Choice* was developed by Harry Markowitz in the 1950s and earned him a Nobel Prize for Economics in 1990. It's a theory that analyzes how wealth can be optimally invested in assets which differ in regard to their expected return and risk. In short, it is a way of minimizing risk.

Applying this economic theory to their own field, Crowe and Parker have selected a portfolio of tree seed "stocks" and charted their performance from 2010 to 2060 at a particular site, under five different climate scenarios. "The challenge was to minimize the co-variance of the tree seed stocks," says Parker, "in essence, to choose seeds that performed well across a wide range of variables, particularly precipitation and temperature.

"We know from the climate change modeling being done around the world that predictions about the amount of



▶ KEVIN CROWE AND BILL PARKER

precipitation and rise of temperature depend on many different factors, such as how quickly society moves to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

"The portfolio approach to tree seed selection will help us to manage our forests in the best way possible, given these uncertainties." ■

## Eco-Literacy Adventure Camp

This summer Lakehead is again offering its Eco-Literacy Adventure Camp — a three-week summer camp for children entering Grades 4-7, combining literacy skill development with ecology, art projects, fitness, and games to provide a quality learning experience that is both fun and interesting. For more information contact the Department of Lifelong Learning at (807) 346-7872 or visit at <http://education.lakeheadu.ca/lifelong/camp> ■



Ca  
Stu

Small  
mail,  
brow

The Bla



## Underdog Strategies

### ► LAURE PAQUETTE

Political Science Professor Laure Paquette has been conducting research with an American military university to develop tools for understanding underdog strategies.



Her work with Joint Special Operations University focuses on the mistakes that terrorists and other criminals make in their strategic thinking processes. Paquette has lectured at military academies and staff colleges in Canada, China, South Korea, and Japan. She has published *Bioterrorism and Health Services Administration*, provided advice to the U.S. Air Force on its counterinsurgency doctrine, and is developing a guide to counterinsurgency training. ■

## Frame Your Success



For more information and to view frame options,  
click on the degree frame order icon at  
[www.lakeheadualumni.ca](http://www.lakeheadualumni.ca)  
or contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 800-832-8076  
email: [alumni@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:alumni@lakeheadu.ca)



## Continue your education... on-campus or online

### Register Now!

Continuing Education & Distributed Learning

Phone: 807.346.7730

E-mail: [cedl@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:cedl@lakeheadu.ca)

<http://cedl.lakeheadu.ca>

**Lakehead**  
UNIVERSITY



## Preserving the Ojibwe Language

► BY ANDREW BRYCE

Professor Stelomethet Ethel Gardner, Chair of Lakehead University's Department of Aboriginal Education, is passionate about conserving the linguistic and cultural diversity that enriches the fabric of the human race. A member of Fraser Valley, British Columbia's Stó:lō First Nation, Gardner has devoted much of her academic career to Aboriginal language revitalization in Canada. She is currently spearheading a research project – in partnership with the 28 "Treaty 3" Anishinaabe communities in Northern Ontario and Manitoba – with hopes to rejuvenate and reinvigorate their Ojibwe language.

In 2006, her first year at Lakehead, Gardner was asked to attend a meeting with members of Treaty 3's three Tribal Councils. This meeting was held at the behest of the Treaty 3 representatives, who reached out to Lakehead's Faculty of Education with hopes to gain the cooperation of the academic community and, together, take initial steps towards Ojibwe language restoration. After 30 years of language revitalization efforts, the Treaty 3 Tribal Councils had failed to produce any new Ojibwe speakers. Faced with the somber possibility of language extinction, the Councils coordinated their 28 communities, and decided to devote the next 15 years to reversing the stagnation of their language.

Gardner was pleased that the Treaty 3 Councils wanted to work with Lakehead faculty members, as universities typically do not have the best reputations in First Nations communities; Historically, she says, research done in Aboriginal communities has provided benefits for the researcher and the academic institution, rather than the community

members. At this meeting, Gardner was inspired by the Treaty 3 Councils' "astute" awareness and concern for their language, and wanted to be involved in a project that will actually benefit First Nations people.

Ethel Gardner is now leading a Research Team that includes Treaty 3 representatives, Professor John O'Meara, and three Lakehead graduate students, and they have recently been awarded a three-year, \$225,000 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) grant. During this time, Gardner hopes to create a program that will enable Treaty 3 Chiefs to have support, resources, and an ability to advocate for the revitalization of their Ojibwe language for as long as is necessary. The SSHRC grant provides an incredibly valuable opportunity to work towards the realization of the Treaty 3 Councils' ultimate goal: complete fluency in Ojibwe language for all Treaty 3 community members. And, the project is already under way.

The Treaty 3 Tribal Councils have identified individuals living in all 28 Treaty 3 communities who will act as community researchers. These individuals will receive Macintosh computers (chosen because of their video conferencing capabilities) and will be responsible for collecting raw language data from each of the communities (images, videos, audio, etc). As research assistants, the three Lakehead graduate students will also receive Macs, and they will be responsible for unpacking the data compiled by the community researchers, and writing reports. Gardner hopes this data collection will be completed before the end of 2008.



► ETHEL GARDNER

In the project's second year, Gardner and her team will come together, and, using Joshua Fishman's "eight stages of language revitalization" as a theoretical framework, make decisions based on the specific needs of the Treaty 3 communities. They will implement pilot language programs in Treaty 3 communities on an ongoing basis throughout the grant period, and the results of these programs will also influence the future direction of the Research Team. As a means to involve as many people as possible, Gardner plans to hold "language planning retreats" in each of the project's three years. The retreats will bring everyone involved in the principal research, as well as Aboriginal Elders, and expert language technicians, together for discussion. The outcome of these retreats will undoubtedly influence the development of the project. Gardner also plans to hold conferences for any interested parties (e.g., parents, teachers, and administrators from school districts in Treaty 3 communities) that will showcase the Research Team's data and future plans.

Ca  
Str

Small  
mail,  
brow:

The Blac



# ABORIGINAL INITIATIVES at Lakehead

## AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION:

- OFFICE OF ABORIGINAL INITIATIVES (AI)
- ABORIGINAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (AMC)
- DEPARTMENT OF INDIGENOUS LEARNING (IL)
- NATIVE NURSES ENTRY PROGRAM (NNEP)
- NATIVE ACCESS PROGRAM (NAP)

## EDUCATION

- DEPARTMENT OF ABORIGINAL EDUCATION  
Honours Bachelor of Education (Aboriginal Education)
- NATIVE TEACHERS EDUCATION PROGRAM (NTEP)
- NATIVE LANGUAGE INSTRUCTORS PROGRAM (NLIP)
- CANADA RESEARCH CHAIR (CRC) —  
INDIGENOUS EDUCATION

## SUPPORT SERVICES

- ABORIGINAL CULTURAL AND SUPPORT SERVICES (ACSS)
- ELDERS PROGRAM
- LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY NATIVE STUDENT ASSOCIATION (LUNSA)
- ABORIGINAL AWARENESS CENTRE (AAC)

Office of Aboriginal Initiatives  
www.aboriginalinitiatives.lakeheadu.ca  
(807) 766-7219

Office of Admissions & Recruitment  
www.mylakehead.ca  
(807) 343-8500

Lakehead University has been committed to helping Aboriginal people further their aspirations. Aboriginal programs at Lakehead University offer academic, research, cultural, and support services tailored to Aboriginal needs.

**Lakehead**  
UNIVERSITY

By the end of 2010, a comprehensive language revitalization program – that may incorporate language specific curriculum, Ojibwe radio stations, community resources, and language weeks, among other things – will be completed. Gardner hopes her program will prove to be a transferrable aid that may, ideally, benefit groups facing similar circumstances. Ethel Gardner is building a link between the academic world and Aboriginal communities, and thereby addressing historically based social inequities in this country. The program she creates will protect and revitalize the culture and language of Anishinaabe people for future generations.

*Andrew Bryce is one of several students taking part in SPARK-Lakehead, a student writing program sponsored by The Chronicle-Journal.*

# CONFERENCE SERVICES

## For all your Special Events

- Conferences • Meetings
- Workshops • Seminars • Retreats
- Celebrations

**Everything you require situated in one location:**

- Meeting Facilities • Catering
- Audio Visual • Video Conferencing
- Accommodations  
(May-August)

For more information visit our web site:

<http://confservices.lakeheadu.ca>

Tel: (807) 343-8779

email: [conference.services@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:conference.services@lakeheadu.ca)

**Lakehead**  
UNIVERSITY



In volatile markets, your investment plan needs a **solid foundation**

## Clearsight introduces Hartford DCA Advantage Program for Lakehead University alumni



Hartford Dollar Cost Averaging (DCA) Advantage Program from Hartford Investments is a unique investment solution designed to reduce market volatility risk and pay you interest on money waiting to be invested. **No other DCA program provides this advantage.**

Your house wasn't built in a day... and your portfolio shouldn't be either.

Contact us today to learn more about the Clearsight Investment Program Wellington West and Hartford DCA Advantage Program.

**Visit [clearsight.ca/lakehead](http://clearsight.ca/lakehead)  
1.877.464.6104**



**WELLINGTON WEST**  
CLEARLIGHT INVESTMENT PROGRAM

The Clearsight Investment Program is available through (1) Wellington West Capital Inc., and (2) Wellington West Financial Services Inc., a member of the Mutual Fund Dealers Association of Canada.

Paid for in part by Hartford Investments Canada Corp. and Clearsight Inc. Continuous or periodic investment plans neither assure a profit nor protect against loss in declining markets. Because dollar cost averaging involves continuous investing regardless of fluctuating price levels, you should carefully consider your financial ability to continue investing through periods of fluctuating prices. Please see the prospectus for full Dollar Cost Averaging Advantage Program details. Commissions, trailing commissions, management fees, and expenses all may be associated with mutual fund investments. Please read the prospectus before investing which is available from your investment professional or Hartford Investments Canada Corp. Mutual funds are not guaranteed; their values change frequently and past performance may not be repeated.

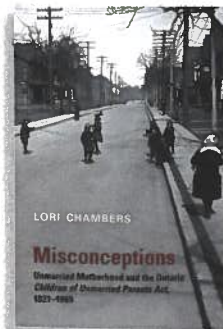
Ca  
Sti

Small  
mail,  
brow

The Bla

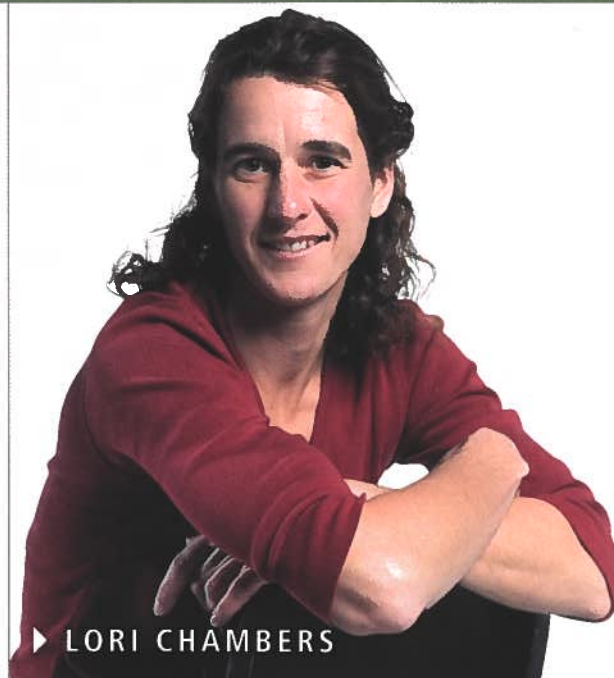


## Changing Misconceptions



A new book by Women's Studies Professor Lori Chambers sheds light on the problem of child poverty in Canada. *Misconceptions: Unmarried Motherhood and the Ontario Children of Unmarried Parents Act, 1921-1969*, is the end result of a painstaking analysis of the case files of social workers in Ontario, and it reveals that in order to improve child welfare we must also work to improve the welfare of mothers. Chambers received the Alison Prentice Award from

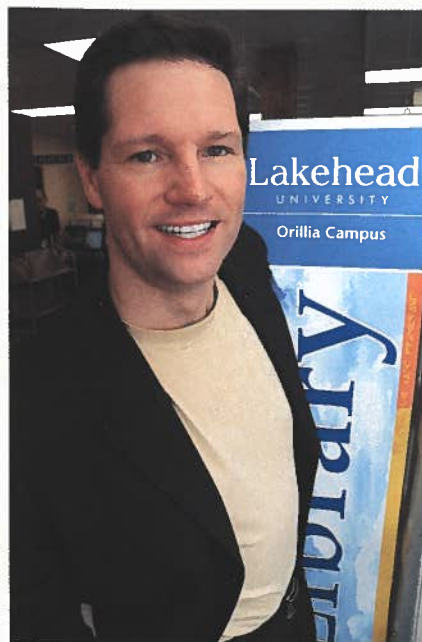
the Ontario Historical Society for her first book published in 1997, *Married Women and Property Law in Victorian Ontario*. ■



► LORI CHAMBERS

## Orillia Campus

## Lee Pigeau appointed Capital Campaign Manager



Lakehead has hired a seasoned fundraiser to manage its \$10-million capital campaign in support of creating a sustainable campus in Orillia. Lee Pigeau lives in Orillia and until very recently

was Executive Director of Soldiers' Memorial Hospital Foundation in Orillia. He began his new position, reporting to Bonnie Moore, Director of University Advancement, on November 19, 2007.

"The role of the Capital Campaign Manager is to provide expertise and support to the Director of University Advancement, the Orillia Campus Dean, and a volunteer campaign cabinet to raise the \$10 million required to help finance the construction of the permanent Orillia campus," says Moore.

"I am excited to be working for Lakehead," Pigeau says. "The expansion of the University and the presence of a permanent campus in Orillia will make such a positive impact on this community. I care about Orillia, and I am proud to have been selected to play a lead role in this project."

Born and raised in a rural area outside of North Bay, Lee Pigeau has worked as a fundraiser and a volunteer in some

of Canada's largest cities and smallest rural communities. His passion for volunteering was sparked during his grade school years, and he has worked with, and motivated and learned from hundreds of volunteers ever since. He officially launched his fundraising career at the United Way of Greater Toronto, and went on to the United Way of Edmonton as the Senior Campaign Manager, Business and Education. In addition, he has served as Campaign Director for Trent University's successful \$17-million Beyond Our Walls campaign.

Work on the development of the permanent campus in Orillia is already well under way. In January, Orillia City Council gave a gift of \$10 million to Lakehead in the form of 85 serviced acres of land on which to build the University and \$5 million in cash.

You may contact Lee Pigeau by phone: (705) 330-4018 or by email: [lpigeau@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:lpigeau@lakeheadu.ca) ■



► MICHELLE McCHRISTIE  
MSc FORESTRY'00

DARREN McCHRISTIE  
HBK'96, BEd'98



# SUPERIOR OUTDOORS

## MAGAZINE OF THE NORTH SHORE

► BY JANET FUCHEK, BA'87, BEd'88

Upon graduation, some Lakehead University graduates move away from Thunder Bay to realize their dreams. For Michelle and Darren McChristie, however, Northwestern Ontario is their greener pasture.

Through their publication *Superior Outdoors* — a magazine they launched locally in May 2007 — the Thunder Bay couple is connecting with like-minded entrepreneurs in the region who celebrate its uniqueness.

"I have met a lot of interesting people in the outdoors," Darren explains. "That spawned the idea for the magazine. I got tired of picking up magazines throughout Canada that listed the top 20 places for the outdoors in Canada, and there was no mention of this region."

Darren and Michelle felt that such a publication would fill a void, informing readers of outdoor pursuits other than the traditional fishing and hunting. *Superior Outdoors*, with its tagline "a magazine of the North Shore," covers stories and events from Duluth, Minnesota, to Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario.

Originally from Thunder Bay and a graduate of Fort William Collegiate & Vocational Institute, Michelle attended the University of Guelph for its environmental sciences program

prior to her stint at Lakehead. She met Darren, who was born in Timmins, 12 years ago before her last year in Guelph. As a youngster, he had moved with his family to London, Ontario, and had later relocated to Thunder Bay, where his father started an exploration company during the mining boom.

The McChristies are pleased with how the first two issues of *Superior Outdoors* have turned out, and are hoping to produce three issues in 2008. "The magazine is helping to put Thunder Bay on the map," Michelle figures.

Among the professionals involved are Gary and Joanie McGuffin, well known photojournalists and environmentalists with several books featuring their adventures and photographs. Local writer Michael O'Reilly has contributed his expertise to the project, and other prominent photographers whose work is included in the magazine are Gregg Johns, Tom Gvora, and Lori Fox Rossi.

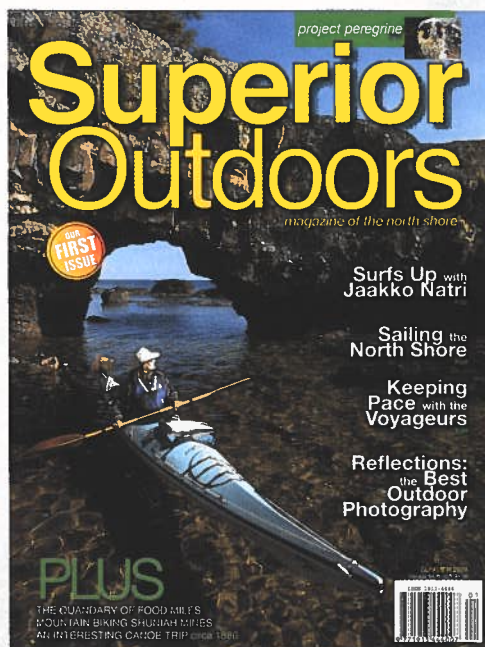
Keeping the notion of a grassroots magazine in mind, Darren has also recruited fascinating outdoors enthusiasts he has encountered. "A couple of guys skated across the bay to the Sleeping Giant," he recalls. "I asked them if they would consider writing an article, and the article they wrote was a great story." Another popular story was "Surfing Superior," written by Thunder Bay's John-Paul Marion.



Given the McChristies' busy schedule, their home makes a convenient office location for the magazine. Michelle, 33, is the Manager of Marketing and Sales for *Superior Outdoors*, while Darren, 36, is the Editor-in-Chief and attends to the graphics, layout, and production of the publication.

But this monumental task is not their only preoccupation. They also have day jobs and for Darren, another sideline – his Superior Kiteboarding business, inspired by the sport of kite boarding, which he took up seriously while living in Nunavut. "I did it with some Arctic explorers while we were living in Iqaluit for three years," he explains.

Michelle is a Senior Environmental Advisor with Indian and Northern Affairs Canada – a position she has held for the past three years, while Darren is a supply teacher. In Iqaluit, Darren taught grades 5-7, while his wife held the same type of day job as she has now. "In Nunavut, we were above the treeline and I was teased about having a Master's degree in Forestry," says Michelle.



The international company Disticor distributes *Superior Outdoors* throughout the North Shore and beyond. It is available at newsstands and bookstores, such as Lakehead University Alumni Bookstore, Chapters, Barnes & Noble, as well as at Mountain Equipment Co-op locations in Toronto, Ottawa, and Winnipeg. The McChristies also

distribute the magazine themselves to several outdoor stores in the region. Subscriptions can be purchased through the *Superior Outdoors* website ([www.superioroutdoors.ca](http://www.superioroutdoors.ca)). The cost is \$8 for a one-year subscription and \$14 for two years.

The Thunder Bay couple cannot speak highly enough about Northwestern Ontario and its attractions.

"I don't think I appreciated it when I was younger," admits Michelle. "I had to move away and come back. We never really stray too far from what our passion is, knowing what we have here is so rich and diverse and how exceptional the recreational opportunities are along the North Shore of Lake Superior and Northwestern Ontario in general."

For the McChristies, there's no place like home – a sentimental feeling that connects them and their two children, Sarah and Nathan, to other outdoor enthusiasts in the area.

With *Superior Outdoors* they hope to spread the word around. ■



*"I got tired of picking up magazines throughout Canada that listed the top 20 places for the outdoors in Canada, and there was no mention of this region."*

– Darren McChristie

▶ MICHELLE, SARAH  
AND NATHAN





# MAKING CLIMATE CHANGE REA

BY FRANCES HARDING



▶ STEVE COLOMBO, MSc FORESTRY '81

Steve Colombo knew he was on to something important when, as a graduate student, he had to stop his research every weekday because of rush hour traffic.

"I was measuring photosynthesis in tree seedlings at Lakehead during the late 1970s. In those days, the Forestry labs were located on the third floor of the Centennial Building directly above the parking lot. I was drawing outside air into a semi-closed gas analysis system — an old aquarium tank actually — and every day around 4 o'clock in the afternoon we would watch our CO<sub>2</sub> levels jump as people started their vehicles and drove away from the campus. It was amazing."

Today, Steve Colombo is a research scientist with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources' Ontario Forest Research Institute and one of the driving forces behind a website that shows through a series of maps just how different Ontario's climate

could be unless we all do our part to control greenhouse gas emissions.

The website shows possible future climates for three time periods — the early, middle, and late 21st Century — under two scenarios representing two different levels of greenhouse gas concentrations in the Earth's atmosphere.

The "A2" and "B2" scenarios of greenhouse gas concentrations are considered intermediate scenarios and have been approved by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

For example, 50 years from now, under the "A2" scenario, the average winter temperature in Thunder Bay would increase by 3 or 4 degrees Celsius. In Fort Severn, high up on the coast of Hudson's Bay, it would increase between 6 and 7 degrees Celsius and this is going to wreak havoc on many isolated communities

Ca  
Str

Small  
mail,  
brow

The Black



"Our goal was to make climate change real to people living in Ontario," says Colombo. "We wanted the website to be technically sound but not overly complex."

Sure enough, the projections are proving to be useful for people doing strategic planning, adaptive management, and resource forecasting. Since the website was launched last summer, MNR has logged an average of 185 views per month.

Born in Owen Sound, and raised in Toronto, Colombo showed no particular interest in science in high school until the early 1970s when, as he says, "the modern environmental movement was beginning." He chose to study Forestry at the University of Toronto and, after one particular third-year tree physiology course captured his imagination, he decided to become a scientist.

He enrolled first in the Master of Forestry program at Lakehead University in 1977 where he was one of four or five members of the inaugural class. After graduation, he was hired by the Ministry of Natural Resources' Research Branch and since 1985 has conducted research mainly on climate issues pertaining to forest growth. In 1996, he completed a PhD in Forestry at the University of Toronto.


These days, Steve Colombo serves as adjunct professor at Lakehead University and is based on campus at the Centre for Northern Forest Ecosystem Research (CNFER). Although he

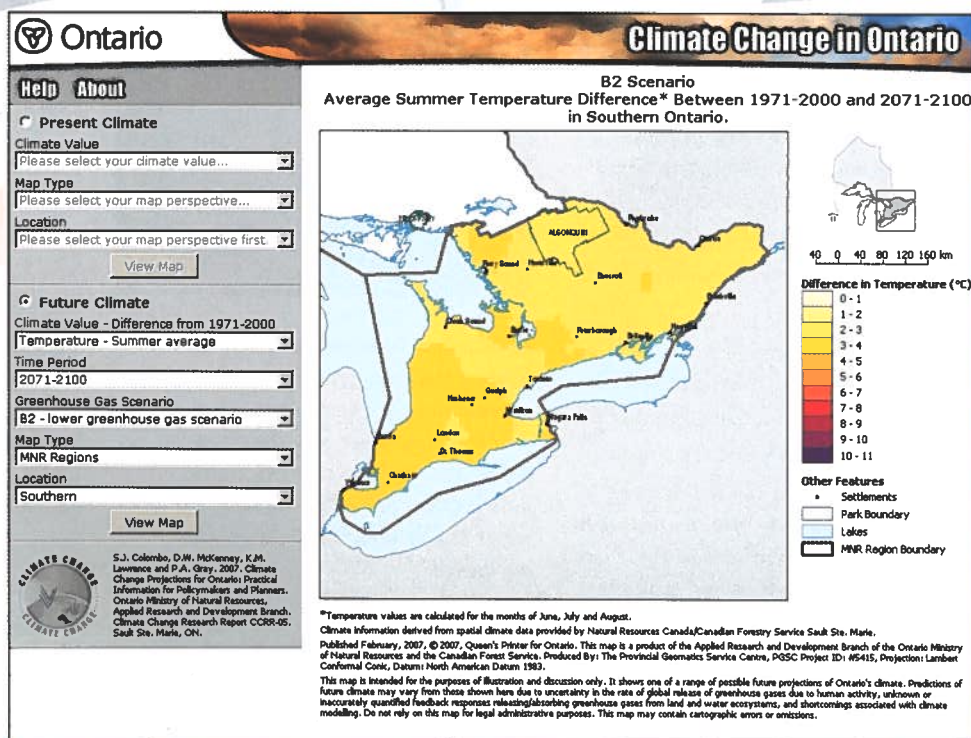
does not teach classes at Lakehead, he does serve on the graduate committees for Master's and PhD students, and has collaborated with Lakehead faculty members, Professors Qing-Lai Dang and Nancy Luckai, on a review paper on forest management effects on carbon storage.

Professor Colombo describes himself as a "humanist" when it comes to approaching the problems associated with climate change. He is optimistic about our ability to change the way we do things in light of the threats associated with rising greenhouse gas emissions. "Given our resources, we can come up with solutions; what is needed is the political will and the dedication of competent people in many different fields."

"Most of the adaptations we need to make are good for us anyway," says Colombo. "Take industry for example. Industry needs to be more energy efficient and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. When they do, they'll also be more competitive because their energy costs will go down."

Does he think the issue of climate change will stay high on the political agenda?

Yes! "Climate change is a grass roots issue that is being driven by people concerned about their future. From taking part in meetings around the province, I know that if the subject is climate change, you are guaranteed a sell-out audience." 



See how climate change will affect your community  
<http://www.gogreenontario.ca/maptool.php>



# LAKEHEAD SAYS NO TO WIFI

*Last fall, Lakehead University held a Town Hall Meeting to provide information on its policy on high-frequency wireless local area network technology commonly known as WiFi (short for "wireless fidelity").*

*Lakehead's policy states that there will be no use of WiFi in those areas of the University already served by hard wire connectivity until such time as the potential health effects have been scientifically rebutted or there are adequate protective measures that can be taken.*

*Eleanor Abaya, Lakehead's Director of Communications, met with Lakehead University President Fred Gilbert after the meeting to discuss his concerns over the effects of long-term exposure to WiFi electromagnetic fields, and his approach in limiting wireless connectivity based on the "precautionary principle."*

**Eleanor Abaya: What is your main concern about wireless networks?**

Fred Gilbert: Potential health effects! There are now so many peer-reviewed studies demonstrating biological effects that it is difficult to imagine that there are no negative health effects.

**Abaya: What do you say to critics of your position who say that, according to Health Canada and other sources, there are no health concerns about wireless technologies?**

Gilbert: Get your heads out of the sand! Read the literature – a great starting point is the Bio Initiative Report – [www.bioinitiative.org](http://www.bioinitiative.org). What that report clearly demonstrates is that the standards that are supposed to protect us are set too high in North America.



**Abaya: Lakehead prides itself in being a leader in offering advanced communications technology for teaching and learning. Does our current WiFi policy not threaten this leadership position and project the image that we at Lakehead are technologically backward?**

Gilbert: Lakehead has demonstrated clearly a commitment to being at the forefront of technological advancement. We were one of the first Canadian universities to put in place VOIP (voice over internet protocol) telephony, and we are still one of the largest Canadian deployments of VOIP. We have developed

classroom learning technology with partners Sony, IBM, Precision Camera, and others. We acquired a Cray supercomputer early on and an SGI-based virtual reality laboratory (among others).

Both the Thunder Bay and Orillia campuses are hardwired with fibre optic connectivity. WiFi is a convenience, not a necessity in such an environment. We have permitted the Lakehead University Student Union to provide this convenience in student-controlled space on the Thunder Bay campus – The Outpost – provided the site is posted as a WiFi hotspot and the radiation does not impinge on areas outside The Outpost.

**Abaya: What infrastructure is currently in place for connectivity at Lakehead?**

Gilbert: Lakehead University data communications network supports all administration, research, and academic needs. The network encompasses over 66 wiring closets, 290 Ethernet switches, and over 7,500 network connections.

The infrastructure is tied together over a multi-gigabyte fibre-optic backbone. Computers, cameras, environmental controls, and over 2,600 IP phones are just some of the devices using TCP/IP as the standard for connecting across this network.

Lakehead also maintains connections to high-speed research networks ORION, CANet4, and other commercial internet providers. Connectivity to the Orillia campus and remote offices exists over leased and dedicated Ethernet infrastructure.

Our overall connectivity infrastructure is as modern and efficient as anywhere in the Ontario university system.



## LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY WIFI POLICY

**Abaya:** *The Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM) and the Lakehead University Student Union (LUSU) operate wireless technology at the Thunder Bay campus. Is this not a contradiction? Are we not suffering ill effects because of it?*

Gilbert: Individuals exposed to WiFi in those locations may be suffering ill effects. We have outlined the limitations under which LUSU operates WiFi in The Outpost and thus people have the choice whether to expose themselves to the radiation or not. We are currently measuring the strength and signal penetration of the NOSM system and we will be making recommendations based on those findings.

**Abaya:** *What is your reaction to controversy over Lakehead's WiFi policy and how do you think it is affecting our institutional image?*

Gilbert: At the end of the day we are judged on the quality of decisions we make. I am not afraid to be so judged regarding the WiFi policy. Current dogma is often proven to be wrong, and making decisions that are not popular at the time and that challenge conventional thinking ultimately is not a bad thing. Science has progressed because hypotheses have been tested and either supported or replaced by better hypotheses. Hypothetical thinking, therefore, is not only the basis for progress in science, but also a process that should apply where we do not have definitive answers such as the long-term health effects of exposure to electromagnetic radiation from human technology.

**Abaya:** *Are you aware of other institutions that have taken a similar precautionary approach?*

Gilbert: There are only a very few in North America and no others in Canada of which I am aware. The German government has recently warned its

people to avoid exposure to electromagnetic fields (EMFs) including those generated by WiFi systems. The United Kingdom has initiated research into the levels of exposure of schoolchildren to EMFs in the school environment. Physician groups have become increasingly militant in Europe to have governments acknowledge there is a potential risk, and lower the standards for exposure.

**Abaya:** *Why do you think other universities and colleges do not share your point of view, since they should also be concerned about the health of their students?*

Gilbert: It is so easy to join a bandwagon. Because consumers seem to expect the access provided by WiFi, institutions have quickly moved to embrace it as a marketing ploy. Little, if any, consideration has been given to the biological evidence and potential health impacts. "Students want it so it must be provided if we are to be competitive" is the logic applied. Perhaps because my background is in biology and as a scientist I have had a particular interest in environmental stressors and their effects on the physiology and behavior of animals, I am more sensitive to the issue.

**Abaya:** *What is your timetable and process for re-assessing Lakehead's current position on WiFi?*

Gilbert: I refer you back to the policy. When we can mitigate the potential EMF health effects or there is clear scientific evidence refuting the idea that there are health effects, WiFi will be generally deployed on campus. To date such assessment is ongoing. I suspect by the time I step down as President in 2010 there will be greater clarity on this issue.

*Do you have an opinion about Lakehead's WiFi policy? Email your comments to: [editor@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:editor@lakeheadu.ca)*

### General Statement

Lakehead University is completely connected to the World Wide Web. Connectivity is provided by a comprehensive campus fibre-optic network with approximately 8,000 plug-in sites, as well as internet cafés and computer laboratories, giving access to 650 computers. Only those areas not served by the fibre-optic backbone have a wireless option.

### Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to limit wireless connectivity based on the "precautionary principle," as there are numerous scientific studies that suggest there is a basis for concern that continuous or frequent long-term exposure to WiFi electromagnetic fields (EMFs) could have adverse health effects (see Benevento and Catania Resolutions in Appendices A and B).

### Background

Microwave radiation in the frequency range of WiFi has been shown to increase permeability of the blood-brain barrier, cause behavioral changes, alter cognitive functions, activate a stress response, interfere with brain waves, cell growth, cell communication, calcium ion balance, etc., and cause single- and double-strand DNA breaks at EMF levels as low as 0.005 w/kg.

### Policy

There will be no use of WiFi in those areas of the University already served by hard wire connectivity until such time as the potential health effects have been scientifically rebutted or there are adequate protective measures that can be taken.

### Review of Policy

The President will continue to monitor research in the area to determine whether a change in policy is warranted.

### Appendix A

Benevento Resolution  
[http://www.icems.eu/benevento\\_resolution.htm](http://www.icems.eu/benevento_resolution.htm)

### Appendix B

Catania Resolution  
[http://www.icems.eu/benevento\\_resolution.htm](http://www.icems.eu/benevento_resolution.htm) 



## ATHLETICS

# A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

► BY TOM WARDEN, ATHLETICS DIRECTOR



Lakehead Athletics roared into action last fall as varsity teams and club teams began their seasons, and campus recreation continued its tradition of excellent intramural programs and fitness classes for our students and staff.

Club sports showed success with teams such as Lakehead Rugby continuing its strong play in the Minnesota Rugby Union. Our new Golf team made an immediate impact at U.S. and OUA golf tournaments as well. Lakehead made its first appearance at the new CIS National Curling Championships, and the Wolves men's squad went a perfect 6-0 in round robin play before bowing out in the first playoff round.

The varsity Thunderwolves teams continue to make inroads and develop. Lakehead Cross Country, under Head Coach Kip Sigsworth, made huge improvements again this season, and Lakehead placed an athlete at the CIS national championships for the first time in a long while. Similarly, Coach Sigsworth and the Indoor Track teams had another strong season this year.

Lakehead's young Wrestling squads, under Head Coach Owen Dawkins, did very well at this year's OUA Championships. The men qualified 10 wrestlers for the CIS National Championships (the most of any team) and Mitch Fryia and Huy Nguyen brought home national gold medals. Lakehead's women volleyball squad, under Head Coach Kathy Clouthier, did not make the playoffs but showed they are developing well. Things look good for next season with most of the team returning.

Coach Lisa Patterson and her two Nordic squads won OUA titles for the fourth consecutive year with Lakehead skiers being named MVP for both men and women and Lakehead garnering six OUA All Stars. The women's Nordic team went on to capture the Canadian Colleges and Universities' National Championship for the fifth straight year.

Coach Scott Morrison and his men's Basketball team and Coach Jon Kreiner and his women's squad put up tough battles and



almost qualified for the playoffs. Lakehead's men made a huge improvement from last year and lost to eventual national champions Brock by one point in a controversial game which, Lakehead had won, would have put the Wolves in the playoffs.

Finally on the Hockey front, new Head Coach Don McKee led Lakehead men's Hockey team to a record-breaking season as the team set the best record in the entire OUA. The Wolves got to the Ontario Final Four before bowing out to Brock in the deciding game of the series in overtime. However, the Wolves' Chris Whitley and Jordan C. Smith were named CIS First Team All Canadians and Whitley was also the OUA and OUA West MVP. Lakehead had three OUA First Team All Stars, one Second Team All Star, and one OUA All Rookie. The team loses only two players and things are looking very good for next season when Lakehead University hosts the CIS national championships.

It has been a fantastic year and next season looks to be an even better one.

Stay in touch with Lakehead Athletics, its teams, and its new intramural and fitness programs by going to our websites at [www.thunderwolves.ca](http://www.thunderwolves.ca) and [www.thunderwolveshockey.com](http://www.thunderwolveshockey.com).



Ca  
Str

Small  
mail,  
brow

The Blac



# THE 1965 CIRCLE

## A CELEBRATION OF LIFETIME GIVING

Donations truly make a difference. Lakehead University values the generous spirit of giving from our supporters. We are pleased to recognize the outstanding commitment of our alumni, faculty, staff, friends, corporations, and foundations - locally, nationally, and internationally.

The 1965 Circle, named for the year in which Lakehead University was granted university status, accords membership to donors whose generous lifetime giving is equal to or greater than \$25,000 as of December 31, 2007.

† Denotes deceased

### Visionary Circle \$1 Million Plus

Fed Nor  
IBM Canada Limited  
Northern Ontario Heritage  
Fund  
Ontario Power Generation  
Ontario SuperBuild  
Corporation  
Estate of S. Penny Petrone  
SGI Canada

### Chancellor's Circle \$500,000 to \$999,999

Alumni Association of  
Lakehead University  
John Andrews Foundation  
Goodman and Carr LLP  
Manulife Financial  
Nortel Networks  
Ontario Energy Corporation  
The Paterson Foundation  
Precision Camera Inc. (PCI)  
Society of Management  
Accountants  
Sun Microsystems Canada

### Governor's Circle \$250,000 to \$499,999

Abitibi-Price (Toronto)  
Anonymous  
BMO Financial Group  
Bell Canada  
J.P. Bickell Foundation  
CIBC  
Canadian Suomi Foundation  
Ross Hamlin  
R. Walter Hogarth  
N.M. Paterson & Sons Ltd.  
Prime Computers  
RBC Foundation  
Rockefeller Foundation  
Paul Shaffer  
Trans Canada Pipelines  
John Watson &  
Andrew Watson  
R.H. Webster Foundation

### President's Circle \$100,000 to \$249,999

Abitibi Consolidated Inc.  
Baziuk Rail Inc.  
J. Armand Bombardier  
Foundation

Bowater Canadian Forest  
Products Inc.  
William H. Buset †  
The Chronicle-Journal  
City of Thunder Bay  
Estate of Benjamin Cowan  
Dougall Media  
Geraldton District Hospital  
Great-West Life Assurance  
Company  
Evelyn Halliday †  
Imperial Oil Limited  
Institute of Italian Studies -  
Lakehead University  
Ruth Kajander  
Kimberley-Clark of Canada  
Lakehead University  
Student Union  
M.N.T. Builders Limited  
Arthur V. Mauro, Mauro  
Family Foundation  
William McCallum  
Estate of Elizabeth Mercer  
William Merz †  
Metis Nation of Ontario  
Northco Commerce  
Corporation  
Ontario Forest Industries  
Association  
Petro-Canada Inc.  
Christopher Robinson  
W. Ross Rogers †  
Rotary Club of Thunder Bay  
(Fort William)  
ScotiaBank  
Steep Rock Iron Mines  
TD Bank Financial Group  
Thunder Bay Community  
Foundation  
Tom Jones Corporation  
Weyerhaeuser  
Wyeth Canada

### Senate's Circle \$50,000 to \$99,999

Arjun Aggarwal  
Air Canada  
Anixter Canada Inc.  
Aramark Canada  
Bearskin Airlines  
Max Bell Foundation  
Buchanan Group  
Buset & Partners LLP  
Canada Life Assurance  
Company  
Canadian Pacific Limited  
Harvey Cardwell

Andrew Crooks &  
Doreen Richards  
Dominion Bridge-Sulzer Inc.  
Domtar Inc.  
DuPont Canada Inc.  
Form & Pour Construction  
General Electric Foundation  
Health Canada  
W. Campbell Hunter †  
IFNA Engineers Ltd.  
IMASCO Limited  
ING Foundation  
Investors Group  
Michael & Rosalind Jurcik  
T. W. (Bill) Katainen †  
John L. Labatt Foundation  
Brian Levitt  
John & Etoile Naysmith  
Professional Engineers of  
Ontario  
Allen Quackenbush & Annis  
Smith  
Rainy River Forest Products  
Stuart Reid  
John Richardson  
Kathleen Richardson  
Foundation  
Sceptre Investment Counsel  
Shell Canada Ltd.  
Society of Manufacturing  
Engineers  
Sony of Canada  
James & Shirley Symington  
Margaret Tapp †  
Thunder Bay Ukrainian  
Canadian Foundation  
Patricia Vervoort  
Diane & Ronald Watson  
Weiler, Maloney, Nelson  
Arn Westlake  
Morris Zaslow

### Dean's Circle \$25,000 to \$49,999

Aluminium Company of  
Canada  
BDO Dunwoody LLP  
Hubert Badanai †  
Barrick Gold Corporation  
Barwick Family Foundation  
Brandes Investment Partners  
Bruno's Contracting  
(Thunder Bay) Ltd.  
Canadian National Railway  
Cargill Limited  
Min-Sun & Anita B. Chen  
Clara Industrial Services

Anne Cochran  
John Cowan  
Harold Crabtree Foundation  
Dascon Investments Ltd.  
Estate of Marshall Dean  
H. Fraser & Elizabeth Dougall  
Dow Chemical Canada Inc.  
Eaton Foundation  
Edwards Charitable  
Foundation  
Renate Eigenbrod  
Fitzpatrick & Partners LLP  
John Fleming  
Gulf Canada Limited  
G. Sydney Halter  
Beverly Harris  
William Heath  
Stephen Hessian  
Wendy Huang & James Taylor  
Iron Range Bus Lines Inc.  
Iron Workers District Council  
of Ontario  
Johnson Controls Inc.  
Gilbert Johnson †  
Estate of Alan T. Kirk  
Eugene Kotyk  
Roman Kozyra  
Lakehead University  
Engineering Students  
Scott Llewellyn  
London Life Insurance  
Company  
Rick & Angie Lovat  
Lowerys Basics  
June MacDonald  
McLean Foundation  
McLellan Multimedia Group  
Corporation  
Estate of Bridget Morton  
A. L. Pete Musselman †  
Noranda Foundation  
Noranda Mines Limited  
Northern Cancer Research  
Foundation  
Northern Sawmills  
Northwestern Ontario  
Medical Education Award  
Fund  
Mary O'Rourke  
George Ozburn  
PEAK Performance  
Technologies Inc.  
Richard & Jane Pickering  
Gerry Poling  
Polish Combatants  
Branch #219  
Bruce Pynn

Richardson Century Fund  
Rotary Club of Thunder Bay  
(Port Arthur)  
ScotiaMcLeod Inc.  
Sears Canada Inc.  
Hilda E. Simmons †  
St. Joseph's Care Group  
Suncor Energy Foundation  
Suncor Energy Inc.  
SunLife of Canada  
Superior Credit Union  
Elizabeth Thomson  
Thunder Bay Electronics  
Thunder Bay Hydro  
Thunder Bay Regional Health  
Sciences Centre  
William & Pauline Tomlinson  
Toromont Cat  
Travelodge Hotel Airline  
Denis Turcotte  
Eric. T Webster Foundation  
G. Bernard Weiler †  
Mary J. West  
Estate of Anne Whitaker  
Edward Williams  
Estate of Sylvia Young  
Alexander (Sandy) Zaitzeff

*Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this listing. If we have inadvertently missed you, please let us know and accept our sincere apologies.*

## Lakehead

UNIVERSITY

### Office of University Advancement

955 Oliver Road  
Thunder Bay ON P7B 5E1  
Tel. (807) 343-8300  
Fax (807) 343-8999  
advancement@lakeheadu.ca

# CLASS NOTES

## 1960s

**Professor Richard Bladek** (Ryerson Engineering and Architecture - First Year, 1963) worked in Korea for two years and has spent the last five years in China. He is currently working in the International Exchanges department of Beijing University of Technology.

Valedictorian of Lakehead's first graduating class **Doug Brown** (BA'65) is retired from a career in Psychology and living with his wife Bobbie (Ainsworth) at Lurgan Beach, Lake Huron, south of Kincardine, ON. Brown completed a Master's degree from the University of Waterloo in 1967 and spent 34 years working in Psychological Services for the Waterloo County Board of Education. He has two children — Ian, a doctor of naturopathic medicine practicing in Collingwood, and Keely, a lawyer who works for the Edmonton Oilers.

## 1970s

In 1993, **Jane Somerton** (BA'72, HBA'74, BEd'77) retired from teaching for the Lakehead Board of Education where she served as an elementary/special education teacher, and a public school principal. Jane was widowed three times. She married Bert Somerton in May 2007 and together they are enjoying their five daughters and families. She writes, "What opportunities we were offered and accepted. Thanks Lakehead!"

Ottawa poet and writer **Cyril Dabydeen** (HBA'73) was recently awarded the Guyana Prize for Literature for his novel *Drums of My Flesh*. Dabydeen read from the book in the Netherlands and in New York City at the Guyana Folk Festival during 2007. The novel was nominated for the 2007 International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award and was a finalist for the city of Ottawa Book Awards in 2006.

**Lorraine Milton** (BA'79) is the author of *Step by Step to Grace: A Spiritual Walk*

*through the Bible and the Twelve Steps*, published by Novalis Press 2002. She is now writing a second book, *Cameos of Courage: The Spiritual Challenge of Living with Chronic Illnesses and Disabilities*. Milton has a Master of Arts degree in Theology from United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities at New Brighton, Minnesota. For eight years she worked as a chaplain consultant in the Spiritual Care Department at the Hazelden Foundation, an alcohol and chemical addiction rehabilitation centre in Minnesota.

## 1980s

**Rich Lavoy** (HBScF'81) is an education coordinator with Archbold Biological Station in Lake Placid, Florida, and is working on a BA in environmental education.

**Gary Armstrong** (BAdmin'84) is Chief Financial Officer of Family Memorials Inc., a company in the business of consolidating retail businesses selling granite monuments for placement on individual cemetery lots. Armstrong is a Certified Management Accountant who has held senior executive positions, including CFO for TBayTel and Manager of Finance and Administration for the City of Vancouver Police Department.

**Duncan Weller** (BA'89) is the winner of the 2007 Governor General's Literary Award – Children's Literature (Illustration) for *The Boy from the Sun*, a book described by the jury as a "charming, fresh, and joyful book" that perfectly melds story and image. Born in Montreal, Weller studied fine arts at Lakehead and now is back in Thunder Bay working on an honours degree in English. His two other published books are *Space Snake* and *Night Wall*. Weller is collaborating with younger brother Eric, a local film producer, on a high-definition video version of the latter book. Weller also paints, and writes poetry and short stories.

## 1990s

**Tracy Mullins** (HBOR/BA'90) received his AICP accreditation from the American Institute of Certified Planners. To become a certified planner entitled to use the AICP designation, members of the institute must meet stringent educational and experience requirements and pass a written exam. Tracy is the Director of Planning and Design at MJA Consulting, a regional planning and urban design company in Lakeland, Florida, that specializes in conservation development and green designs. Mullins received a full scholarship for his Masters of Science degree in Geography from Eastern Michigan University. Tracy worked as an adjunct lecturer in the Behavioral Science Department of the University of Michigan before moving to Florida and marrying his wife Marcia Morse Mullins. Tracy plans to release a book on Traditional Indigenous Planning in the fall of 2008.

**Pasi Pinta** (BSc'91) accepted the position of Director of Technology at Northern Ontario School of Medicine in October 2006. In addition to graduating from the Computer Science program at Lakehead, he worked in the University's Computer Services/CRTC department from 1991 to 1995. From 1995 to 2006, he was based out of Dryden, ON., and worked in the forest products industry with Avenor, Bowater, Weyerhaeuser, and EJS prior to coming back to Thunder Bay. Pasi obtained his MBA specializing in Information Technology Management from the University of Athabasca in 2003 in addition to becoming a certified Project Management Professional in 2005 from the Project Management Institute. He married his wife Kerri-Ann in 1997 and they have a son, Kasey, 9, and a daughter, Brooke, 7. The family enjoys the outdoors together through all the seasons.

...continued



## MAKING THE *Gift of a Lifetime*

### Lakehead Legacy Society

A planned (or deferred) gift to Lakehead University will create a lasting legacy of your support and permanently associate your name, or the name of a loved one, with the University.

The planned gift is a charitable donation arranged during a donor's lifetime but not available to the University until some time in the future. Most planned gifts are bequests, but there are many other types.

Your gift can create a named scholarship that will last in perpetuity or be directed to research or a program or faculty of your choice.

Through a bequest gift, you make the most of your assets – now and in the future.

You benefit, your loved ones benefit, and Lakehead benefits.

For information please contact:

Laurie Hill  
Advancement Officer,  
Major Gifts  
Lakehead University  
Tel: 807-343-8913  
E-mail: [laurie.hill@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:laurie.hill@lakeheadu.ca)



## ***Leveraging Learning for Regional Development: An International Forum***

Thunder Bay, Ontario  
CANADA  
June 24-27, 2008

The 2008 conference provides a venue for the discussion of issues emerging from current initiatives and needs in local and regional socio-economic development, and opportunities to view these issues in light of international research, practice and implementation. The focus will be on better defining the roles that lifelong and lifewide learning can play in meeting local and regional socio-economic development goals.

### Keynote Speakers

- Dr. Peter Jarvis of University of Surrey, United Kingdom
- Kurt Larsen of the World Bank, Washington, D.C.
- Dr. David Livingston of OISE, University of Toronto, Canada
- Professor Hans Schuetze, Fellow, Centre for Policy Studies in Higher Education and Training, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada
- Professor Maria Slowey, Vice President for Learning Innovation and Registrar at Dublin City University, Ireland.



### Department of Lifelong Learning

Phone: (807) 343-7852  
Fax: (807) 346-7882  
[faced.pde@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:faced.pde@lakeheadu.ca)  
<http://www.theconferenceplanner.ca/lifelearning>



Lakehead  
UNIVERSITY

## *I believe...*

### **I have the right to feel secure**

I feel confident with my career, my health and my family, but I need to know that I can protect our future if life ever presents a challenge. We can help you feel secure with a plan that works for you.



*Let us help you have the life you planned*

Term Life Insurance • Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance • Critical Illness Insurance  
Dependent Children Term Life Insurance • Health & Dental Insurance • Office Overhead Insurance  
Long Term Disability Insurance • Travel Medical Insurance

*For a personalized quotation or to apply online,  
visit the web address below.*

**1.800.266.5667**  
**[www.iaplif.com/lakehead](http://www.iaplif.com/lakehead)**



© Trademark of Industrial Alliance Insurance and Financial Services Inc., used under license by Industrial Alliance Pacific Insurance and Financial Services Inc.

# CLASS NOTES

**Vic Dhillon** (BAdmin'92), Ontario MPP for Brampton West, is Vice-Chair of the Standing Committee on Social Policy and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Labour. He is married to Shaminder and they have two sons, Robin and Sajjan, and a daughter named Taj. Before being elected in 2003, he ran a family-owned business and worked as Executive Assistant to MP Colleen Beaumier. Vic has taken on leading roles in many non-profit fundraising campaigns, including a local group that collected much-needed supplies for the devastating ice storm in eastern Ontario, tsunami in Asia, and earthquake in Pakistan.

Lecturer in Sociology **Kevin D. Willison** (MA'93) has had a book chapter on the subject of interprofessional education (IPE) and chronic disease management accepted for publication in *New Perspectives on Knowledge, Attitudes & Practices in Health*, a book soon to be published by Nova Science Publishers. Willison was born and raised in Orillia and is now teaching courses in Sociology at Lakehead's Orillia Campus. His research interests include the sociology of health and illness, gerontology, health promotion, and public health. He is pursuing the completion of his PhD with the Department of Public Health Sciences at the University of Toronto. Type: "WILLISON" to link to sample peer-reviewed publications by K. Willison: <http://works.bepress.com/authors.html>

**Gregory Duras** (BAdmin'94) has been appointed Chief Financial Officer of Beartooth Platinum Corporation of Toronto, ON.

**Andrew Bird** (BAdmin'95) works as an Implementation Manager for Zantaz, an autonomy company based in Ottawa. He married Ann in July 2006 and they spent their honeymoon in Tahiti. To celebrate

their first anniversary, they moved into a new house in one of Ottawa's premier golf course communities.

In 2007, **John MacPhail** (HBA'96, MA'00) received a Governor General's Award (GGA) For Excellence in Teaching Canadian History and is currently teaching grades 7-8 at St. Dominic Catholic School in Oakville, ON. John coordinates an annual project for his class focusing on a six-week mock trial of William Lyon Mackenzie as a way to develop his students' skills in critical thought, debate, and questioning assumptions. The GGA panel found that John "successfully bridges the gap between the Rebellions of 1837 and modern issues such as media bias, power structures, and the justice system. His lesson plans are comprehensive and the scaffolding he provides ensures student success."

**Scott Crawford** (BA'97) is Director of Operations at the Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in St. Marys, ON. He and his wife Samantha have two sons — Toby, 3, and Noah, born in September, 2007.

**Carrie McGown** (BA'99, HBOR'99), a doctoral student in education at the University of New Hampshire, was deemed Outstanding Experiential Teacher of the Year by the Association of Experiential Education in November 2007.

## 2000s

**Kevin Kelner** (HBComm'04) is a senior analyst with Johnson & Johnson in Markham, ON, and has been a Project Management Professional since February 2007.

**Robert Carlson** (BA'05) is the owner/operator of RJC Window Cleaning, providing services to residential and commercial clients in Thunder Bay. ■

## Advertise

### Online

Lakehead University Magazine  
Agora Newsletter

### Plasma Screens

Seven screens on campus

### Print

Lakehead University Magazine  
26,000 circulation

Contact: Cathy Ridley  
807.766.7159  
email: [cr Ridley@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:cr Ridley@lakeheadu.ca)



## SUNSET Memorial Gardens & Crematorium



### Planning Today for Tomorrow

For information call  
**HEIDI McNALLY**  
344-1004

920 Tungsten St. Thunder Bay, ON



## accelerating innovation

### growing businesses

Contact our  
office to advance  
your innovation  
today!



NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO  
**INNOVATION**  
CENTRE

768-

toll free: 1-866-768-

[www.nwinnovation.ca](http://www.nwinnovation.ca)





## earth wise thunder bay



### ► Building a Community Vision for Sustainable Living

EarthWise Thunder Bay is a partnership between the City of Thunder Bay and the community, dedicated to sustainable development and the preservation of our unique, natural environment.

The EarthWise Community Environmental Action Plan (CEAP) is being developed through community consultation and will help guide the City of Thunder Bay in future decision-making, particularly with respect to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

### ► Get Involved!

Got ideas? Concerns? Dreams for a greener Thunder Bay? We welcome your participation in the development of the Community Environmental Action Plan. Join a working group, attend an open house or send us your comments. Visit us online at [www.earthwisethunderbay.com](http://www.earthwisethunderbay.com) to learn more.

[www.earthwisethunderbay.com](http://www.earthwisethunderbay.com)

## 25<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP CLASSIC

Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>  
2008

Lunch: 11:30 am  
Registration: 11:30 am  
Shotgun start: 1:00 pm  
Whitewater Golf Course

Registration cost:  
\$200 per person  
\$800 per team

For more information:  
[alumni@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:alumni@lakeheadu.ca)  
or call (807) 343-8155  
toll free: 800-832-8076  
[www.lakeheadualumni.ca](http://www.lakeheadualumni.ca)



RBC  
Royal Bank

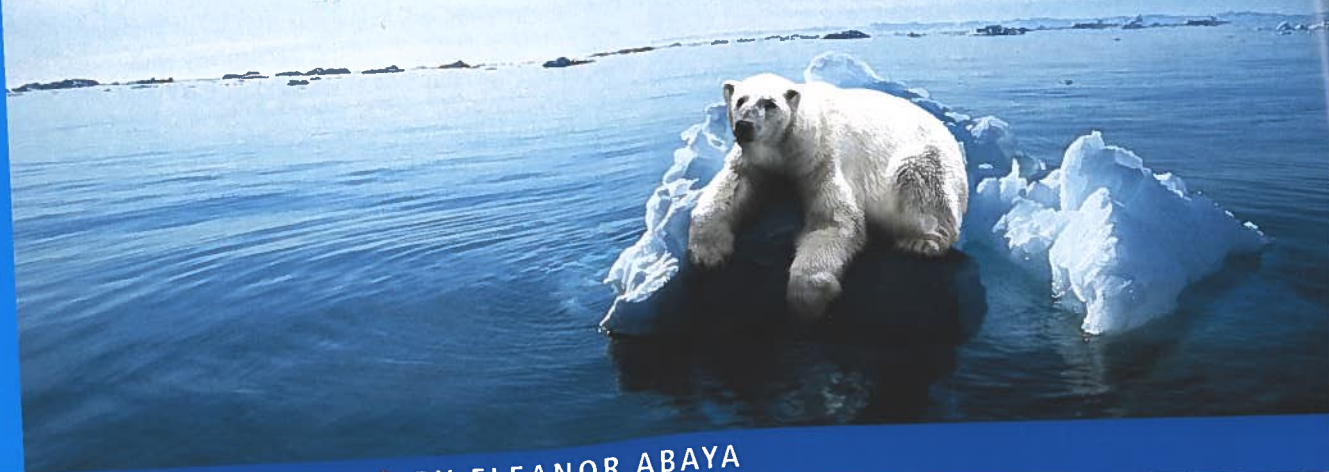
presents



## DO SOMETHING!

☐ Do Something

☐ Do Nothing



▶ BY ELEANOR ABAYA

### Awareness Campaign 2007-2008

In October we were approached by *Strategy* magazine, a publication that caters to the marketing, advertising, public relations, and direct mail industry. The magazine wanted to feature Lakehead University's Do Something ad campaign as the creative of the month in its November issue. *Strategy* invited two advertising agency creative directors to critique the campaign with respect to its overall strategy, creative approach, ability to convey its message in a fresh and unhackneyed manner, as well as its success in achieving the campaign's objectives.

Both creative directors had specific likes and dislikes about the campaign's executional details, as might be expected. Fundamentally, however, the campaign strategy was seen as a welcome departure from the plethora of trite higher



education advertising flooding the GTA, many of which show "smiling faces signifying campus diversity," or school buildings, or slices of campus life.

Therein lies the challenge of creativity in this genre. Universities by their very nature are in the business of marketing a similar set of attributes centered around the concept of Quality — quality of education/faculty, quality of research projects/researchers, quality of experience with faculty/staff, quality of campus life, and quality/quantity of scholarships and bursaries. To a great extent, the quality of alumni and opportunities for varsity athletics also come into play. All of these attributes help determine how potential students perceive and/or experience a particular university brand. And in the case of older universities with a lot of heritage, these

attributes are seen as an intrinsic part of the brand until direct experience proves otherwise.

However, unlike branded products such as packaged goods and durables, it is far more challenging to convey Quality in the ultimate "products" of a university — its students and graduates. First the "production cycle" takes at least four years, and second there are countless variables that go into the production cycle. Standardization of best practices and procedures does not always achieve the same result when dealing with human beings as a "product."

As a fairly young institution in a region with a diminishing population, Lakehead's challenge is to be part of the short list for the decision process among Ontario's prospective students by continuing to invest itself with the brand attributes associated with Quality, *but in a way that is different from what other universities do.*





The Do Something campaign intentionally markets Lakehead indirectly as a Quality institution.

The campaign was conceived to align Lakehead with the concept of social responsibility. Leveraging the notoriety the institution has enjoyed with last year's YaleShmale ad campaign and the WiFi issue (See the article "Lakehead Says No to WiFi" on page 14), the campaign takes Lakehead to a higher plane; it appeals to young people at a time of their lives when idealism is expected and changing the world seems possible. Through association, the inference is that Lakehead is a socially aware institution – one that through its various programs and initiatives will help the student find ways to effect personal or community transformation. How could an institution concerned with changing the world for better not be a quality institution?



Do Something was launched in September with a microsite, a poster blitz in Toronto, and T-shirt giveaways at the Ontario University Fair for qualified prospects. This was supported by a transit campaign in the GTA, Calgary, Edmonton, and

Winnipeg. The microsite features various elements such as a Quiz, Send a Postcard, Did You Know, and Website Links to organizations that deal directly with the social issues being covered. The latter is important because Lakehead does not claim it has all the answers; rather, Lakehead's goal is to generate dialogue and possible solutions. The microsite also takes the audience to a subsidiary page on the Lakehead website that offers a list of programs and initiatives that demonstrate Lakehead's efforts in various areas to Do Something. A direct mail campaign was also launched — addressed to the principal — to over 600 high schools across Ontario. The direct mail campaign's objective was not only to bring the name Lakehead University to the forefront of the consciousness of these high schools but also to encourage its students to participate in a contest to win a mini-library of books that can help change the world. In addition, a short video on various ways Lakehead students are helping reduce, reuse, and recycle was developed to coincide with an on-campus conference on food security and sustainability, and the video is still getting hits on YouTube.

## Response as of April 1

Microsite Hits: 14,991

Contest Entries: 195

While it is too early to tell what effect the campaign will have on applications for 2008-09, stakeholder reaction to the campaign has been utterly positive and supportive. Prospective students think the campaign is clever and earnest without being coy. Current students love it, faculty and staff sing its praises, and alumni have indicated their support. One notable exception is a Dean who refused to wear our T-shirt at the Ontario University Fair with the explanation that "Lakehead has not really demonstrated



that it has 'done something' to be able to stand up to the campaign." Many faculty members and students would disagree as shown by the long list of initiatives on the website (<http://www.dosomethingnow.ca/>). <sup>1</sup>

*As we go to press, we are already in the planning stages for our next awareness campaign. It is too early to tell whether Do Something will continue to work as a longer term strategy or whether we need to develop something fresh to continue to pique interest. It is likely, however, that we will continue to leverage this approach in combination with other strategies.*



► TODD DUFRESNE

# AGAINST FREUD

► BY TIM ANDERSON

Dr. Todd Dufresne has devoted most of his academic career to studying the impact of the father of psychoanalysis, Sigmund Freud.

His latest book, published in 2007, is entitled *Against Freud: Critics Talk Back*. The book features interviews with world-renowned scholars of psychoanalytic theory and practice to show that Freud's theories were just plain wrong. As Dufresne puts it, "The book's not just about Freud's botched science, but about the bankruptcy of psychoanalysis as a socio-cultural movement."

Born in Fort Frances, Ontario, Todd Dufresne went to high school in Thunder Bay. He completed a BA (Honours) in Philosophy at the University of Western Ontario and then went on to earn an MA and PhD in Social & Political Thought at York University in Toronto. He joined Lakehead's Department of Philosophy 10 years ago, and has been Chair of the Department for the last six. Last February, he was presented with one of Lakehead University's highest honors — the 2007 Lakehead University Distinguished Researcher Award.



Dufresne suspects he has only one or two books left to write on Freud, and has already begun to branch his efforts out into other

areas. "I've started to collaborate with a small group of people doing work on creativity and economic development." Ideally this work "will provide a vehicle to attract grants so that we can do some collaborative research of real relevance to Northern Ontario." ■



Live, Work, & Learn

where it all comes together.

*Naturally!*



*For Your Business...* Located on the shores of Lake Couchiching and Lake Simcoe, Orillia is in the heart of Ontario's Lake Country, yet we are less than an hour away from the Greater Toronto Area. In Orillia, you'll find everything you need to build your business. Give us a call or visit our website to find out why so many businesses are now making Orillia their number one choice.

*For Your Life...* Enjoy waterfront trails, beaches, boating, boutique shopping and dining in our heritage downtown. Experience world class entertainment at Casino Rama, or take advantage of some of Ontario's best ski hills and golf courses... all only minutes away. In Orillia, nature and community come together for a lifestyle like no other.

Economic Development Office  
[www.city.orillia.on.ca](http://www.city.orillia.on.ca)

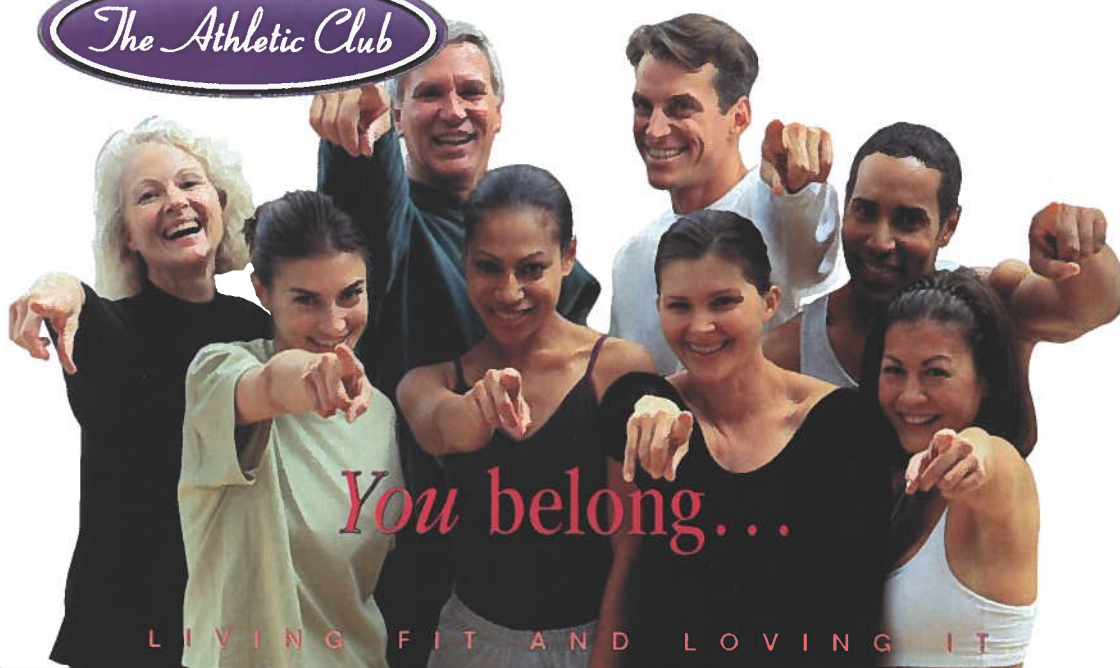
(705) 325-4900  
[edc@city.orillia.on.ca](mailto:edc@city.orillia.on.ca)





OUR STRENGTH IS HELPING YOU FIND YOURS

*The Athletic Club*



Join Now and Receive

**55% OFF ENROLLMENT FEE!\***  
**PLUS 1 MONTH FREE!**

\* This offer is valid for Students, Alumni and Faculty only.

**Hurry Offer Ends May 31st 2008!**

**COMPARISON  
OF MEMBERSHIP  
PAYMENT METHOD:**

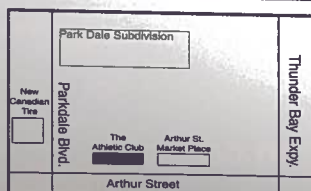
**The Athletic Club**

Pay your membership dues monthly  
and it is = to 12 times per year

**VS**

**Our Competitor**

Bi-Weekly Payments are equivalent  
to 13 monthly payments.  
You're paying ONE MONTH EXTRA!



**1185 West Arthur St.**

Next to Canadian Tire

**623.6223**





# PRIMORDIAL SLIME

## THE GENESIS OF LIFE

► BY MICHAEL ADE SEKUDO

Life today may have been started by pond scum! At least this is what Phil Fralick believes. He is a sedimentologist, Chair of the Department of Geology, and recipient of the Lakehead University Distinguished Instructor Award for 2007.

"I'm building a fantasy world of what Earth looked like at various times in the distant past," says Fralick. "If we were sitting here 2.7 billion years ago, we would be on the side of a volcanic island surrounded by oceans with no atmospheric oxygen, just carbon-dioxide vapor like Venus's atmosphere. The highest life form then was photosynthesizing cyanobacteria, better known as pond scum."

Fralick's research group was the first to show that billions of years ago Earth formed pockets of oxygen in delta areas around the planet. Rivers emptied nutrients into the oceans. Cyanobacteria fed on the nutrients and produced oxygen. And with oxygen came the evolution of more complex life forms including humans.

"Earth has changed drastically in the past, but the rate of change has always been slow except for catastrophic events like meteorites. The problem is what people are doing. We've thrown a major monkey wrench into Earth's plan, so now we're driving the system as opposed to the Earth driving her own system." ■

► PHIL FRALICK



# KEEP IN TOUCH



## ► [www.lakeheadualumni.ca](http://www.lakeheadualumni.ca)

You may update your address online at [www.lakeheadualumni.ca](http://www.lakeheadualumni.ca) or by completing and sending this form to Alumni Relations at Lakehead University, 955 Oliver Road, Thunder Bay, Ontario, P7B 5E1, or fax it to (807) 343-8999.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Degree(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Year(s) of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Employer Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Employer Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse / Partner's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse / Partner's Education \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse / Partner's Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Have you married? Started a new job? Begun a family? Received an award? If so, we want to hear from you! Take a moment to tell us what is new and exciting in your life... or just to share your comments and story ideas for the Lakehead University Magazine. Use a separate page if necessary.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

The Alumni Association and its affinity partners may contact you occasionally to promote programs and services that generate revenue for Lakehead University.

If you do not wish to be contacted,

- call 1-800-832-8076, or
- complete the online form on our website, or
- check the box below and fax or mail this form to the Office of Alumni Relations

☐ I do not wish to receive ANY materials advertising Lakehead University affinity programs.


# INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Lakehead graduates connected with one another at Alumni Receptions held on January 11 and 12, 2008, at the Sentosa Golf Club in Singapore and the Holiday Inn Golden Mile in Hong Kong. Plans are already under way to hold the next alumni reception in late 2008 or early 2009.

*"Though the turnout was small, I felt really good to have met people who have been to Lakehead... I believe Lakehead should hold reunions more frequently as the last one was about a decade ago. Though I'm moving to Montreal soon, I really hope the alumni chapter will grow here and graduates in Singapore will enjoy the same level of warmth as our counterparts in Canada."* — Veerappan Veeramariappan, BEng (Electrical) '02

*"Thank you very much for your warm reception in Hong Kong. I had a great time at the reception meeting old and new friends. It is good to hear Lakehead is growing... I am eager to visit the campus in the near future if time allows. I would like to thank Lakehead for giving me such a quality education. Without Lakehead, my life would not have been the same."* — Daniel Tong, Eng Dip '78, BEng (Civil) '80

The Alumni Association plans to profile more Asian alums in its Alumni E-News. It also hopes to use future annual gatherings to formally recognize and introduce some of the outstanding alumni and chapter executives to their peers and the local community.

Photos and alumni comments on the January 2008 receptions are available at the Alumni website: [www.lakeheadualumni.ca](http://www.lakeheadualumni.ca). If you missed the last reception and would like to add your name to the invitation list for the upcoming one, please email [alumni@lakeheadu.ca](mailto:alumni@lakeheadu.ca). 



(l-r) Alex Ho (BEng '79), Vonnice Cheng (BSc '80, BA '82, HBA '92, Grad Dip Bus '92), and Daniel Tong (Eng Dip '78, BEng '80) at the Hong Kong Alumni Reception.



**HOME and AUTO INSURANCE**  
for members of the  
**Lakehead University Alumni Association**

Insurance program recommended by:



Say  
**Goodbye**  
to your  
**Deductible**

*"This is my SOLUTION."*

As a partner of the **Lakehead University Alumni Association**, TD Meloche Monnex offers you **high-quality home and auto insurance products, preferred group rates and exceptional service.**



Being involved in an accident or a victim of theft can be very stressful. Get added peace of mind by adding our NEW **Goodbye Deductible™** protection to your automobile policy. That way, you'll have **ZERO deductible** to pay in the event of an eligible claim. We will handle all covered expenses from start to finish. Contact us to add this feature to your policy today!

Enjoy savings through  
**PREFERRED GROUP RATES:**

[TDMelocheMonnex.com/lakeheadu](http://TDMelocheMonnex.com/lakeheadu)

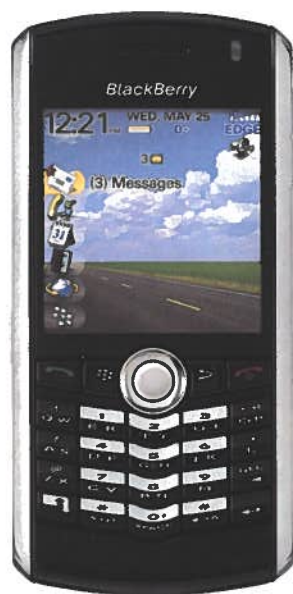
**1 866 352 6187**



**Meloche Monnex**

Insurance for professionals and alumni

Due to provincial legislation, our auto insurance program is not offered in British Columbia, Manitoba or Saskatchewan. The TD Meloche Monnex home and auto insurance program is underwritten by Security National Insurance Company and distributed by Meloche Monnex Insurance and Financial Services Inc. in Quebec and by Meloche Monnex Financial Services Inc. in other provinces and territories. Goodbye Deductible is a trademark of Meloche Monnex Inc.



BlackBerry® Pearl™ 8130 smartphone



## Can't squeeze a lipstick in? Streamline with a BlackBerry Pearl.

Small, smart and stylish. You get cell,  
mail, camera, video, multi-media,  
browser, GPS and personal organizer.

**\$0\***  
FROM

**BE HERE**

**TBAYtel** **BlackBerry**

Visit the TBayTel Store or any authorized Mobility Dealer  
Call 623-4400 | 1-800-264-9501 | [www.tbaytel.net](http://www.tbaytel.net)

The BlackBerry and RIM families of related marks, images and symbols are the exclusive properties of and trademarks or registered trademarks of Research In Motion Limited - used by permission. \*Based on 3-year contract with Unlimited Data Plan.

Publications Mail Agreement #40062450  
Return Undeliverable Canadian Addresses to:  
Lakehead University  
Office of Communications  
955 Oliver Rd.  
Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 5E1