

Agenda for Annual General Meeting 2017 Arboretum Centre

Thursday, 15 June starting at 10:00 am.

Refreshments will be served from
9:30am.

10:00 am - Address by Daniel Atlin,
University of Guelph Vice-President
(external)

10:45 am- Start of Business Meeting

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Approval of the Minutes of the
June 2016 AGM
(minutes on website: ugra.ca)
4. Reports for the Executive
Committee
5. Appointment of the Financial
Reviewer
6. Election of the 2017-2018
Executive
7. Adjournment

12:15 pm - Lunch
(requires prior registration and payment)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Spring brings new beginnings and plans for summer activities. The Spring Forum, the UGRA beginning of Spring, was a time to meet friends and colleagues and to hear about climate change and its impact (See summary in this newsletter). Our next event is the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in June.

The AGM is our most important activity, connecting the membership to the leadership of the Executive Committee. During this business meeting, members hear reports from the Executive, have an opportunity to ask questions, and, most importantly, elect the members of the 2017/18 Executive. The business meeting will be preceded by a presentation by Daniel Atlin, University of Guelph Vice President (External). Daniel will highlight changes and activities at the University and discuss the relationship between the University and the UGRA - the retirees of the University. A Luncheon will follow the AGM. Last year's inaugural Luncheon was well attended and members encouraged us to make this a regular part of the AGM.

Like the AGM, Membership Contributions are a vital part of the UGRA. The work of the Executive Committee and volunteers to

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Editor: Jamie Snell

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UGRA

continue constructive dialogue with the University and to host events such as the Spring and Fall Forums depends on these voluntary contributions. This year we have switched to tracking contributions on a calendar year basis. Membership Contributions made at, and since, the Fall Forum are attributed to the 2017 year. We are also keeping track of the contributions so you can check with us whether you have already contributed for this year. If you have provided us with an email address, we will invite you, early in 2018, to contribute again for that year. If you wish to make a Membership Contribution (\$25 suggested), you can mail a cheque (see Membership form in this Newsletter), pay by cash or cheque at one of our events, or pay online at our website: <http://ugra.ca>. While they involve a small UGRA expense, we encourage online payments to reduce the extra work of handling cash and cheques.

As the 16/17 President, I thank the members of our Executive Committee for their dedication and effort to continue and improve the activities of the UGRA. A highlight this year was our December "planning retreat". Along with two of our Past Presidents, Gary Frankie and Janet

Kaufman, we looked at the role of the UGRA as an organization and reaffirmed our mandate to encourage and support the retiree community through our Newsletter and website and with social and educational programs for those living in and nearby Guelph. We also continue as a resource and advocate in matters related to the University's retiree benefits and privileges.

A special thanks to those completing their terms on the Executive Committee this year. Robin Davidson-Arnott, Past President, was a great assistant helping me assume the leader role. Jamie Snell has been a dedicated and enthusiastic Newsletter Editor writing many of the articles, and ensuring the Newsletter was published on time. Thom Hermann brought valuable insight into the history and role of the Faculty Association and the challenges and opportunities of retired Faculty.

With the election of a New Executive Committee at the AGM, I will become the Past-President and will continue to be active on behalf of the members to see the UGRA continue to be of value to all University retirees.

Kent Percival, President

Recent Retirees

February 1 2017

Annette Clarke	AVP Research
Sandra Good	Molecular & Cellular
Andrew Gordon	Land Res. Science
Jean Wolting	Plant Agriculture

March 1 2017

Jocelyn Demers	Student Health Serv.
Clara Goller	Hospitality Serv.
Alastair Summerlee	Biomed. Sciences

April 1 2017

Will Gorlitz	Fine Art & Music
Deborah Kron	Analysis & Planning
Jane Tosh	Integrative Biology
Henk Wichers	Plant Agriculture

Honours and Awards

Barry Smit (Geography), university professor emeritus, has been inducted into the Royal Society of Canada. **Brian McBride** (Animal Biosciences) was invested as University Professor Emeritus. **Maurice Nelischer** (Landscape Architecture) was awarded the Medal of Merit for outstanding teaching and contributions to the University.

UGRA LUNCHEON REGISTRATION

Arboretum Centre • Thursday, June 15 12:15 pm (following the AGM)

Name _____

Number attending _____ \$20/person* Total \$ _____

(Please provide some contact information in case we need to notify you of any changes)

Email _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City/Province _____ Postal Code _____

Payment must be received no later than Monday, June 1, 2017.

Please make cheque payable to the
University of Guelph Retirees Association.

Mail this form with your cheque to:

University of Guelph Retirees Association
University of Guelph, PO Box 48-4916, Guelph ON N1G 2W1

Online Electronic Payment

Instead of mailing a cheque you can register online and make a secure payment electronically using your credit card on our website at:
<http://www.ugra.ca/luncheon>

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Spring 2017

UGRA

The Northern Lights, Polar Bears, Belugas Permafrost, Tundra and the Treeline

UGRA is arranging for a 10-day adventure to the shores of Hudson Bay in late summer to early fall 2017 (probably the last week of August to first week in September). The dates are still to be firmed up with the Churchill Northern Studies Centre (<https://www.churchillscience.ca>).

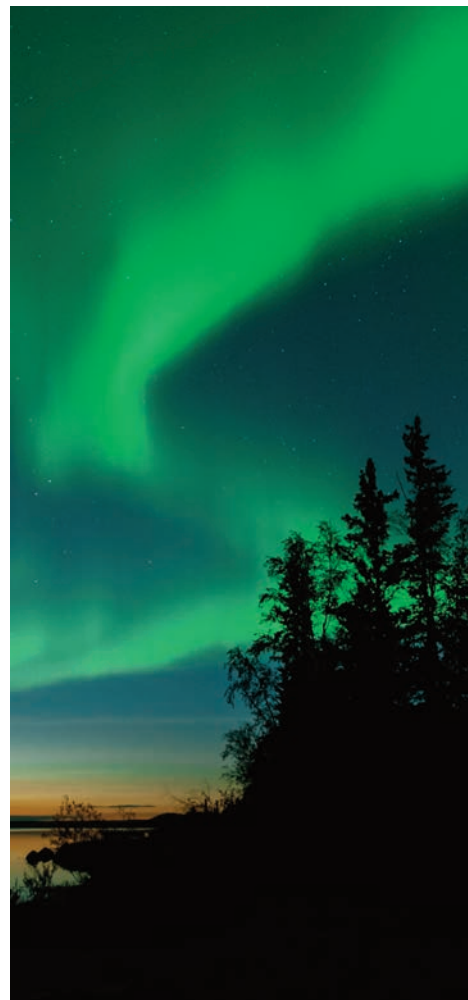
Peter Kevan, who is very familiar with the area, has offered to lead the adventure which will likely include a day on the Churchill River outflow to see beluga whales, seals, and such; another day on the land with a tundra buggy ride to see polar bears closer to hand than would be safe on foot; a visit to the old Fort Prince of Wales (<http://www.pc.gc.ca/en/lhn-nhs/mb/prince>); day and half-day trips across the tree line and back to experience permafrost, ice wedges, the vegetation, and periglacial land forms. A visit to the Eskimo Museum (<http://everythingchurchill.com/>) and Wapusk National Park Headquarters in Churchill's railway station is being arranged. There will be some evening lecture presentations to explain what we

will experience in more detail. The promotional website, <http://everythingchurchill.com/> may be worth consulting, but we will be doing more.

We are working with staff at CNSC towards the idea that the adventure may constitute a "course" that could carry a certification of attendance and completion for adventurers who would like to receive that.

The cost for accommodations there, with food, and air travel from Winnipeg to Churchill, MB is expected to be about \$1,700.00 per person (details to be worked out). We are working with a travel agent on the costs from and back to Toronto. Please let us know if the idea of such an adventure appeals to you. UGRA is collecting names of potentially interested participants.

Please convey your interest to Peter (pkevan@uoguelph.ca). Conveying your potential interest at this early date carries no obligation.



RETIREEES' SOCIAL

Join Franco J. Vaccarino for an afternoon social to renew old acquaintances and hear what's new and changing at the University

Wednesday, August 30, 2017

2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

UGAA Student Lounge (2nd floor by climbing wall)

Guelph Gryphons Athletic Centre

Light refreshments to follow formal program



RSVP by Wednesday August 23 at <https://bit.ly/2017UGRetirees> or call Claire Alexander at 519-824-4120, ext. 53098 or email calexand@uoguelph.ca
Complimentary parking will be available

The recently opened 25,000-square-foot Athletic Centre is creating a hub for health and wellness on campus. This new facility is helping to make Guelph Canada's healthiest community, and to make the University of Guelph a global leader in healthy living.

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Spring 2017

Spring 2017 Forum

Recent news reports say that the Slims River in the Yukon has dramatically changed course and that a computer model indicates this has been the effect of human-induced climate change, overlaid on natural fluctuations. The 53 people who attended the April 13th UGRA Spring Forum on “Surviving Climate Change: Implications, Adaptation and Mitigation” were well-equipped to understand this report, thanks to three excellent speakers. Presentations were made by Robin Davidson-Arnott, Professor Emeritus, Department of Geography, Barry Smit, University

Passings

Eiju Yatsu	15 December 2016
Carlo Robotti	27 December 2016
Reginald Limebeer	30 December 2016
George Bell	4 January 2017
Tom Settle	10 January 2017
Emmie Simpson	13 January 2017
Edna Hoover	18 January 2017
Hugh Dale	22 January 2017
Anthony Mifsud	2 February 2017
Lorenzo Digravio	10 February 2017
Alice Deschene	13 February 2017
Stanley Kobylnik	14 February 2017
Laurie Parr	17 February 2017
Clarine Lace	25 February 2017
Ivan Grinyer	26 February 2017
Julius Mage	27 February 2017
Eleanor Chu	28 February 2017
Stanley Sweeney	12 March 2017
Hugh Elgie	17 March 2017
Sebastian Flamino	18 March 2017
M. Helen Major	23 March 2017
Ann Dalziel	31 March 2017
Douglas Daymond	1 April 2017



Professor Emeritus, Department of Geography, and Assistant Professor Kirby Calvert, who thanked the first two speakers for retiring and making room for him in the Department of Geography!

Robin Davidson-Arnott set the stage by defining weather, climate and climate change, and outlining how greenhouse gases, including water vapour, carbon dioxide and methane, contributed to processes that change the energy balance and warm the climate. He pointed out that observed changes in climate are a statistical description of changes that have taken place over a particular time period, whether that is 100 years or a million years. Natural fluctuations occur with periodicities that may be very long or relatively short, with ice ages or warming periods resulting from a combination of these cycles and the natural fluctuations within them. So, how can we tell when a climate change has occurred? And how can we distinguish between a natural change and one caused by human activity? He described the use of Global Climate Models (GCMs) to run scenarios of the temperature impact of increased levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. The current third generation models now provide better predictions and generally support the hypothesis that the climate is changing. Both direct and proxy measurements provide ways to test the hypothesis that the climate is changing. Temperature data shows a steady increase since 1940, and significant increase since 1980, while snow and ice cover, water and sea level rises, sea-ice in the arctic, and retreating glaciers all indicate that global warming is occurring.

For example, winter ice on Lakes Superior, Michigan and Huron has shown a downward trend, with 2014 being the last year of substantial ice cover. This decrease in ice cover means that, in late December, January and February, storms in the Great Lakes create bigger waves which hit shorelines with 30-40% more energy, producing erosion and property damage. Robin indicated that even without proof of the extent to which human activity is affecting global warming, it is clearly prudent to take immediate steps to mitigate emissions of

greenhouse gases and to adapt to changes occurring.

Barry Smit is a member of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) that has published a series of reports indicating scientific evidence for sources of human-induced climate change. Yet these reports, he said, have been undermined by a concerted public relations campaign to deny the evidence. He then treated the audience to a fine performance of the song “Consequences” – “Let us see”. Then he looked at some impacts of global warming on humans, including the spread of the mountain pine beetle in BC from the southern area into areas where it had previously been controlled by cold winter. Salvage of infected trees for pulp and paper created a boom-to-bust economy in local communities and completely voided a carefully planned sustainable forestry initiative. In agriculture, farmers can cope with a change of a few degrees as part of natural year-to-year fluctuation, but drought is the big challenge, and the coping range is quite specific. While warming may expand the range for culture of wine grapes, Niagara now sees more severe storms, and Canada’s large export trade in ice-wine is affected! Insurance companies are having to change their risk profiles, as the experience of the previous 40 years is no longer a reliable guide. Global warming effects can affect structures built on permafrost, lead to deaths during heat-waves, and displace people world-wide as a result of floods and droughts, which exacerbate the effects of wars and bad governments.

So, what can be our response to climate change? Can net greenhouse gas emissions be reduced? We have international agreements about trade – why not about climate? Some argue that doing something would “hurt the economy”; the Stern report suggested it could cost about 1% of the UK GDP to stop climate change. Yet the cost of NOT stopping it is likely 5-20% of GDP, and with missed opportunities offered by mitigation effects. Our key climate change survival strategy is adaptation – changing to be resilient, and finding ways to deal with the challenges of climate

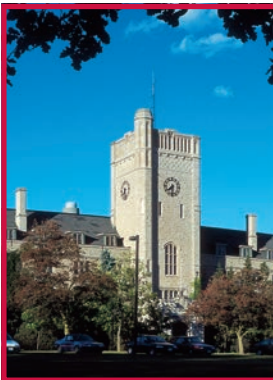
change. Ontario's "Climate Ready" Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan is one attempt and being ready. But for many parts of the world, the severe effects of climate change are already reality, often with few options possible. Fish stocks move, stranding African coastal villages; Inuit travelling on ice in the Canadian arctic find that traditional information about safe routes is now unreliable, so respect for elders is lost. And if you are investing in recreational opportunities in Ontario, think golf courses, not ski slopes. Kirby Calvert then spoke about things already being done or planned for climate change mitigation on a local basis. Besides being an assistant professor in Geography at U of G, he is Co-Chair of CEKAP (Community Energy Knowledge Action Partnership), which looks for ways local governments and communities can find local responses to this global problem. The focus is on renewable energy sources,

and looks at how the use of land – and the landscape generally – changes as the use of renewable energy sources is scaled up. As 75% of greenhouse gases come from fossil fuel combustion, the response is that we need to leave those reserves in the ground, and transition to energy sources from hydro, sun, wind and biomass. But while fossil fuels can be transported to where they are to be used, these alternate energy sources are spatially distributed fuels. They need to be generated close to where they will be used, and their land resource requirements are substantial. He used the specific case of solar energy generation, looking at how its land use requirements have to balance with needs of urban growth, and agricultural production of food and fibre. Improvements in technology will help, by increasing the efficiency and spacing of solar panels and by improving the capacity to store power until it is required.

But still, consideration is needed to deal with legislation that requires power be sold to the grid, or the need for a new sources of bioproducts (plastics and specialty chemicals) that are currently by-products from fossil fuels. Lots to think about!

Indeed, the afternoon gave all the attendees much to discuss and think about. We appreciate Robin Davidson-Arnott's organization of a forum on such a timely topic, and the tremendous job all three speakers did in presenting a great deal of information in a thoroughly digestible and interesting way. Oh, and we also enjoyed fine refreshments and chances to visit with each other at the beginning of the afternoon, not to mention a fine spring day at the Arboretum. On that warming we have no complaints!

Roz Stevenson



Celebrate with us

In 2017, Canada will celebrate the 150th anniversary of Confederation. We've created this website to connect you with events and initiatives happening on campus and in the community to celebrate this major national milestone. We will be populating this website with events and links as they become available.

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/canada150/>



Celebrating Canada 150 *in the Garden*

**Friday, June 16, 2017
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

Celebrate national Garden Days in Guelph with free garden tours of the Arboretum's World of Trees, Riverside Park's Floral Clock, and the Conservatory Gardens at the University of Guelph. Learn about all of the special plantings for Canada's 150th birthday.

Complimentary parking and shuttle service is available at the Arboretum and Riverside Park.

To reserve space on the shuttle please register at <https://bit.ly/GardenDays2017UG>



UGRA

Spring 2017



Third Age Learning, Guelph

To celebrate their 30th Anniversary, Third Age Learning, Guelph is holding a special event on 31 May 2017 at 1:30 pm at the River Run Centre featuring **Ilana Landsberg-Lewis**, co-founder and Executive Director of the Stephen Lewis Foundation. Her topic is **"From Survival to Social Justice: African Grandmothers Mobilizing to End AIDS"**. Tickets are \$20.00. For more information please visit www.thirdagelearningguelph.ca.

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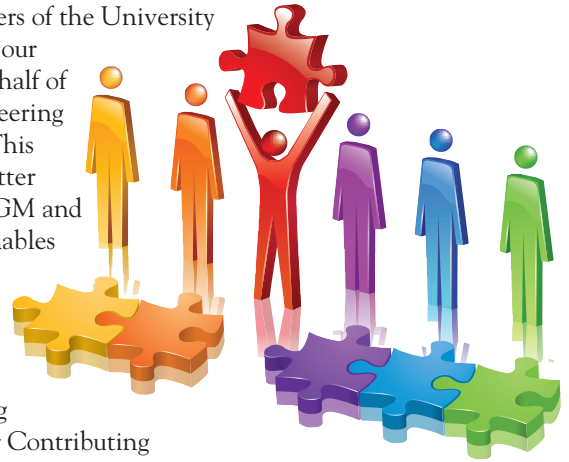
UGRA 2016-2017 Operating Statement and 2017- 2018 Budget

	2016/2017		2017/ 2018
	Budget	Actual	Budget
Receipts			
Member Contributions	6,500	8,118	7,500
Interest	200	203	200
Ad Revenue	750	1,600	1,500
Total Receipts	\$7,450	\$9,921	\$9,200
Expenses			
AGM	\$300	\$366	\$400
Board Meetings		310	
Office Supplies & Operating	115	128	115
Newsletter	5,500	5,305	5,310
Website	150	208	250
CURAC Membership	175	175	175
CURAC Conference	1,500	180	1,500
UGRA Scholarship	1,500	1,500	1,500
Events			
Fall Forum	500	628	575
Spring Forum	500	540	575
Luncheon		30	
Cruise		-126	
Total Expenses	\$10,240	\$9,244	\$10,400
Surplus (Deficit)	-\$2,790	\$677	-\$1,200



Be a Contributing Member of the UGRA (2017)

All retirees are automatically members of the University of Guelph Retirees Association, but our capacity to operate effectively on behalf of retirees depends on members volunteering to become contributing members. This money covers the cost of the newsletter and meeting room rentals for the AGM and the spring and fall forums. It also enables the UGRA to send a representative to the annual meeting of College and University Retiree Associations of Canada.



Please use the attached Contributing Membership Form to send with your Contributing Membership payment. In line with the resolution passed at the 2015 AGM we suggest a contribution of \$25 but we welcome contributions of any size whether smaller or larger.

Meetings are held from 1:30-3:30 on the first Tuesday of the month from September to June. A full Board is important for the full and proper functioning of the Association. If you are interested in working on behalf of your fellow retirees and have some time to contribute, please consider letting your name stand, and complete the contact-us form at <http://www.ugra.ca/contact-us>.

University of Guelph Retirees Association 2017 Contributing Membership

☐ **YES!** I want to help promote the welfare of retirees and to foster a mutually beneficial relationship between retirees and the University by contributing to the UGRA's administrative expenses.

My contribution is \$.....

Name Date.....

Address

City/Province Postal Code.....

Email..... Phone.....

(Note that the email address will be used for UGRA communications only.)

Please make cheque payable to the **University of Guelph Retirees Association**.

Mail this form with your cheque to:

University of Guelph Retirees Association
PO Box 48-4916 • University of Guelph • Guelph Ontario, N1G 2W1

Electronic Payment

Instead of mailing in a cheque you can now make a secure donation to UGRA electronically using PayPal and your credit card on our web page at: <http://www.ugra.ca>

UGRA

Spring 2017



The UGRA Executive Committee Needs Feedback

The UGRA Executive Committee acts on behalf of the interests of University of Guelph retirees. Without input from our members, we operate partly in a vacuum where we try to imagine what retirees see as important issues and concerns. To do our job well, we could use more information, so please take the opportunity to let us know what's on your mind.

Here are the ways you can contact us. Please provide your name, address and phone number. This will enable us to follow up on requests promptly.

By Email:

president@ugra.ca

Via the 'Contact Us' tab on the website:

www.ugra.ca

By Phone:

519-824-4120, Ext. 52197.

This is phone mail only, so please leave a message with your name and phone number.

By Letter:

University of Guelph
Retirees Association
P.O. Box 48-4916
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Guelph, ON N1G 2W1

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