

## First Circular and Call for Abstracts WDCAG 2020

**Finding our Way in the Twenties, and Why Geography Matters More than Ever**  
**13-14 March 2020**  
**Prince George, BC**

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The Geography Program at UNBC is pleased to extend an invitation to the 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Western Division of the Canadian Association of Geographers (WDCAG). The meeting will be held **March 13-14, 2020** at UNBC's Prince George Campus.

While we invite submissions from all areas of geographic scholarship, the theme of the meeting is ***Finding our Way in the Twenties, and Why Geography Matters More than Ever***. As we enter a new decade, significant changes are underway in environmental, social, political and economic systems operating at a variety of scales. As always, spatial perspectives offer unique and valuable insights on these changing conditions, and geographical scholarship remains an effective means by which to enhance greater empathy, understanding, cooperation and equity in the face of pressing issues and challenges. In short, geographers are well positioned to bring clarity to a wide range of issues defining the present age, and our annual meeting is a great way to showcase this advantage.

Those wishing to present their research are invited to submit a digital abstract in MS-Word to Dr. Neil Hanlon ([hanlon@unbc.ca](mailto:hanlon@unbc.ca)). The file should include a title (100 characters or less), complete list of authors and affiliations (lead author listed first), an abstract of 250 words or less, and up to five key word terms separated by semi-colons. Please also clearly indicate the type of presentation (paper or poster). ***If the lead author is a student, please indicate in a covering email whether you wish the presentation to be considered for a student award and, if so, the appropriate student category (i.e., Undergraduate, Masters or PhD).*** In cases where a student is presenting work completed in an earlier degree, the appropriate adjudication category is the one in which you are presently enrolled.

**The deadline for submission of abstracts is 21 February 2020.** It is the responsibility of authors to ensure the accuracy and quality of abstract submissions (they will not be edited before inclusion in the Conference Final Programme).

Those wishing to organize special sessions (papers or panel discussion) must contact Dr. Neil Hanlon with an email attachment containing a session title and up to 250-word description. If the names of presenters or panelists are known, please also provide this information in a covering email. **The deadline for registering special sessions is 14 February 2020.**

The preliminary schedule of events (draft and subject to change) is as follows:

**Friday March 13**

9:00am - 5:00pm	Field Trips (details to follow)
6:00pm - 7:50pm	Reception, Registration
7:00pm – 8:20pm	Key Note Presentation – Dr. Darwyn Coxson, Ecosystem Sciences and Management Program, UNBC: <i>Chun T'oh Whudujut/Ancient Forest and Protected Area: Conserving a Piece of the World's Only Inland Temperate Rainforest</i> (Canfor Theatre, UNBC)
8:30pm – 12:00am	Icebreaker Pizza, Pop and Other Suds at the Thirsty Moose (UNBC Student Society Pub) & NUSC Space

**Saturday March 14**

7:30am – 8:30am	Registration
8:45am – 12:00pm	Concurrent Paper & Poster Sessions (refreshment breaks provided)
12:00pm - 1:00pm	Lunch (costs included in Registration fee)
1:15pm – 4:30pm	Concurrent Paper & Poster Sessions (refreshment breaks provided)
4:45pm – 6:15 pm	AGM
8:00pm – 1:30am	Social at Trench Brewery (off-campus), with music by <i>The Ebbs</i> , featuring UNBC Geography's own Dr. Joe Shea. As space is limited to 100 patrons (aged 19+), purchase your tickets (\$25) early.

Additional information about the conference, including the keynote address, field trips, accommodations and events will be available on the conference website (<https://www.cag-acg.ca/wdcag2020>). The site is still in development and will be updated regularly, so please bookmark it for easy reference.

**REGISTRATION:** Registration will be done online through the conference website.

Early bird registration: Students (\$30), Faculty (\$50), not including GST

**Early bird registration deadline is 14 February 2020**

Regular registration: Students (\$40), Faculty (\$60), not including GST

**Final deadline for registration is 6 March 2020**

**One other note:** the conference overlaps with at least two events – the 2020 World Women's Curling Championship and the Prince George Dance Festival - that will attract many out-of-town visitors. **You are strongly encouraged to book accommodations as early as possible.** Please check the conference website for information about accommodations, including rooms set aside at conference rates.

Please contact Dr. Neil Hanlon (250-960-5881, [hanlon@unbc.ca](mailto:hanlon@unbc.ca)) for additional information.