



Message from the Executive Director

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change recently released its synthesis report on the state of the world's climate. This has brought climate changes to the attention of governments, policymakers and the public. Canadian scientists can contribute to a better understanding of the changes, for sound decisions on mitigation and adaptation — but they require support. CFCAS has requested renewal of funding from the federal government to support research. It has also tapped bank interest in order to launch a competition for two-year projects in areas of federal priority. The competition will also permit networks to expand their communications and coordination activities. CFCAS continues to promote the importance of funded initiatives to decision makers. This issue of CFCAS News highlights publicity events by the Foundation and its grantees.

Dawn Conway

Foundation News

CFCAS announces 2007 grants competition

CFCAS has launched a competition for short-term research initiatives in priority areas: air quality, northern climate science, weather forecasting and prediction, and the water cycle. The deadline for applications is 15 February 2008. For more information: www.cfcas.org.

CFCAS congratulates IPCC on Nobel Peace Prize

CFCAS congratulates the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) for its shared Nobel Peace Prize. The Prize, announced 12 October, 2007 recognizes IPCC's work in raising awareness of the state of the world's climate, including the causes and consequences of climate change and projections of future conditions. Over 70 Canadian researchers contributed to the report: their research and analyses provided key results that helped inform the Panel's conclusions.

CFCAS Brief to federal pre-budget consultations

CFCAS appealed to the federal government to renew support for climate and atmospheric sciences in a Brief submitted to the House of Commons Finance Committee in August 2007. It also proposed CFCAS be used to deliver funds for university-based research. The House of Commons Finance Committee helps inform the federal budget.

CFCAS staff news

CFCAS is pleased to welcome Elianne Bellerive as its new Office Manager. Elianne joined CFCAS in September 2007.

Ad showcases the value of Northern science

A recent CFCAS ad highlighted the value of climate science in addressing challenges facing Northern communities.

The ad appeared in the August 20, 2007 **Policy Briefing on Canada's North**, published in *The Hill Times*, a weekly newspaper on politics and government. The *Hill Times* is read by elected officials, bureaucrats and policy analysts.

A copy of the ad was subsequently sent to Members of Parliament.



Synthesis IPCC report released

The Synthesis Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change was launched in Valencia, Spain, on 17 November, 2007. The Report is the final part of the IPCC Fourth Assessment Report entitled "Climate Change 2007." It provides the most comprehensive picture of the global state of knowledge on the Earth's changing climate. The work itself was conducted by hundreds of scientists around the world including 70 Canadian experts. *For more information:* <http://www.ipcc.ch/>

Lunenburg Bay network holds Open House

On September 21, 2007 the research network *Interdisciplinary Marine Environmental Prediction in the Atlantic Coastal Region* showcased its achievements at an Open House in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia. The event, entitled “The Underwater Weather: Looking Beneath the Surface of Lunenburg Bay,” brought together climate scientists, policy-makers, over 400 local students and more than 100 members of the public. It featured 10 interactive booths representing different aspects of the network’s research, and boat tours to visit research buoys in the Bay. The network is part of Dalhousie University’s Centre for Marine Environmental Prediction. For information see <http://www.cmep.ca/>. (Photos courtesy of Lisa Delaney)



▲ A network member explains a research buoy to local students.



▲ Co-lead investigator John Cullen speaks to journalists. The event was widely covered in Nova Scotia.

STAR launched in Iqaluit

The Storm Studies in the Arctic (STAR) research network was formally launched in Iqaluit on November 14, 2007. The event informed the public of the benefits of STAR research into improved forecasting to transportation, public safety and the lives of people living in the region. The public, local and territorial politicians and community elders attended the event, which raised awareness of the need for the research while demonstrating instrumentation set up around the community. Tours of the research plane were given.



▶ The Convair 580 flies into severe weather from Iqaluit.

London, Ontario workshop brings research results to policy-makers

Over 130 decision-makers, scientists and members of the public met in London, October 4, 2007 to discuss the implications of CFCAS-funded research on water resources. The work of Dr. Slobodan Simonovic and his team shows that flooding in the area will likely increase in frequency and severity under a range of climate change projections. The results generated discussion on how policies, regulations and infrastructure can be improved to withstand these changes. Called “*Creating a Climate for Change in the Upper Thames Watershed*”, the workshop offered stakeholders the opportunity to brainstorm solutions.

Disappearing Glaciers

How long before glaciers disappear from the Canadian Rockies ? This was one of many questions asked at a recent meeting of scientists involved in the Western Canadian Cryospheric Network (WC2N). The meeting was held in Banff, September 28 – 29, 2007. With funding from CFCAS, the WC2N scientists are examining the processes influencing the melting of glaciers in western Canada. The five year study is led by Brian Menounos (University of Northern British Columbia). In addition to researchers from five Canadian universities, the network has attracted a range of partners and stakeholders, including Environment Canada, Natural Resources Canada, BC Hydro and the University of Washington (U.S.A.).

CFCAS invites researchers to hold public events

CFCAS encourages researchers to bring significant results to the attention of policy- and decision-makers and the public through articles, open houses, press releases, panel discussions, workshops or media events. For assistance contact Kelly Crowe, CFCAS Communications Officer at 613-238-2223 ext. 209 or crowe@cfcas.org.