

The protection of GSA Conference set for next week endangered species

N.B. Environmental Network Special to the Bruns

What will it take for those mandated to protect endangered species in Canada to act?

"Canada has yet to pass a federal law that protects species at risk, and the provinces and territories have a patchwork of laws, ranging from adequate to non-existent, which leave gaps wide enough for many species at risk to fall through," says Laura Telford of the Canadian Nature Federation.

A gap - such as the one into which the Dwarf wedge mussel has fallen. Daniel Leblanc of the Petitcodiac Riverkeepers states that the recent extirpation of this unique mussel species was "declared while the province of New Brunswick and the Government of Canada were studying what to do in order to save this river system."

Endangered Species in New Brunswick is the new theme of New Brunswick's own environmental magazine *Elements*. Contributing authors from our province express their thoughts in this issue; offering solutions and describing several ongoing projects across New Brunswick.

"The Atlantic Salmon is a species of cultural, social and economic value to Eastern Canada," says Sue Scott (Atlantic

Salmon Federation). Furthermore, Scott states that the government must provide leadership in habitat restoration and enhancement programs where all can participate.

Roland Chiasson and Sabine Dietz (Piper Project), believe "it will be a long time, if ever at all, before the Piping Plovers of Atlantic Canada will not need our help anymore."

According to Mike Lushington (CCNB Board of Directors), "the Harlequin duck situation in northern N.B. cries out for a detailed study," as there has never been an authenticated record of Harlequins breeding in this province.

Reginald Webster (entomologist), describes the Maritime Ringlet Butterfly as particularly vulnerable and he says "continuing efforts will ensure that this unusual butterfly will continue to fly through our salt marshes".

Rudy Stocck (Maritime Rangers School) looks at the protection of the Bald Eagle, where the major concerns tend to be, and preventing disturbances of the nesting birds and forestry-related activities.

To read more about New Brunswick's endangered species and to be one of the more than 3,000 readers this week, visit this award-winning online magazine *Elements* at <http://www.elements.nb.ca>.

Gordon Loane

The Brunswickan

Organizers are handling last minute details associated with the Graduate Student Association's 9th Annual Conference on Student Research slated to get underway next Thursday and Friday at the Wu Conference Centre.

Chris Sheehy, GSA Vice-President Communication, and Chair of the four-member organizing committee that includes Tricia Beattie, Heather Sheppard and Jeremy Gullison, said a December call has netted 35 abstracts from graduate students in the Sciences and Humanities.

Seventeen UNB graduate students will present the results of their ongoing research in 20-minute sessions on Thursday, while eighteen similar sessions are slated for Friday.

Dr. David Scott of UNB's Faculty of Kinesiology will deliver the keynote address on Thursday beginning at 12:05 pm, while History Professor Dr. Marc Milner will deliver the Friday Keynote address at 7:30 p.m.

First, second and third place prizes in both the Sciences and Humanities will be awarded at the conclusion of the conference.

Judges include UNB Psychology Professor Dr. Ann Cameron, St. Thomas University Spanish Professor Roger Moore and retired UNB Physics Professor Dr. Merrill Edwards, after whom the top prizes at the conference are named.

The GSA has also organized mid-morning and mid-afternoon refreshment breaks as well as noon hour lunches on both days of the conference.

A wine and cheese reception on the final day of the conference is slated for 6:45 pm just before the keynote address by Dr. Milner at 7:30 pm Friday.

The Awards Ceremony will take place at 8 pm Friday.

The UNB Graduate Student Association provides \$3,800 annually to help organize the Research Conference with other donations from the School of Graduate Studies, the President's office

and the Vice-President Research and International Co-operation.

"The money goes towards renting the J. Harper Kent Auditorium at the Wu Conference Centre and towards the prizes, organization, photocopying, lunches and receptions," said Sheehy.

"Organizers are also hoping for a good turnout from graduate students, undergraduates, professors and the media," he said.

Research topics

Presentations at the 9th Annual GSA Conference on Student Research include:

- (1) Corey Slumkoski - "Discussions on the Periphery: New Brunswick and the Rowell Sirois Commission"
- (2) Barbara Ramsey - "Pre Game Sexual Activity of Varsity Athletes"
- (3) Soon-Thai Tiong - "High Light Stress Responses in a Uni Cellular Green Alga"
- (4) Jeff Higdon - "Assessing Integrity in Ecosystem Management"
- (5) Jenny Clayton - "A New Brunswick Family at Sea"
- (6) Tammy Moore - "Nuns, Widows and Prostitutes: The Legal Position of Single Women in Medieval England"
- (7) Dawn MacIsaac - "Bioelectric Signals and Muscle Fatigue"
- (8) Xavier Gutierrez - "Process-product Study: A Combined Approach for Language Classroom Research"
- (9) Arnaud Raymond - "Modeling of Drainage in Filled Papermaking"
- (10) Catherine M. Devlin - "Who's Who among Terns"

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He also doubts the new NRC centre and parking lot will take up five acres or nearly one-third the sixteen-acre wooded area behind the Student Union Building.

"My sense is that the final NRC request for land will be considerably less than what was originally requested," Ryan said.

Ryan said UNB has also been working with students and faculty in Forestry to

preserve the green space in front of Sir Howard Douglas Hall (Old Arts Building) and recently built an access road to the newly-expanded Student Union Building which attempted to preserve as many trees as possible.

Meanwhile, federal officials have recently engaged the Fredericton architectural firm, ADI Limited, to do some preliminary work on defining the space for the new NRC E-commerce Centre.

The new centre is now moving through

the federal government approval process. From UNB's side Ryan said the university's solicitor is currently working on an outline for a land lease which must still be approved by the Board of Governors.

Depending on various options now under consideration by the federal government, Ryan said it is possible that construction could begin on the new NRC centre by the spring of 2001.

"Whether it happens that quickly at this point I am not quite sure," he said.

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of Governor's Finance Committee, that a \$100,000 donation to the project from the university was not easy to achieve.

"I would like to emphasize the university today does not have \$100,000 in the pot that it can throw here and there."

"It wasn't a simple thing for the university to make this adjustment and there were some sacrifices involved," Frazee said. Nonetheless, he said the new SUB public

elevator is a marvelous addition. "It's the icing on the cake."

"I want to congratulate everyone who made it happen, particularly the students," he said.

A plaque was unveiled at the close of the recognition ceremony acknowledging the Royal Bank Financial Group Foundation and UNB as financial contributors to the SUB public elevator project.

The plaque is located near the entrance to the public elevator in the SUB cafeteria.



Kevin Forneris / The Brunswickan

Snow, snow everywhere and some of it is in pretty shapes. The SUB expansion was celebrated with a little fun in the snow on Friday.

3 LOCATIONS

UNB GRAPHICS

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+

**T-Shirts
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Three Locations on Campus:

**E10A Head Hall
458-7908**

**109 Carleton Hall
458-7907**

**106 Eaton Multimedia
Centre
453-4843**

Anti-Fur day rally

The Fredericton Society Against Animal and Environmental Exploitation will be holding an anti-fur demonstration outside Mitchell Fur store, 466 Queen Street, today at 11:00 a.m., to mark Canada's 12th Anti-Fur Day.

The demonstration will also proceed to Eastern Furs, 115 York Street.

The Society will be joining groups in 16 Canadian cities with the message "Have a heart, don't buy fur."

For more information, please contact Julia Haggerty at 451-8413.

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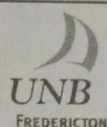
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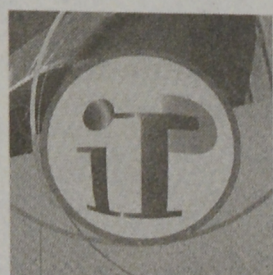
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