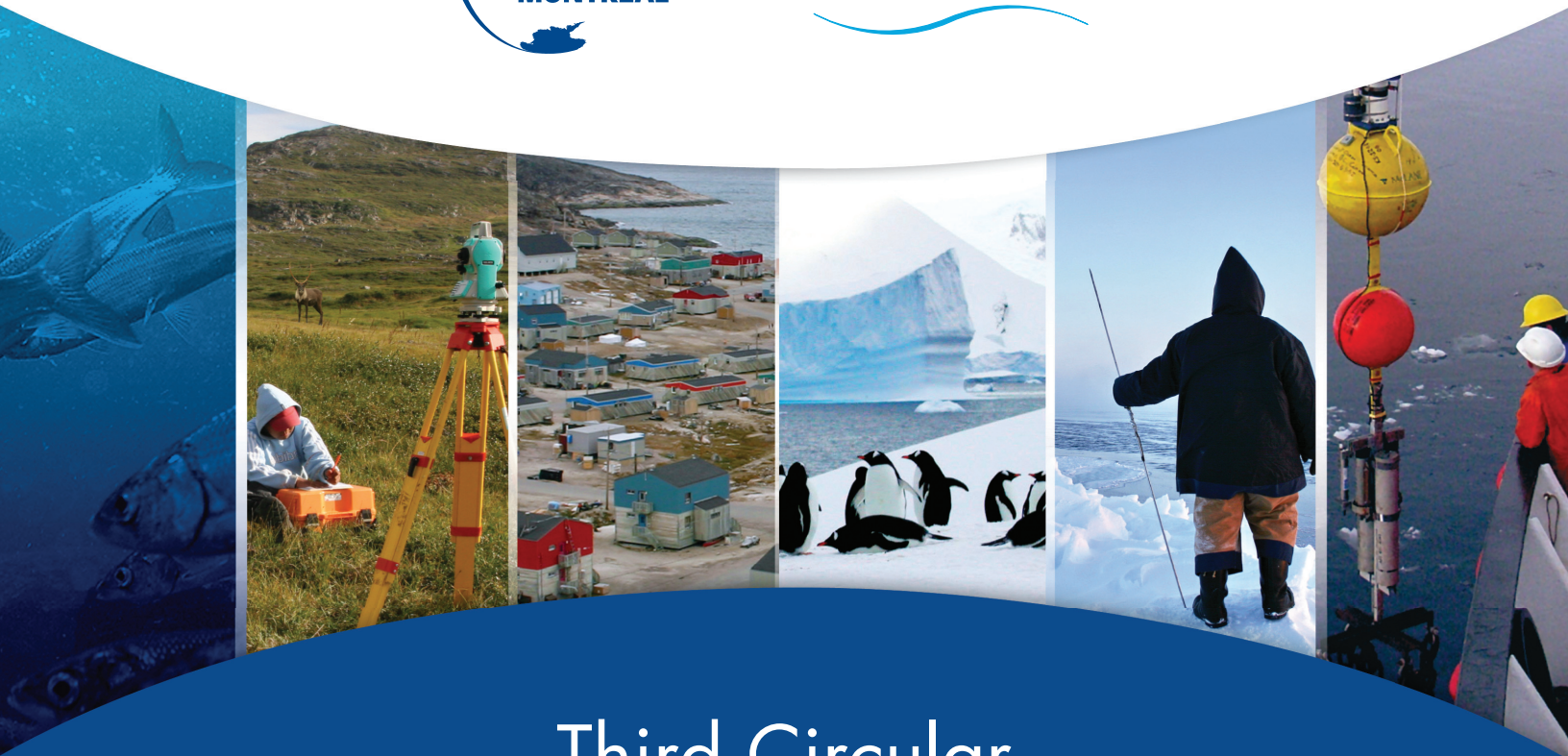


From Knowledge to Action



APRIL 22-27 AVRIL 2012
INTERNATIONAL POLAR YEAR
ANNÉE POLAIRE INTERNATIONALE



Third Circular

www.ipy2012montreal.ca

From Knowledge to Action

Third Circular

The International Polar Year (IPY) 2012 *From Knowledge to Action* Conference features the latest polar research results from global leaders in Arctic and Antarctic science. Endorsed by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the International Council for Science (ICSU) as the third and final conference of IPY 2007 – 2008, the *From Knowledge to Action* Conference will be hosted in Montréal, Canada from April 22-27, 2012.

Occurring at a pivotal time for the environment of our planet, the Conference draws international attention to the Polar Regions and global change. Science continues to enhance our understanding of the critical role that the Polar Regions play in the Earth's systems. What happens at the Poles will not only alter the polar environments, but also change the course of human and economic development at a planetary scale.

From Knowledge to Action will bring together over 2,000 Arctic and Antarctic researchers, policy- and decision-makers, and a broad range of interested parties from academia, industry, non-government, education, Arctic communities, and circumpolar indigenous peoples. Together, these groups will address challenges, share and apply knowledge of the Polar Regions and discuss opportunities and solutions for adapting to global change.

The IPY 2012 Conference will contribute to the translation of new polar scientific findings into an evidence-based agenda for action that will influence global decisions, policies and outcomes over the coming years.

Conference Chair and Steering Committee

The planning of the conference is being led by the Conference Chair, Dr. Peter Harrison, Stauffer-Dunning Chair and Director of the School of Policy Studies at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, Canada along with an International Steering Committee made up of representatives of numerous polar science organizations.



Conference Schedule

Each day of the *From Knowledge to Action* Conference will feature a thought-provoking Keynote Speaker. World leaders in their fields, the Conference keynotes will provide perspective on polar issues exploring the policy, social and economic implications of current trends in polar research. The IPY 2012 Conference keynote speakers are:



Dr. Gro Harlem Brundtland: Special Envoy on Climate Change for the United Nations Secretary General, Dr. Gro Harlem Brundtland is also the former Prime Minister of Norway. She gained international recognition in the 1980s for championing the principle of sustainable development as the chair of the World Commission on Environment and Development (the Brundtland Commission), which addressed concerns about the accelerating deterioration of the human environment and natural resources and the consequences for economic and social development. The Commission's recommendations led to the 1992 Earth Summit – the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. A medical doctor and Master of Public Health, Dr. Brundtland also served as Director-General of the World Health Organization and spent 10 years as a physician and scientist in the Norwegian public health system.



Dr. Louis Fortier: His work has helped place Canada at the forefront of research on the impacts of climate change in the Arctic. Under his leadership as Scientific Director, ArcticNet, Canada's first network of centres of excellence focused on the Arctic, was created in 2003. In addition to supporting research in the natural, human health and social sciences, ArcticNet has developed major research partnerships with industry, particularly the oil and gas sector and involved northern communities and organizations in the scientific process. Dr. Fortier has pushed Arctic issues to the forefront of the political agenda. He is a tireless promoter of international multidisciplinary co-operation and has created and managed mega-research programs in marine science, such as the International North Water Polynya Study, the Canadian Research Icebreaker Amundsen, and the Canadian Arctic Shelf Exchange Study. Dr. Fortier is also the Canada Research Chair on the Response of Arctic Marine Ecosystems to Climate Change and a Professor at Université Laval since 1989.



Dr. Sheila Jasanoff: A pioneer in her field, Dr. Sheila Jasanoff has taught and conducted research for many years on the role of science and technology in the law, politics and policy of modern democracies. She is Pforzheimer Professor of Science and Technology Studies and Director of the Program on Science, Technology and Society at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The author of more than 100 articles and chapters, she is also the author or editor of a dozen books, including *Controlling Chemicals*, *The Fifth Branch*, *Science at the Bar* and *Designs on Nature*. Dr. Jasanoff served on the Board of Directors of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and as President of the Society for Social Studies of Science.



Dr. José Xavier: A marine biologist with the Institute of Marine Research, University of Coimbra, Portugal and the British Antarctic Survey, U.K., Dr. José Xavier studies climate change and the ecology and conservation of marine organisms in the Antarctic and Atlantic Oceans and recently published a comprehensive monograph on the prey of top predators that will greatly aid the research of others. He provided considerable leadership during IPY in the establishment of Portugal's first IPY program. In addition to his work on a number of science projects, he lead a highly successful educational program called LATITUDE60!, which reached thousands of students, educators, and politicians, helping to raise awareness of the polar regions. Dr. Xavier has been awarded the prestigious 2011 Martha T. Muse Prize for Science and Policy in Antarctica.



Aqqaluk Lynge: As a member of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and Chair of the Inuit Circumpolar Council, Mr. Lynge has promoted the rights of Indigenous Peoples both globally and in his home country of Greenland since his youth. He has represented the Inuit of Alaska, Canada, Greenland and the Far East of Russia through leadership positions in the former Inuit Circumpolar Conference (now ICC) from 1997 to 2006. First elected to the Greenland Parliament in 1983, Mr. Lynge has served as a Member of Parliament and as a Minister of various portfolios. He has been an invited speaker at a wide range of international human rights fora, wildlife management conferences, environmental summits, Arctic Council Ministers summits and others.

Each day of the conference will also feature Plenary Panels which will bring together experts from a diversity of sectors to explore important themes related to topics of polar change and global linkages, communities and health, ecosystem services, and adaptation to change.

Another highlight feature of the Conference is a series of multi-sectoral Action Forums. These Forums welcome all conference participants to contribute on critical issues facing the polar regions. Styled as interactive roundtables, senior thought leaders, industry representatives, researchers and practitioners will interact with each other and the audience to address the key challenges and opportunities related to sustainable resource development, oceans, health, community infrastructure and space technology and earth observations. These forums will discuss the application of research findings, policy implications and how to move polar knowledge to action.

The Conference will open at the Palais des congrès in Montréal with a welcome reception and icebreaker on Earth Day, Sunday, April 22. The official opening ceremony will be held on the morning of Monday, April 23, 2012. A banquet will be hosted on the evening of Thursday, April 26 and will feature a performance by the world-famous Cirque du Soleil. The conference will close in the early afternoon of Friday, April 27, 2012.

	Sunday April 22	Monday April 23	Tuesday April 24	Wednesday April 25	Thursday April 26	Friday April 27
08:30	Side Meetings	08:30 - 10:30 Opening Ceremony	Plenary Keynote: Aqqaluk Lynge	Plenary Keynote: Dr. Louis Fortier	Plenary Keynote: Dr. Sheila Jasanoff	Plenary Keynote: Dr. Jose Xavier
10:00		11:00 - 12:00 Opening Keynote: Dr. G. H. Brundtland	Parallel Sessions	Parallel Sessions	Parallel Sessions	Parallel Sessions
12:00	Earth Day Events & Public Lecture	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Closing Ceremony
13:30		Parallel Sessions	Parallel Sessions	Parallel Sessions	Parallel Sessions	
15:30		Plenary Panel: Poles & Global Linkages	Plenary Panel: Adaptation to Change	Plenary Panel: Ecosystem Services	Plenary Panel: Communities & Health	
17:00	Registration	Poster Session	Poster Session	Poster Session		
19:00	Icebreaker Welcome Reception		Polar Film Festival	Polar Film Festival	Banquet	

Important Dates

Early Bird Registration: September 21, 2011 - February 29, 2012

Late Registration: March 1 - April 27, 2012

Conference Dates: April 22-27, 2012

Conference Activities and Side Events

Workshops, workshops, workshops! A number of interesting professional and career development workshops are being offered in conjunction with the *From Knowledge to Action* Conference. Check our website for the latest offerings.

Are you a polar filmmaker? A Film Festival is being organized to bring the latest polar film creations to Montréal. The Canadian Film Institute has opened a call for film submissions and will host two nights of film showings at the beautiful newly renovated Art Deco Théâtre Impérial in downtown Montréal. All genres of film and video submissions are being sought from documentary, research, industrial, fiction, to activist. The deadline for submission is January 31, 2012.

Earth Day is on Sunday, April 22 – come join local events to celebrate the polar regions.

Registration is now open

Type	Early Bird 21 Sept. 2011 - 29 Feb. 2012	Regular 1 March - 27 April 2012
General	CDN \$700 NOW \$595	CDN \$800 NOW \$695
Student & Early Career Scientists	CDN \$400 NOW \$295	CDN \$400 NOW \$295
Polar EDUCATORS Workshop	CDN \$295	CDN \$295

Conference Program

The IPY 2012 *From Knowledge to Action* Conference will be one of the largest and most important scientific conferences for polar science and climate change, impacts and adaptation. Keynote presentations, thought-provoking panel discussions and workshops will provide the focal points for translating polar knowledge into actions that will enable people to live in, adapt to, or benefit from, our changing world. The conference program includes four major program areas:

Area 1 - Science Highlights and Area 2 - Synthesis and Integration

Area 1 Chair: Dr. Ian Allison (Australia), International Association of Cryospheric Sciences, Ian.Allison@utas.edu.au

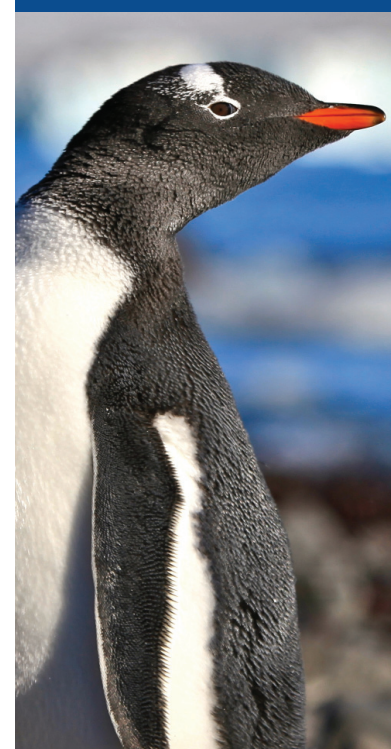
Area 1 Co-Chair: Dr. Hugues Lantuit (Germany), Alfred-Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research, Hugues.Lantuit@awi.de

Area 2 Chair: Dr. Louis Fortier (Canada), Scientific Director, ArcticNet- Network of Centres of Excellence, louis.fortier@bio.ulaval.ca

Area 2 Co-Chair: Dr. Alexandre Forest (Canada), Canada Excellence Research Chair in Remote Sensing, University of Laval, alexandre.forest@takuvik.ulaval.ca

Researchers will present the latest polar science results that will highlight IPY interdisciplinary research, knowledge and the synthesis and integration of polar science. Presentations, both oral and poster-based, will address the following five scientific themes:

- Polar regions and linkages to global systems and beyond.
- Past, present and future changes in the Polar Regions.
- Polar ecosystems, biodiversity and effects of human activities.
- Human dimension of changes: health, society, culture and resources.
- New frontiers, technologies and data practices in polar research.



Area 3 - From Knowledge to Action

Chair: Ms. Danielle Labonté, (Canada), Fellow and Adjunct Professor, Circumpolar Affairs, Institute of Energy and Environment, School of Policy Studies, Queen's University, danielle.labonte@queensu.ca

Co-Chair: Dr. Paula Kankaanpää (Finland), Director, Arctic Centre University of Lapland, paula.kankaanpaa@ulapland.fi

In Area 3 the terms “knowledge” and “action” are used broadly and are intended to cover scientific, indigenous, local and practitioners’ ways of knowing and activity of all kinds, whether that means resource development, community planning, policy-making or further research. Area 3 will reflect as many geographical, disciplinary and sectoral perspectives as possible and seek insights by comparing Arctic and Antarctic stakeholders’ experiences and perspectives.

Area 3 Themes include:

- Knowledge to Action Frameworks and Ways Forward
- Diverse Understandings and Representations of the Polar Regions
- Communities, Development, and Change
- Governance, Regulation, and Management

The relation of knowledge to action always takes the form of a dialogue, and so sessions will explore current thinking on best practices for how research is mobilized and translated, and on how current practices and demands set new research challenges. Other sessions will present practical applications of knowledge emerging from the polar regions across a broad range of sectors, projects and geographical areas.

Area 3 will also feature Action Forums to discuss critical issues facing the polar regions from the perspective of a variety of sectors, including industry, policy, civil society, community members, indigenous peoples and others. The Action Forums will be organized as interactive roundtables, with senior thought leaders and practitioners interacting with each other and with the audience to address the key challenges and opportunities related to the Action Forum theme.

Area 4 - Public Engagement, Education and Outreach

Chair: Ms. Linda Capper (United Kingdom), Head of Communications, British Antarctic Survey, lmca@bas.ac.uk

Scientific research outputs from International Polar Year have deep significance, relevance and benefits to all members of society. Engaging with the public using a variety of innovative techniques ensures that they are aware and supportive of polar endeavours and can make the right choices in their every day lives. In the fourth area of the IPY 2012 *From Knowledge to Action* Conference, participants from around the world will share work to advance public engagement to further action on polar issues. This area explores how effective public engagement can promote, explain and involve different sectors of society in dialogue and activities that can help shape our future. Keynote presentations, thought-provoking panel discussions and workshops will provide the focal points for translating polar knowledge into actions that enable people to live with, adapt to, or benefit from, our changing world.

Themes explored in Area 4 include:

- The role of the media in influencing political, business and societal decision-making.
- Harnessing the power of digital media for citizen engagement in polar science.
- Inspiring and enthusing the next generation in the importance and value of science that benefits all.
- Engaging consumer society in the value of polar science for underpinning policy and business decisions relating to energy, climate and food security.
- Public participation in research through citizen science initiatives

Indigenous Knowledge Exchange

One of the important aspects of the current International Polar Year that sets it apart from previous Polar Years is the number of research projects that integrated scientific research with Indigenous knowledge, and the number of Indigenous communities that were actively involved in scientific research projects. Indigenous Northern communities have extensive intimate knowledge about the Arctic ecosystems in which they live (and have lived for millennia), and are at the forefront of debates about the impacts and responses to accelerating environmental changes in the circumpolar Arctic. The deep understanding Indigenous Northern communities have of the natural and physical environment presents a unique vantage point for a holistic understanding of the Arctic. Moreover, Indigenous Northern communities are best able to tell the important human story of the Arctic, making valuable contributions to our understanding of issues such as health, governance, food security, etc.

The IPY 2012 conference will feature an Indigenous Knowledge Exchange (IKE) with programming developed by Indigenous peoples to highlight issues of interest and importance to community members of the circumpolar Arctic. The IKE will be open to all conference participants. Major topics to be addressed include: Food Security and Health, Changing Environment – Climate Change, Wildlife and Management, Youth and Capacity Building and Knowledge Transfer. Arctic Indigenous leaders, policy and decision-makers, researchers and youth are all invited to contribute to the planning of the IKE program and to participate in all aspects of the conference. To contribute to IKE planning or for further information please contact Meaghan Bennett at (819) 934-9406 or email: Meaghan.bennett@aandc.gc.ca.

Partnership Opportunities

We are seeking partners and exhibitors interested in joining us to support the IPY 2012 *From Knowledge to Action* Conference. Check out the Prospectus and information on exhibits available on the Conference website (www.ipy2012montreal.ca) to see some of the many opportunities to support this important international Conference and contribute to the application of the new polar knowledge to action.

Montréal: Outstanding Conference City

Montréal, Québec is a beautiful, historic city with a population of over 3 million in the Metropolitan area. Both French and English are widely spoken and the city is renowned for its rich cultural and artistic life. The Conference is being held at the Palais des congrès, located in the heart of downtown, within walking distance of Old Montréal, the Saint Lawrence River, as well as numerous excellent restaurants and hotels.

Contact Us

Interested in receiving further information about the conference? Contact us at:

IPY 2012 Conference Secretariat

360 Albert Street 10th Floor

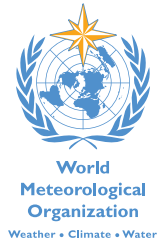
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Web: www.ipy2012montreal.ca



Conference Organizers



Canadian Polar Commission
Commission canadienne des affaires polaires

