

**PRAIRIE PERSPECTIVES:
GEOGRAPHICAL ESSAYS**

Edited by
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Table of Contents

Preface	v
Some observations on peak stages during the 1826 Red River flood and the “Fleming Conundrum”	
W.F. Rannie	1
Monitoring anthropogenic nutrients in a modified natural wetland; Riding Mountain National Park, Manitoba	
S.E. Belke, R.A. McGinn	16
Relationships between NDVI and climatological variability in the Prairie ecozone of Canada	
X. Guo	32
Development of a Landowner’s Riparian Health Index (LOHRI): a case study in the Broughtons Creek watershed	
B.J. Svenson, R.A. McGinn	47
Ordination of multispectral imagery for multitemporal change analysis using Principal Components Analysis	
J.M. Piwowar, A.A. Millward	62
Growth form adaptations by conifers in an anthropogenically stressed environment, Flin Flon, Manitoba - preliminary observations	
G.A.J. Scott, G.M.J. Scott	76
Exploring geographic knowledge through mapping	
S. Bell	89
The (in)authenticity of the Prairie: elsewhere-ness and insideness in Margaret Laurence’s Manawaka series	
B.P. Cecil, L.A. Cecil	101
Inuit housing needs: a Coral Harbour, Nunavut case study	
T. Carter, C. Jacobucci, T. Janzen	116

A home away from home at Grand Beach, Manitoba J. Selwood, M. Tonts	135
Perception and sustainable forest management: woodland owners in the Nova Model Forest K. B. Beesley, L. Sanderson	155
Can whale-watching convey an important message of conservation?: an initial perspective from British Columbia, Canada C.D. Malcolm, D.A. Duffus	175
“If it came in the mail, I wouldn’t have even looked at it”: contact triangulation as a means to increase response rates D. Walsh, D. Ramsey	191
East to Arden Ridge: cultural icons and landscapes of the “Beautiful Plains” region of Manitoba J.C. Everitt, R.D. Ramsey	208
Multiple stream captures in a glacial spillway: Huns’ Valley, Manitoba R.A. McGinn, K. Zaniewski	226

Preface

The 26th annual meeting of the Prairie Division, Canadian Association of Geographers was hosted by the Department of Geography, Brandon University. The conference was held at the Vivian Motor Hotel, Neepawa, Manitoba on September 25th through 27th, 2002. A total of 30 papers were presented in six sessions entitled: Rural Economy, Physical Processes and Techniques, Built and Imagined Landscapes, Floods and Rats: Environmental Hazards and Responses, Environmental Management, and Historical Geography of the Prairies. In addition, seven posters covering a variety of topics were presented during a dedicated poster session. Three concurrent afternoon fieldtrips entitled “East to Arden Ridge: Cultural Icons and Landscapes of the Prairies”; “Multiple Stream Captures of a Glacial Spillway: Huns Valley Manitoba”; and a self-guided tour of the town of Neepawa showcased the cultural and physical diversity of the region.

This volume contains thirteen of the papers presented at the conference and two papers derived from the cultural and physical fieldtrips. As usual, several of the papers in this volume are authored or coauthored by undergraduate or graduate students and the variety of topics illustrates the diversity of research conducted by members of the Prairie Division of the CAG. All papers in this volume were subjected to a rigorous peer-review process in which each paper was evaluated anonymously by no less than two experts in the relevant field.

The editors wish to acknowledge the efforts of all those who participated in the organization of the conference and publication of this year’s volume. In particular, we wish to recognize our colleagues in the Department of Geography, Brandon University for assisting with the organization and delivery of the conference; the authors for their contributions to this volume; the reviewers for ensuring the quality of the manuscripts presented in this year’s volume; and finally Weldon Heibert and the University of Winnipeg for providing the technical assistance and resources for the final production of volume 6 of *Prairie Perspectives: Geographical Essays*.

The editors would also like to thank the following individuals and organizations for sponsoring this year’s volume: ESRI Canada; Office of the Vice-President (Academic and Research), Brandon University.

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