

**PRAIRIE PERSPECTIVES:  
GEOGRAPHICAL ESSAYS**

Edited by  
Michelle Kuly, John C. Lehr  
and John Selwood

Department of Geography  
University of Winnipeg  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
Canada

Volume 7, October 2004

©Copyright 2004, University of Winnipeg  
Department of Geography

Printed by  
University of Winnipeg  
Printing Services

**ISBN 0-9694203-8-2**

## Table of Contents

<b>Preface</b> .....	v
<b>Bluegrass in an ephemeral world: personal reflections on a musical form</b> M. Kuly .....	1
<b>Identity and environment in contemporary Inuit music</b> J. Lehr, J. Tabvahtah, J. Bartlett .....	11
<b>The catalytic potential of murals</b> K. Cardona-Claros, C. Engbrecht .....	21
<b>Trails, truth and tourism: Manitoba's Red Coat Trail</b> L. Gaudry .....	30
<b>From flâneur to arpenteur</b> M. Vachon .....	44
<b>Craft production in rural Manitoba: some preliminary findings</b> D. Eberts .....	57
<b>Spatializing rural communities' sense of place</b> R. Kennedy-Pruehs, S. Bell, D. Martz .....	71
<b>Capitalizing on life at the margins: the pawnbroker and inner city commerce</b> S. Kohm, J. Selwood .....	82
<b>The plaza as a public good: civic spaces in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico</b> B. Massam, J. Everitt .....	96
<b>Browsing for English: an investigation of non-material cultural diffusion among Taiwanese youth</b> R. Gibson, D. Eberts .....	114

<b>The socioeconomic adjustment challenges of Bosnian refugee resettlement in North Dakota</b>	
D.A. Hansen .....	129
<b>The brain drain of medical services in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa</b>	
S. Hathout .....	141
<b>The role of introduced forage species in sustainable cattle-pasture development in the Gran Pajonal, Amazonian Peru</b>	
G.A.J. Scott .....	155
<b>Birding as a tool for conservation: preliminary development of an educational program to increase environmental awareness in the Assiniboine River Valley in Brandon, Manitoba</b>	
L.M. Jago, C.D. Malcolm .....	167
<b>Outburst flood in the upper Rolling River spillway, Riding Mountain Uplands, Manitoba: a physiographic and sedimentological appraisal</b>	
R.A. McGinn, K. Zaniewski .....	179
<b>A Mongolian ice sheet?</b>	
X. Ke, J. Dale .....	194
<b>Towards a working framework for ‘best’-practice EA follow-up: lessons from Canadian case studies</b>	
B.F. Noble, S.N. Macharia .....	209
<b>Government policy and Hutterite Colony diffusion: 1917-2003</b>	
B. McGregor, W. Hiebert, J. Lehr .....	227

## Preface

It has become a PCAG tradition that the annual conference is held in a variety of prairie locations, incorporating many of the diverse rural landscapes that characterize the region. In keeping with that tradition, the 27<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Prairie Division, Canadian Association of Geographers was held at a few kilometers north of Gimli, Manitoba at Misty Lake Lodge from September 26 to 28, 2003.

Over three days, more than one hundred delegates attended the conference hosted by the University of Winnipeg's Department of Geography. In total, presenters delivered thirty-nine papers in nine sessions. A separate session included the display of eleven poster papers on a variety of topics. In addition to these presentations, attendees enjoyed a field trip examining rural settlement and recreational development along the east shore of lake Winnipeg. The conference ended with a keynote address by Dr. Harvey Thorleifson, Professor at the University of Minnesota, Minnesota State Geologist, and Director of the Minnesota Geological Survey. Overall, the conference attracted a solid contingent of attendees from all prairie departments.

Of the 50 conference papers presented, eighteen were accepted for publication in this volume of *Prairie Perspectives*. Seventeen are included in print, and an additional paper whose format does not conform to the printed journal requirements is included in a CD version. As a whole, these papers are representative of the scope of themes and breadth of subject matter offered at the annual meeting. As has been the case in past years, several of the papers in this volume were authored or coauthored by undergraduate and graduate students.

All papers submitted for publication in this edition of *Prairie Perspectives* were subject a double-blind peer-review process with referees drawn from a number of academic disciplines. Editors were able to solicit reviews from referees at universities throughout North America and from as far away as Sri Lanka and Australia. The diversity of papers submitted necessitated us calling on the expertise of scholars from not only geography, but a wide array of academic departments. To all those who generously gave of their time and expertise by consenting to act as referees, we offer heartfelt thanks.

The papers included in this volume well illustrate the eclectic interests of prairie geographers, from music to Mongolian ice sheets. The first grouping of papers is strongly oriented to the arts. Kuly's begins with bluegrass music

and an examination of how a musical form combats placelessness by connecting with listeners through the complexities of place. The theme of music continues in the second paper, where Lehr, Tabvahtah, and Bartlett offer their thoughts on the evolution of contemporary Inuit music in the Canadian Arctic. Venturing into the ties between visual art and community development, Cardona-Claros and Engbrecht consider new models of mural development occurring in Winnipeg's West End and the resulting impact on community participation.

Similarly, Gaudry is also concerned with how people interact with their environments. In her paper, she uses Manitoba's Red Coat Trail to describe the conflict between tourism and heritage interests in evaluating the authenticity of trail user experience.

The second grouping of papers share the themes of urban form and economy, and are representative of the remarkable diversity of approaches within the field, from public spaces, to wandering Dadaists. Everitt and Massam present an empirical evaluation of four plazas in Puerto Vallarta that informs our understanding of public space and place-making, particularly with respect to quality of life issues for local populations. Taking a broader view that incorporates public and private space, Kennedy-Pruehs, Bell, and Martz also discuss urban form. Their analysis of mapping exercises undertaken in two rural towns reveals striking differences in how and why community was valued in two seemingly similar locations. Moving two provinces east, Eberts continues this focus on the urban periphery, comparing the organization and economic restructuring of craft production in southwest Manitoba to that of heartland manufacturing regions. With their paper on inner city commerce, Selwood and Kohm shift our gaze yet again from geographic to social marginality as they analyze the social forces that combine to locate marginal businesses, such as massage parlours and pawn shops, in the inner city. In their analysis they consider the interaction between policy makers, business and consumer interests, and the public in this difficult debate. Finally, Vachon's consideration of the flaneur in reinterpreting the city gives us a more cerebral and enlightened understanding of urban planning.

Gibson and Eberts' paper on is the first of a series that bridge both human and physical geography. Their surveys of Taiwanese youth in downtown Taipei, reveals the Internet may be an important tool for the diffusion of the English language and other elements of Western non-material culture. Hansen examines the movement of people, not just ideas, to a new location using the example of Bosnian immigrants in North Dakota. The results of surveys and interviews reveal the considerable socio-economic resettlement challenges of this group. Using a quantitative analysis, Hathout examines the issue of migration from the opposite perspective. He investigates the reasons behind doctor resignation and emigration in South Africa,

incorporating statistics from receiving countries, specifically Canada. The last two papers in this group also incorporate both physical and cultural perspectives. Scott's exploration of cattle production in Amazonian Peru includes an evaluation of the introduction of exotic forage species and the resulting impact on cattle production, and sustainable agricultural practice. Jago and Malcolm report on the preliminary stages of a study that is taking place in Brandon, Manitoba. They explore the exploitation leisure activity – birding – in the creation of an education program to increase environmental awareness and action in the area.

The last group of papers included in this volume reveal some fascinating new facets in physical geographical research. McGinn and Zaniewski present some preliminary sedimentological and physiographic research from the Upper Rolling River Spillway that supports the occurrence of a late, possibly outburst, Wisconsinan flood. They posit further that paleocurrent indicators may suggest a reversal in the supraglacial flow in the spillway. Ke and Dale's paper outlines some groundbreaking work in geomorphology as documents a series of glacial-associated landforms that support what he calls a "Mongolian Ice Sheet" in the Chifeng region, on the eastern Mongolian Plateau. Ke and Dale hypothesize that the ice sheet was part of an existing ice sheet during the late Quaternary, and that the pattern of landforms echo those created by the Laurentide ice sheet in North America. Finally, Noble and Macharia address current deficits in follow-up environmental assessment practices through an evaluation of Canadian examples. They go on to develop a 'best practice' framework to guide approaches to project feedback. Finally, in a paper that is included only on the CD version of this issue of *Prairie Perspectives*, Brian McGregor, Weldon Hiebert and John Lehr map the diffusion of the colonies of all three Hutterite leutes in North America.

After a year of collection, review, editing and production, we are thrilled to bring you this volume of *Prairie Perspectives*. We would like to thank everyone involved in the organization of the conference and production of the journal. We would also like to thank all the authors for their professionalism and patience during this process. Finally, this volume could not have been produced without the able assistance of Weldon Hiebert, the University of Winnipeg geography department cartographer,. Weldon oversaw the entire design, layout and production of the journal. He facilitated figure and graphic reproduction for our authors and tirelessly accommodated late editorial revisions.

Michelle Kuly  
John C. Lehr  
John Selwood

