



Edited by
Drs. Alec Aitken, Mohammad Kamal and Bob Patrick
Department of Geography and Planning
University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada

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Preface

Prairie Perspectives: Geographical Essays is an annual peer-reviewed publication of the Prairie Division of the Canadian Association of Geographers (PCAG). The scholarly manuscripts included in each volume are a selection of those presented at the PCAG annual meetings, as well as contributions pertaining to the geography of the Western Interior solicited from, or submitted by, members of the Canadian Association of Geographers.

The 34th annual meeting of the PCAG was held in North Battleford, Saskatchewan on September 24-26, 2010. The conference and Annual General Meeting was hosted by the Department of Geography and Planning, University of Saskatchewan, and held at the Tropical Inn, North Battleford.

A total of 34 papers were presented in 8 concurrent sessions covering topics in physical geography, human geography and remote sensing. In addition, eleven posters were presented in a dedicated poster session. A total of 22 graduate and undergraduate students were among the presenters.

The paper and poster sessions took place on Saturday morning. A field trip took place in the afternoon. Despite, the absence of our tour bus, the seventy conference delegates still managed to enjoy a lunchtime barbeque prepared by Yvonne Michnik at the Fort Battleford National Historic Site. After lunch, a walking tour of the Fort was guided by Scott Whiting from Parks Canada. Afterward we visited the Allen Sapp Gallery and the Battlefords Wildlife Federation Interpretive Centre and Look-out with volunteer Ben Clauson.

Another conference highlight was the annual banquet dinner in the Tropical Inn Ballroom. The guest speaker was Doug

Cuthand, a freelance writer and member of Little Pine First Nation. The title of Mr. Cuthand's talk was "A First Nations' Perspective on 1885". The talk complemented the stories told earlier that day at Fort Battleford about the 1885 Northwest Rebellion.

This volume contains seven papers, all double-blind, peer reviewed. The papers reflect well upon the broad scope of geography and include topics in human and physical geography as well as remote sensing. Incredibly, the authors represent five countries and eleven institutions across academia and government. This statistic reflects the diversity within PCAG.

The editors wish to thank the authors of the manuscripts that make up this volume. In addition, we gratefully acknowledge the hard work of the reviewers without whom this volume would not have been possible.

Finally, we once again recognize the efforts and contributions made by Weldon Hiebert and the Department of Geography at the University of Winnipeg for providing the technical expertise and resources for the publication of Volume 14 of Prairie Perspectives. At this time Weldon is especially congratulated for taking Prairie Perspectives into the digital world!

We hope you enjoy the papers that follow.

Drs. Alec Aitken, Mohammad Kamal and Bob Patrick,
Department of Geography and Planning
University of Saskatchewan