



**Prairie Perspectives**  
Geographical Essays

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## Preface

The 37th Annual Meeting of Prairie Division, Canadian Association of Geographer was hosted by the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, University of Regina on the weekend of September 20 to 22, 2013. As in most years, the meeting was conducted off campus with the community of Esterhazy serving as the venue. Meeting facilities were provided at Esterhazy High School with teachers and students offered free admission to the paper sessions. Sixty five delegates including 30 students and CAG President Dr. Theresa Garvin of University of Alberta attended the meeting. Friday evening was assigned to the annual PCAG Executive Meeting and to social activities. On Saturday morning, 40 papers were presented in a series of eight sessions. Sixteen of these papers were presented by students each of whom was awarded a Paul Simpson-Housley/CAG Student Travel Award and a one-year annual membership of CAG. Saturday afternoon was devoted to field trip activities that explored various economic, cultural and physical aspects of the Esterhazy area. Visits to the Saskatchewan Potash Interpretive Centre, Esterhazy Flour Mill National Historic Site and Kapsovar National Historic Site were followed by an excursion into the Qu'Appelle Valley to examine features of glacial erosion and deposition. Notes for the excursion were prepared by Dr. Ulrike Hardenbicker and are included in this volume.

The Saturday night banquet was held at the S.N. Boreen Community Centre in Esterhazy with excellent catering provided by Kim Drozda of Majestic Catering. Dr. Bruce Mitchell from the University of Waterloo Department of Geography and Environmental Management delivered a much appreciated keynote address entitled Water Ethics and Rights. Saturday night's activities concluded with the Annual Slide Competition with Drs. Garvin and Mitchell acting as judges of slides entered in five categories – physical geography, human geography, prairie, most geographical and humour. In an attempt to maintain a geographical theme, the winner of each category received a bottle of wine selected from a viticulture region of world renowned.

Of the 40 conference papers, four are presented in this volume. Hanyang Wang and Robert (Bob) Patrick review source water protection planning in southern Saskatchewan and identify capacity-building factors that could improve plan implementation. Remaining in southern Saskatchewan, Roberta Kotowich and Ulrike Hardenbicker compare borehole cores from two alluvial fan sites in the Qu'Appelle Valley. They determine that greater core length reflecting more active erosion and deposition is found in the fan downstream of the area with the greater history of intensive agricultural practices. Moving to northern Manitoba, Samantha Fraser, Jeremy Sewell, Joni Storie, Adrian Werner, Charles Enns and Genevieve Berard argue that better detection of heterogeneous vegetation cover is a key to improving coastal mapping of the Hudson Bay shoreline. Results of remote sensing analysis suggest that such detection is possible when using the first derivative of the red edge. Remaining in northern Manitoba, Morrissa Boerchers, Matthew Metcalf and Christopher Storie report on food security and consumer habits in the isolated community of Churchill. They conclude that

the potential for food insecurity in Churchill is offset by online shopping and community/business initiatives.

The editorial process has been a lengthy one. I would like to thank both the reviewers for providing their critical assessments of the papers and the authors for their attention to scholarship. A special thank you is offered to Weldon Hiebert at University of Winnipeg without whose technical and production assistance publication of this volume would have been impossible.

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