

churchillnorthernstudiescentre



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THE BIRDFISH

WINTER/SPRING 2011

Churchill Northern Studies Centre
Newsletter

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Better Together



Photo: Wanli Wu

Churchill Northern Studies Centre – Parks Canada Joint Research Symposium

By Carley Basler and Sara Kuleza, CNSC Research Technicians

After years of hosting separate events, Parks Canada and the Churchill Northern Studies Centre teamed up to host a combined research meeting. The organizing committee, made up of both PC and CNSC employees, put in many long hours of planning. The result was the Churchill Northern Studies Centre and Parks Canada Science Symposium, held on January 19-20th, 2011 at the Norwood Hotel in Winnipeg. The sessions were extremely well attended with close to 100 guests getting together to listen to 23 speakers. Presenters were given 15 minutes to share their research findings and each session covered a wide variety of topics, giving the audience a real taste of research efforts in the Churchill region. As a thank you to Sara Kuleza; CNSC employee and symposium organizer, a birthday cake was served at the afternoon health break. The poster session was held shortly after with close to 30 posters, which included posters from researchers from the CNSC and Parks Canada as well as the summer field courses from the University of Manitoba and University of Winnipeg.

The second day of the symposium was an exciting one with a full morning of presentations and the afternoon keynote speakers. The Parks and Protected Areas Research Forum of Manitoba were hosting their meeting in the next room, so we opened up the keynote session to include these folks as well. The audience had the pleasure of hearing talks from Dr. Jim Duncan of Manitoba Conservation and Dr. Nick Lunn of Environment Canada, followed by some complimentary refreshments and a chance for all participants to mingle.

In solid CNSC tradition, we rented out the historical Coronation Bowling Lanes for a little post-symposium 5 pin action. The bowling was well attended by CNSC employees, past employees, researchers and students. All in all, the 2 days joint science symposium was a huge success. ❄️

featured **courses**

10% off
Summer Programs

for CNSC Members in good standing - call for details!

Coming Up - *Summer*

Not sure what to do for your summer holidays?

Each of our summer courses are catered to different interests and lifestyles, all encompass an educational aspect to exploring and enjoying what the sub-arctic has to offer. Read on, to determine which learning vacation sounds right for you!

Imagine discovering a lady slipper orchid, tucked away in a thick bramble of willows – your travel mates gather around to share your admiration of the orchid's delicate beauty, snapping pictures to forever cement the memory of your rare find. Your instructor comments on the orchid's resilience in a harsh climate, while bumblebees pollinate fuchsia coloured rhododendron flowers nearby. If this appeals, then *Into the Wildflowers* July 7 – 12 is right for you. This is a slower paced program that allows you to 'stop and smell the flowers' as you survey the miniature diversity of Churchill's sub-arctic flora on your hands and knees.

Waves crash on the nearby shore and the boat motor thrums as a pod of white whales, sending sprays of water from their blow-holes each time they surface, swim melodically towards you. One comes alongside, its ghostly white body swivels and glides sideways next to you as it gazes upwards, grinning at you from the deep. No picture or video will rival what you've just witnessed. *Belugas in the Bay* July 21 – 26 is a great program for all ages – kids and adults alike will get a thrill out of kayaking with the whales and searching for fossils on the shores of Hudson Bay.

Arctic terns screech in-between diving for fish while you journey past, clad in hiking boots, binoculars swinging from your neck. A swift cool breeze wafts traces of fireweed in bloom and keeps the insects at bay. The sun is shining intensely and the tundra sprawls out ahead of you as you march forward to discover what hidden ecological treasures lie in wait. The Churchill Northern Studies Centre is excited to offer its most active learning vacation yet! *Wild Planet* August 11 – 16 has been revamped to accommodate the adventurous traveler who holds a passion for the outdoors. ❄️



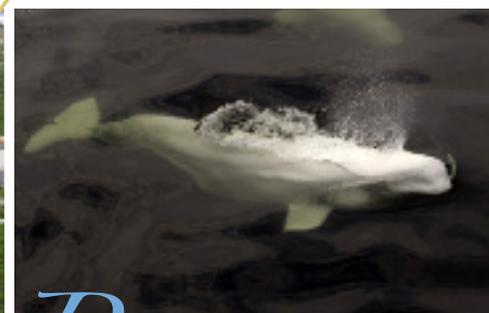
Wild Planet

FOR RESERVATIONS
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FAX: (204) 675-2139
cncs@churchillscience.ca
www.churchillscience.ca



Wildflowers Into the



Belugas in the *Bay*
The White Whales of Churchill

**BOOK
TODAY!**

For more information on these and other exciting course offerings at the Churchill Northern Studies Centre, please visit www.churchillscience.ca and download our course brochure today! Well, what are you waiting for? ❄️



Opening June 2011

FROM OUT OF THE **TUNDRA**

THE NEW CNSC
CONSTRUCTION
CONTINUES!

...still diggin' it? Visit www.churchillscience.ca





Photos: David MacNair

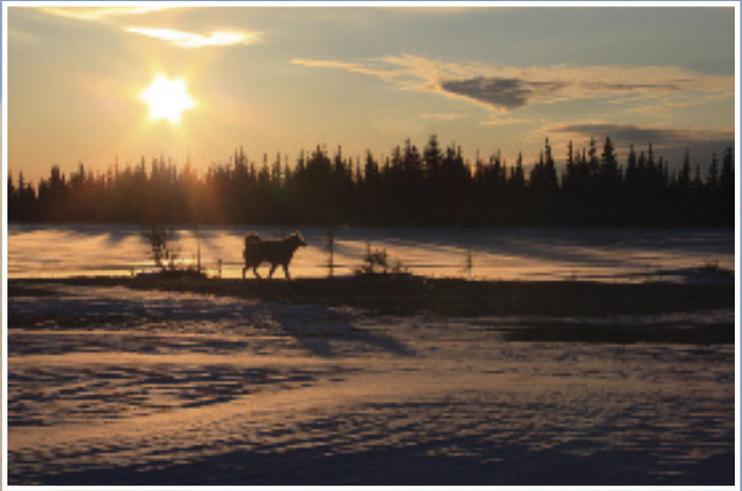


Photo: Janna Goldrup

Photo: Sara Kuleza



So Long Silver

It is with sadness that we report that Silver passed away on January 13. For the past few years, Silver served as a bear guard for the construction crews working on the new Churchill Northern Studies Centre, a role he carried out

faithfully and with great courage. His many adventures and occasional close calls were well documented by visiting journalists and I'm sure we each have our own stories to add. Silver was the quintessential northern dog, having lived an active, outdoor life in a harsh climate. As near as we can tell, Silver was 14 years old and died of old age. Happy trails...❄️

A Whale of an Offer!

Introducing a Special CNSC Fundraising Promotion

Contribute to the Churchill Northern Studies Centre and receive a Paul Butvila limited edition print.

Kavna and Allua are very special beluga whales that were adopted in the mid-1970s by the Vancouver Aquarium and are from Hudson Bay, near Churchill, in northern Manitoba. They are also the subject of Paul's creative eye and were the subjects of "Beluga Whales" which he painted in 1987. Kavna currently resides at the Vancouver Aquarium and Allua is in San Diego.



Paul decided to support the ongoing research into belugas in the Canadian sub-arctic by gifting a Dedicated Edition of 35 prints of that painting to the Churchill Northern Studies Centre. These exquisite prints are being featured by the CNSC in fundraising to complete their newly-designed facility that is to complete construction in Spring of 2011.

While supplies last, friends of the CNSC contributing \$250 or more will receive this beautiful, limited edition print as a token of our appreciation. Please contact Kim Daley at daley@churchillsience.ca for more information. ❄️



Volunteers Required

Looking for a sub-arctic adventure? The CNSC is moving! Support the CNSC as we enter this exciting new phase. Starting in April/May 2011, we need volunteers to help us pack up and move to our brand new, state-of-the-art green building. Observe the tundra as it changes from winter to spring. Enjoy the arrival of the first migratory birds and return of longer days. ❁



Photo: Heidi den Haan

Membership Pays

You, too, can look this good!

Gift shop super special for CNSC members: short-sleeved T-shirts 30% off, only \$14.00 until July 1st, 2011. A multitude of colours to choose from – black, grey, tan, olive, forest, navy, denim, royal, cardinal red, orange, yellow, purple and pink - a colour for everybody. (Surface shipping per T-shirt is \$3.00 for Canada and \$9.00 for USA. Please enquire for International rates). ❁



Photo: Heidi den Haan

Established in 1976, the Churchill Northern Studies Centre is an independent, non-profit research station located along the western coast of Hudson's Bay.

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to understand and sustain the **north**

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The Birdfish Newsletter is produced by CNSC staff with assistance from researchers and program participants.

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contribute

to the Churchill Northern Studies Centre Capital Campaign



churchillnorthernstudiescentre

Your contribution is still needed to ensure that our redevelopment meets all the expectations that YOU, our participants, researchers, and members have for the future of the CNSC. No contribution is too small. Every gift counts.

And it's so easy...

Clip this form and mail it with your cheque payable to:
CNSC Capital Campaign, Churchill Northern Studies Centre,
P.O. Box 610, Launch Road, Churchill, Manitoba,
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Or visit our web site at www.churchillscience.ca  and click on the big blue Donate button. This will take you to a secure site that exclusively handles donations to organizations like ours. Additional information about the security features is provided on the web page.

Or just give us a call at (204) 675-2307.

All donations will be recognized in campaign materials and annual reports unless you wish to remain anonymous. Tax receipts are provided for all Canadian contributions over \$25. Contact Kim at (204) 675-2307 or daley@churchillscience.ca for details. 

Important Changes to CNSC Membership Rates

The CNSC is a member-based organization. All users are subject to a mandatory annual membership fee. Past clients may renew their membership as a way of supporting the ongoing operation of the CNSC. Effective January 1st, 2011, Individual, Student/Senior, and Family membership dues have increased. These changes are the result of recent increases in the cost of essential services we provide to clients. Over the coming months, we will be enhancing the benefits of membership including more special promotions and discounts on future CNSC Learning Vacations and merchandise. For more information, please do not hesitate to contact the Centre and thank you for your support.

join

the Churchill Northern Studies Centre Today!



We rely on our membership to provide the support and funding needed to make the CNSC a place for world class research and education programs in the Canadian subarctic. Join us now and be part of these exciting times at the CNSC. Already a member? Use this form to ensure your membership remains current and YOU stay abreast of Centre activities.

Name: _____ E-mail: _____ Tel: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Province/State: _____ Postal/Zip Code: _____

In accordance with the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act, names, addresses or other personal information collected by Churchill Northern Studies Centre is used for internal purposes such as informational mailings, membership renewals and other communications, and is not shared with any third party. Complete details of our privacy policy are available by contacting the CNSC.

NEW* membership RENEW* my membership I would like to receive my copy of *Birdfish* in electronic form

Individual \$50 Student/Senior \$40 Family \$80 Corporate \$500 *One-year CNSC membership

I would like to send a one-year gift membership to:

Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____ Province/State: _____ Postal/Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Message for gift card: _____

I want to support CNSC Capital Campaign. Here is my gift of \$ _____

Tax receipts are provided for Canadian donations of \$25 or more. Membership fees are not tax-deductible.

Please detach and mail to:
Churchill Northern Studies Centre
P.O. Box 610, Launch Road
Churchill, Manitoba
R0B 0E0 Canada
or call (204) 675-2307



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CNSC Membership

Total amount \$ _____

cheque or money order payable to the CNSC enclosed. (Preferred)

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card number: _____

expiration date (mm/yy): _____

name on card: _____

signature: _____



We appreciate your support of the Churchill Northern Studies Centre. Your donations support research and education that makes the world a better place. Thanks very much.