

ANNUAL REPORT 2007 -2008
Tourism and Recreation Study Group - CAG Study Group 3
Submitted by: Holly Donohoe, Chair
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The following is a summary report of the CAG Tourism and Recreation Study Group Activities during the year 2007-2008.

CAG Annual Meeting 2007, Saskatoon: The Tourism and Recreation Study Group hosted two successful sessions at the CAG. Presentations were delivered on the following themes: parks management, sustainable tourism, accessibility, and recreation research advocacy and opportunities.

Study Group Student Awards 2007-2008: For their outstanding presentations at the CAG in Saskatoon, three students were awarded the Study Group Award: Holly Donohoe - University of Ottawa, for her paper entitled '*Making Ecotourism Culturally Relevant in a Global Community*', Julia McCleave - University of Waterloo, for her paper '*The Regional Integration of Canada's National Parks: Preliminary Results from Four Case Studies*, and Kate Hano – University of Waterloo, for her paper entitled '*Accessibility of Hotels and Resorts for People with Disabilities: Attitudes, Motives and Problems which Disabled Tourists Face*'.

Annual Business Meeting 2007: The Study Group convened for the Annual Business Meeting at the CAG in Saskatoon. Holly Donohoe from the University of Ottawa chaired the meeting and approximately ten people attended. At the meeting, a new Study Group Executive was established (see below), and action items were identified for 2007-2008: (1) Website development, (2) Relationship building with IGU, (3) Newsletter continuance, and (4) Special Tourism and Recreation Study Group Sessions for CAG 2008. A meeting report is now available online and progress towards these goals in detailed below.

Executive: In 2007-2008, the Study Group Executive welcomed a new Chair – Holly Donohoe. Past Chair - Kim Lemky, assumes the role of Vice-Chair. Rhonda Koster remains the Study Group Treasurer.

NEW! Study Group Website: The inaugural Study Group website is now online! The creation of a website was identified as a study group priority action item. Thus, immediately following the Business Meeting, website development was initiated. The website provides an overview of the Study Group purpose, structure, and activities. Links to related resources such as academic journals and conferences are also available from the website. <http://tourismrec.googlepages.com>.

Newsletter: The study group continues to provide electronic newsletters. In 2007-2008, the frequency increased to a quarterly newsletter distribution. In addition, all newsletters (May 2007 – present) have been made available for download on the study group website.

Relationship building with IGU: Following the business meeting in 2007, contact was initiated with the IGU Commission on the Geography of Tourism, Leisure and Global Change. Ideas such as co-hosting CAG sessions, collaborating on other events, and the possibility of a special panel session on Canadian Tourism Geography at a future IGU conference were discussed in email communications. Communications with the Commission Chair are ongoing.

CAG 2008 Study Group Special Session: A special session on 'Aboriginal Tourism' has been organized for CAG 2008. Sylvie Blangy is to deliver a keynote presentation on Aboriginal tourism. Sylvie is a European Union Marie Curie Research Fellow hosted by the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies at Carleton University where she is currently working on a collaborative research project with several Canadian aboriginal communities. She has over twenty years of consulting experience related to tourism planning, policy, and management. She has published more than 40 articles in French and English speaking magazines and scientific journals. And in 2006, she published a guide book on Aboriginal tourism. She is to share her expertise with CAG during this unique session. Additional speakers have been invited to participate in this session; a call for papers has been circulated.