

Logistics and Administration

Quarterly Report



ARI staff touring the RACEPAC instrumented planes

Prepared by: Bessie Rogers, Western Arctic Research Centre

Date: 1 April to 30 June, 2014

Logistics at the Western Arctic Research Centre

The Western Arctic Research Centre (WARC) provides a wide range of support to researchers on a year-round basis. Support is also provided to the communities surrounding Inuvik, businesses, and educational institutions.

WARC provides housing to researchers at a low cost. Each house includes a full kitchen, bath, laundry services, a living room and six beds. Other features include basic cable television, wireless internet, and a front deck with a barbeque. Rates include daily, weekly and monthly fees, which vary depending on user category (students, Canadian users, and non-Canadian users).

We have a large selection of equipment that is also provided year-round. Big items include, but are not limited to, boats, snow machines, and toboggans. Smaller items include, but are not limited to, tents, augers, and frost depth probes. Our facility provides a great space for research. We have a shared research office space with up to 10 individual desk spaces. We have three labs, which include a Clean Lab, a Dirty Lab and a Wet Lab. We have a classroom, which is used quite often. And lastly, we have two meeting spaces: a large conference room and a smaller meeting room.

WARC supports many user groups throughout the year. Our facility provides a variety of resources to all researchers and groups working in the western Canadian arctic, and in the communities surrounding Inuvik. We provide in-kind support to groups and individuals on a regular basis as a way to give back and provide support for their work.

User Days of Support

Below is a graph that records our standings and number of user days for equipment rental, accommodations, facility use, and technician support (which included requests for assistance from both technicians, as well as two casual staff; **Figure 1**). For equipment, the total number of user days from April 1 to June 30, 2014 was 994. For technician support, the total number of user days was 0. For WARC facility use, the total number of user days was 469. For accommodations from April 1 to June 30, 2014, the total number of user days was 87.

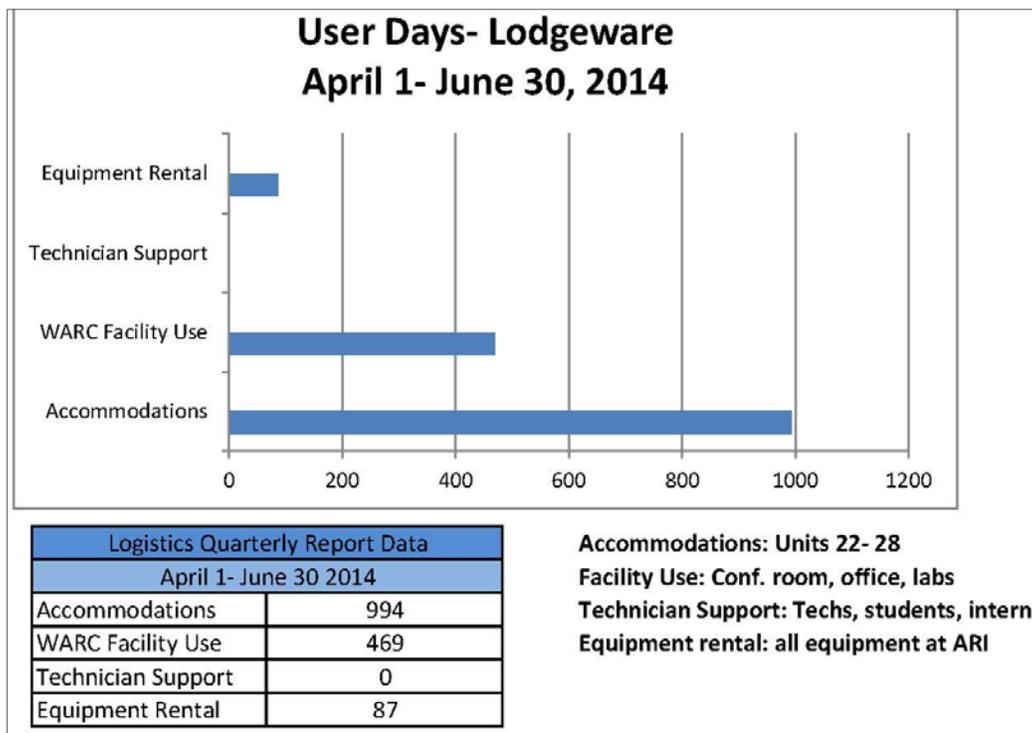


Figure 1: The number of user days for equipment rental, accommodations, facility use, and technician support from April 1 to June 30, 2014.

Activities of Note

General Logistics Support

This quarter was very busy with requests for Logistics. At least 29 requests came in for support for the months of April to June 2014 (**Figure 2**).

From mid-April to the end of May, more than 35 international researchers were here for the RACEPAC Campaign, on top of our regular requests. Each house was full with technicians, administrators, professors, and students/postdocs. We also used 10 rooms in the Aurora Campus Singles Residence to comfortably accommodate all team members. The RACEPAC team members used our facility on a daily basis with support from all staff. They used our Teaching Laboratory daily as well as our shared Researcher Offices.

Besides all the activity with the RACEPAC crew, we supported the Arctic Paws Vet Clinic at the Fire Hall by providing access to the autoclave and scale stored in our labs. One group that ran their project from late May until August was Simon Fraser University (Lesack Lab). Two students, Chris Cunada and Soichi Haga, worked out of one of the WARC labs for the duration of their stay, while they were also staying in our accommodations. The University of Victoria (Lantz Lab) had a field program running throughout the summer. Two students, Abra Martin and Ciara Sharpe, spent the summer travelling back and forth between the field and town doing research.

Marcus Philips, from the Burn Lab at Carleton University, was also doing field work throughout the

General Logistics Support April to June 2014			
Principal Researcher	Affiliation	ARI Support	
1	Suzanne Tank	University of Alberta	Accomm., equipment
2	Cara Bulger	University of Alberta	Accomm., equipment
3	Fred Wrona	University of Victoria	Technician Support
4	Brianna Levenstein	University of New Brunswick	Accommodations
5	Chris Burn	Carleton University	Accomm., equipment
6	Phil Wookey	Heriot-Watt University	Accomm., equipment
7	Marcus Phillips	Carleton University	Accomm., equipment
8	Max Friesen	University of Toronto	Accomm., equipment
9	Oliver Sonnentag	Montreal University	Accommodations
10	Phil Marsh	Wilfrid Laurier University	Accomm., equipment
11	Hugues Lantuit	Alfred Wegener Institute	Accommodations
12	Angus Robertson	Geological Survey of Canada	Accomm., equipment
13	Abra Martin	University of Victoria	Accommodations
14	Trevor Lantz	University of Victoria	Accommodations
15	Nina Stark	Virginia Tech.	Accommodations
16	Shawne Kokelj	GNWT	Equipment
17	Isla-Myers Smith	Edinburgh University	Accommodations
18	Matthew Binnington	University of Toronto	Accommodations
19	Lisa Hodgetts	University of Western Ontario	Accommodations
20	Michelle Cote	Geological Survey of Canada	Accommodations
21	Brendan O'Neill	Carleton University	Accommodations
22	Denis Lacelle	University of Ottawa	Accommodations
23	Caroline Duchesne	Geological Survey of Canada	Accommodations
24	Andrew Medeiros	York University	Accommodations
25	Dustin Whalen	Geological Survey of Canada	Accommodations
26	Scott Dalimore	Geological Survey of Canada	Accommodations
27	Benjamin Kissinger	Dept. of Fisheries and Oceans	Accommodations
28	Steve Kokelj	GNWT	Accomm., equipment
29	Jennifer Baltzer	Wilfrid Laurier University	Accommodations

summer. He and his crew borrowed one of our outboard motors and boats throughout the summer, as well as our satellite phones. They also stayed in the ARI row houses while they were in town.

Hugues Lantuit and his crew of 9 people from Alfred Wegener Institute were working out of WARC while doing field work on Herschel Island. Max Friesen, from the University of Toronto, also came to WARC with a large crew in tow. His team of about 8 people worked at Kuukpak near Tuktoyaktuk, NT, where they discovered a cruciform pit home made by early Inuvialuit people. His story was featured by CBC North, and he hopes to continue his research until 2016.

Figure 2: Logistical support provided by WARC between April 1 and June 30, 2014.

Inuvik Petroleum Show “Ahead of the Curve.”

The Inuvik Petroleum Show takes place every June in Inuvik, Northwest Territories. It is host to over 500 participants including delegates and exhibitors from across Canada and around the world. For the past 5 years, the Aurora Research Institute (ARI) has participated in the event by holding a Research Poster Display, highlighting recent projects, results, and discoveries that are relevant to the event.

A lot of work goes into setting up and taking down the display. ARI is responsible for making signs to advertise the event, printing off the research posters, putting up and taking down the research posters, distributing swag and educational material, and staffing the display from 830 to 1700 each day. That being said, all of our hard work pays off. The IPS is a good opportunity for members of ARI to engage with the community, and it’s always an event that the staff look forward to attending.

Research Presentations

 **AURORA RESEARCH INSTITUTE**
AURORA COLLEGE

Special Presentation:
**Muskrats of Old Crow Flats:
How are they doing?**
Presented by Jeremy Brammer,
McGill University, Montreal



Tuesday June 3, 2014 at 4 pm
Aurora Research Institute
Snacks and refreshments will be provided

Jeremy has been studying muskrat in the Old Crow Flats for the past five years in partnership with the Vuntut Gwich'in First Nation. Join us for a discussion on muskrat ecology and some of the insights and lessons he's learned from community-based monitoring.



For inquiries, please contact the research institute at 777-3298

Presentation by Jeremy Brammer, McGill University

ARI hosted a presentation by Jeremy Brammer, entitled "Muskrats of Old Crow Flats: How are they doing?" Jeremy has been studying muskrat in the Old Crow Flats for the past five years in partnership with the Vuntut Gwich'in First Nation. He discussed Muskrat ecology, along with some of the insights and lessons he's learned from community-based monitoring.

Presentation by Andre Ehrlich, University of Leipzig

ARI hosted a presentation by researchers from the RACEPAC group, entitled "Impressions and first results from the RACEPAC campaign". The RACEPAC Campaign includes more than 20 researchers from several European universities and research institutes. They traveled to Inuvik to measure cloud cover and atmospheric aerosols

over the Beaufort Sea using 2 instrumented airplanes, as well as a ground-based sampling station located near the Tuktoyaktuk airport. Their results will be used to improve the performance of regional and global climate models by more accurately modeling the behavior of polar clouds. In this presentation, the RACEPAC team discussed how their samples were taken, what was observed during their flights, and some of their preliminary results from their research in Inuvik.

Presentation by Lance Lesack, Simon Fraser University

Lance Lesack has studied the lakes and channels of the Mackenzie Delta for 25 years; his recent research has focused on the spring period of ice breakup, and how flooding gradients in the delta affect the biology and ecology of floodplain lakes. He discussed some of his team's recent findings, and also talked a bit about the global importance of the delta.

 **AURORA RESEARCH INSTITUTE**
AURORA COLLEGE

Special Presentation:
**Recent Changes in Ice Breakup of the Mackenzie
Delta, a Keystone Arctic Ecosystem**
By Dr. Lance Lesack



Thursday May 15, 2014 at 1 pm
Aurora Research Institute
Snacks and refreshments will be provided

Recent results have revealed that winter temperatures in Inuvik have warmed considerably since 1960. However, warmer springs rather than warmer winters have been driving more rapid ice breakup in the Mackenzie River Delta because winter snow depths have also declined over the same period. This presentation will explore the importance of these findings for Mackenzie Delta and its role as a keystone ecosystem of the greater Arctic region.

For inquiries, please contact Jolie Gareis at 777-3298 x 232

Supplement: ARI Library Year End Report (July 2013 – June 2014)

By Adelia Wall (Library Cataloguing Technician)

The Aurora Research Institute Library has a science and research based collection which includes a small media collection, a journal collection, reference materials, a rare collection and a thesis collection.

The library has had 160 visitors as of June 20, 2014 with the number expected to increase with the tourist season and the 50th anniversary preparations. Those visitors asked approx. 50 questions of the librarian.

Breakdown of Visitors by quarter/year					
	Jan - Mar	Apr - June	July - Sept	Oct - Dec	Total
2013	no data	42	22	10	74
2014	21	65			86

There have been 11 new Aurora College memberships from the ENRTP course, and 10 new public memberships. Materials used in the library totaled 182 items.

Breakdown of materials used in the library by quarter/year						
	Jan - Mar	Apr - June	July - Sept	Oct - Dec	No barcode	Total
2013	5	10	2	43	-	60
2014	78	33			11	122

The ARI library has established Interlibrary Loan (ILL) arrangements with three libraries. There have been eight ILL requests, seven of which were filled by library staff. The person requesting the other ILL request was redirected to a library in their community which also held the materials requested. The librarian spent over 50 hours helping patrons and co-workers find materials needed. Several researchers have used the library this spring, with four theses being catalogued and placed into the thesis collection.

The library has undergone some much needed weeding over the past several months, including the media collection, the journal collection and the ephemera (newspapers, magazines, newsletters, etc.). Any materials that were in good condition and could be of value to another library have been offered to those institutions.

Since February 2014, cataloguing has progressed with emphasis on the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry and the Berger Report. Also, the records for the media collection have been enhanced.

The ARI library has welcomed several tours including the ENRTP class from Aurora Campus, the Youth Symposium participants, and the Standing Committee on Social Programs who toured when in Inuvik for the Aurora College Boards of Governors meetings. The library also supported the Aurora Research Institute by helping with displays for the Inuvik Petroleum Show.