

Logistics and Administration *Quarterly Report*



Tent frame at Campbell Lake, ENRTP fall camping trip.

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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

I created a graph to record 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 and a summer student; **Figure 1**). For equipment, the total number of user days from July 1 to September 30, 2013, was 378. For technician support, the total number of user days was 27. For WARC facility use, the total number of user days was 153. For accommodations from July 1 to September 30, 2013, the total was 846 user days (this includes dorm rooms used in the Aurora Campus Singles Residence).

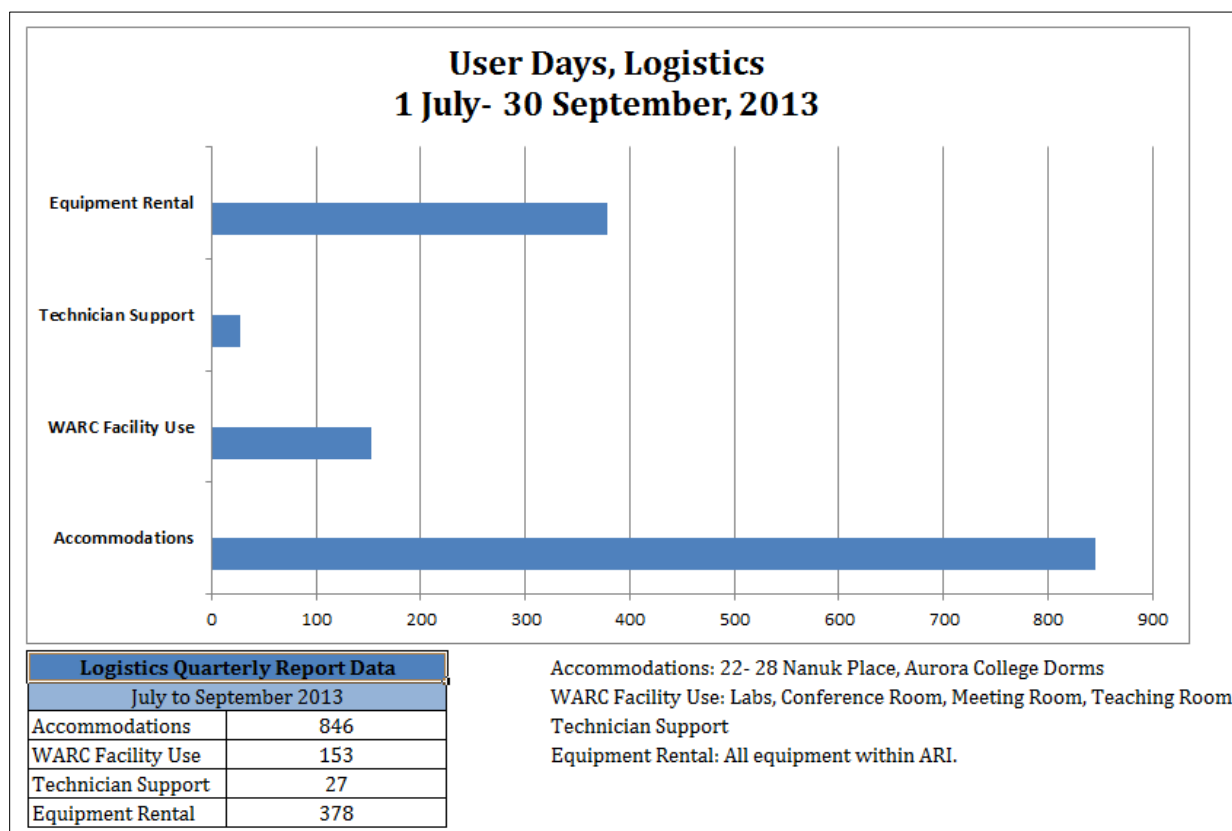


Figure 1: The number of user days for equipment rental, accommodations, facility use, and technician support from July 1 to September 30, 2013.

Activities of Note

From July 1 to September 30, 2013, a number of events took place at WARC. A total of 35 requests were submitted for logistical support (Figure 2). During this time a lot of groups and individuals passed through our facility, making use of the resources that we offer. People from all around the world come to WARC and then branch out to conduct research on the Mackenzie Delta and other locations across the western arctic.

Inuvik Youth Centre, Drop-In Program

On August 15, the Inuvik Youth Centre's Drop-In program visited the Western Arctic Research Centre. The visit was comprised of a full tour of the Western Arctic Research Centre, along with three science activities. A highlight of the tour was the archaeological display in the Inuvik Research Library. Following the tour, Erika Hille (Program Coordinator) led the youth in a number of science activities, teaching them about inter-molecular forces and chemical reactions. The youth were able to make their own slime, make lava lamps, and explode Diet Coke using Mentos.

General Logistics Support

April 1 to June 30, 2013

Principal Researcher	Affiliation	ARI Support
1 Hugues Lantuit	Alfred Wegener Inst.	Accommodations, equipment
2 Torsten Sachs	GFZ German Research	Accommodations
3 Max Friesen	University of Toronto	Accommodations, equipment
4 Phil Wookey	University of Sheffield	Accommodations, equipment
5 Suzanne Tank	York University	Accommodations, lab space, equipment
6 Robert Hilton	Durham University	Accommodations, equipment
7 Fred Wrona	Environment Canada	Technician Support, equipment
8 David Beilman	University of Hawaii	Accommodations
9 Krista Chin	AANDC	Accommodations
10 Trevor Lantz	University of Victoria	Accommodations
11 Vladimir Romanovsky	University of Fairbanks	Accommodations
12 Jules Blais	University of Ottawa	Accommodations
13 Marcus Phillips	Carleton University	Accommodations, lab space, equipment
14 John Gosse	Dalhousie University	Accommodations, equipment
15 Fred Wrona	Environment Canada	Technician Support, equipment
16 Caroline Duchesne	GSC- Canada	Accommodations, lab space
17 Denis Lacelle	University of Ottawa	Accommodations
18 Brendan O'Neill	Carleton University	Accommodations
19 Chris Burn	Carleton University	Accommodations, equipment
20 Harneet Gill	University of Victoria	Accommodations
21 Sarah Quann	Carleton University	Accommodations
22 Susan Kutz	University of Calgary	Accommodations
23 Shawne Kokelj	AANDC	Accommodations, equipment
24 Lisa Loseto	DFO- Winnipeg	Equipment
25 Mark Edwards	University of Alberta	Accommodations
26 Emily Cameron	University of Victoria	Accommodations
27 Stephen Borrmann	VERDI	Accommodations
28 Dustin Whalen	GSC- Canada	Accommodations, equipment
29 Parks Canada		Facility use
30 Yichao Chen	AEA	Accommodations
31 Blair Kennedy	Carleton University	Accommodations
32 Steve Kokelj	GNWT	Accommodations
33 Phil Marsh	Environment Canada	Accommodations
34 Kristi Benson	GRRB	Accommodations
35 Phil Wookey	University of Sheffield	Accommodations

Figure 2: Logistical support provided by WARC between July 1 and September 30, 2013.

Town of Inuvik, Camp Kivuni

On August 6, the Kivuni Summer Day Camp came to the Western Arctic Research Centre (WARC), as a part their "Science Week". The campers were divided into three groups based on age, each of which came at a different time during the day. Each group was given a full tour of WARC, followed by one age appropriate science activity. All of the activities were facilitated by Erika Hille (Program Coordinator) and Jasmine Brewster (Summer Student).

- The youngest group (ages 5 and 6) participated in an activity called "Blubber Gloves", where they learned how arctic marine mammals keep warm in the icy cold Arctic Ocean. The campers

started by filling one Ziploc bag full of lard. They then placed an inside-out Ziploc bag inside of the first Ziploc bag and zipped the two together. Then, they put their hand into the second Ziploc bag, ensuring that the lard was evenly dispersed around their hand. With their blubber glove on, the campers were asked to put their hands into a bucket of ice and keep it there for as long as they could. Next, after taking their blubber glove off, they were asked to put their hands into the ice bucket again, keeping it there for as long as they could. Comparing the feeling of ice on their hands with and without the blubber glove really emphasized the insulating effects of blubber.

- The middle group (ages 7 and 8) learned what a food web is. Using examples from the Northwest Territories, the campers took animal cutouts and pasted them in order of who eats who. They then used arrows to indicate which direction the food energy was moving. It was exciting to see how quickly the campers could apply what they had learned, adding new animals to the food web all on their own.
- The oldest group (ages 9 to 11) learned about the disadvantages of “Selfish Herding”, a common behavior in female Emperor Penguins. This activity is called the “Penguin Game”. Two campers were designated as the seals, or the predators, while the rest of the campers were designated as the penguins. All of the penguins had to make it from the area of the room labeled “Ice Berg” to the area of the room labeled “Food Source”, without being tagged by one of the seals. It’s natural for penguins to try and herd together, in order to protect themselves by hiding behind each other. However, after several tries, the campers quickly learned that the more they herded together, the more of them the seals were able to tag.

Campbell Lake, ENRTP

During the week of September 9, William Hurst (Technician) traveled to Campbell Lake with the Aurora Campus Environment and Natural Resources Technology Program (ENRTP) instructors and students for their fall camp. Read on to find out what they did!



“On September 9, I helped the instructors, Joel McAlister and Kumari Karunaratne, and the ENRTP students travel to Campbell Lake to set up their first field camp. We launched all the boats and canoes from Campbell Creek – the students paddled for three hours to the camp site, while Joel, Kumari and I followed in the safety boats. We stayed at the field camp for 5 days. During my stay I assisted with day to day duties, including cooking, cleaning, and cutting wood, and also helped with the outdoor class activities. On Thursday, two other ARI staff (Jolie Gareis and Don Ross) came out to the camp for the day to demonstrate water sampling techniques and lake productivity sampling. The class learned how to collect water samples from the surface and at different depths using a Van Dorn sampler. They also learned how to collect plankton (and other invertebrates) with a plankton tow, how to use a sechii disk to determine turbidity, and how to take benthic samples. They set minnow traps, and seined for fish and invertebrates along the shoreline. On Saturday September 14, after breakfast, we tore down the camp and travelled back to Inuvik. We all had a lot of fun, and the students are excited for their classes to begin...and for their next field camp!”

Barbeque Celebration in Memory of Steve Solomon

In August, a barbeque was held at the Research Centre in memory of Steve Solomon. Steve worked out of the Geological Survey of Canada (GSC). He traveled to Inuvik for many years conducting research up until his illness from which he passed away. Dustin Whalen and Paul Fraser from GSC put together this event to memorize Steve and the work he contributed to the Delta, as well as celebrate his life with his friends from the North. An Ice Saw that belonged to Steve was mounted in the Loading Bay as he helped contribute ideas and suggestions towards the design of the loading bay.



Solar Panel Installation Course

The Western Arctic Research Centre partnered with the Arctic Energy Alliance and GNWT Department of Environment and Natural Resources to provide a solar panel installation course in the provide the location and resources to have a Solar PV addition installed to their existing PV solar system at the WARC building in Inuvik, NWT. The WARC solar installation will reinforce workshop participants' understanding of the unique aspects of solar PV system design and installation. In addition, the installation will provide hands on experience and link the importance of system sizing, component selection, as well as good design and installation practices in a practical application.