

LAKEHEAD

ALUMNI

SPRING/SUMMER 2011 | VOLUME 28 NUMBER 1

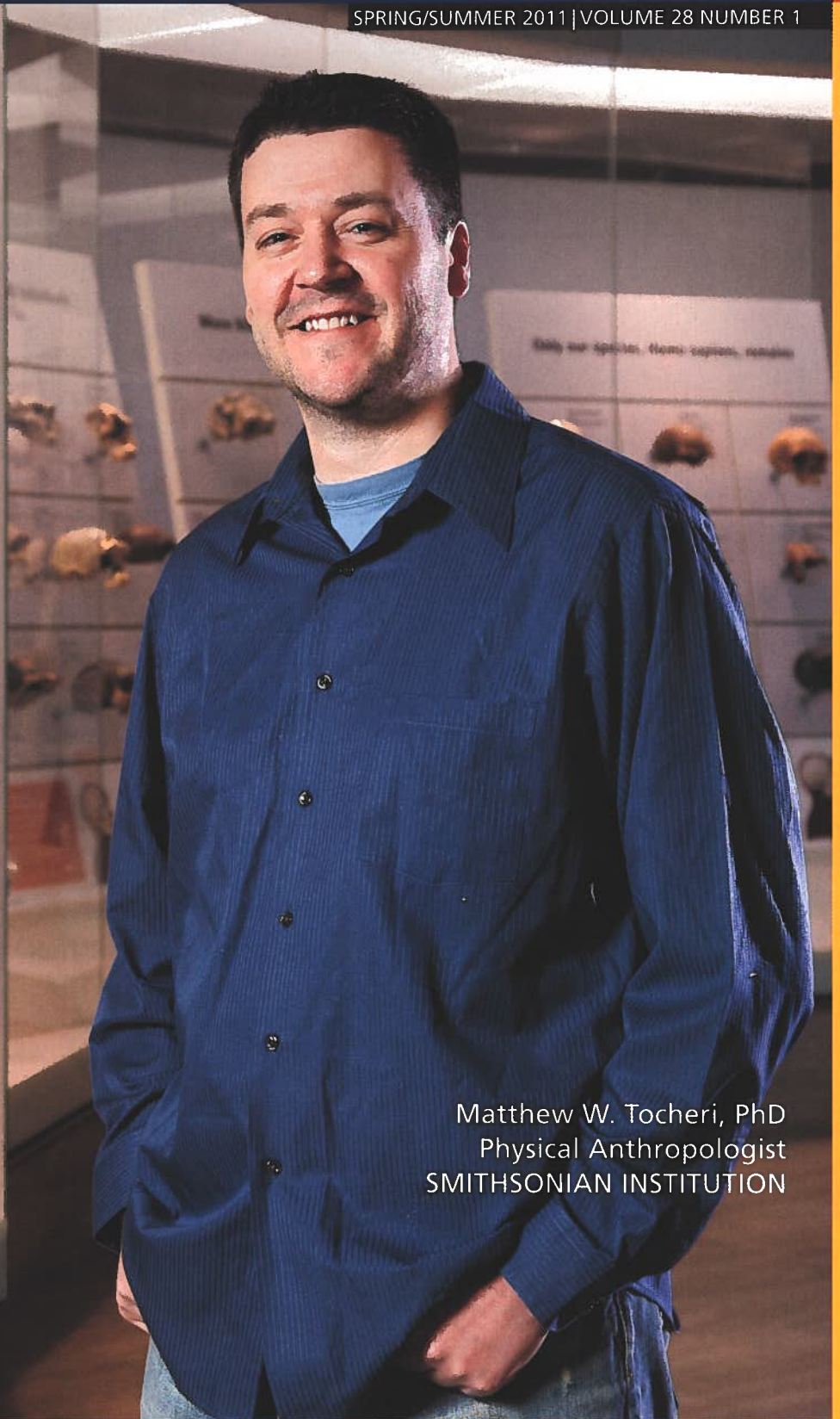
**OUR MAN at the
Smithsonian**

Meet the
NEW PRESIDENT
Brian J.R. Stevenson

**40 YEARS
OF WRESTLING**

GREAT GRADS
Kevin Page
Shy-Anne Hovorka

**HIGH
EXPECTATIONS**
Mary Louise Hill



Matthew W. Tocheri, PhD
Physical Anthropologist
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

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Editor's Message

BY FRANCES HARDING
editor@lakeheadu.ca



AT THE CENTRE OF CHANGE

Lakehead's new president was installed last November at a beloved Thunder Bay landmark — the former Port Arthur Collegiate Institute building, which is now owned by the University and has been fully renovated.

In true Lakehead fashion, Brian Stevenson's installation address struck the perfect balance between formality and folksiness, giving everyone in attendance the opportunity to learn more about his personality and his vision for the future. (Read more in Sheldon Gordon's profile of Brian Stevenson on page 10 of this issue.)

In his speech, the president said that universities are the centre of change in our society. "The University is more than the sum of its parts and Lakehead

University, with its roots in two communities, recognizes that great education and economic development are deeply intertwined."



Brian J.R. Stevenson

The day before the president's installation, Lakehead hosted a conference at its Thunder Bay campus on The Role of the University in Economic Development. The conference brought together more than 200 leaders in the community including The Hon. Michael Gravelle, Minister, Northern Development, Mines, and Forestry; Dawn Desjardins, Assistant Chief Economist, RBC; Bob Rosehart, former president of Wilfrid Laurier University and Lakehead University; Stefan Larson, CEO of Tornado Medical Systems; and Phil Fontaine, former National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations now a Special Advisor to RBC.

Then, in February 2011, Lakehead hosted a conference on the same topic at its Orillia campus, attracting more than 120 participants and featuring six speakers, including Warren Jestin, Chief Economist of ScotiaBank.

Eric Zakrewski, a Thunder Bay entrepreneur and a new member of the Lakehead University Board of Governors, is helping Lakehead increase its connections with the corporate sector, particularly in the engineering and mining sectors. In March 2011, his company True Grit Consulting Ltd., sponsored a reunion of Lakehead geology graduates in Toronto in conjunction with the annual Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) conference, at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

Eric believes that Lakehead must continue to strive to meet and exceed the changing demands of the private sector in the preparation of graduates. "The University should embrace its alumni and really listen to them to find out where they have been successful and where they think their sector is headed," he said. "By doing so, Lakehead has the opportunity of positioning itself as a recognized leader."

At his installation last fall, President Brian Stevenson called upon everyone in the community to reach out and embrace the ideals, hopes, and dreams of Lakehead University. "Because," he said, "they are your ideals, your hopes, and your dreams." ■

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Letters

KUDOS TO ORPT

It's great to see so much about Outdoor Recreation, Parks, and Tourism (OPRT) in the most recent magazine. As an alumnus of the School of ORPT, and now a collaborator on many projects with Harvey Lemelin, Rhonda Koster, and Brent Cuthbertson, it's nice to see them receiving this recognition and coverage.

*Patrick T. Maher, BA/HBOR'00
(Lakehead), PhD, FRGS
Associate Professor, Outdoor Recreation
and Tourism Management Program,
University of Northern British Columbia*

STYLE AND SPELLING

In general we see that Lakehead University Magazine uses traditional Canadian spelling, as used by the Canadian Press. However, in the last issue the word 'travellers' was spelled according to U.S. spelling, with one 'l' (p. 28). Was this an oversight or is the Magazine's spell checker program not set to catch this particular word? The magazine is quite vibrant and I think represents Lakehead University very well.

Gregory Crook, BScF'73

Editor's Note: Since the publication of the Fall/Winter 2010 issue, the Office of Communications has been in the process of developing a Language and Style Guide for Lakehead University staff to enhance the consistency, clarity, and effectiveness of campus communications. We hope to complete the Style Guide soon.

Lakehead University Magazine is interested in you. Send us your news, stories, and ideas on how we can make the publication better. Email: editor@lakeheadu.ca

The Magazine is posted online and mailed twice a year to all graduates who want a print copy and have sent their updated postal address to the Alumni Relations Office.

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LINDA A. HENDERSON

Last fall we heard from Linda Henderson who has three degrees from Lakehead and is now Director of the Department of Athletics and Recreation at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT). In October 2010, she was featured in an article in NAIT's TechLife Magazine, and she pointed out that Lakehead Athletics had also written about her career back in June 2007. "I truly loved my time at Lakehead, both as a student and an athlete, and if I am able to give back in any way I would be happy to do so," she says.

In the NAIT article, writer Michael Hingston says, "Henderson is the face of a major push by NAIT to revamp the athletics program from the ground up. It's a bold, aggressive initiative that began in 2008 with her hiring and the department's rebranding ...and continues all the way up to the financial backing that allowed Henderson to hire six full-time coaches just months after her arrival on campus." ■



Linda A. Henderson,
HBPHE'82, BEd'85, MSc'85
Director, Department of Athletics and Recreation
Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT)
Photo courtesy of NAIT

Campus News

ACCOUNTING STUDENTS TAKE FIRST PLACE IN ASPER SCHOOL OF BUSINESS GAAPS COMPETITION

Four Lakehead Accounting students won first place in the tenth Gathering of Accounting Academics, Practitioners, and Students (GAAPS) hosted by the University of Manitoba in conjunction with the Certified General Accountants (CGA) of Manitoba. Fourteen universities from across Canada sent teams of four undergraduate students to compete in the three-day conference from February 3-5, 2011, that included an accounting-based case competition, guest speakers, and networking events.

A judging panel comprising independent professional accountants selected the winners of the case competition. The first place win for the Lakehead University team comes with a trophy and \$1,500 in prize money to share.

In the final round of the Intercollegiate Business Competition (ICBC) held at Queen's University in January 2011, the accounting team of Angela Pratola and John Blanchette placed second overall, with first place going to Concordia and third place to the University of Calgary.

FACULTY OF LAW ONE STEP CLOSER

Lakehead has received curriculum approval from the Federation of Law Societies of Canada, the first approval for a new law degree program in Ontario in 42 years. Chancellor Arthur V. Mauro, a vigorous proponent of a Faculty of Law for Lakehead University, said, "We are gratified by the approval of our proposal for a law school dedicated to the North; this is a dream that has been held by many people in Northwestern Ontario for so long. The approval of the curriculum takes us one step closer to the realization of this dream, and we thank the numerous organizations and private citizens who have helped move this project forward."



Accounting students (l-r): John Blanchette, Michael Iorianni, Angela Pratola, and Jessica Tolone

It is also worthy of note that a university located in the hometown of former Chief Justice Bora Laskin (1912-1984) become the most recent university in Ontario to receive approval for a new law degree program from the Federation of Law Societies of Canada."

The curriculum approval from the Federation of Law Societies is one of the final steps in the approval process, which will culminate in submission of the proposal to the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities (MTCU).

ACCOUNTING AND COMMUNITY SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP

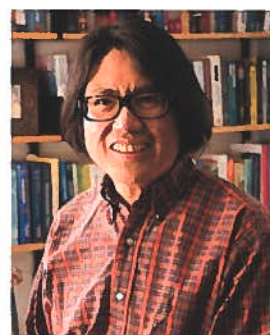
BDO Canada has created an endowment valued at \$80,000 to ensure that each year, a student with financial need enrolled in the Honours Bachelor of Commerce degree program and intending to pursue a Chartered Accountant designation, will receive \$1,500.

"Lakehead has long been the primary recruiting source for the Thunder Bay office of BDO Canada. Of our current staff complement, almost 40% of the staff members are Lakehead alumni," says Blair Smith, Office Managing Partner of BDO Canada.

BDO Canada is committed to creating scholarships for the most deserving and motivated accounting students, actively supporting and encouraging academic excellence, initiative, diligence, and leadership among Canada's next generation of accounting leaders.

NEW BOOKS

**Essays on the Theory and Practice of Index Numbers:
The Making of Macroeconomic Data**
by Professor Kam Yu



Economic measurement has over the years become an important subject in academic and policy research. Debates in the development

of macroeconomic theory and public policy rely on accurate feedback of aggregate data. This book, published by VDM Verlag, fills the gap between the theory and practice in index numbers and is a valuable reference book for economists, policy analysts, and statisticians.

YES TO WIFI

Wireless Internet access (WiFi) is being installed at Lakehead in a sustainable and affordable way in select public spaces. The decision was taken after informal consultations and an online survey/poll sent to university stakeholder groups in the fall of 2010. Of the 10,862 people surveyed, 8,505 (78%) cast their vote, and among them 94% said yes to the question: Would you like to have wireless technology installed at Lakehead University?

PRESIDENT'S INSTALLATION

Brian Stevenson was installed as president and vice-chancellor on November 5, 2010. In his address he said that universities can change the world. "Lakehead University can be an active player in changing the very nature of society by providing opportunity, and by validating the aspirations of the various peoples comprising its communities," he said.

Since taking on the role of president in August 2010, Stevenson has set his sights on leading the institution to the next level of excellence and growth among Canada's comprehensive universities, with a focus on becoming one of Canada's top 25 research-intensive universities. Read more in the November/December 2010 issue of *Agora Online* <http://agora.lakeheadu.ca>

CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION

At the Thunder Bay campus, a newly renovated Learning Commons has opened on the main floor of the Chancellor Paterson Library. The space now has a variety of private rooms and laptop-friendly seating arrangements that are conducive to small-group and individual research and learning.

At the Orillia campus, two new buildings are under construction – a 271-bed Residence and a Cafeteria/Bookstore complex. Both are designed to meet LEED standards and are scheduled to open in September 2011.

BIOINFORMATICS

A new Honours Bachelor of Science in Bioinformatics program began in September 2010. This program is a unique blend of several science disciplines that provides students with the necessary technical background to understand the dynamical nature of biological systems. During the first year, students take introductory courses in biology, chemistry, computer science, mathematical sciences, and physics. In the upper years, students will continue to build upon this background and take specialized courses in bioinformatics.

The field of bioinformatics is in its infancy, with techniques for acquiring information about the interactions between living systems and their environment(s)



President Brian Stevenson is invested in his robes of office by Lakehead representatives, including Alumni Association President David Heroux (left) and Student Union President Mike Snoddon (right). With him are Colin Bruce, Chair of the Board of Governors, The Hon. David Milloy, Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities, and Anne Hammond, recipient of the 2009-10 Lakehead Staff Award.

still being developed. Thus, the future prospects for a student who completes this program are endless. Bioinformatics is already having an impact on personalized medicine, with drugs now being designed to work with a person's particular genetic

makeup. Other potential areas of impact include bio-based process (e.g., biorefining) as well as more esoteric areas, such as environmental policy. For more information about the program and career prospects visit: <http://bioinformatics.lakeheadu.ca/>

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"GREEN" CEMENT

A green cement additive that shows potential to significantly strengthen concrete and also reduce greenhouse gas emissions has been licensed to GreenCentre Canada. The technology, developed by Professor Lionel Catalan (Chemical Engineering) and Professor Stephen Kinrade (Chemistry), can potentially increase concrete strength by up to 40% and reduce the amount of Portland cement needed to make concrete.

The production of Portland cement involves heating calcium carbonate and clay at extremely high temperatures. This process is responsible for an estimated 7% of all greenhouse gases produced annually. Globally, approximately 1.35-billion tons of Portland cement are produced each year, releasing an equivalent amount of carbon dioxide into the air.

Professors Catalan and Kinrade are currently working on a new generation of concrete additives that will further decrease the requirement for Portland cement and is targeted to specific applications such as precast products.

GRAD STUDENT RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD

Social Work student Jessica McAnulty won a national award from the Canadian Institute of Health Research Institute on Aging and the Quebec Network for Research on Aging for her research poster, "An Assessment of Organizational Infrastructure Gaps, Barriers and Enablers to Developing Formal Palliative Care Programs: A Comparative Case Study of Two Long-Term Care Homes in Northern Ontario." The award was announced last December at the Canadian Association of Gerontology conference in Montreal.



| Jessica McAnulty



| GreenCentre Canada's Rui Resendes with Lakehead Professors Catalan and Kinrade

TWO NEW START-UP COMPANIES

Two new start-up companies were launched during Research and Innovation Week last February. The first company is commercializing a psychological test known as the Strength Assessment Inventory (SAI), which is already being used by the McKellar Park Central Public School and the Sister Margaret Smith Centre in Thunder Bay.

The second company, Bitcold Technology Inc., is the outcome of a successful research partnership among the Department of Software Engineering, Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre, and the Northern Ontario School of Medicine. Researchers and doctors have been working together on developing a new and intelligent shared-patient documentation system for caregivers and hospital administrators.

Both companies have been assisted by Lakehead's Innovation Management Office.

Muhammad Aqeel

There is an advantage to choosing Lakehead's graduate degree program in computer science. It's called the co-op option and Muhammad Aqeel has made good use of it.

Last January, the 29-year-old international student from Pakistan began a sixteen-month work term with Research in Motion (RIM), working as a radio software developer.

Aqeel was attracted to Lakehead because of its research program and its "quiet environment." He received two scholarships from the University and says he thoroughly enjoyed his first year of study at the Thunder Bay campus, before moving to Southern Ontario to work for RIM.

Aqeel is one of 157 exchange, visiting students, and fee-paying international students at Lakehead, a figure that should increase in the coming years through the efforts of Lakehead's newly appointed Special Advisor on International Affairs and Recruitment, Tony Willams.

"The most important thing a university can do to attract international students is to help them finance their education through scholarships and bursaries," says Aqeel. "The other is to offer a variety of research areas within the graduate program." ■

For more information visit
<http://international.lakeheadu.ca/>



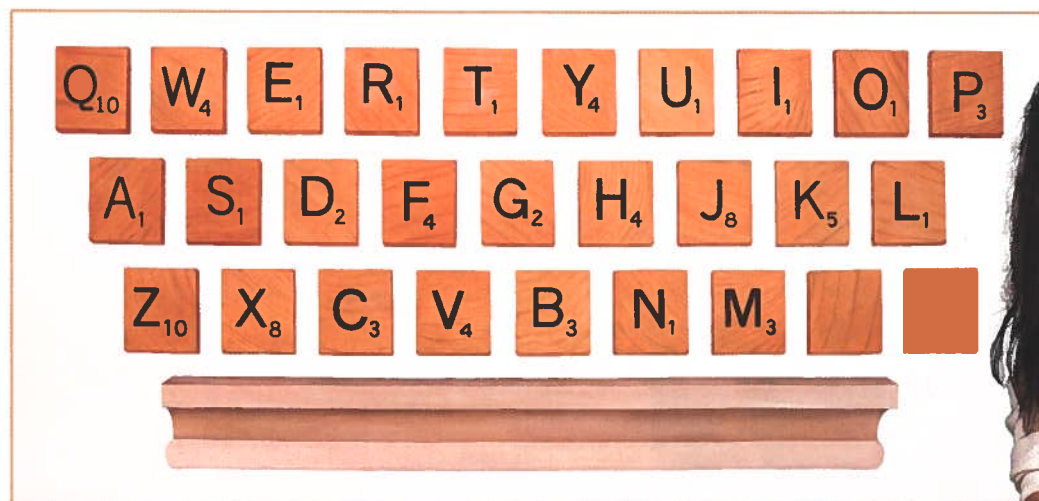
| Muhammad Aqeel

Icons of Everyday Life

Seven large-scale paintings like these two by Elizabeth Buset (HBFA'09) were on display in Thunder Bay as part of Research & Innovation Week 2011. Buset is the recipient of the Northern Arts Grant from the Ontario Arts Council and the Ambassadorial Scholarship from the Rotary Foundation, an international humanitarian scholarship that will fund her master's degree studies. She says that her work "engages viewers both visually and intellectually by re-contextualizing mundane objects, creating an alternative lexicon in which to articulate contemporary issues." Buset's first solo exhibition was held in Thunder Bay last summer at Definitely Superior Art Gallery. Her most recent exhibition, entitled *Icons of Everyday Life*, was sponsored by Lakehead's Advanced Institute for Globalization & Culture (aig+c). ■



| *Merit*, oil on canvas, 130 x 140 cm, 2011



| *Word Processing*, oil on canvas, 130 x 260 cm, 2011

| Elizabeth Buset, HBFA '09



Campus News

PEOPLE, PLACE, AND PLANET

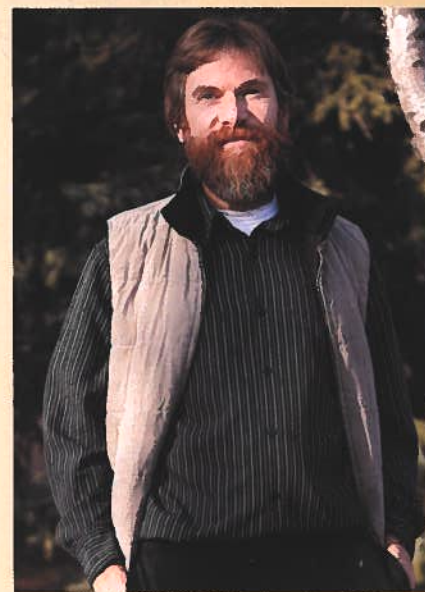
Education professor David Greenwood has been named a Canada Research Chair (CRC) in Environmental Education, bringing the total number of CRCs at Lakehead to nine.

Greenwood's research investigates the types of environmental education we must consider, given our impact as a species and as diverse cultures on one another, on other species, on ecosystems, and even on larger systems such as the global climate. His research program asks how educators should respond to the growing complexities between people, place, and planet.

"Learners of all ages have opportunities to experience the cultural, ecological, and educational significance of the places in which they live and of their own life stories across multiple geographies," says David Greenwood. "Such experiences can be

nurtured by working with history teachers to integrate family and community history into the curriculum, inviting high school students to contribute to a local urban renewal project, or convening a university geography class in a local farmers' market and/or organic garden."

Greenwood is leading an interdisciplinary initiative to establish a new Centre for Environmental, Sustainability, and Place Studies, which will be housed in a new Environmental Education Research Lab at Lakehead's Thunder Bay campus. The proposed Centre will create and support interdisciplinary environmental research, education, and outreach. Among its many activities will be developing programs and lines of inquiry aimed at "greening" schools and universities, and establishing an international research group to coordinate philosophical and empirical research on "place" at multiple sites. ■



David Greenwood, Canada Research Chair in Environmental Education



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OUR MAN AT THE SMITHSONIAN

60 SECONDS WITH MATT TOCHERI

by Frances Harding

MATT TOCHERI (HBA'99) STUDIED ANTHROPOLOGY AT LAKEHEAD AND IS NOW WORKING AS A DATABASE SPECIALIST AND PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGIST AT THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION IN WASHINGTON, D.C. HIS WORK ON THE WRIST OF A TINY HOMININ FOUND ON THE ISLAND OF FLORES, INDONESIA (*HOMO FLORESIENSIS*), NICKNAMED "HOBBIT" RECEIVED CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION WORLDWIDE AFTER IT WAS PUBLISHED IN SCIENCE MAGAZINE IN SEPTEMBER 2007. IN THIS INTERVIEW HE REFLECTS ON THE JOYS AND CHALLENGES OF HIS PROFESSION.

WHAT EXCITES YOU MOST ABOUT WORKING AT THE SMITHSONIAN?

I can't think of any part of my job with the Human Origins Program that is not exciting. For example, I just returned from a research trip to Rwanda as part of my continuing work on gorilla evolution and functional morphology.

When we compare the feet of two species of gorillas, we can see that western gorillas from west central Africa have anatomy more adapted for climbing and grasping, whereas mountain gorillas from the Virunga Mountains of Rwanda, Uganda, and the Democratic Republic of Congo have anatomy more adapted to using the foot as a propulsive lever while walking on the ground.

These differences in anatomy tell us that from the time these two gorilla species diverged from each other approximately one million years ago, they have been living in very different habitats. I get excited about how these small details hidden within the anatomy of animals can tell us important aspects of where they came from and how the processes of natural selection and genetic drift have influenced their evolution.

Another good example of this would be my work on the hand and foot anatomy of

Homo floresiensis, a different species of human that appears to have gone extinct around 17,000 years ago on the Indonesian island of Flores. Standing at only one metre tall and with a brain the size of a modern chimpanzee, these humans likely represent descendants of early humans that reached the island one million years ago – that's around 800,000 years before our own species, *Homo sapiens*, first appears in the African fossil record.

The wrist of *Homo floresiensis* lacks distinctive anatomical changes that characterize the wrists of modern humans and Neanderthals. This information tells us that we are more closely related to Neanderthals than we are to *Homo floresiensis* and that these changes in the wrist most likely evolved sometime after the ancestors of the *Homo floresiensis* first became isolated on Flores.

WHAT IS IT LIKE TO WORK IN A FIELD WHERE NEW EVIDENCE IS CONTINUALLY APPEARING AND WHERE YOUR THEORIES ARE CONSTANTLY BEING CHALLENGED?

Science is a process, and new evidence and challenges to previous ideas are what makes that process work. Some scientific debates are more intense than others but in essence they are all the same; at the end of the day the ideas that win are those with more compelling evidence supporting them, at least at a given point in time. As a scientist, you need to develop thick skin because you should expect others to challenge your ideas, because that is what makes the scientific process work.

The discovery in 2003 of *Homo floresiensis* underscored how little we currently know about human evolution in Asia prior to the evolution of our own species in Africa roughly 200,000 years ago; it opened up

many exciting new questions regarding the timing and patterns of early human dispersal across the Old World during the past two million years. It certainly did not re-write everything we thought we knew about human evolution, as was often written in the press. ■

Read the full interview online
<http://magazine.lakeheadu.ca>



CHANGE AGENT

Lakehead University's new president is an ambitious agent of change who is focused on the strategic goals of the institution

by Sheldon Gordon

Until this year, Lakehead University had restricted access to WiFi – a wireless network providing connection to the Internet. But following his installation as the University's sixth president last August, Brian Stevenson launched a campus-wide conversation about the technology. "From the moment I was interviewed for the position, this was the most hot-button issue," he recalls. "So I did my due diligence."

He not only consulted experts, he took an online survey/poll of the University community. More than 10,860 faculty members, staff, and students were eligible to vote, 8,505 did, and 94% favoured WiFi. With this strong consensus, Lakehead has now moved to set up "hot spots" in the library, the Agora, and other public places at the Thunder Bay and Orillia campuses.

The decision-making process to review the WiFi position at Lakehead reflects the leadership style that Lakehead can expect from its new president. Stevenson is inclusive and collegial in his approach to governance. He devoted his first 100 days on the job to a "period of listening." He began with half-day visits to the faculties, "getting responses to my initial vision." But the listening didn't end there. "Consultation has to be a constant process," he says. "If people know where you're coming from and where you want to go, you're more likely to have buy-in."

Where Stevenson wants to go during his (first) five-year term as president is to carry



Brian J. R. Stevenson
President and Vice-Chancellor
Lakehead University

out the Strategic Plan that was approved by the Board of Governors prior to his appointment.

He intends to make Lakehead a scholastic powerhouse, one of the top 25 research-rich universities in Canada. "The first priority of any president is to promote academic excellence," says Stevenson. He wants to build more labs and other physical infrastructure and to hire faculty members who are dedicated to research. He would support the faculty in applying for research funds from granting bodies and foundations, and link professors' compensation and recognition to their research performance.

Stevenson also plans to make Lakehead's Orillia campus a major growth centre. He spent his third week as president in Orillia, meeting not only faculty and students but also local community and business leaders. "I liked him," says a local businessman. "He's a very down-to-earth guy." The Orillia campus has grown to 1,000 from 100 students in the past four years. "We're aiming for an enrollment of 2,000 in the next few years," says Stevenson. That could boost Orillia's share of overall Lakehead enrollment to 20% from its current 11.5%. "Orillia is a very important step in the development of Lakehead," he says. "It gives us more exposure to the Greater Toronto Area. I plan to spend two to four days a month there."

Vitally important to Stevenson is achieving what he calls "financial sustainability" of the University – by better use of existing resources and by increasing revenues. He intends to implement Integrated Budgeting and Planning, a system he expects will mean a more efficient allocation of investment dollars, and allow faculties to budget on a multi-year basis. "The process ties planning to budget and performance," he says, adding that "it's not about winners and losers" among the faculties.

For revenue growth, Stevenson is counting partly on commercializing



Brian Stevenson speaks to journalists in Thunder Bay after the announcement that he would become Lakehead's sixth President and Vice-Chancellor, effective August 1, 2011

more professorial research through the Innovation Management Office. He recognizes, however, that technology transfer is a gradual process and often depends on one blockbuster idea. More immediately, he plans to emphasize fundraising among the alumni and the marketing of Lakehead internationally.

The new President sees opportunities to leverage economic ties with the local community. "We have programs for the mining and forestry sectors already in place," he notes. But as mining activity surges in the Ring of Fire area northeast of Thunder Bay, Lakehead has the potential to add even greater value. "With mining in the North," says Stevenson, "we will be able to train people in everything from accounting to geology so that the companies hire locally." He has been consulting business leaders, First Nations bands, and government officials. "My question to them is: 'Ten or 20 years from now, where

do you want the University to be in relation to the economy?'"

Stevenson already knows where the First Nations want Lakehead to be. He supports their vision of a law school, following the medical school, to "complete the comprehensive school project." He recognizes that the "First Nations want their young people trained in a law program that is sensitive to, and reflective of, their community. I'm hopeful that in the next two to three years, a law school will be approved." The curriculum has been approved by the Federation of Law Societies of Canada, but there are still major hurdles in the complex process.

As noted above, Stevenson is eager to market Lakehead to the global academic community. "We should be able to have 1,000 international students enrolled at Lakehead in five or six years," he says. "We can appeal to the international student market with classes that are not too big

and with a safe environment on a beautiful campus.” The global outreach begins with China, the country from which most of Canada’s foreign students originate. A second key target group will be the Nordic countries, followed by India and Latin America.

Stevenson’s agenda is not only to recruit foreign students but also to initiate faculty exchanges, student exchanges, summer programs, and executive training programs. As part of this plan, he has hired a special advisor on international affairs and recruitment, Tony Williams, on a two-year contract to lead Lakehead’s international program.

This is a challenging mandate, to put it mildly. But Stevenson’s career has shown that, despite his low-key style, he is an ambitious agent of change who rises to a challenge. For a university seeking to go global, his personal narrative is itself a cosmopolitan calling card. Born in Victoria, B.C., he was the son of a Mexican mother who was the social director aboard a cruise ship and an Irish father who was the ship’s captain. He lived much of his early life in Mexico City and Guadalajara, learning Spanish as his *lengua materna* and developing an interest in indigenous cultures and traditions. Returning to Canada, he says, was like “having the immigrant experience without actually being an immigrant.”

While he attended University of Victoria (for a BA and MA in political science),

Stevenson was president of the UVic Students’ Society. He lobbied the B.C. government to rescind its drastic cuts to university funding – an issue close to his heart. He initially had to work part-time as a security guard in order to pay his tuition. Nels Granewall, then the student aid officer, arranged financial aid so that the young man could concentrate on his studies.

The two men have been close friends ever since. “He was one of the most outstanding students we’ve ever had,” recalls Granewall. In addition to his scholastic success and talent for student politics, “he was practically a gourmet chef of Mexican cuisine; it wasn’t unusual for him to organize buffets for 150 students. These were complex events to manage. He was remarkable in the number of balls he could keep in the air at one time.”

Granewall sums up Stevenson’s character in one word: empathy. “He’s a champion of the underprivileged. I’m sure he will recommend to his Board of Governors a substantial increase in funding for bursaries to help promising students.”

Earning a PhD in political science from Queen’s in 1992, Stevenson began an academic career focused on Latin America and Canada’s relations with it. But he also gained experience, and political savvy, with jobs outside academe. In 1996-99, he served as Senior Policy Advisor, first to International Trade Minister Art Eggleton,

then to Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy. He helped shape Ottawa’s policies for major summits and towards the Organization of American States (OAS).

Stevenson spent 2005-06 in Washington, D.C., working in the Cabinet of the Secretary General of the OAS, where he managed a staff of 200 and an annual budget of \$35-million (U.S.). One of the OAS’s initiatives was to dispatch Axworthy and Stevenson to Peru as observers of the July 2006 general election, helping to keep the process free and fair. On voting day, a hostile mob surrounded one of the presidential candidates, says Axworthy. “We had to clear a path for him, and Brian was part of the battering ram. He showed his mettle.”

It was in academe, however, where, as Granewall says, Stevenson “earned his stripes.” During 1991-95, he was Associate Professor of International Studies at Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM), where he ran the newly established Canadian Studies Program. “I travelled throughout Mexico to talk about Canada,” he recalls. “Mexicans had a positive attitude toward Canadians, but they thought we had winter twelve months of the year.”

Later, Stevenson acquired a decade of experience as a senior administrator at Canadian campuses. As Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President (International) at University of Alberta (1999-2005), he generated a six-fold rise in the enrollment of international students. How did he accomplish this? “Three ways: marketing, marketing, and marketing.”

He then moved on to work as Provost and Vice-President (Academic) at University of Winnipeg (2006-2010) where, under the leadership of University of Winnipeg President Lloyd Axworthy, he introduced a master’s program in Aboriginal governance to help natives develop skills for self-government. He also established a program on campus for gifted Aboriginal high-school students at risk of dropping out.

Axworthy praises Stevenson for leading a comprehensive academic renewal process – “and he did so with commitment and passion. He’s good-humoured, and was



| Stevenson’s wife Judy Davies and their daughters Cecilia and Isabel

Where Stevenson wants to go during his (first) five-year term as president is to carry out the Strategic Plan that was approved by the Board of Governors prior to his appointment.

able to develop faculty support. He's able to work with people."

Though already experienced as a senior university administrator, Stevenson has found the role of university president a transformative experience. He says, "The president has to be 'on' all the time – whether it's evening dinners, speeches, weekend events. It can be all-consuming. But a good leader needs a balanced approach to work and life."

Much of that balance comes from his wife, Judy, and their two daughters, Cecilia, 9, and Isabel, 7. Stevenson met his future wife in Sackville, N.B., when they were university students attending a Canadian Federation of Students conference. Judy, who earned an MBA and a law degree, hails from South River, Ontario, near North Bay, and has relatives in Thunder Bay.

Stevenson appreciates that "Thunder Bay is a relatively big city, but it has a small-town feel."

Similarly, he explains, the University appeals to him because it's large enough to offer a comprehensive set of programs (as at University of Alberta) yet small enough for students to get to know their professors (as at University of Winnipeg). "Lakehead has the best of both those academic worlds," says Stevenson. Having excelled in both, he is equipped to lead Lakehead with due regard for each of its twin advantages. ■

Branding Lakehead

Again this year Lakehead is showcasing alumni in its "I think for myself" awareness campaign aimed at the Greater Toronto Area and Southern Ontario. The campaign features Nicole Maillette Seller, an engineer, Dr. Neety Panu, a radiologist, and Matthew Tocheri, a paleoanthropologist.

"The student experience as well as success after graduation speak best to the institutional brand," says Lakehead's Director of Communications, Eleanor Abaya.

The creative strategy revolves around the Lakehead strength of encouraging

independent critical thinking in the context of a smaller institution where there is greater interaction between student and professor.

The ads are intended to appeal to independent-type university-bound students and their parents. ■

As a designer of state-of-the-art chairs,
I think for myself
transit.iwthinkformyself.com

NICOLE MAILLETTE SELLER, P.Eng.
Project Engineer
Bioscience Transportation
LAKEHEAD GRADUATE
B.Eng. (Mechanical) 1998

While searching the world for new clues about human evolution,
I think for myself
transit.iwthinkformyself.com

MATTHEW W. TOCHERI, Ph.D.
Paleoanthropologist
Human Origins Program
Smithsonian Institution
LAKEHEAD GRADUATE
BBA (Anthropology) 1999

Being at the heart of patient diagnosis,
I think for myself
transit.iwthinkformyself.com

DR. NEETY PANU
Radiologist
Thunder Bay Regional
Health Sciences Centre
LAKEHEAD GRADUATE
B.Sc. (Biology) 1998

Lakehead UNIVERSITY
Realize your potential

WRESTLERS Reunite!

by Brock Curtis

In the oldest piece of literature known to mankind, a warrior-king called Gilgamesh was challenged by a stranger from the forest, a wild man named Enkido. To determine which man was superior, the two warriors competed in an ancient martial art considered to be the purest form of contest – wrestling.

The world is full of wrestlers. You wrestled as a child, I'm sure of it, and Lakehead University wrestles. In fact, Lakehead has been committed to the sport of wrestling for more than 40 years, earning many championship titles over the years.

Varsity wrestling at Lakehead began in 1970 under the guidance of Coach Gordon T. Garvie. Since then, it has been one of Lakehead's most storied sport programs, with many individual national wrestling champions and team championships at the conference level.

Last fall during the annual Zanatta Games Homecoming Weekend (October 1-3, 2010), Lakehead hosted a reunion that brought together more than 50 former wrestlers, spanning each of the four decades. The weekend was capped off by the annual varsity team versus alumni team dual wrestling meet (alumni won) and a barbecue, hosted by former Wrestling Coach Francis Clayton.

Seeing everyone together that weekend and celebrating Egon Beiler's induction to the 2009 Athletics' Wall of Fame made me realize that Lakehead has much to be proud of in the sport of wrestling.

I remember my first experience at wrestling and the lesson in humility it taught me, but I wanted to know why others wrestle and what impact wrestling had on their lives. So I asked a former coach, Francis Clayton, and two of Lakehead University's most decorated wrestlers, Egon Beiler and Katie Patroch, to share their thoughts.

Francis Clayton (BA'93) is Lakehead's longest serving wrestling coach who served in the position from 1985 to 2005. Highlights from his career include seeing Lakehead's women's team win

"You don't need a specific attribute [to do well] in wrestling," says Clayton. "Wrestling forces you to deal with failure. It is no different than any other sport. You have to prepare to do well, and sometimes,



two conference championships, coaching Tasha Eady (BScN'08) at the Junior World Championships in Lithuania in 2005 where she placed third, hosting the Olympic wrestling team trials in 1996, and taking a team of Lakehead wrestlers to the Challenge Cup International in Manchester for five consecutive years.

like in life, you can prepare and not do well."

Egon Beiler (HBPHE'77) competed primarily in the featherweight division and represented Canada at the Olympic Games in Munich (1972) and Montreal (1976). He is a two-time Commonwealth Games gold medalist and a Pan-American gold medalist who completed a doctorate in dental science

at The University of Western Ontario while continuing to train. Today, he runs a successful dentistry practice in Kitchener, where he lives with his wife Carol and their five children.

others achieve their goals. Getting involved with athletics makes one an extremely well-rounded person, one that any CEO or business person would love to hire."



"There is not a day that goes by where I don't think about my wrestling career and what it has done for me." – Egon Beiler

"I really don't think I would have become a dentist if I hadn't been involved with wrestling because I was not an outgoing individual," says Bieler. "In fact, I was quite timid and shy. Wrestling certainly gave me tremendous confidence in myself and taught me how to share space with others and work as a team. Everyone needs to get along, have a heart, and help

Over the course of her wrestling career at Lakehead, **Katie Patroch** (BSc'04, BEd'06) earned several gold, silver, and bronze medals at the Ontario University Athletics (OUA) and Canadian Interuniversity Sports (CIS) Championships. In 2001, she was a Junior National Champion and in 2003 earned a gold medal at the Commonwealth



| Brock Curtis, BA'02, BEd'03

Championships. Today she lives in London, Ontario, and teaches at Saunders Secondary School.

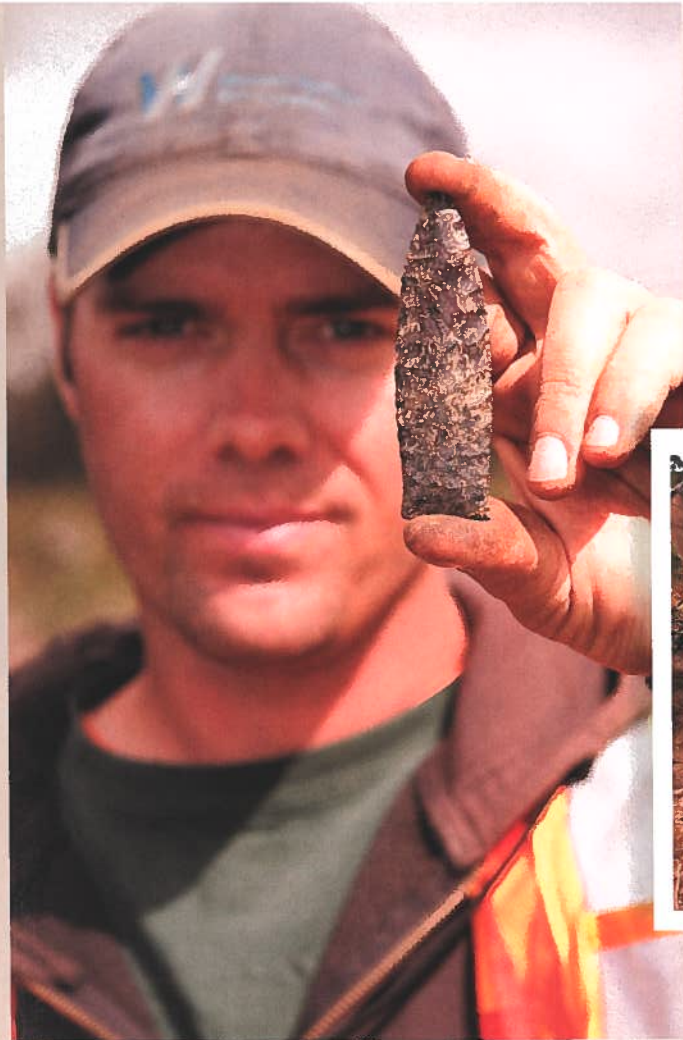
Says Patroch: "I remember being in Japan for my first World Championships and a fellow teammate told me that once you deal with the stress of competing on the world level, the stress of everyday life seems minimal.

"I have learned to deal with intense stress over years of competing. Wrestling has taught me the value of perseverance. I have become a very determined person and believe that anything is possible if you're willing to work hard enough."

A great wrestling coach, J. Robinson, said that through wrestling, we learn a great deal about ourselves: "Wrestling shows you your limits, your weaknesses, and your strengths and ultimately, you grow because of what it shows you."

I couldn't agree more. ■

Brock Curtis (BA'02, BEd'03) is Head Wrestling Coach at Lakehead University. He is part of a group of sports enthusiasts that hosted the 2011 OUA and CIS Wrestling Championships at Lakehead's Thunder Bay campus last February. The same group will host the CIS Championship again in 2012.



Field Days

by Erin Collins



Breana McCulloch, an anthropology graduate of the University of Alberta, works with Mike Blakeley, a volunteer worker from the Red Rock Indian Band

DAVID NORRIS (HBA'98) IS LEADING AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIG NEAR THUNDER BAY THAT HAS UNCOVERED A REMARKABLE NUMBER OF ARTIFACTS DATING AS FAR BACK AS 9,000 YEARS.

He and a team of employees – many of whom are university students and graduates from across Canada – have been working furiously at the Mackenzie Site to find, catalogue, and store the ancient artifacts before the site is closed for highway construction.

The Mackenzie site is located just 20 km northeast of Thunder Bay near where the water of the MacKenzie River flows under the TransCanada Highway on its way to Lake Superior. The site and several others of similar age were identified last year during preliminary work for construction of a four-lane highway between Thunder Bay and Nipigon.

In May 2010, Western Heritage Services Inc., a Saskatoon-based cultural resource management company, began excavating throughout the summer and early fall, with David Norris serving as project archaeologist. To date, thousands of artifacts have been found, including over 100 projectile points plus other tools – many of which are made of taconite, an iron-rich rock found in a formation that extends from northern Minnesota to the Thunder Bay area.

The Mackenzie Site will be completely excavated, in accordance with guidelines set out by the Ministry of Tourism and Culture, before construction proceeds.

After finishing his undergraduate degree at Lakehead University in 1998, Norris went on to complete a master's degree in Anthropology at the University of Saskatoon. He credits Lakehead with helping him discover a career in archaeology.

Through his employment with Western Heritage, Norris says he has been able to develop new techniques for testing archaeological sites, present papers at conferences, and disseminate the information that they have acquired during the course of their work. There were 30 employees working at the Mackenzie Site this summer, including two new Lakehead University graduate students who have developed theses topics relating to the site – Christine Shultis in Geology and Samantha Markham in Environmental Studies: Northern Environments and Cultures (NECU).

"We know that this site was once the shoreline of Lake Minong, a huge super lake that predated Lake Superior," says Norris. "I like to think this was a good place for the Paleo-Indians to be – fishing in the nearby rivers and perhaps trading with people from other places around

the Lake. This year we had a long, hot summer, but up here on the dig there was always a cool breeze coming off the Lake.”

Scott Hamilton, a professor in the Department of Anthropology, notes that the Mackenzie site is one of several sites in the area occupied shortly after deglaciation. “The large excavation sample and the diversity of recoveries make it very important,” he says. “The students are getting a chance to work at a kind of site that few archaeologists get to see. Several local archaeologists, including Lakehead faculty, are assisting in the project and will be contributing to the analysis. Lakehead University will also be the final home for the collection, assuring that it is available for study in the future.

“For me, such projects are important because Lakehead students and faculty will be in a position to help maximize research and education about the ancient past. Our students are also getting a wealth of practical archaeological experience in an environmental assessment field to supplement their academic training.”

Hamilton adds, “Having the artifacts stored at Lakehead University – a publicly funded institution that is a 30-minute drive from the site – means the collection will be readily accessible to all scholars interested in Aboriginal heritage.” ■



Erin Collins is one of several Lakehead students taking part in SPARK – Lakehead, a student writing program sponsored by The Chronicle-Journal.



Arlene Labti (HBS'00, MSc'03) enjoys doing paperwork in the lab as well as digging at the Mackenzie site

North of Ordinary

Top 60 Places in Canada to Live
Money Sense Magazine

Greenest City in Ontario
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Say goodbye to business-as-usual. Come to Orillia, where your business and your way of life will thrive! About an hour north of Toronto, the City of Orillia sits at the crossroads of two of Ontario's major highways, putting your business at the center of the action. Nestled between two lakes, Orillia also offers a waterfront playground for you and your staff when it's time to unwind or do business with nature as a creative backdrop. Our new West Orillia Employment Park boasts 150 fully serviced acres awaiting your business vision, and Lakehead University's construction of a \$45-million regional campus will provide a youthful vibrancy to the City plus a steady stream of employment candidates.



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Faculty Profile

HIGH *Expectations*

by Frances Harding

PROFESSOR MARY LOUISE HILL IS AN ENTHUSIASTIC AND PASSIONATE GEOLOGIST WHO BELIEVES SHE CAN CHANGE THE WORLD THROUGH EDUCATION — ONE STUDENT AT A TIME. Her approach to teaching is straightforward — maintain high expectations for student learning and provide the necessary support to help students succeed. Her teaching dossier is filled with letters from grateful students who trace their success back to her example.

Hill studied geology at Carleton University in Ottawa and completed her PhD at Princeton University in New Jersey. She taught in the Department of Geology at Temple University, Philadelphia, from 1983 to 1999 before coming to Lakehead to serve as Vice-President (Academic) and Provost for five years under President Fred Gilbert.

Since joining the Department of Geology as a full-time professor in 2004, Hill has been building a research program of field-based geological investigations in Northwestern Ontario. Most of her research projects involve the analysis and interpretation of high-temperature ductile shear zones in Archean rock, including deformation of banded iron formation and implications for economic gold mineralization.

At Lakehead, Mary Louise Hill teaches one of the most popular science courses, a first-year Geology/Environmental Studies course called *Planet Earth* that attracts students of all ages and backgrounds. It is also videoconferenced to the Orillia campus. Her goal is to break down some of the barriers people have about studying science and to get students to think like scientists by asking “How do we know this is true?” and “How can we test that?”

In her third- and fourth-year classes for geology majors, Hill gets to know individual students “well enough to help them build on their strengths and develop other areas of competence.” She is particularly respected for the learning that goes on in her Field Schools and in her classes on Case Studies — where students learn how to make effective oral presentations, defend their ideas with evidence, and participate in scientific debate.

Dissemination of research results to other geologists is also a form of teaching, says Hill, and she gets enormous satisfaction in sharing the results of her research program at conferences and professional meetings. “My research at Musselwhite Mine led to a new geological and exploration model, with results that extended the life of the mine,” she says. “Ideas from my current research on shear-zone-hosted gold deposits are being tested through active exploration for gold in Northwestern Ontario, and I am often consulted and then thanked by geologists in the mining and exploration sector for helping them see old rocks in new ways.”

Professor Mary Louise Hill is the only female professor in a department that has six full-time faculty members — a statistic which she says is on par with most geology departments in Canada. She is a role model whether she likes it or not and, fortunately for Lakehead, she likes it. Indeed, she says she feels honoured to have had the opportunity to touch people’s lives. ■



2010 Distinguished Instructor
Professor Mary Louise Hill

“By treating students in the class as (almost) professional engineers, I win their respect and attention, and everyone learns more.”

— Mary Louise Hill, Professor of Geology

Great Grads

KEVIN PAGE, HBA'80 *Parliamentary Budget Officer*

by Frances Harding

DURING A PUBLIC LECTURE AT LAKEHEAD'S THUNDER BAY CAMPUS LAST FALL, KEVIN PAGE RECALLED HOW IMPORTANT LAKEHEAD WAS IN HIS DEVELOPMENT AS AN ECONOMIST. "Lakehead was the right place at the right time for me," he said of his time studying with professors Rick Anderson, Norm Bonsor, Tom Harris, and the late Chris Jecchinis. "My fellow students were amazing. We had great discussions back in the days when inflation was skyrocketing. It was a great learning environment."

Page studied at Simon Fraser University and graduated from Lakehead in 1980 with an HBA majoring in Economics before completing a master's degree in Economics at Queen's University. He has 27 years of experience in the federal public service and was appointed to the position of Parliamentary Budget Officer (PBO) by Prime Minister Stephen Harper in March 2008.

The mandate of the PBO is to provide independent analysis to Parliament on trends in the Canadian economy and the state of the nation's finances. Upon request from a committee or parliamentarian, the PBO will estimate the financial cost of any proposal for matters over which Parliament has jurisdiction.

"Today is a wonderful time to be studying economics," he told the students in the audience. "Having experienced (in 2008) the most serious economic crisis since the great Depression, we are now entering a period where ideas matter, where democracy and government transparency are at stake, and where economic systems, theories, and institutions all need to change."

I encourage all Lakehead students to play a leadership role in resolving some of the

political and economic challenges we face in Canada and abroad."

When asked about the challenge of taking on the job of being Canada's first-ever Parliamentary Budget Officer, Kevin answered with a quote he attributed to author Ray Bradbury: "Sometimes you just have to jump off the cliff and grow wings on the way down." ■



Kevin Page spoke to Lakehead students in Thunder Bay last fall

In Memoriam

Professor Margaret R. Page Fellow of Lakehead University



Lakehead mourns the passing of Margaret R. Page, Professor Emerita of Nursing and a Member of the Order of Canada, who passed away in Thunder Bay on March 3, 2011. Professor Page was a remarkable woman who devoted much of her life to creating the kind of university Lakehead is today.

Margaret Page made her mark on Northwestern Ontario as a public health nurse, professor, and community leader. She held a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Lakehead and a Master of Public Health from the University of North Carolina. She was appointed assistant professor at Lakehead's School of Nursing in 1973, and in 1977 was promoted to full professor and director of the School of Nursing, a post she held until 1980.

Margaret Page was keenly interested in nursing education in developing countries, particularly in Malawi where she was invited to establish a school of nursing, and later served as principal of Kamuzu College of Nursing, University of Malawi.

Throughout her life, Page was instrumental in the growth of Lakehead University and was one of its finest ambassadors. She served as president of the Lakehead University Alumni Association and as the alumni representative on the Lakehead University Board of Governors. As well, she held leadership positions with many professional associations including the Registered Nursing Association of Ontario, the Canadian Public Health Association, the College of Nurses of Ontario, the Canadian University Teachers Association, the Lakehead Social Planning Council, and the Children's Aid Society.

Friends and colleagues who wish to honour Margaret may contribute to the Professor Margaret Page Graduate Award in Nursing c/o Lakehead University's Office of Advancement. ■

28th Annual RBC Alumni Scholarship Golf Classic Tournament



Tuesday, August 9, 2011
Whitewater Golf Club
Thunder Bay, Ontario
1:00 Shotgun Start



This yearly fundraising event, in partnership with Lakehead Athletics, has rapidly become one of Ontario's most prestigious golf tournaments. It is more than just a fun-filled, team-spirited day on the Greens. It means tens of thousands of dollars for Lakehead University students. This year, you can help us reach our goal of \$100,000.



(807) 343-8155 or Toll-free (800) 832-8076
amanda.bahlieda@lakeheadu.ca

SAVE THE DATE
August 15, 2011

**3rd ANNUAL
SCHOLARSHIP
GOLF
TOURNAMENT**

Join us at the Barrie Country Club to enjoy a fabulous day of golf, entertainment, libation and gourmet foods.

Help us achieve our goal to raise \$160,000 for student scholarships.

Consider being a sponsor and help us recognize student excellence and support Simcoe County's "Bright Future".

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
patti.merriman@lakeheadu.ca

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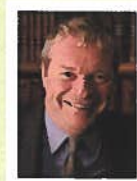


Lakehead University **ALUMNI AWARDS DINNER**

In recognition of the 2011
Alumni Honour Award
Recipients



Steven Ashton, MA
Manitoba Provincial
Cabinet Minister



David Shannon, BA
Human Rights
Activist and Lawyer

Young Alumni Award Recipients



Shy-Anne Hovorka
HBMUS, BED
Singer, Songwriter,
and Musician



Michael Power, BA
Vice President, Thunder
Bay Regional Health
Sciences Centre

and the **Alumni Volunteer** of the Year Award Recipient



Vonnie Cheng, BSC, HBA, GDIPB
Investment Advisor
and Dedicated Alumni Volunteer

Wednesday, May 25, 2011
Lakehead University
Residence Cafeteria

Symposium at 6:00 p.m.

Dinner Served at 6:30 p.m.

\$75 per person

or tables of eight are available - Cash Bar

Please RSVP to Richard Longtin by May 20
Email: richard.longtin@lakeheadu.ca



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Briarwood:
 Low profile dark brown
 hardwood, double
 (blue & gold) matt with
 gold embossed crest.

Lakehead
ALUMNI

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The Alumni Association of Lakehead University is proud to offer you our exclusive line of framing kits. You can choose from our selection of: a classic frosted gold frame, a deluxe natural wood frame with walnut finish featuring a double matt, or the top-of-the-line solid Italian hardwood frame with highly lacquered mahogany finish and a triple matt.

These high-quality frames are Canadian-made and accept your degree in seconds without the use of tools. Each frame includes an acid-free blue matt featuring the University logo in gold foil.

Proceeds from frame sales help support ongoing events and services provided for Lakehead alumni.

For more information, visit www.lakeheadualumni.ca or toll-free (800) 832-8076

You and your guest are invited to Lakehead Alumni *Southern Ontario Reunion*

Catch up with old friends and make some new ones!



Thursday, September 15, 2011

7:00 pm - 11:00 pm

Steamwhistle Brewery,

255 Bremner Boulevard, Toronto, ON

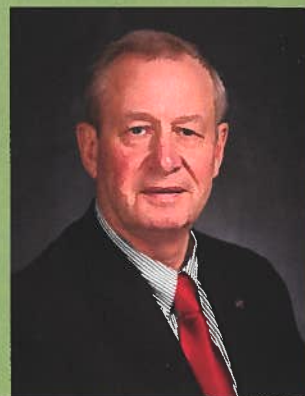
RSVP: richard.longtin@lakeheadu.ca by September 2



Alumni Matters

Enhancing the Student Experience

by Bill Keeler (BA'98), President, Board of Directors,
Lakehead University Alumni Association



THE PATH THAT TOOK ME TO LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY WAS DIFFERENT THAN MOST. Before starting out in 1981 as Athletics Facilities Supervisor at the Thunder Bay campus (and for a period as Campus Recreation Coordinator), I was an RCMP officer, stationed predominately in Western Canada, and I continue to be a member of the RCMP Veteran Association to this day.

During my 27-year career at Lakehead, I had the pleasure of working with many students and was able to interact with them personally on a daily basis. As a result, I learned what was really important to them during their educational stay.

My wife Lucille and I have three children, two of whom are Lakehead graduates. Perhaps it was our children's thirst for learning that inspired me to complete a Bachelor of Arts in 1998. In any case, I learned what university student life was all about, and over the years, this knowledge assisted me in my career with the Department of Athletics. I am proud to say that in 2009, I received the

Ontario University Association (OUA) J. P. Loosemore Award presented to individuals in recognition of major contributions through administrative work within university sport. This honour was especially important to me because the selection was made by my peers.

Previously I had served two (two-year) terms as a Director on the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association while I was employed at the University. During that time, I was a member of various committees connected with Alumni activities.

I am very excited and inspired as an alumnus by the growth of the institution at both the Thunder Bay and Orillia campuses. I am honoured to serve as President of the Alumni Association during this particular time in the University's growth and development, and I see my position as a way of giving back and helping the University realize its strategic goals.

In the Fall/Winter issue of this Magazine, Rob Jamieson reported on the Alumni Chapters, and I am pleased to report these Chapters are growing. This past January, the Board held a strategic planning session, out of which emerged some sound ideas. These included increasing the services that the Association provides for Alumni, and playing a more active role with current university students to enhance their school experience from start to finish. Examples of the long-term accomplishments in this plan were for the Association to play a lead role in the upcoming 50th Anniversary of the University, and for the Alumni Association to find ways to establish itself as a national organization that communicates on a regular basis with all alumni. I believe this planning session identified reasonable goals and a direction for the future.

My personal goal is to ensure the Alumni Association continues to enrich the students' experience on campus, whether that is through Alumni-sponsored events, services made available through our affinity partners, or merely coffee and conversation. The important point is to engage our students and graduates at all stages of their lives. And I encourage you to start becoming involved with your Alumni Association by visiting our website at <http://www.lakeheadualumni.ca/>. ■



More than 100 Lakehead alumni joined Lakehead President Brian Stevenson to attend a Senators' hockey game in Ottawa last February

Barrick Gold Gift

a Boon to Northwestern Ontario

Barrick Gold Corporation, a world leader in the gold industry, is committed to improving education in Northwestern Ontario.

The company began supporting Lakehead in 1996 with a named bursary and in January, 2011 made another generous donation totalling \$235,000 to Lakehead University and to the Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM).

This gift, which includes matching funds from the province of Ontario through the Ontario Trust for Student Support program, will finance the creation of an endowed scholarship for a Lakehead student focused on mining and a NOSM student bursary for a student with roots in Marathon.

Jamie Sokalsky (HBCom'80), a Lakehead University graduate and Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Barrick Gold Corporation, was proud to make the announcement in person at a media conference last January at Lakehead's Thunder Bay campus. "Barrick Gold Corporation has had a long tradition of supporting higher education," he said, "and our roots in Northwestern Ontario run deep."

Jamie met his wife Nancy Braun (HBCom'80) while studying at

Lakehead in the late 1970s. Nancy is the daughter of Harold Braun, one of the founders of Lakehead University, who was Principal of Lakehead College of Arts, Science, and Technology, and the first Dean of University Schools at Lakehead University.

"I know that education and healthcare are major priorities in Northwestern Ontario, and I am confident these projects will make a difference," Jamie added.

In addition to the scholarship and bursary, the Barrick Gold gift will finance a technology infrastructure upgrade to the Wilson Memorial Hospital and Marathon Family Health Centre, create a new Learner Suite in Marathon, and support other initiatives by NOSM and Marathon to advance the dream of a healthier north.



Lakehead alumnus Jamie Sokalsky (centre) presented a generous gift from Barrick Gold Corporation to Lakehead University President Brian Stevenson and Northern Ontario School of Medicine Dean Roger Strasser

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Class Notes

1970s

Ray Roussy (BEng'74), a mechanical engineer from Surrey, B.C., received a \$10,000 Innovation Award from the Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation at gala in Ottawa last September for developing one of the fastest drilling systems in the world. His sonic drilling technology, which he began developing in his own backyard nearly three decades ago, is in use on six continents. The technology is used to quickly install geothermal energy loops, and provide continuous core samples for environmental investigations and possible mineral deposits. Unlike a traditional drill rig, the sonic drill uses high-frequency mechanical vibrations to easily cut through earth formations and bedrock. Not only is the sonic drill at least three to five times faster, it can also bore through tough terrain that typically stops other rigs. As a result, it is often used as a "rescue rig" where traditional drill rigs have failed.

Laura Kokocinski (BScN'79, MEd'95) was appointed Chief Executive Officer of the North West Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) effective September 1, 2010. She previously served as the senior director, planning, integration and community engagement (since January 2006) and was appointed interim chief executive officer in February 2010. Kokocinski has extensive leadership experience in the education and health care sectors including acute care, long-term care, and community care.

1980s

The *Stanford Who's Who*, a publication that recognizes successful individuals in multiple industries, has listed **Allan G. Vinni** (DipEngTech'84, BA'86, HBA'87, MA'89) among the ranks of premier professionals. The Allan Vinni Law Office is a general law practice operating in Fort McMurray, Alta. Allan is a certified financial planner and a member of the Canadian Bar Association. He is also treasurer of the Provincial Board for the Alberta Family Mediation Society, a board

member of the local YMCA, and chair of a Habitat for Humanity affiliate.

Chuang Peck Ming wrote an article about **Tay Liam Wee** (BAdmin'83) that appeared in the December 20, 2010 issue of AsiaOne's *The Business Times*. In it, he says Tay Liam Wee "took a small family-owned watch and pen shop, started by his father Tay Boo Jiang in 1954, and within two decades, transformed it into Singapore's largest watch retail chain."

1990s

Robert Poulter (HBCom'90) is president and chief executive officer of Mitomics, a world leader in research and development of mitochondrial genome-based products to improve clinical insight and therapeutic decisions. He joined Mitomics in 2007 to oversee the company's transition from a research and development position to the successful commercialization of its products. Previously, he worked for IBM's business consulting division, where he was in charge of the diverse and dynamic markets of Southeast Asia and India.

Last October, Mitomics was selected by "Canada's Top 10™ Competition" as one of the top 10 companies in the life sciences sector for 2010-11. Mitomics, formerly Genesis Genomics Inc., was previously recognized as one of Canada's Top 10 life sciences companies in 2007-08, and Poulter says Mitomics is at a pivotal stage of commercializing products from its portfolio of Mitomic Tests.

Blaine Penny (DipEng Tech'95, BEng'99) was selected as one of Avenue Calgary magazine's 2010 Top 40 Under 40. Described by writer Jesse Semko as a "laid-back, goal-setting junkie," Penny runs ultramarathons, ranging in length from 50 to 100 kilometres. As manager of projects with Worley Parsons, he oversees 2,000 projects in the company's infrastructure and environment division. He is also founder and chief executive officer of MitoCanada, the first registered charity of its kind in Canada to provide support to those affected by mitochondrial disease. Penny's son Evan experienced severe brain

damage as a result of the disease and is a quadriplegic. "Running is important for me to stay happy and healthy for my family," says Penny.

Shaun Naroski (HBAMusic'91, BEd'93, HBMusic'94) and **Barbara Kukko** (BA'84, BEd'85) sent us this photo of their daughters taken last summer when all four were enrolled at Lakehead's Thunder Bay campus (l-r): Alexandra, Kathleen, Tess, and Hannah.



2000s

Shivonne Lewis-Young (HBA'02/ BEd'03) is a kindergarten teacher living in Hamilton, Ont. She married **Phillip Young** (HBA'02, BEd'03) and recently gave birth to their first baby girl, Keelyn Elizabeth.

Daniel Johnson (HBES'04) has worked as an environmental biologist with the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development since 2005, with a brief stint with UMA Engineering Ltd., now AECOM. He is studying part-time at Ryerson University where he is taking a master's degree in environmental science.

Justin Hatt (HBSc/BEd'04) is teaching mathematics at a secondary school in Surrey, England. He recently volunteered for the annual *Canada Day in London* festivities held at Trafalgar Square on July 1, 2010, which featured performances by Hawksley Workman and Jullly Black. A member of the Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church in Central London, he is working on issues affecting homeless people in Central London. He is also a member of Network Canada, a social networking group that brings together Canadian expatriates living in the U.K. ■

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Keep in Touch



Jamie Searle hoists the Wilson Cup in Halifax, N.S.
Photo by Mike Bennett

THUNDERWOLVES

LAKEHEAD CLAIMS OUA WILSON CUP

What a great year for men's basketball! After besting the #1 nationally ranked Carleton Ravens to win the first Ontario championship in team history, the Thunderwolves went on to compete in the CIS Final 8 tournament in Halifax, where they ended the 2010-2011 season in fifth place nationally, after narrowly beating Dalhousie University with a score of 84-80.

ANDREA LEE A NATIONAL CHAMP

Nordic Skier Andrea Lee came away from the 2011 Canadian College University National Championships as the overall aggregate winner. Lee, also a member of the National Development Centre, was golden in two of the three races and picked up a silver and bronze in the others. "Andrea is the prime example of the elite student athlete," says her coach, Amanda Holdsworth. "She works hard in everything she does and her hard work has really paid off. She has brought Lakehead a national championship title and she should be proud of that!"

The women's team came up short in their bid for their eight consecutive national title, narrowly losing out to a strong team from Laval University. However, the Lady Thunderwolves skied well throughout the week and ended their 2010-2011 season with an OUA title and a second place overall finish on the national stage. ■

Andrea Lee competing in Canmore, Alta.
Photo by Amanda Holdsworth



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Photo by Storm Carroll, Stylist: Cherry Hovorka

| Jordan Elcheson , Shy-Anne Hovorka, and Rob Benvegnu

A Message of Hope

Award-winning singer-songwriter Shy-Anne Hovorka (HB Music'00, BEd'03) and her bandmates Jordan Elcheson (HB Music'08, BEd'10) and Rob Benvegnu (HBA'08) are inspiring the next generation of Aboriginal musicians

For the past three years, Shy-Anne Hovorka, her band, and a group of like-minded artists have visited a number of troubled northern Ontario communities to give a day-long mentoring program aimed at Aboriginal youth. Her message of hope, targeted to those at risk for suicide, is uncompromising – young people must choose to reject the violence, despair, and drug abuse they see around them, take control of their lives, and make a positive change.

Hovorka grew up in Red Lake, Ontario, and after graduating from Lakehead spent two years teaching English as a second language in Seoul, South Korea. She now lives in Thunder Bay, balancing her life

as a performer, a teacher, and one who “creates opportunities for others.”

When she is not on stage performing or organizing her tours, she juggles two part-time teaching jobs (teaching music and Ojibway), works as a substitute teacher, and is involved in delivering two distinct arts programs for schools in the public and separate school boards.

On the music front, 2010 was a very good year for Shy-Anne Hovorka. Her single “Can’t Change the World” placed fifth on the National Aboriginal Music Countdown Album Review and she performed the song at the opening of the G8 Interfaith Summit at the University of Winnipeg and at the 2010 Winnipeg Folk Festival.

At the 2010 Aboriginal Peoples Choice Music Awards in November, Hovorka was named Female Aboriginal Entertainer of the Year and best Producer/Engineer for her second album, *Pseudo*.

“Young people ask me how I got to where I am today, and my answer is – work! You have to take advantage of every opportunity and work even harder after every achievement. The way I measure my own success is by asking ‘How many lives have I affected?’ ” ■

Watch the video “Can’t Change the World” on YouTube and learn more about Shy-Anne Hovorka on her website: <http://shy-anne.com>

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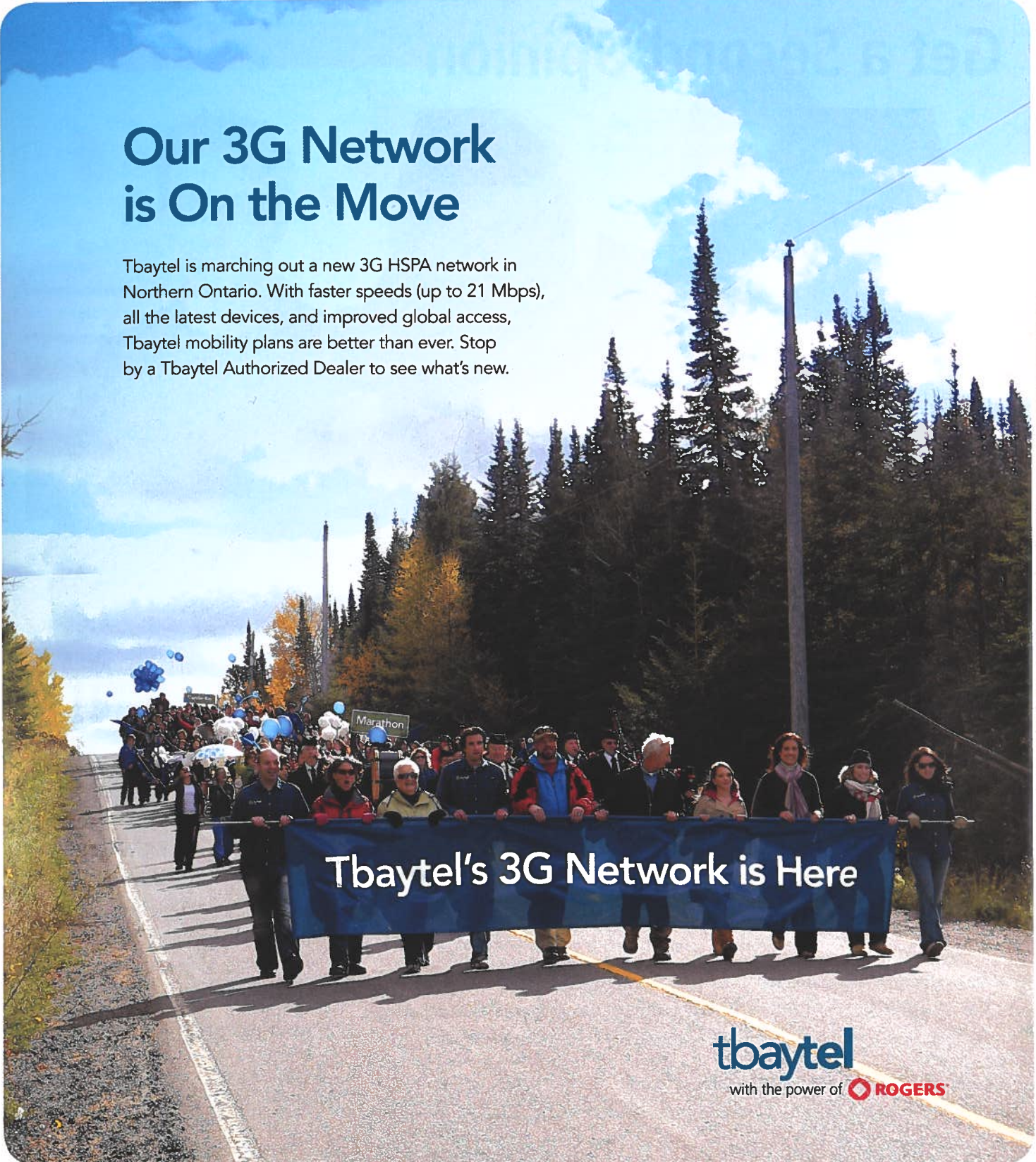
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