**July 24, 2023 |** Vol. 6, No. 34

# GEOGRAPHY AND PLANNING WEEKLY





## **Experiential Learning With Maurice Switzer**



**Carolyn DeLoyde** has successfully received funding through the FAS Experiential Learning (EL) Activity Fund for her upcoming SURP 817: *Intellectual History of Urban and Regional Planning* class. The funds will be directed to **Maurice Switzer**, Bnesi, citizen of the Mississaugas of Alderville First Nation, located on the south shore of Rice Lake in southern Ontario.

Maurice will discuss and engage planning students with Indigenous perspectives on planning, consulting with First Nations people, and land treaties in Canada. He currently serves on the Indigenous Council on Education and is a member of the Indigenous Reconciliation Advisory Group of the Ontario Human Rights Commission. Prior to this, Maurice was publisher of the Winnipeg Free Press and communications director for the Assembly of First Nations.



Please stay tuned for details of Maurice's session this fall, as everyone is welcome to join the class and learn from his experience.



Congratulations to **Mary Smida**, who successfully passed her Qualifying Exam on July 19, 2023. The title of Mary's project is "Whose Economy? Whose Development? Exploring the Possibilities for Social and Economic Transformation through Education and Training in Yukon Communities." Her Qualifying Examination Committee was made up of Maxwell Hartt (supervisor), Betsy Donald (internal committee member), Rebecca Hall (internal-external committee member), and Dan Cohen (Chair and Head's Delegate). Wishing you continued success in your studies, Mary!

#### **Rainforest Revisited**

"I like being inside the barrel and hearing what's in the sink." -Lindsey "The objects all have spirits: some are animal, some are human." -Ashaya "What I like best is that each object is a found object: each one had a life before being here – it has a story." -Jeff

If I was asked for any reflections on the experience of helping to co-create David Tudor's *Rainforest IV* (and thanks John Fraser for asking!), I think I would have to start by highlighting the involvement of the H'art Centre, a place that fosters "Inclusive Arts for All Abilities." The first half of the two week intensive was held at "The Mix" in the H'art Centre; H'art participants came to visit us and offer feedback and insights as we experimented with software and built relationships with 'things,' most of them in the category of 'discards' from around Kingston (a bathtub, a mangled shopping cart pulled out of the Orchard Street marsh, a rusty Goodlife barbell bar...) while doing our best to make sounds for each of them. The group from the H'art returned for the exhibition at the Baby Grand (14th – 22nd July) and spent a good long time reconnecting: you can glimpse some of what they shared with us in the quotes above.

Not all the objects were exactly in the "found" category. Dr. Laura Thomson generously offered some Arctic field gear items and vintage science equipment for us to experiment with. Three items ended up in the final exhibition and I had the honour of working with her ice drill (and discovering the surprising importance of styrofoam to open up its voice). Laura immediately understood the gesture of the piece: "It's like asking an object, 'What *sound* resonates with you?'" which is exactly right. The objects are the focus and after a lot of working and reworking with them, their performance is what Village Voice music critic Tom Johnson said of *Rainforest IV*'s debut fifty years ago: "Instead of using loudspeakers, [the sounds] are fed into various objects, which resonate in their own ways."

Two days after the live performance on 13th July in Kingston's Baby Grand with all thirty objects and twelve co-performers (including undergrad geographer and artist Sarah Jihae Kaye), Dan School music professor, Dr. Matt Rogalsky, workshop co-leader and expert on the work of composer David Tudor, hosted an international online discussion on *Rainforest* as a "space of generosity". The theme (chosen in part because in 1973 Tudor decided to "give the piece away" to his young workshop participants, who went on to perform it internationally) was surely resonant for everyone who participated in the caring process of the workshop where guest listening was valued and everything was done collectively. In GPPL, thanks to all of you who came out to listen and touch things, especially the little ones Amira, Juniper, and Henry! You knew what to do! A special thanks to our first installation docent, graduate student Sandra Yaacoub, who has been enthusiastic about things sonic since GPHY 101 many moons ago, and to undergrad Erin Rendell, currently with the team on Axel Heiberg Island, for sending us field recordings. The sound of the twin otter that left her there for 5 weeks became part of the vibrational mix pouring into the watering can (and therein lies a tale for another newsletter....).

Laura Jean Cameron



### **Rainforest Revisited** (continued...)





Milk jug with co-performer Sarah Jihae Kaye

Door, postal box, barrel and shopping cart with Michelle, Kristina, John, and Laura Jean

ABIAN

Cymbal with Juniper

Workshop group shot with Sarah center front: suitcase with Matt and Parabola/watering can with LJC in back

## In the News

**Warren Mabee** (Arts and Science, Department of Geography and Planning, School of Policy Studies)

• CBC Radio:

#### <u>Ontario's new long-term energy plan</u>

Dr. Mabee comments on the Ontario government's new long-term energy plan.



### **FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

- NSERC PromoScience Program Deadline: August 16, 2023
- SSHRC Partnership Development Grants Deadline: August 15, 2023
- <u>Call for Nomination for the 2023 WiSTEM2D Scholars Award Program</u>

 The Vice-Principal Research Portfolio is accepting nominations for the 2023 WiSTEM2D Scholars Award Program. The Scholars Award aims to fuel the development of female STEM2D leaders and feed the STEM2D talent pipeline by awarding and sponsoring women at critical points in their careers, in each of the STEM2D disciplines: Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, Manufacturing and Design. The awards will fund early to mid-career women to fuel their research passion and inspire career paths in their respective STEM2D fields.If you are interested in applying for the WiSTEM2D award, please send your name, curriculum vitae, the field(s) in which you are eligible to apply, and a short paragraph outlining your proposed area of research to Dr. Mona Rahman (Research Awards Officer) at rahmanm@queensu.ca by August 4, 2023.



Note: This newsletter is used to inform the Geography and Planning community of events and issues that may be of interest to them. The views expressed do not necessarily represent the views of the Department of Geography and Planning or of Queen's University.