

Canada lost one of its pre-eminent ecologists with the death of Professor Robert L. Jefferies on July 8, 2009, at the age of 73. In a professional career spanning 50 years, including 34 years at the University of Toronto, Bob published over 100 peer-reviewed papers and four edited books. His studies of nesting Snow Geese and tundra plants at La Pérouse Bay, Manitoba, and of the consequences of climate change and human intervention, helped to make this one of the world's best-understood northern ecosystems. This work influenced management policy in the North and directly informed the establishment of Wapusk National Park on Hudson Bay. Bob was a dedicated and inspiring teacher who taught ecology to thousands of undergraduate students, and trained twenty-five MSc and PhD students. He collaborated with colleagues around the world, and served on the Editorial Boards of the *Journal of Ecology*, *Ecoscience* and *Global Change Biology*. In 2007 when the IPCC was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, Bob was among the recipients, for his contributions to the 2007 IPCC Assessment Report.



The Churchill Community of Knowledge Digital Library Project aims to preserve the legacy of Bob's research and will expand to include and preserve information from the broader Churchill community's research activities

<http://pi.library.yorku.ca/dspace/handle/10315/8089>

Programme:

<http://www.ipygaps.org/bob-jefferies-symposium/schedule/>

Speakers:

<http://www.ipygaps.org/bob-jefferies-symposium/speakers/>

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION  
CONTACT: PROF. DAWN BAZELY  
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Churchill Town Complex Theatre  
Thursday 7:00-8:30 pm  
Churchill Northern Studies Centre  
Friday 9:00 am - 3:30 pm  
ALL WELCOME: shuttle bus to Centre



UNDERSTANDING AND  
SUSTAINING THE NORTH  
INTO THE FUTURE:  
A CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE  
AND LEGACY OF BOB  
JEFFERIES  
25-27 AUGUST 2011





*Town Centre Complex, Theatre, Thursday, 25 August. 7:00-8:30 pm.  
Refreshments will be served.*

Professor Emeritus Fred Cooke, world-famous ornithologist will speak on:

*La Pérouse Bay and Churchill: The Early Years*  
In the 1970s, while at Queen's University, Kingston, Fred began the studies of the Lesser Snow Goose, which go on to this day, at La Pérouse Bay, in what is now Wapusk National Park. When Bob Jefferies arrived at the University of Toronto, Fred invited him to come and study the salt-marsh vegetation that the geese were eating. Bob stayed for 30 years. Fred will share his memories and reflections about the early years of this project of global significance in Churchill.

Professor Lorenzo Cohen, eminent cancer researcher will speak on:

*Living the Anti-Cancer Life*  
The International Polar Year happens every 50 years, most recently 2007-08. Bob Jefferies participated in the recent IPY activities. This IPY broke new ground with its theme of including members of northern communities as researchers, and its goal of leaving a legacy for the north. Health was also a major theme, and we are delighted to have Dr. Cohen, Bob Jefferies' son-in-law, and a professor at the MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas, here, to explain how making lifestyle changes in the areas of diet/nutrition, exercise, and stress management improves health and how these findings, and others from cancer research, can improve the health of northerners.

## THE TALKS AT THE CHURCHILL NORTHERN STUDIES CENTRE ARE OPEN TO ALL

The speakers in this Symposium include current and past students of Bob Jefferies, as well as colleagues from Canada, Europe and the USA, and fellow researchers and current students from the Churchill Northern Studies Centre and Wapusk National Park

### FRIDAY 26 AUGUST

9:00 AM - 3:30 PM

#### SHOWCASING THE RESEARCH OF THE STUDIES CENTRE

##### Introduction and Welcome: Mike Goodyear, Director of the Studies Centre

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|-------------|---|
| 9:10-9:30   | Bill Erickson (Churchill): <i>What is A Studies Centre?</i>   |
| 9:30-9:50   | <b>Rick Bello</b> and Sarah Verma (York University): <i>Comparison of Peat Plateau Carbon Dynamics in Bog, Riparian and Polygon Habitats</i>  |
| 9:50-10:10  | Travis Dickson: <i>To be announced</i>  |
| 10:10-10:25 | Question and Answers  |
| 10:25-10:40 | Break   |
| 10:40-11:00 | Victor Fisher: <i>Towson University's CNSC-based Archaeological Fieldwork, 1986- 1990</i>   |
| 11:00-11:20 | <b>Peter Kershaw</b> (University of Alberta), LeeAnn Fishback (CNSC), Steven Mamet, Carley Basler and Jennifer McCulloch: <i>Mid-winter snowpack and its ecological implications across the Arctic treeline</i> |
| 11:20-11:40 | Steve Mamet (University of Alberta): <i>Looking through the wooden time machine: tree-ring investigations of terrestrial ecosystem change in the western Hudson Bay Lowlands</i>                                |
| 11:40-12:00 | Questions and Answers   |

##### 12 to 1 pm - Lunch at the Studies Centre

#### LA PÉROUSE BAY AND WAPUSK NATIONAL PARK

##### Introduction: David Hik (University of Alberta)

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|-----------|---|
| 1:05-1:25 | Fred Cooke (Queen's and Simon Fraser Universities): <i>La Pérouse Bay – a scientific history</i>  |
| 1:25-1:45 | <b>Emma Horrigan (University of Toronto), LeeAnn Fishback (CNSC)</b> , Rocky Rockwell (City College, New York), and Ken Abraham (OMNR): <i>The Hudson Bay Project – current and future directions</i> |
| 1:45-2:05 | Peter Ewins (World Wildlife Fund Canada): <i>Polar Bears and Climate Change</i>   |
| 2:05-2:25 | Sheldon Kowalchuk (Parks Canada): <i>Research at Wapusk National Park</i>   |
| 2:25-2:40 | Break   |
| 2:40-3:00 | Kate Edwards (Canadian Forest Service): <i>Soil microbial and nutritional ecology during late winter and early spring in low arctic sedge meadows</i>   |
| 3:00-3:20 | Kathy Martin (University of British Columbia): <i>Ptarmigan in the North: population ecology, life history and response to climate change</i>   |
| 3:20-3:30 | Questions and Answers   |

### SATURDAY 27 AUGUST

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

#### THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL SCENE

##### Introduction: Dawn Bazely

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|-------------|--|
| 9:05-9:25   | Maarten Loonen: <i>University of Groningen, The Netherlands</i>  |
| 9:25-9:45   | Mary Power: <i>University of California - Berkeley</i>   |
| 9:45-10:05  | Rowan Sage: <i>Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Toronto</i>   |
| 10:05-10:25 | George Finney (Bird Studies Canada): <i>Bird Studies Canada</i>  |
| 10:35-10:50 | Break  |
| 10:50-11:10 | Peter Kotanen (University of Toronto): <i>Do invaders escape natural enemies at their northern range limits?</i>   |
| 11:10-11:30 | David Hik (University of Alberta): <i>Compensatory responses and multiple states of being: how La Perouse Bay influenced my understanding of ecological interactions in extreme environments</i> |
| 11:30-11:50 | Dawn Bazely (York University): <i>My Life with Grass...from La Pérouse Bay to Mongolia</i>   |
| 11:50-12:00 | <b>Closing Remarks: Mary Power, University of California - Berkeley</b>  |