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Laurier experts on climate change leading up to UN conference

WATERLOO – The 2015 United Nations (UN) Climate Change Conference runs from Nov. 30 – Dec. 11 in Paris, France.

The following Laurier experts are available to speak on a variety of topics related to climate change.

Policy and Geopolitics

- **Randall Wigle**, professor in Laurier’s Department of Economics and director of Laurier’s School of International Policy and Governance PhD program, is an expert on Canadian climate policy. He is also an organizer for the [Climate Choices Canada](#) conference, Feb. 18–20, which will consider climate policy options based on the recent outcomes of Canada’s federal election and the UN Climate Change Conference. Contact information: 226-772-3164 or rwigle@wlu.ca.
- **Simon Dalby**, professor in Laurier’s Department of Geography and Environmental Studies and CIGI chair in the Political Economy of Climate Change at the Balsillie School of International Affairs (BSIA), is an expert on political ecology, geopolitics and global security. He is the co-author of [Reframing Climate Change](#) and will be presenting at the [Climate Change, Defence and Security](#) conference in Ottawa Nov. 23-25. [Watch his video](#) from the BSIA and Laurier 2030+ Innovation Challenges in Health and Food Systems panel. Contact information: (Cell) 250-222-7698 or sdalby@gmail.com.
- **Tracy Snoddon**, associate professor in Laurier’s Department of Economics and associate director of Laurier’s Viessmann European Research Centre (VERC), is an expert on the economic and political issues within Canada regarding climate change. Contact information: 519-884-0710 x2673 or tsnoddon@wlu.ca.

Environmental Impact

- **Jennifer Baltzer**, associate professor Laurier’s Department of Biology and Canada Research chair in Forests and Global Change, is an expert on the impact of warming temperatures to the boreal forest. Contact information: 519-504-5025 or jbaltzer@wlu.ca.
- **Colin Robertson**, assistant professor in Laurier’s Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, is an expert on the impact of climate change. Along with Robert McLeman, he is a co-director of [RinkWatch.org](#), a citizen-science project that uses information from backyard skating rinks to track climate variability and change. His study was recently published in [The Canadian Geographer](#). Contact information: 519-884-0710 x4757 or crobertson@wlu.ca.
- **Audra L. Mitchell**, Associate Professor and CIGI chair in Global Governance and Ethics at the Balsillie School of International Affairs (BSIA), is an expert on extinction and its relationship to climate change. [Watch her video](#) from the BSIA and Laurier 2030+ Innovation Challenges in Health and Food Systems panel. Contact information: amitchell@wlu.ca.

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Ozone

- **Hind A. Al-Abadleh**, associate professor in Laurier's Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, is an expert on important and unresolved scientific problems related to the chemistry of particulate matter suspended in the atmosphere from natural and human activities and how it contributes to climate change. Contact information: halabadleh@wlu.ca.

Natural Hazards and Environmental Refugees

- **Brenda L. Murphy**, professor in Laurier's Society, Culture and Environment and Geography and Environmental Studies programs, is an expert on the risk and resilience issues of small, rural and remote communities and spaces after environmental hazards including tornadoes, water contamination, blackouts, and nuclear waste. Contact information: 519-756-8228 x5718, (cell) 519-277-5637 or bmurphy@wlu.ca.
- **Robert McLeman**, associate professor in Laurier's Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, is an expert on climate-related migration and [environmental refugees](#). He is also a co-director of RinkWatch.org, a citizen-science project that uses information from backyard skating rinks to track climate variability and change, and NatureWatch.ca, a project that collects information from people via their smartphones about frogs, flowering plants, and frozen lakes and rivers. Contact information: 519-884-0710 x2653, (cell) 519-580-0384 or rmcleman@wlu.ca.

Psychology of Climate Change

- **Byron Williston**, associate professor in Laurier's Department of Philosophy, is an expert on the ethics of climate change. He is the author of *The Anthropocene Project: Virtue in the Age of Climate Change*. Contact information: 519-807-5300 or bwilliston@wlu.ca.
- **Manuel Riemer**, associate professor in Laurier's Department of Psychology and director for the Laurier Centre for Community Research, Learning and Action, is an expert on the engagement of young people in climate action. Contact information: 519-884-0710 x2982 or mriemer@wlu.ca.

Northern Canada and Aboriginal Communities

- **Philip Marsh**, professor Laurier's Department of Geography and Environmental Studies and Canada Research chair in Cold Regions Water Science, is an expert on the effects of climate change on the freshwaters of arctic and subarctic North America. He is the co-author of *The changing cold regions network: Observation, diagnosis and prediction of environmental change in the Saskatchewan and Mackenzie River Basins, Canada*. Contact information: Philip.marsh@outlook.com.
- **William L. Quinton**, associate professor Laurier's Department of Geography and Environmental Studies and Canada Research chair in Cold Regions Hydrology is an expert on Canada's northern water resources in the face of climate change. Contact information: 519-884-0710 x3281 or wquinton@wlu.ca.
- **Tim Le Duc**, assistant professor in Laurier's Lyle S. Hallman Faculty of Social Work, is an expert on climate change and social justice and Indigenous views on present and past environmental challenges. He is the author of *A Canadian Climate of Mind* and will be hosting a lecture, "[Greening Speaker Series: Toron:to view on A Canadian Climate of Mind](#)," on Nov. 24 in Toronto. Contact information: 519-756-8228 x5879 or tleduc@wlu.ca.

Food Security

- **Alison Blay-Palmer**, associate professor in Laurier's Department of Geography and Environmental Studies and CIGI chair in Sustainable Food Systems, is an expert on sustainable food systems that provide an opportunity to decrease greenhouse gas emissions. [Watch her video](#) from the Balsillie School of International Affairs (BSIA) and Laurier 2030+ Innovation Challenges in Health and Food Systems panel. Contact information: (Cell) 519-829-0059 or ablaypalmer@wlu.ca.