

Shirley Roburn

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2018-present **Assistant Professor**
Department of Communication Studies, York University
- 2017-2018 **Visiting Scholar**
Department of Art History and Communication Studies, McGill University
- 2015-2017 **FQRSC Postdoctoral Fellow**
Department of Art History and Communication Studies, McGill University
Supervisor: Dr. Jonathan Sterne

DEGREES

- 2015 **Ph.D. Communication Studies**
Concordia University. Supervisors: Dr. Peter van Wyck and Dr. Lorna Roth
Dissertation: "Shifting Stories, Changing Places: *Being Caribou* and Narratives of Transformational Climate Change in Northwestern North America"
- 1999 **MES, Faculty of Environmental Studies**
York University. Supervisor: Dr. Catriona Sandilands
Thesis: "'Narratives, Tools, and Technology"
- 1994 **B.A. with Distinction, Communication Studies**
Concordia University

OTHER CERTIFICATIONS

- 2004 **Wired Writing Studio: Fiction**
Banff Centre for the Arts (juried program)
Mentor: Lisa Moore
- 2002 **Writer's Studio Diploma in Creative Writing**
Simon Fraser University
- 1994 **Perfectionnement du Français IV**
Université du Québec, Trois-Rivières. This was the highest level of French certification available to non-native speakers.

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2016 **Nominee, Governor General Gold Medal Award, People and Society**
Concordia's Faculty of Arts and Science may nominate only two graduating doctoral candidates for this award.
- 2013 **Fonds de recherche du Québec – Société et culture (FRQSC)**
Postdoctoral Fellowship (\$30 000/yr for two years)
- 2013 **Luc Beauregard Centre of Excellence in Communications Research**
Doctoral Fellowship (\$18 000)
- Accelerator Award, Concordia University (\$5 000)**
- Bourse d'Excellence, Réseau Dialog (\$5 000)**
- 2011 **W. Garfield Weston Foundation Fellowship for Northern Conservation**
(\$4 160)
- Concordia Arts and Sciences Travel Grant (\$300)**
- 2010 **Concordia Arts and Sciences Travel Grant (\$300)**
- Concordia Graduate Students Association Conference Subsidy (\$250)**
- 2008-11 **SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship (\$20 000/yr for three years)**
- 2007-10 **Dr. Frederick Lowy Scholarship (\$15 000/yr for three years)**
Concordia Arts and Science Fellowship (\$12 000/yr for three years)
- 2010 **Northern Scientific Training Program Grant (reimbursement of field expenses**
ranging between \$2500-4000 a year)
- 2009 **ACUNS Conference Travel Grant (reimbursement of travel costs)**
- Northern Scientific Training Program Grant**
- Reseau DIALOG Conference Travel Grant (\$1100)**
- 2008 **Northern Scientific Training Program Grant**
Selected as a subsidized **NRF Young Researcher** to attend the 5th Open Assembly of the Northern Research Forum held in Anchorage, Alaska, 24 -27 September 2008.
- 2007 **ACUNS Conference Travel Grant (reimbursement of travel costs)**
- 2006 **Finalist, Action Canada Fellowship Program**

Pre-2005 Academic Awards: **York Scholarship** (\$8 000); **UBC Scholarship** (tuition); **NSERC Research Award**, (4 months salary as a researcher in Dr. Les Lavkulich's soil science lab at UBC); **Canada Scholar** (\$8000)
Community Recognition: **YTV Achievement Award, Environment** as a member of the first Student Action for a Viable Environment (SAVE) Tour

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

Roburn, Shirley. "Power From the North: the Energized Trajectory of Indigenous Sovereignty Movements." *Canadian Journal of Communication*. 43.1 (2018): 167-184

Roburn, Shirley. "Beyond Film Impact Assessment: Being Caribou Community Screenings as Activist Training Grounds." *International Journal of Communication* 11 (2017): 2520-2539.

Roburn, Shirley. "Reflections from the Final International Polar Year Conference." *TOPIA: Canadian Journal of Cultural Studies* 32 (2014). 253-263

Roburn, Shirley and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Heritage Department. "Weathering Changes: Growing Local and Traditional Knowledge of Environmental Change in Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Traditional Territory." *Arctic*. 65.4. (2012): 439-455

Roburn, Shirley. "Literacy and the Underdevelopment of Knowledge." *Mediatribes: Concordia University's Undergraduate Journal of Communication Studies*. 4.1 (1994).

Forthcoming

Roburn, Shirley. "Learning from Caribou People: Gwich'in and Inuvialuit Perspectives on the Being Caribou Project." *Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature & Environment*

Under Review

Audette-Longo, Patricia, Rachel Webb Jekanowski, Shirley Roburn and Rafico Ruiz. "Oil and Water: Analysing Canadian Oil Infrastructures Alongside Harold Innis." *Topia*

Roburn, Shirley. "Coastal Media." Invited contribution to *SYNOPTIQUE: An Online Journal of Film and Moving Image Studies*

Book Chapters

Roburn, Shirley. "Innis and Environmental Politics: Practical Insights from the Yukon," in Buxton, William Ed. *Harold Innis and the Canadian North: Appraisals and Contestations*. Montreal: McGill-Queens University Press, 2013. 295-325

Roburn, Shirley. "Sounding a Sea-Change: Acoustic Ecology and Arctic Ocean Governance," in Chen, Cecelia, Janine MacLeod and Astrida Neimanis Eds. *Thinking With Water*. Montreal: McGill-Queens University Press, 2013. 106-128

NON-REFEREED

Publications (Academic)

Roburn, Shirley. "Chlorine Conflicts." *Alternatives*. 29.2 (2003): 26

Patel, Seema and Shirley Roburn (co-authors). *A Guide to Resources in Sustainable Food and Transportation Systems*. Toronto, Canada: Greenest City, 1998.

Patel, Seema and Shirley Roburn (co-authors). *Feeding the City from the Back Forty: Case Studies in Regional and Urban Food Production*. Toronto, Canada: Greenest City, 1998.

Otoni, Eduardo, Shirley Roburn and Chris Wulff. *An Ethnobotany of the UBC Arboretum*. Monograph. Vancouver: 1995. 150 pages. This work was adapted to the web and used in teaching undergraduate biology courses at UBC into the mid-2000s.

INVITED TALKS AND WORKSHOPS

"Moving Images: Protecting the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge through Social Movement Storytelling." Inaugural lecture of the Environmental Media Speaker's Series hosted at the Abess Center for Ecosystem Science & Policy at the University of Miami. Miami, USA. March 29th, 2018.

"Moving Images: Multimedia as a Tool for Community Building in Environmental Justice Campaigns." ECS 375 – Ecocinema, University of Miami. March 29th, 2018.

"Re-mediating the Salish Sea: Salmon, Surveillance Technologies, and Social Movement Storytelling along British Columbia's Central Coast. Emerging Media Scholars Panel hosted by Media@McGill. Montreal, Canada. October 25, 2017

"Shoreline Soirée." An interactive workshop introducing the *Shore Line Project* as multi-media teaching tool. Co-presenter. Feminist Media Lab, Concordia University. October 4, 2017.

Respondent, Magic and Atmosphere Panel, Magic: Between Embodiment and Ontology. Montreal, Canada. February 20, 2016.

"Policy Innovation Workshop." (with M.E. Luka) Media@McGill. February 1, 2016.

"Ecocinema, Convergence Culture and Community Organizing: Assessing the Impact of "Being Caribou" on Congressional Votes to Develop or Preserve the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge." COMS 360 Mass Communication, Concordia University. November 25, 2015

“Research Ethics, Research Equity: Building Mutually Beneficial Relationships with Communities.”
Invited class presentation to Staff-Student Colloquium: Professional Seminar in Communication
Studies (the graduate seminar for the McGill Communications Program). November 4, 2015.

“Unsettled and Unsettling Stories: Public Conversations about Pipelines and Calving Grounds.” World
of Matter: Extractive Ecologies and Unceded Terrains. Montreal, Canada, February 21, 2015.

Respondent, Decoupling Innis and McLuhan Panel, Innis, McLuhan, and the Media: Path to
Enlightenment or Dead End? An event celebrating 25 years of the Joint Ph.D. Program in
Communication (Université de Montréal, Concordia University, UQAM). Montreal, Canada,
April 25, 2012.

“Utiliser les méthodes qualitatives en travaillant dans le Nord Canadien,” Invited class presentation to
FCM1413-40, Méthodes de recherche en communication, UQAM Communications Program.
September 12, 2012.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Remediating the Salish Sea: Salmon Storytelling in the Wrack Zone.” Association for Literature, the
Environment, and Culture in Canada biennial conference. Victoria, Canada. June 21st, 2018.

“Occupying the (Fish) Farm: First Nations Media Strategies on British Columbia’s Central Coast.”
Society for Cinema and Media Studies 2018 Conference. Toronto, Canada. March 14th, 2018.

“Where Oil and Water Don’t Mix: Some Notes on Harold Innis, Economic Resurgence, and Coastal
First Nations Communities in British Columbia.” Association for the Study of Literature and the
Environment Twelfth Biennial Conference Rust/Resistance; Works of Recovery. Detroit, USA.
June 24th, 2017.

“Remediating the Salish Sea: Hacking Surveillance Technologies to Promote Ocean Conservation.”
Canadian Communications Association Annual Conference. Toronto, Canada. June 2nd, 2017.

“Beyond the *Blackfish* Effect: Rethinking Film Impact Frameworks. Society for Cinema and Media
Studies 2017 Conference. Chicago, USA. March 22, 2017.

“From “Our Common Future” to “Climate Justice”: Some Notes on Two Generations of Canadian
Youth Environmental Justice Organizing.” Making Common Causes: Crises, Conflict, Creation,
Conversation. The Association for Literature, Environment, and Culture in Canada Biennial
Conference. Kingston, Canada. June 16, 2016.

“A Whale of a Tale: the Story of Skana.” Popular Culture Association of Canada Conference. Montreal,
Canada. May 13th, 2016.

“Taking it “Glocal”: Bringing Northern Community Voices to Global Civil Society Campaigns on Energy
and Climate Change,” ArcticNet 2015 Annual Scientific Meeting. Vancouver, Canada.
December 10th, 2015.

- “Building Social Movement Leadership Through Translocal Storytelling: Protecting the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Through ‘Caribou Stories.’ International Association for Media and Communication Research Conference. Montreal, Canada. July 15, 2015.
- “Scaling Deep: Ecocinema as a Tool for Building Social Movement Leadership.” Association for the Study of Literature and Environment Eleventh Biennial Conference, Notes from Underground: The Depths of Environmental Arts, Culture, and Justice. Moscow, USA. June 25, 2015.
- “A Long March to the Capital: Bringing Rural Alaskan and Gwich’in Stories to Bear on Congressional Decision Makers.” In *Unsettling Frontier Logics: Re-imaging and Re-inhabiting Rural-Capital Relations*. A Joint Panel of the Canadian Communications Association and the Environmental Studies Association of Canada at the Congress 2015 of the Humanities and Social Sciences. Ottawa, Canada. June 3, 2015.
- “Ecocinema, Convergence Culture and Community Organizing: Assessing the Impact of *Being Caribou* on Congressional Votes to Develop or Preserve the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.” Society of Cinema and Media Studies 2015 Conference. Montreal, Canada. March 25, 2015.
- “Taking the Long View: Calving Grounds Advocacy in the Anthropocene.” Under Western Skies 2014, Calgary, Canada. September 9, 2014.
- “From Vadzaih googii vi dehk’it gwanlii (the Sacred Place Where Life Begins) to Washington: Tracing the Journey of the Being Caribou Expedition.” Communication and Global Power Shifts: An International Conference in Celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the School of Communication, Simon Fraser University. Vancouver, Canada. June 9, 2013.
- “Being Caribou: A Case Study in Transboundary Migration, Media Circulation, and Recursive Political Organizing.” Canadian Communications Association Annual Conference, Victoria, Canada. June 6, 2013.
- “Being Caribou: a Story of Transboundary Migration.” Differential Mobilities: Movement and Mediation in Networked Societies –an International Conference of the Mobile Media Lab. Montreal, Canada. May 10, 2013.
- “Sifting, Shifting: Learning the Ways of a River” Association for Literature, Environment, and Culture in Canada 2012 Biennial Conference: Space+ Memory = Place. Kelowna, Canada. August 11, 2012.
- “Weathering Changes: Growing Local and Traditional Knowledge of Environmental Change in Tr’ondëk Hwëch’in Traditional Territory.” From Knowledge to Action: International Polar Year 2012 Conference, Montreal, Canada. April 24, 2012.
- “Whalesong and the Sound of the World,” Green Words/Green Worlds: Environmental Literatures and Politics in Canada. York University Environmental Studies and the Sustainable Writing Lab. Toronto, Canada. October 22, 2011.
- “The Being Caribou Expedition: A Case Study in Transboundary Migration, Media Circulation, and Recursive Political Organizing” Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment Ninth Biennial Conference: Species, Spaces, and the Imagination of the Global. Bloomington, USA. June 22, 2011.

- "Sound, Sense, and Storytelling: the Call of Wild Language." Joint PhD in Communication Graduate Colloque, Université de Montréal, Montreal, Canada. November 5, 2010.
- "Sound, Sense, Storytelling and Governance: the Call of Wild Language." Under Western Skies: Climate, Culture, and Change in Western North America, Calgary, Canada. October 14, 2010.
- "Sound, Sense, and Storytelling: the Call of Wild Language." Association for Literature, Environmental and Culture in Canada inaugural conference. Sydney, Canada. Aug 21, 2010.
- "A Sea Change in Ocean Governance: Incorporating Acoustic Territories." Thinking With Water Workshop (SSHRC sponsored). Montreal, Canada. June 21-23, 2010
- "Sound and Sense: the Call of Wild Language." Canadian Communications Association 2010 Conference. Montreal, Canada. June 1, 2010.
- "A Sea Change in Ocean Governance: Incorporating Acoustic Territories." 9th Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies Student Conference on Northern Studies and Polar Regions. Whitehorse, Canada. Oct 2, 2009.
- "A Sea Change in Ocean Governance: Incorporating Acoustic Territories." Northern Heterotopias Fourth Annual Aboriginal and Northern Studies Conference. The Pas, Canada. June 5, 2009.
- "A Sea Change in Ocean Governance: Incorporating Acoustic Territories." Canadian Communications Association 2009 Conference, Ottawa, Canada. May 30, 2009.
- "The Being Caribou Project: Local Stories, International Policy, and Grassroots Civil Society — a Case Study" International Arctic Change 2008 Conference, Quebec City, Canada, December 10, 2008.
- "The Being Caribou Project: Local Stories, International Policy, and Grassroots Civil Society — a Case Study." 5th Open Assembly of the Northern Research Forum: Seeking Balance in a Changing North. Anchorage, USA. September 25, 2008.
- "Glocal" Tactical Trajectories: the Case of Spartacus Books." Canadian Communications Association 2008 Conference. Vancouver, Canada. June 5, 2008.
- "Spartacus Books: A Tactical Trajectory." Memory as Medium: Experience, Exchange, Representation. 3rd Annual Conference of the Communication Graduate Caucus, School of Journalism and Communication, Carleton University. Ottawa, Canada. March 14, 2008.
- "Innis and Environmental Politics: Practical Insights from the Yukon." Melting Boundaries: Carrying Out Effective Research in the Circumpolar World, 8th International Student Conference on Northern Studies. Saskatoon, Canada. October 18-21, 2007.
- "Innis and Environmental Politics: Practical Insights from the Yukon." Innis and the North Workshop (SSHRC sponsored). Montreal, Canada. August 15-17, 2007.
- "Reducing Food Miles: Theory and Practice." Workshop co-presented with Seema Patel. 1999 Joint Meeting of the Agriculture, Food, and Human Values Society (AFHVS), the Association for the Study of Food and Society (ASFS) and the Food Choice Group. Toronto, Canada. June 3-6, 1999.

"GIS, Digital Data, and the Myth of Eternal Return." Environmental Studies Association of Canada Conference. Ottawa, Canada. June 2-5, 1998,

TEACHING AND TEACHING ASSISTANCESHIPS

- 2018 **Part-Time Faculty/Course Director**
Saint Paul University Dept of Conflict Studies. ESC3214 Conflict in Organizations
- 2010-2011 **Part-Time Faculty/Course Director**
Concordia University Dept. of Communication Studies. Courses: COMS 420 Reception Studies; COMS 464 Race, Ethnicity, and Media
- 1997-1998 **Teaching Assistant**
York University, Dept. of Communication Studies. Course: SOSC 2310, Introduction to Mass Communications
- 1992-1994 **Math Assistant**
Concordia Counselling and Development. Provided math tutoring to Math 206 students. Concordia offered this service rather than TAs for lower level math courses.

ACADEMIC SERVICE AND STUDENT SUPPORT

- 2016-8 Member, Association for Literature, Environment, and Culture in Canada Executive
- 2017 Reviewer for *Imaginations Journal of Cross-Cultural Image Studies*
- 2016 Reviewer for *ISLE: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment*
- 2015-2016 Reviewer for special issue of *Wi: Journal of Mobile Media*.
- 2007-2009 PhD Student Representative, Concordia Communication Studies
- Pre-2000 Board of Directors, CounterCultures Vegetarian Café, York University (3 years); Media Room and Video Coordinator, Faculty of Environmental Studies, York University (1 year); Shad Valley Program Assistant (3 summers); UBC Residence Advisor (1 year);
business Business Plan Coordinator, Eat Your Peel Food Coop (authored the original plan for Concordia University's student-run food coop, Le Frigo Vert); Assistant Director, Alma Mater Student Society Tutoring (official undergrad student society),
University of British Columbia (1year)

OTHER ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2010-2011 **Academic Team member (Contract)**
Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Traditional Knowledge and Climate Change International Polar
Year Project

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

Invited Talks and Workshops

“Changing Hearts and Minds Through Caribou Stories.” Porcupine Caribou: Celebrate and Learn About the Herd. A 2-day celebration sponsored by the Yukon Conservation Society, Porcupine Caribou Management Board, and Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation. Whitehorse, Canada. April 22, 2017.

“Progressive Homes, Radical Change: How do the places we live in inform our commitment to social engagement?” (with Lucas Puttini). University of the Streets Café. October 6, 2016.

“Whalesong and the Listening Ocean.” In Animals! A Greasy Goose Salon Series Event. Montreal, Canada. June 25, 2009.

“Anarchy Collapses and Reforms: the Shifting Spaces of Spartacus Books.” Greasy Goose Salon Series # 3. Montreal, Canada. April 18, 2008.

“Poliiticize This! Sports: Is This a Playing Field or a Battlefield?” (with Paul Beaulieu). University of the Streets Café. Montreal, Canada. February 22, 2008.

Media and Editorial (popular press)

2004-8 Author and editor of WordPress blog *Shirley of the North* (now offline/retired)

2006-7 Blogger at *Beyond Robson* (now offline/retired; sister site blogto.com continues)

Pre-2005 Assistant Editor (English), and contract writer and copyeditor at *HorizonZero*, the Banff New Media Institute’s interactive web publication on digital arts and culture in Canada; Co-founder of the Toronto Video Activist Collective (TVAC); co-producer and co-host of environmental radio shows on CTR (UBC) and CHUO (University of Ottawa), and Radio Patapoe (Amsterdam pirate radio); Editorial Advisor, *Home is Where We Live*, an Environmental Youth Alliance (EYA) book project; co-creator of community art installations for EYA (Trout Lake Stream Daylighting) and for VAST, the Vancouver Association for Survivors of Torture (interactive exhibit in association with Medecin San Frontière’s Refugee Camp in the City)

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (selected)

2012-present **Freelance Facilitator**

2008-10 **Board President**
Centre for Community Organizations (CoCo)

2005-6 **Executive Director**
Yukon Conservation Society (YCS)

Pre-2005 **Administrative Coordinator and Staff Lead**, Society Promoting Environmental Conservation (SPEC); **Membership Coordinator, Youth and Action** Amnesty International Canada, English Section; **Communications Coordinator**, Greenest City; **Eastern European Exchange Program Coordinator**, European Youth For(est) Action; **Board Treasurer**, Vancouver Association for the Survivors of Torture