
**Climatic signals from Canadian glaciers and ice caps:
what do they tell us ?**

ZDANOWICZ, CHRISTIAN M.
*Geological Survey of Canada, 601 Booth Street,
Ottawa, ON K1A 0E8*

The National Glaciology Program (NGP) was established in 1998 through a collaborative agreement between Natural Resources Canada (Geological Survey of Canada - Glaciology section) and Environment Canada (National Water Research Institute). Its mandate is to investigate the climatic and hydrological significance of Canadian glaciers in past, present and future contexts. NGP has ongoing research programs over

a broad geographic range that includes many sites in the Arctic archipelago as well as in the western Cordillera, from the coast mountains of British Columbia to the St-Elias range of the Yukon. Some of its principal research activities involve monitoring the mass balance of glaciers and ice caps to detect and measure climatic change, estimating the impact of climatic variations on glacier-fed hydrological networks, and also investigating the climatic and environmental records locked in glacier ice. Many of these activities are pursued through col-

laboration with provincial agencies, universities and foreign research institutions. This presentation will give a general overview of NGP's research agenda, using examples from past and ongoing projects. The emphasis will be placed on the relationship between glaciers and climate, and on the nature of climate-related information that can be obtained through the study of glaciers and glaciation. The narrative will be illustrated with images and anecdotes taken from recent NGP expeditions in the Canadian Arctic and the Yukon.