

## M.Sc. Opportunities in Quaternary Soils Research

Recent funding from NSERC and CFI has established a new research program at UNBC focused on the role of soils as a recorder of long-term environmental change in northwestern Canada.

Openings for M.Sc. students are available for **2007** and **2008**. Depending on specific research interests, or potential field opportunities, January, May or September starts may be desirable. Early inquiries are *strongly* recommended.

Applications are invited from undergraduates majoring in earth sciences, geology, soil science, physical geography or related disciplines. Strong field skills are essential.

Active research projects involve primarily Yukon and NWT field areas, and include:

- genesis and mineralogy of soils in the unglaciated Klondike Plateau and on Quaternary glacial deposits in central Yukon
- interactions between Holocene loess deposition and natural disturbance processes (fire, erosion) in southwestern Yukon
- influences of aeolian deposition on soil genesis in northwestern Canada

This work is multi-disciplinary, and involves collaborators at UNBC, other universities, and several government agencies (Geological Survey of Canada, Yukon Geological Survey, Canadian Forest Service, Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada).

UNBC has new laboratory facilities for standard soil chemical and physical analyses, X-ray diffraction analysis of soil minerals, and soil microscopy (including thin section preparation). Other analytical services (stable isotope analyses, radiocarbon dating, ) are available through established collaborations with other institutions.

Full application information is found at: <http://www.unbc.ca/graduatestudies/>

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For more project information and recent publications: <http://web.unbc.ca/~sanborn/>

