

# COLE ATLIN

## EDUCATION

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**PhD Candidate**, Social and Ecological Sustainability, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario 2013-present

- Research Areas: sustainable development, strategic environmental assessment, cumulative effects, conflict management, governance of wicked problems, mining
- *Dissertation: Cumulative Effects Conflicts in Northern Canadian Extractive Sectors and the Integration of Best Practice*

**Masters in the Study of Law**, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario 2011-2012

**Masters of Arts**, Global Governance, University of Waterloo- Balsillie School of International Affairs, Waterloo, Ontario 2010-2011

**Honours Bachelors of Environmental Studies**, with a Joint Honours in Peace and Conflict Studies, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, 2006-2010

## AWARDS

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- Rita R. Hamm Impact Assessment Excellence Award, International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) (2017)
- Association for Canadian Universities for Northern Studies (ACUNS) Jim McDonald Scholarship for Northern Research (Inaugural Award), 2016-2017
- Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Doctoral Award, 2015-2018
- WCS Weston Fellowship for Northern Research 2015-2016
- University of Waterloo Graduate Scholarship, 2010-2011, 2013-2014, 2015-2018
- University of Western Ontario Graduate Scholarship 2011-2012
- Ontario Graduate Scholarship Recipient, 2010-2011, 2013-2014
- Balsillie Fellowship, 2010- 2011

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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My research has focused upon the complex socio-ecological relationships that industrial development generates. Environmental assessment, regional planning, sustainable development, cumulative effects and multi-party disputes in Canada are the primary focus of my current research. Legal regimes, biodiversity policy, public participation and globalization are the factors I have considered in my research. Alternative dispute resolution and public-private conflict are also primary foci of my research.

## PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

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### Conference Presentation

- IAIA Conference (April 2017)- Montreal, QC: “The Federal EA Reform Panel and their Unconquerable Mountain: the realities of modern mining, the needs presented during public session and the long path ahead”
- IAIA Conference (April 2017)- Montreal, QC: “Environmental Assessment in Dangerous Times: The ever increasing need for alternatives, legacies and scenario-backcasting in Canadian mining developments”
- ACUNS Conference (October 2016)- Ottawa, Ontario [Panelist]: “The Role of Researchers in Reconciliation”
- ACUNS Conference (October 2016)- Ottawa, Ontario [Research Presentation]: “ACUNS Dr. Jim McDonald Scholarship Presentation: Strategic Assessment and the North”

- OAIA Conference (October 2016)- Toronto, Ontario: “Lasting regional gains from non-renewable resource extraction: the role of sustainability-based cumulative effects assessment and regional planning for mining development in Canada”
- University of British Columbia & InfoMine, Mining and Community Solutions (June 2016)- Vancouver, BC: “The Need for Strategic and Sustainability-Based Cumulative Effects Assessment in Canadian Mining Development”
- CIGI & the Balsillie School of International Affairs, CIGI Challenges and Opportunities for Governance of Social-Ecological Systems in Comparative Perspective Workshop- Waterloo, Ontario (April 2016): "The Need for Strategic and Sustainability-Based Cumulative Effects Assessment in Canadian Mining Development"
- OAIA Conference (October 2015)- Toronto, Ontario: "Climate Change and Project Level Assessment"
- Balsillie School of International Affairs Environment & Resources PhD Workshop (April 2015): "How Conflict Management could assist Regional Environmental Assessment and Planning in Canadian Extractive Sector Development Areas"
- University of Western Ontario Earth Day Colloquium- London, Ontario (April 2014): “Sustainable development and conflict management”
- Ecosystem Services Partnership Conference- Portland, Oregon (August 2012): “Are Invasive Species Pollutants?”
- University of Western Ontario Earth Day Colloquium- London, Ontario (April 2012): “Are Invasive Species Pollutants”
- University of Indiana, Great Lakes Water Resources Governance Symposium- Indianapolis, Indiana: “Aquatic Invasive Alien Species and the Evolution of Canadian and US Ballast Water Regulations in the Great Lakes- Rowing in Tandem or Muddying the Waters?” (Forthcoming: March 2013)

## **Publications**

- Cole Atlin & Robert Gibson, “The Need for Strategic and Sustainability-Based Cumulative Effects Assessment in Canadian Mining Development” *Journal of Extractive Industry and Society* (January 2017)
- Cole Atlin, “Aquatic Invasive Alien Species and the Evolution of Canadian and US Ballast Water Regulations in the Great Lakes- Rowing in Tandem or Muddying the Waters?” *Indiana International & Comparative Law Review* (Vol. 24, No.1, 2014)
- Cole Atlin, “Review of *Assessing and Restoring Natural Resources for Post-Conflict Ecosystems* ed David Jensen, Stephen Lonergan” *The McGill International Journal of Sustainable Development Law and Policy* (Vol.9, No. 3, 2014)

## **Other**

- (co-author uncredited) Wood Buffalo National Park Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report (October 2017)
- Federal Environmental Assessment Expert Panel (November 2016), presentation and written submission: “Capturing Cumulative Effects in Assessment”

## **CONSULTING EXPERIENCE**

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**Wood Buffalo National Park Strategic Environmental Assessment Consultant**, December 2016 to present  
Contract with Parks Canada

- Core team member for a first of its kind assessment in Canada, considering the cumulative effects pressures from nearby industrial development on Wood Buffalo National Park in Northern Alberta/ NWT, including the Athabasca oil sands and Peace River hydroelectric projects
- Visited Fort Chipewyan, Alberta and consulted with elders and knowledge holders in the Mikisew Cree First Nation, the Athabaskan Chipewyan First Nation, and the Fort Chipewyan Metis
- Specific responsibilities include:

- Drafting final report
- Drafting scoping report
- Primary and secondary ecological and socio-economic research
- VECs, baseline and assessment criteria development
- Drafted scoping report
- Drafting cumulative effects and strategic environmental assessment
- Special analysis of whooping crane, wood bison and delta ecosystem characteristics for specification within the criteria

**Eabametoong First Nations (EFN) Environmental Assessment and Community Facilitation Consultant,**

September 2015 to present

Contract with EFN

- Engaged to assist EFN with mining and infrastructure development opportunities on their traditional territories
- Developing a regional scale, sustainability based assessment with EFN for application within the region
- Specific responsibilities include:
  - Policy and governance mechanism development
  - Providing detailed responses to government proposals
  - Synthesizing community dialogues into policy positions
  - Aiding Band Office in future environmental assessment and regional planning, including the development of a regional monitoring board
  - Facilitating workshops with community leaders on sustainability, negotiations and environmental assessment

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

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February 2014- June 2014, September 2017-January 2018- Faculty of Environment, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario for Professor Robert B. Gibson

**Research Assistant**

- Writing monograph on the on-going Federal environmental assessment reform process
- Researched best practice environmental assessment, conflict management and applicable case law
- Wrote articles for future publication

September- December 2012, Faculty of Law, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario for Associate Professor Michael Coyle

**Research Assistant**

- Interviewed First Nations elders in British Columbia and Central Ontario about dispute resolution processes
- Compiled research and analyzed findings
- Traveled to various conferences to discuss findings

September- December 2011, Faculty of Systems Design Engineering- Conflict Analysis Group, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario for Professor Keith Hipel,

**Junior Balsillie Fellow Research Assistant**

- Audited a systems design engineering course on conflict management systems
- Researched European Union and United State climate relations and modeled the outcome of the conflict using computer programming

September- December, 2008; April- May, 2009 Ontario Legislature, New Democratic Party Caucus Office, Toronto, Ontario

## **Environmental Researcher and Media Aide**

- Researched broad range of environmental issues including energy efficiency in the Ontario Building Code, Green Economic Policy, Nuclear Power Stations and the Western Climate Initiative - interpreted the information to make policy recommendations, reports and present potential solutions
- Liaised with Queen's Park Press Bureau for news coverage of NDP legislative positions and communicated to MPPs and support staff details of Liberal MPP media comments
- Helped develop and promote NDP new media such as NDTV, an online NDP television show that highlighted NDP MPP and their political actions
- Met with stakeholder groups such as unions, environmental groups, international delegations and public advocacy organizations on issues such as building code deficiencies and delegations regarding health policy- conveyed their positions to caucus members and support staff

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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### **January - April 2015, ERS 415: Environmental Assessment III- Advanced Environmental and Sustainability Assessment**

- Marked oral presentations and arguments related to environmental assessment, cumulative effects, sustainability assessment, strategic assessment, etc.
- Marked student papers
- Provided office hours for student consultation

### **September- January 2014; September – January 2015, ENVS 201: Introduction to Canadian Environmental Law Teaching Assistant**

- Taught tutorial of 50 second, third and fourth year students legal reasoning and interpretation, legal writing, and case law regarding Canadian environmental law issues, specifically in regards to property law, tort and public regulatory regimes.
- Marked quizzes, case briefs, legal memos, midterms and finals

## **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

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**St. Marys Library Board Chair** January 2015 to present- Direct liaison between Town Council and Library Board, supervises Library CEO, advocates for the library to Town Council and the public at large, helps determine budgetary and management decisions for the library, and sits on all committees. Elected by the Board. Board member since 2012.

**Adult Learning Program of Perth Advisory Board** April 2012 to present- Supports the development adult literacy in Perth County by assisting in planning and advocacy of the program. Also, volunteers as a tutor once a week to aid adults in attaining GED.

**Friends of the Transvaal Volunteer** January 2012 to October 2013- research and develop strategy to prevent the development of a gravel pit in Blanshard Township in Perth County on floodplain land adjacent to the Thames River. The development has been indefinitely put on hold.

**Go Girls! Mentor (Big Brothers Big Sisters)** June 2012 to June 2014- In-school mentor for six ten-year old girls at Little Falls Public School in St. Marys Ontario, working on developing their self-esteem, and teaching them about healthy lifestyles including healthy eating and exercise. The Stratford office of Big Sisters closed in June 2014.

References- Available on request

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