



Serving Northern  
British Columbia

# Geography

## Library Subject Guide

<http://library.nlc.bc.ca>

*Information literacy is a set of abilities requiring individuals to "recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate, and use effectively the needed information."*

Association of College and Research Libraries

Geography is the branch of knowledge that deals with the earth's surface, its form and physical features, natural and political divisions, climate, products, population, etc. Northern Lights College offers several geography courses such as Society and the Environment, Regional Geography of Canada, Physical Geography: Surface of the Earth, Social Geography and Cartography: Map and Air Photo Interpretation.

**Ask a Librarian** for assistance in finding relevant books and journal articles and/or if you need help researching a course related topic. The librarian will also provide assistance in using the Library's website, online catalogue, article databases, and the Internet. Contact the librarian directly or use the "Ask a librarian" section on the Library web pages.

Dawson Creek Library  
Janet Beavers, Coordinator of Library Services  
Phone: (250)-782-5251 (local 1251)  
Email: [jbeavers@nlc.bc.ca](mailto:jbeavers@nlc.bc.ca)

Fort St. John Library  
Dawna Turcotte, Librarian  
Phone: (250)-785-6981 (local 2012)  
Email: [dturcotte@nlc.bc.ca](mailto:dturcotte@nlc.bc.ca)

### REFERENCE:

Dictionaries, encyclopedias and handbooks can be a useful starting point for learning. Many of these sources provide basic information, overviews of topics, as well as introduce specialized terminology and detailed information. Major reference works are held mainly at the DC and FSJ libraries. Some titles of interest located in the Reference Section are:

#### Dawson Creek Reference Collection

HA 744 S81 2001 Canada Year Book  
G 116 C645 1996 Companion Encyclopedia of Geography  
G63 G63 S55 1999 Dictionary of Geography  
GF 4 D52 1994 Dictionary of Human Geography  
GB 10 D53 2000 Dictionary of Physical Geography  
GF 4 P58 2004 Encyclopedia of Human Geography  
GB 10 E53 1994 Encyclopedic Dictionary of Physical Geography  
G 123 G46 1999 Geographica  
G 123 N38 1999 National Geographic Desk Reference  
G 63 C56 1998 Penguin Dictionary of Geography, The

#### Fort St. John Reference Collection

QC 901 C32 C32 1993 Canadian Climate Normals  
HA 744 S81 2001 Canada Year Book  
G 63 G63 S55 1999 Dictionary of Geography  
GF 4 D52 1994 Dictionary of Human Geography  
GB 10 D53 2000 Dictionary of Physical Geography  
GE 149 E47 2000 Encyclopedia of Global Change  
GF 4 P58 2004 Encyclopedia of Human Geography  
GB 10 E53 1994 Encyclopedic Dictionary of Physical Geography  
D 20 R36 2001 Historical Dictionary of World Political Geog  
G 63 C56 1998 Penguin Dictionary of Geography, The

#### Atlases:

G 1170 F37 An Atlas of British Columbia  
G 1046 C1 M66 2001 Atlas of the Evolving Earth  
G 1021 A842 2003 Atlas of the World  
G 115 C33 1980 Canada Gazetteer Atlas  
G 1116 S1 C36 Canada Then and Now  
G 1116 C8 C3 PT.1-3 Climatic Atlas Canada  
FC 35 C66 1997 Concise Gazetteer of Canada  
G 1116 S1 C66 1998 Concise Historical Atlas of Canada  
G 1116 S1 H39 2002 Historical Atlas of Canada  
QE 522 E53 2000 Encyclopedia of Volcanoes  
G 1465 S12 C39 1999 Historical Atlas of BC & Pacific  
G 1116 S1 H39 2002 Historical Atlas of Canada  
G115 C21 1985 National Atlas of Canada  
G 1021 N39 2003 National Geographic Concise Atlas of the World  
G 1019 A77 New Cambridge Modern History: Atlas XIV

G 1170 F37 An Atlas of British Columbia  
G 1021 A842 2003 Atlas of the World  
G 1115 C33 1980 Canada Gazetteer Atlas  
G 1116 S1 C36 Canada Then and Now  
G 1116 C8 C3 PT.1 Climatic Atlas Canada  
FC 35 C66 1997 Concise Gazetteer of Canada  
QE 522 E53 2000 Encyclopedia of Volcanoes  
G 1465 S12 C39 1999 Historical Atlas of BC & Pacific  
G 115 C21 1985 National Atlas of Canada  
G 1021 N39 2003 National Geographic Concise Atlas of World  
G 1019 A77 New Cambridge Modern History: Atlas XIV  
DA 677 T54 Times London History Atlas  
G 1046 G1 W67 2002 World Bank Atlas

### CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

To assist you in browsing the collection for materials on Geography, try the following areas:

#### G, F, and H

G Geography  
GE Environmental Sciences  
HF Economic Geography

GA Cartography  
GF Social Geography  
Q Climate

GB Physical Geography  
GF Human Ecology  
QE Geology

GC Oceanography  
HD Industries, Land Use

## LIBRARY CATALOGUE AND ELECTRONIC DATABASES

To find books, journals, and audiovisual materials on your topic, search the library's online **catalogue**. If you are looking for journal articles, search the library's online **journal article indexes & electronic databases**. Use **keywords** to search the online catalogue and/or electronic databases. A keyword is a word or term that best describes the information you are looking for. You can search the library catalogue or an electronic database for either a single keyword or a combination of keywords in order to find articles in an electronic database or books in the online catalogue containing the keyword(s).

### Examples of keywords:

|                        |                      |                         |                    |
|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| aerial photography     | Canada geography     | economic geography      | maps               |
| agricultural geography | climate              | environmental geography | physical geography |
| applied geography      | climate changes      | geography political     | weather            |
| biogeography           | commercial geography | historical geography    |                    |
| canadian environment   | earth sciences       | human geography         |                    |

## PERIODICALS & NEWSPAPERS

The library currently subscribes to several periodicals and newspapers of interest to Social Work students: To check for campus and holdings, search the title in Webcat, the library catalogue.

| Periodical Title                 | Library Holdings | Campus Library |
|----------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| BC Environmental Report          | 2001 – current   | FSJ            |
| Canadian Field Naturalist        | 1989 – current   | FSJ            |
| Canadian Geographer              | 2000 – current   | DC/FSJ         |
| Canadian Geographic              | current +4 yrs   | DC/FSJ         |
| Canadian Journal of Soil Science | 1999 – current   | FSJ            |
| Discover                         | current +3 yrs   | FSJ            |
| Forestry Chronicle               | 1999 – current   | FSJ            |
| Global Biodiversity              | 1998 – current   | FSJ            |
| National Geographic**            | 1996 – current   | DC/FSJ         |
| Western Geography                | 1992 – current   | FSJ            |

\*\* The complete National geographic [computer file] : 108 years of National geographic magazine on CD-ROM  
National Geographic Society (U.S.) G 1 N37 1997 CD-ROM DC/FSJ

### DATABASES relevant to Geography:

access: <http://nlc.bc.ca/library/articleindexes.php>

**Academic Search Premier:** Provides coverage for social sciences, humanities, education, computer sciences, arts and literature, medical sciences, and ethnic studies. Citations and full text available. 1984-present. Updated monthly.

**Access Science:** Provides coverage to general science reference, fulltext. Updated daily.

**Agricola:** All aspects of agriculture, forestry, soil and water resources, agricultural engineering etc. 1970-current. Updated weekly.

**CBCA Fulltext Reference:** Canadian Business and Current Affairs. Major index for Canadian newspapers, popular & business scholarly journal and popular magazines. 1982-current

**Canadian MAS Fulltext:** Provides coverage in all subject areas, popular focus, some Canadian converge. 1984-current

**Canadian National Research Council Press Journals:** Canadian science journals in earth science, biology, forestry, aquatic sciences, chemistry, physics, etc. Fulltext from 1997-current.

**Canadian Newstand:** Major Canadian newspapers 1994-current, fulltext. Daily CBC news transcripts.

**CPI.Q:** Provides coverage on current events, health, technology, arts, history, culture and business. 415 Canadian periodicals with 165 full text. 1988 - current, updated weekly.

**Encyclopedia of British Columbia:** The Encyclopedia of British Columbia is a comprehensive online reference source for BC-related information. Fulltext available.

**E-Stat:** Statistics Canada database with Census data, CANSIM time series & environmental data. Fulltext.

**Humanities Index:** Provides coverage in literature, sociology, anthropology, geography, and etc. 1983- present. Updated monthly.

**Science Indexes:** Provides coverage in astronomy, agriculture, biology, botany, chemistry, conservation, earth science, forestry, horticulture, medicine, physics, zoology, etc. 1983- present, updated monthly.

## WEBSITES

### Atlases, Maps and Mapping

The Atlas of Canada: [www.atlas.gc.ca/site/english/index.html](http://www.atlas.gc.ca/site/english/index.html)

Base Mapping & Geomatic Services: <http://ilmbwww.gov.bc.ca/bmgs/>

Centre for Topographic Information: <http://maps.nrcan.gc.ca>

Internet Mapping Sites - BC: <http://maps.gov.bc.ca/>

Mapping - from Canadian Geographic: <http://www.canadiangeographic.ca/mapping/default.asp>  
UCLA Berkeley Earth Sciences and Map Collection: <http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/EART/MapCollections.html>  
United Nations Cartographic - Maps and Geographic Information Resources: <http://www.un.org/Depts/Cartographic/english/htmain.htm>

## Associations

American Association of Geographers, The: <http://www.aag.org/>  
Canadian Association of Geographers, The: <http://www.cag-acg.ca/en/>  
Royal Geographic Society, The: <http://www.rgs.org/>  
♦ Royal Canadian Geographic Society: <http://www.rcgs.org/rcgs/>

## Climatology and Weather

BC Ministry of Forests and Range: <http://www.gov.bc.ca/for/>  
▪ Climate change, impacts, and adaptation scenarios: climate change and forest and range management in British Columbia: <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfd/pubs/Docs/Tr/Tr045.pdf>  
Canadian Ice Service - ice and weather information: <http://ice-glaces.ec.gc.ca/App/WsvPageDsp.cfm?Id=1&Lang=eng&Clear=true>  
Climate Change – A Guide to the Information and Disinformation – Society of Environmental Journalists: <http://www.sej.org/resource/index18.htm>  
Climate Change – The Discovery of Global Warming: <http://www.aip.org/history/climate/>  
David Suzuki Foundation: <http://www.davidsuzuki.org/>  
▪ Kyoto Protocol: [http://www.davidsuzuki.org/Climate\\_Change/Kyoto/](http://www.davidsuzuki.org/Climate_Change/Kyoto/)  
El Nino: [http://www.msc-smc.ec.gc.ca/education/elnino/index\\_e.cfm](http://www.msc-smc.ec.gc.ca/education/elnino/index_e.cfm)  
El Nino Theme Page: <http://www.pmel.noaa.gov/tao/elnino/nino-home.html>  
National Climate Data and Information Archive: <http://www.climate.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca/>  
▪ Canadian Climate Normals 1971- 2000: [http://climate.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca/climate\\_normals/](http://climate.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca/climate_normals/)  
▪ Public Weather Warnings for Canada: [http://www.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca/warnings/warnings\\_e.html](http://www.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca/warnings/warnings_e.html)  
▪ Radar Index Page: [http://www.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca/radar/index\\_e.html](http://www.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca/radar/index_e.html)  
▪ Weather Office: [http://www.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca/canada\\_e.html](http://www.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca/canada_e.html)  
La Nina: [http://www.msc-smc.ec.gc.ca/education/lanina/index\\_e.cfm](http://www.msc-smc.ec.gc.ca/education/lanina/index_e.cfm)  
Global Climate Change: <http://www.exploratorium.edu/climate>  
National Climatic Data Centre: <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/ncdc.html>  
River Forecasts and Snow Surveys - BC Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection : <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/rfc/>  
STORMFAX@Weather Services Index: <http://www.stormfax.com/index.htm>

## Earth and Physical Science

British Columbia Geological Survey: <http://www.em.gov.bc.ca/Mining/GeolSurv/default.htm>  
BC Hazard Information links - from the Provincial Emergency Program. Info on hazards such as: tsunamis, flooding, volcanoes, landslides, etc.: <http://www.pep.bc.ca/>  
Canadian Soil Information System: <http://sis.agr.gc.ca/cansis/intro.html>  
CGRG Bibliography of Canadian Geomorphology: <http://cgrg.geog.uvic.ca/cgi-bin/search.cgi/>  
Chronos: "an interactive network of data and tools for Earth system history": <http://www.chronos.org/splash/splash.html>  
Earthquake Information Centre from NISA Internet Technologies: <http://www.nisa.com/earthquake/>  
Earthquakes: Global: <http://cires.colorado.edu/people/jones.craig/EQimagemap/global.html>  
Government of Canada Land: <http://www.environmentandresources.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=01A5CF3A-0>  
USGS Earthquake Hazard Information: <http://quake.wr.usgs.gov/>  
Geological Survey of Canada: [http://gsc.nrcan.gc.ca/index\\_e.php](http://gsc.nrcan.gc.ca/index_e.php)  
Minerals Information from the USGS. Free fulltext statistics and mineral information: <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/>

## Environment and Natural Resources

BC Ministry of the Environment: <http://www.gov.bc.ca/env/>  
EcoACTION – Gov't of Canada – using less... living better: <http://www.ecoaction.gc.ca/>  
Environment Canada's Green Lane: <http://www.ec.gc.ca/envhome.html>  
Natural Resources Canada: <http://www.nrcan-rncan.gc.ca/com/index-eng.php>  
Canadian Forest Service:  
▪ The State of Canada's Forests: [http://bookstore.cfs.nrcan.gc.ca/detail\\_e.php?recid=12586924](http://bookstore.cfs.nrcan.gc.ca/detail_e.php?recid=12586924)  
State of the Environment InfoBase: <http://www.ec.gc.ca/soer-ree/>  
Sustaining the Environment and Resources for Canadians - Government of Canada: <http://www.environmentandresources.ca/>

## General

Atlappedia - physical maps, political maps, key facts and statistics on countries of the world: <http://www.atlappedia.com/>  
Canadian Geographic: <http://www.cangeo.ca/>  
CIA World Factbook: <https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index.html>  
Geocaching – GPS Official Site: <http://www.geocaching.com/>

Geography Network: <http://www.geographynetwork.com/>

Global Change Master Directory: NASA's comprehensive directory about Earth science and global change data, covering climate change, agriculture, the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere & oceans, geology, geography, and human dimensions of global change: <http://gcmd.nasa.gov/>

PhysicalGeography.net: <http://www.physicalgeography.net/home.html>

### Online Textbooks

Fundamentals of Physical Geography - free online textbook by Dr. Michael Pidwirny, University of British Columbia - Okanagan.

<http://www.physicalgeography.net/fundamentals/contents.html> Includes many useful web links, such as:

<http://www.physicalgeography.net/> or <http://www.physicalgeography.org/>

The Physical Environment - by Michael Ritter of the University of Wisconsin, Steven's Point:

[http://www.uwsp.edu/geo/faculty/ritter/geog101/textbook/title\\_page.html](http://www.uwsp.edu/geo/faculty/ritter/geog101/textbook/title_page.html)

### Reference

BC Geographical Names: <http://lmbwww.gov.bc.ca/bcnames/>

Canada's Digital Collections - Geography: [http://collections.ic.gc.ca/E/SL\\_geography.asp](http://collections.ic.gc.ca/E/SL_geography.asp)

Canadian Geographical Names: <http://geonames.nrcan.gc.ca/>

Dictionary of Abbreviations and Acronyms in Geographic Information Systems, Cartography, and Remote Sensing (UCLA Berkely):

♦ <http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/EART/abbrev.html#index>

Economic Geography Dictionary: <http://faculty.washington.edu/krumme/gloss/a.html>

Ethnologue: Languages of the World: <http://www.ethnologue.com/>

Getty Thesaurus of Geographical Names: [http://www.getty.edu/research/conducting\\_research/vocabularies/tgn/index.html](http://www.getty.edu/research/conducting_research/vocabularies/tgn/index.html)

Histor!ca – <http://www.histori.ca>

♦ The Canadian Encyclopedia Online: <http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.com/>

Look it up – Longitude and Latitude Canada: [http://www.bcca.org/misc/qiblih/latlong\\_ca.html](http://www.bcca.org/misc/qiblih/latlong_ca.html)

Physical Geography Glossary of Terms <http://www.physicalgeography.net/glossary.html>

Thesis Canada Portal - <http://www.collectionscanada.ca/thesescanada/index-e.html>

U.S. Gazetteer from the US Census Bureau : <http://www.census.gov/cgi-bin/gazetteer>

### Statistics and Demographics

BC Stats - from the Ministry of Labour and Citizen's Services: <http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/index.htm>

♦ Population & Demographics Index: <http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/DATA/POP/POPSTART.HTM>

British Columbia Vital Statistics Agency: <http://www.vs.gov.bc.ca/>

♦ Annual Reports: <http://www.vs.gov.bc.ca/stats/annual/>

♦ Regional and Community Facts: <http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/dd/facsheet/facsheet.htm>

Eurostat - from the European Union: [http://europa.eu.int/comm/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/index_en.htm)

GeoHive: Global Statistics: <http://www.geohive.com/default1.aspx>

FedStats - statistics to over 100 US federal agencies: <http://www.fedstats.gov/>

FAOSTAT: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations: <http://faostat.fao.org/>

NationMaster.com – world statistics, country comparisons: <http://www.nationmaster.com/index.php>

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD):

[http://www.oecd.org/countrieslist/0,3025,en\\_33873108\\_33844430\\_1\\_1\\_1\\_1\\_1,00.html](http://www.oecd.org/countrieslist/0,3025,en_33873108_33844430_1_1_1_1_1,00.html)

Statistical Resources on the Web: <http://www.lib.umich.edu/govdocs/statsnew.html>

Statistics Canada: <http://www.statcan.ca/>

♦ Summary Tables: <http://www40.statcan.ca/l01/cst01/>

UNESCO Institute for Statistics : <http://www.uis.unesco.org/>

♦ Fulltext documents: <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/ulis/index.html>

U.S. Census Bureau: <http://www.census.gov/>

World Bank Canada Data and Statistics: <http://www.worldbank.org/data/>

### Search Engines

A9 - from Amazon.com: <http://www.a9.com>

Google: <http://www.google.ca>

Google Maps: <http://maps.google.ca>

Vivisimo: [www.vivisimo.com](http://www.vivisimo.com)

Yahoo: [www.yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com)