

COLE ATLIN

EDUCATION

PhD, Social and Ecological Sustainability, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario September 2013- March 2019

- Research Areas: sustainable development, strategic environmental assessment, cumulative effects, conflict management, governance of wicked problems, mining
- *Dissertation*: PUSHING FOR BETTER: CONFRONTING CONFLICT, UNSUSTAINABILITY & COLONIALISM THROUGH SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT AND REGIONAL ASSESSMENT IN THE RING OF FIRE

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, in Environment and Resource Studies with a Joint Honours in Peace and Conflict Studies, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, 2006-2010

RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research has focused upon the complex socio-ecological relationships and conflicts that industrial development generates and the need to transition to sustainable futures. Environmental assessment, transformational approaches to conflict, sustainable development, cumulative effects, indigenous rights 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 previously considered in my research. Alternative dispute resolution and public-private conflict are also primary foci of my research.

AWARDS

- Governor General's Leadership Conference Award Recipient (2020)
- 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
- Joseph-Armand Bombardier Doctoral Award, 2017-2018
- Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Doctoral Award, 2015-2017
- 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 EXPERIENCE

July 2019-October 2020, Office of Public Engagement, Memorial University, St. John's, Newfoundland

Post-Doctoral Fellowship

- Researched the Muskrat Falls Hydro-electric Project decision, including risk management, environmental assessment, mega project economics, etc.
- Met with experts and scholars to build academic outputs
- Co-lead research project on Gender Based Analysis Plus for Impact Assessment with NEDIA Research Program (on-going commitment)
- Wrote articles for future publication
- Worked with Icelandic partners for comparative analysis of fiscal crisis

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

Research Assistant

- Wrote 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, 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

CONSULTING EXPERIENCE

Impact Assessment Specialist- Calian Group, Nuclear Division, December 2021 to present Casual/ On-Call

- Provides impact assessment support and advice to Calian Group Nuclear team
- Specializes in sustainability considerations, Indigenous consultation and partnership, GBA+ & next generation impact assessment practice for Calian supported projects

Mining for Sustainable Development (M4SD) Phase II- Newfoundland and Labrador Team, December 2021 to present

Contract with Transparency International

- Team lead to investigate corruption in the Ontario mining sector, utilizing MACRA tool to identify vulnerabilities in the environmental assessment and permitting process
- Conducted virtual interviews
- Develop interview strategies and surveys for Indigenous peoples, corporate interests, public officials, academics, and NGOs
- Specific responsibilities include:
 - Drafting Newfoundland and Labrador report
 - Primary and secondary ecological and socio-economic research
 - Assessment of process vulnerabilities utilizing MACRA tool

Mining for Sustainable Development (M4SD) Phase II- Ontario Team, March 2019 to August 2020

Contract with Transparency International

- Team lead to investigate corruption in the Ontario mining sector, utilizing MACRA tool to identify vulnerabilities in the environmental assessment and permitting process
- Conducted interviews and workshops in Fort Hope, Timmins, Toronto, and Thunder Bay
- Develop interview strategies and surveys for Indigenous peoples, corporate interests, public officials, academics, and NGOs
- Specific responsibilities include:
 - Drafting Ontario report for amalgamation into national report
 - Jointly drafting final report
 - Primary and secondary ecological and socio-economic research
 - Assessment of process vulnerabilities utilizing MACRA tool

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

Wood Buffalo National Park Strategic Environmental Assessment Consultant, December 2016 to May 2018

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

RESEARCH CONTRIBUTIONS

Research Grants

- SSHRC Partnership Development Grant: “ADVANCING Impact Assessment for CANADA's Socio-Ecological System” (2020-2023). Co-Lead on GBA+ on Impact Assessment Research Stream. (See <https://www.nedia.ca/>)
- SSHRC/ CEAA Knowledge Synthesis Grant: “*Implementing a Regional, Indigenous-Led and Sustainability-Informed Impact Assessment in Ontario’s Ring of Fire*”(2020). Co-applicant.

Conference & Public Presentation

- IAIA 2021 (April 2021)- Virtual [Seville Spain]: “Indigenous co-developed sustainability criteria in the Ring of Fire”
- Harris Centre Public Presentation. St. John’s Newfoundland. “[Memorial Presents: Memorial Presents: Icelandic Banking Sector Collapse vs. Muskrat Falls](#)” (April 26th, 2021)
- Canadian Rural Revitalization Conference/ North Atlantic Forum (October 2019). St. John’s, NL. "Eabametoong First Nation & the Crown: A Complex History and an Uncertain Future"
- OAlA Conference (October 2018)- Toronto, Ontario: “Strategic Environmental Assessment of Wood Buffalo National Park” (with Dr. Lisa White)
- Climate Change and Energy Futures Symposium (October 2018)- St. Johns, Newfoundland: “Site C and Hypocrisy”
- Consultation East Conference (May 2018)- Toronto, Ontario: “CASE STUDY: Implementing a Next-Generation Environmental Assessment Model at the Community Level”
- 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

- Mark Stoddart & Cole Atlin. “Hydroelectricity, Environmental Governance, and Anti-Reflexivity: Lessons from Muskrat Falls” Environmental Politics. (under review)
- Mark Stoddart, Ásthildur Bernharðsdóttir & Cole Atlin. “Financial Crisis, Governance and Sustainable Island Futures: Comparing Iceland and Newfoundland and Labrador”. *Small States and Territories* 4(2), (November 2021).
- 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

- Cole Atlin, Deniz Yaylaci & Ben Laing. (2021). [TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY CONCERNS FOR VIRTUAL CONSULTATION The Case of Mining Project Environmental Assessments in Canada](#)
- Cole Atlin. “Mining for Sustainable Development: Environmental Assessment of Mines in Ontario”. Transparency International Report.

- Transparency International Report (Ontario research lead). (June 2020) [Mining for Sustainable Development: Comparing Environmental Assessment of Mines in Ontario, BC and the Yukon \(June 2020\)](#)
- Invited Federal Expert on Strategic Assessment for the Impact Assessment Agency (October 2020)
- Invited Federal Expert on Sustainability Assessment for the Impact Assessment Agency (2020)
- (co-author uncredited) Wood Buffalo National Park Strategic Environmental Assessment Report (June 2018)
- (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”

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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

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.

Ontario Association for Impact Assessment January 2020 to present

Board of Director for Ontario’s professional organization related to impact assessment.

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.

References- Available on request

- 226 921 4266 • catlin@atlinca.com • coleatlin.com
238 Queen St E, Box 201 • St. Marys, Ontario N4X1B1