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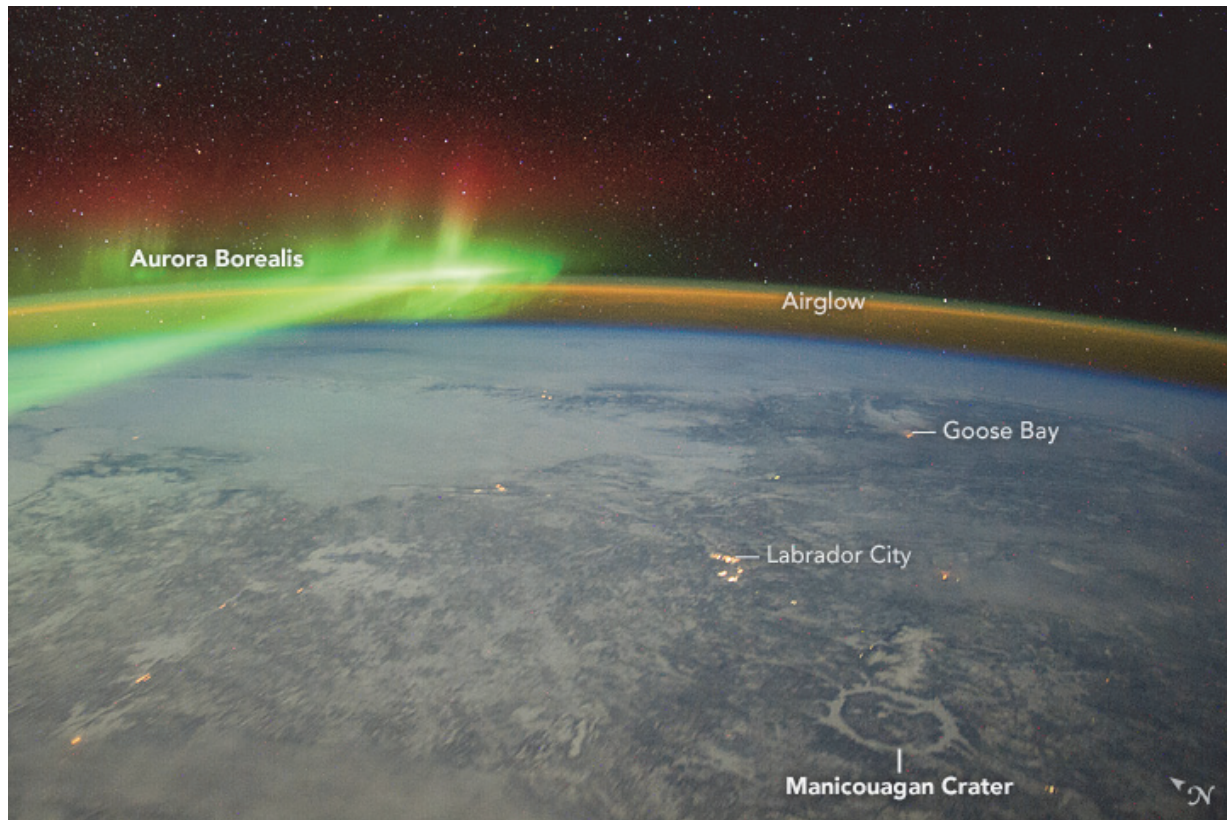
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Inevitable impact events: The collateral benefits of catastrophes

Changing the shape of metamorphic petrology in phases

Pondering a possible Pliocene polar paradise

The clergyman, the lawyer, and the soft-bodied impression

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Cover Image: A large asteroid impacted Earth some 214 MYA, creating the 100 km Manicouagan impact structure in Quebec. The impact caused a shock wave to radiate across Earth's surface, followed closely by high-velocity winds. Near the impact point, wind speeds would have exceeded 1000 km/hr. The shock wave and air blast would have severely damaged and killed plants and animals out to distances of ca. 600 km, as far as Goose Bay. After erosion by glaciers and other processes over millions of years, the Manicouagan crater is now visually dominated by the Manicouagan hydroelectric reservoir some 60 km in diameter.

Image credit: NASA, International Space Station.

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