Editors' Note

Daniel Macfarlane et William Knight

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Ths issue is the result of a collaboration between Daniel Macfarlane, a Canadian historian working in the United States, and myself, *Scientia*'s managing editor, William Knight. We are both interested in the intersection of environmental history and technology, a sub-field known as envirotech. Macfarlane has helped establish this approach in Canadian environmental history through his work on the St. Lawrence Seaway, the subject of his 2014 book *Negotiating a River*. And while not at all the writers in this number explicitly use an envirotech approach, they are all concerned with how technology and environment (an indeterminate term that has come, in some ways, to replace "nature") work in and on each other. In *Hydro Democracy*, Macfarlane and co-author Andrew Watson explore how Timothy Mitchell's notion of carbon democracy can be transposed into hydrological terms, specifically how the emergence of a hydro-electricity infrastructure in Canada has reshaped political governance and how flows of power emerge from dams, turbines, and transmission lines. Blair Stein's *'One-Day Wide' Canada* takes an envirotech approach to the construcion and deconstruction of an aerial imaginary through the publicity of Trans Canada Air Lines (TCA). Stein considers how TCA's public-relation efforts attempted to attract travellers to flying by using a discourse that compressed Canada's vast spaces and long history. This approach connected the flying experience to historical modes of travel at the same time that it erased any heroic aura by making long-distance travel routine. Travellers may or may not have noticed: they were busy enjoying the visual perspective of flight. Shannon Stunden Bower's *Tools for Rational Development* further explores how technology can skew the axes of time and space in her study of the Canada Land Inventory and the Canada Geographic Information System. These two ground-breaking efforts, initiated in the 1960s, integrated new computing technologies in an attempt to rationalize land use across Canada and make it more economically efficient, an old desire recast for new tools. As Stunden Bower shows, this administrative technology failed to account for how European settlement had already shaped the land and naturalized unequal access to resources. Finally, Jennifer Hubbard sheds new light on a historical debate in fisheries. In *The Global Repercussions of the 1947 Symposium* she shows how Canadian biologist A.G. Huntsman—a man with a passion for neologisms—gave new momentum to the persistent view that it was impossible to over-fish a fish population. Our thanks to the contributors, reviewers, and the editorial team who made this issue possible.
Co-editors Daniel Macfarlane and William Knight
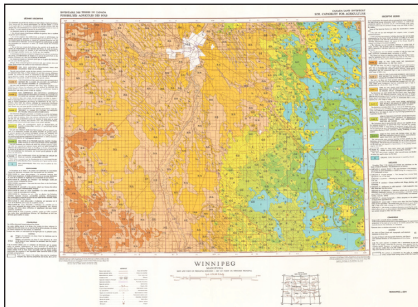
On the cover / en couverture: *Detail from "Canada Land Inventory (CLI): 1:250,000 and 1:125,000", Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, accessed 15 November 2017, http://sis.agr.gc.ca/cansis/publications/maps/cli/250k/agr/index.html*