

AINA NEWS

Kluane Lake Research Station Summer Season

The Kluane Lake Research Station (KLRS) has wrapped up the 2026 summer season. Guests included researchers, students, teachers, First Nations, government scientists, artists, and community members. The station hosted 1950 overnight users and 70 daytrip users, facilitating over 544 different guests from 57 groups. Additionally, approximately 150 community members visited KLRS during our Community BBQ in May, Open House in September, and other community events throughout the summer. The KLRS staff team consisted of five full-time staff, all of which are Yukoners, and a part-time summer student from the University of Calgary.

Outreach and education were a continued priority in 2026. Community events included talks and workshops from researchers and local Indigenous artists and storytellers. The station welcomed primary and secondary schools from the Yukon (Haines Junction, Destruction Bay, Whitehorse), Calgary, and Ohio. Two artists from the Yukon and Northwest Territories were hosted at KLRS for the Kluane National Park Artist Residency in partnership with Parks Canada and the Yukon Arts Centre. Each artist had a two-week residency and held multiple public workshops. The education non-profit Howl brought youth groups and teacher professional development courses to KLRS. Other groups included members from Kluane First Nation, Champagne and Aishihik First Nations, Asi Keyi Park Planning Committee, Rivers to Ridges/Sho Than K'e Ho Chi Dok Mentorship Program, Take Me Outside/Yukon Association of Education Professionals, and Yukon Youth Conservation Corps.

Groups from 13 Canadian universities (Yukon University, University of Calgary, University of Alberta, Simon Fraser University, University of Ottawa, Queen's University, Trent University, Thompson Rivers University, Université de Montréal, ÉTS Montréal, McGill University, Institut National de la Recherche Scientifique, and Carleton University), five international universities (Ohio State University, University of Maine, Dartmouth College, Exeter University, University of Oulu), and four government agencies/departments (Environment Yukon, Yukon Geological Survey, Geological Survey of Canada, Polar Knowledge Canada) visited KLRS in 2026 for research or field courses. Research topics included glaciology, ecology, geology, geography, climatology, space physics, and agriculture. Field courses studied geography, sustainable systems engineering, modern treaties, permafrost, and boreal forest ecology.

Research Data, Collections, and Data Services News

The Canadian Polar Data Workshop VI (CPDW6), convened by the Canadian Polar Data Consortium (<https://ccadi.org>) and hosted by the University of Waterloo Climate Institute (<https://uwaterloo.ca/climate-institute>) and the Polar Data Catalogue (<https://www.polardata.ca>) was held

8–12 June 2026, in Waterloo, Ontario, at St. Jerome's University, federated with and located at, the University of Waterloo. Shari Fox, co-founder and senior advisor for Ittaq (<https://itraq.ca>) gave the keynote for the event, Knowledge Mobilization and Data Storytelling at the Ittaq Heritage and Research Centre, Clyde River, Nunavut. The workshop held sessions titled Knowledge Mobilization and Decision Making, Knowledge Co-Production and Indigenous Data Sovereignty, Data Ethics, FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) Data, Vocabularies and Semantic Interoperability, Logistical Resource and Information Management, Modelling and Remote Sensing Data, Life Science Data, and Data Storytelling. Concurrent with CPDW6, the Canadian Integrated Ocean Observing System also held an Ocean Data event over three of the workshop days (9–11 June 2026).

The Canadian Polar Data Consortium's (CPDC) annual general meeting was held on the last day of the event. Led by CPDC Coordinator, Shannon McAllister, plans were made to move the organization forward with quarterly meetings being set up over the next two years ahead of the next Canadian Polar Data Workshop.

A forum for supporting and advancing polar data initiatives in Canada, the Canadian Polar Data Workshops, are structured to reach specific outcomes that help develop Canada's national polar data strategies and further national objectives in the areas of data discovery, federated search, data interoperability, knowledge transfer, and Indigenous data sovereignty. If you are interested in learning more about this workshop or in joining the steering committee, please visit <http://canadianpolardataworkshop.ca> or contact Shannon McAllister at shannon.mcallister@ucalgary.ca

Scholarships at AINA: Spread the News

AINA actively supports students to carry out Arctic research through a number of private scholarships at the University of Calgary and through the federal government. The institute manages applications from students at the University of Calgary for Northern Science Training Program Grants from Polar Knowledge Canada. The grant offers up to \$6000 for research in northern regions of the circumpolar Arctic and subarctic. Two ANIA-sponsored scholarships that are open to students from Canadian universities, the Lorraine Allison and the Jennifer Robinson Memorial Scholarships, support students pursuing northern research. These scholarships are offered annually and range in value from \$3000 to \$5000. The H.M. Ali Family Education Award (\$1600) is offered to University of Calgary students focusing their research on sustainable development in the Arctic and subarctic. The Jim Bourque Scholarship (\$1000) is granted to Indigenous Canadian students enrolled in post-secondary education, environmental, Indigenous Knowledge, or telecommunication studies. See the AINA website for details and deadlines for these funding opportunities <https://arctic.ucalgary.ca/about-us/scholarships>.