

PUBLIC TALK & DISCUSSION

ANTARCTIC SEA ICE

IN A CHANGING WORLD

Living on the Pacific coast, should we be concerned that climate change is heavily impacting Antarctica and the Southern Ocean? A group of international scientists think so. They also think we need to look to our past to better understand what we might expect in the future. Simon Fraser University's Faculty of Environment is pleased to invite you to a talk and discussion to find out why. We hope to see you there!

ABSTRACT

Climate change is heavily impacting Antarctica and the Southern Ocean surrounding this icy continent. Parts of the Antarctic ice sheet are melting away raising sea-level by a few millimeters each year. The Southern Ocean is also warming which is affecting the global ocean circulation and remote climate. This in turn is impacting the regional food web at southern high-latitudes. Surprisingly, Antarctic sea-ice cover has been slightly increasing over the past decades despite very large differences at the regional scale that we have yet to understand.

Projections for Antarctica estimate accelerated warming of the atmosphere and ocean and an acceleration of the continental ice melting with a drastic reduction of the sea-ice cover. However, these projections are based on instrumental data from a time frame that is too short to be reliable, so we need to look deeper into the past to fully capture the range of natural variability. This will help us better understand the relationships between the atmosphere, ocean, cryosphere and biosphere to refine our projections.

In this presentation Xavier Crosta will discuss why Antarctica and the Southern Ocean are important for the global climate, explore the on-going changes and how they impact high-latitude wildlife and how we may learn from the past.

DETAILS

Thursday, October 25
7:00PM - 9:00PM
SFU Harbour Centre
515 West Hastings
Room 1900

PRESENTER

Xavier Crosta
Senior Research Scientist
Université de Bordeaux
France

MODERATOR

Amy Leventer
Professor of Geology
Colgate University
New York, USA

RSVP FREE

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