W. GARFIELD WESTON SCIENTISTS INVOLVED IN 2014 SEARCH FOR THE LOST FRANKLIN SHIPS

The W. Garfield Weston Foundation was a catalyst for an innovative partnership that enabled the One Ocean Voyager to join the Government-led 2014 search for the lost Franklin expedition. Five Foundation-supported scientists delivered lectures and shared their findings to all onboard the Voyager, including historians, Royal Canadian Navy sailors, sonar technicians, other scientists and passengers.

“We’re so very proud of our scientists. One of the missions on this expedition was to get them together with a mix of other Canadians so a conversation could begin about the big-picture issues facing the Arctic. The Canadian Arctic holds secrets that if unlocked can help us come closer to understanding some key priorities such as the effects of pollution and climate change.”

-Geordie Dalglish, Chairman of the Northern Committee, The W. Garfield Weston Foundation

Meet the five scientists:

**Dr. John Smol**

2013 Weston Family Prize for Lifetime Achievement in Northern Research Recipient

*Departments of Biology, Environmental Studies Queen’s University*

Dr. John Smol has published several books that explore the history of research into global climate issues and the effects of contaminants. A leading international authority in the field of Arctic limnology and paleolimnology, Dr. Smol’s work focuses on the impact of environmental change on Arctic freshwater ecosystems.

**Adrienne White**

*PhD Candidate, Geography University of Ottawa* 
Awarded in 2011

Adrienne’s Master’s thesis provided the first comprehensive survey of the Petersen Ice Shelf on the north coast of Ellesmere Island. Her current research is focused on determining recent changes to ice masses (e.g., ice shelves, sea ice, glaciers) of northern Ellesmere Island using a combination of field and remote sensing techniques.
Igor Lehnherr

Postdoctoral Fellow  
University of Waterloo  
Awarded in 2012 and 2013

Igor’s postdoctoral research at University of Waterloo focused on the impact climate change is having on fresh water lakes and ponds in the Arctic. He was recently appointed to the Dept. of Geography at the University of Toronto – Mississauga. Following in Franklin’s footsteps, Igor has sailed the Northwest Passage on three separate occasions. He has conducted field research across the Canadian Arctic for the past ten years.

Joshua Thienpont

Postdoctoral Fellow  
Queen’s University  
Awarded in 2013 and 2014

Joshua has spent the last 6 years conducting graduate and postdoctoral research in the Canadian Arctic. His field-based research focuses on northern aquatic ecosystems. He is currently working out of the Dept. of Geography and Environmental Studies at Carleton University in Ottawa.

Emily Choy

PhD Candidate, Biological Sciences  
University of Manitoba  
Awarded 2014

Emily is a PhD student in the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg. Her research focuses on the health, diet, and diving physiology of the Beaufort Sea beluga population. Emily has spent three field seasons living in Inuvialuit hunting camps on Kendall Island in the Mackenzie-Delta region.