

Dear colleagues and friends, members of GDRI Cold Forests,

It is our pleasure to announce upcoming group meeting which will take place in Quebec, at the premises of the University of Quebec at Abitibi-Temiscamingue and the Research station FERLD. Du 19 au 26...On commence la réunion 21 à la station (21-24) avant c'est la montée en passant par le parc de la verrerie et le 24 la sortie vers la Baie James

The meeting will be held on October 19-26 2019, which includes days for pre- and post-conference excursions (!).

The event, which you simply can not miss, will be devoted to three themes:

- (A) effects of climate change and human activities on cold forests of Northern Hemisphere and
- (B) progress in understanding climate-disturbance vegetation linkages,
- (C) Implications for cold forests' management.

In connection to the meeting, we plan to arrange with a special feature in one of the forest ecology journals where paper contributions will be published. We cannot give you any further detail on this moment, however we strongly suggest you consider not only attending but also contributing to this Special Feature. This opportunity should be of particular interest for doctoral students since it is envisioned to give them a fast track towards a peer-reviewed publication in good journal to be included in their theses.

Please fill in this Doodle to indicate your interest in pre- and post-conference excursions. <https://doodle.com/poll/s5bipwe72cgr6xrr> These will be one to two days long. The pre-conference excursion will start from Montreal and will proceed towards Abitibi region (north) and will include visits to [National Park Verendrie](#) and some other smaller sites. The post-conference excursion will go to the north of the FERLD and will aim at reaching the beautiful spruce-moss cold ecosystems found close to James Bay area. These are two independent excursions and we would like to know how many people would be interested to join each of them. With little interest we may have to cancel these activities.

Our goal is to host around **30-35 participants**.

Funding. The policy of GDRI Cold Forests is based on:

- (a) adoption of "no registration fee" policy,
- (b) "net cost approach", which means that participants cover their own costs,
- (c) limited amount of funding made available for the PhD students to join the events. **This funding is contingent upon students leading a full-fledged submission to the Special Feature.**

Please let us know on your availability for this event by the end of March 2019.

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