



# International Association of Geomorphologists

## 12<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Permafrost (ICOP 2024)

City of Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada, 16–20 June 2024

### Report

**Melanie Stammler**

*Bonn University, Germany  
Stammler(at)uni-bonn.de*

The 12<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Permafrost (ICOP), organized by the International Permafrost Association (IPA) in cooperation with the Canadian Permafrost Association, the Canadian Geotechnical Society, the Permafrost Young Researchers Network and Yukon University, took place in Whitehorse, Canada, from June 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The overarching theme, "Integrating Perspectives of Permafrost Thaw, Change, and Adaptation", timely underscores the urgency of comprehensively understanding the impacts of climate change on permafrost and the necessity of developing adaptation strategies based on robust scientific research. With Canada hosting a vibrant community of permafrost researchers and engineers, as well as covering extensive permafrost landscapes, the choice of location was both sensible and attractive - not only for the field trips but for its academic significance as well. However, attending a conference so far from my home institution required long travel and expenses I could not have covered without scholarships. Therefore, I am immensely grateful for the financial support provided by the IAG, which enabled me to participate in this unforgettable event.

To me, the 12th ICOP represents a remarkable week filled with presentations, workshops, related events, and highly interactive coffee and lunch breaks at the Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre, beautifully located on the Chu Nínkwän (Yukon River) in Whitehorse. The conference offered me the opportunity to present my own research, explore new approaches, transfer knowledge across fields, reconnect with familiar colleagues, and exchange ideas with many new ones. I am particularly thankful for the chance to present my work titled "Vertical Surface Change Signals of Rock Glaciers: Combining UAV and Pléiades Imagery (Agua Negra, Argentina)", which was also published as a full conference paper ([doi.org/10.52381/ICOP2024.138.1](https://doi.org/10.52381/ICOP2024.138.1)). The feedback I received was invaluable, as was the broader exchange of knowledge throughout the conference and its related events.



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Once again, I want to emphasize the importance and value of financial support, particularly for early career researchers, in making such enriching experiences possible. These opportunities allow us to grow academically and personally while building networks that benefit the entire research community. I extend my heartfelt thanks for awarding these grants in general, and a personal thank you for supporting my participation in the 12<sup>th</sup> ICOP in Whitehorse, Canada.



**Figure 1** All on-site attendees listening to a presentation by Lukas Arenson, conference chair of the 12th ICOP, presenting in the Kwanlin Dün Cultural centre, Whitehorse / Canada.



**Figure 2** Located directly next to Chu Nínkwän (Yukon River), the Kwanlin Dün Cultural centre as conference location gave the opportunity for wonderful walks from and to the conference.