



# International Association of Geomorphologists

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

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

### Report

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Thanks to the support of the International Association of Geomorphologists, I spent a beautiful week in Whitehorse, Yukon at the 12<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Permafrost (ICOP 2024). I had been invited to give a talk in a session on coastal permafrost, the title of which was “The Triple Whammy: permafrost thaw subsidence, sea-level rise, and coastal erosion are reshaping Alaska’s Arctic Coastal Plain.”

ICOP was an encompassing experience. Because of its infrequency, ICOP attracts many of the best minds in the permafrost world. I made it my mission to connect with as many of these scientists as I could. For instance, I made the acquaintance of Tor Jorgenson, whom I had long admired in writing but never met in person, and Merritt Turetsky, the self-titled Queen of Peat. I also connected with permafrost researchers with whom I hope to write future proposals, such as Burke Minsley, a geophysicist at the US Geological Survey whose interest on saline permafrost complements my own science questions. Attending ICOP opened opportunities to network with early career peers through the Permafrost Young Researchers Network (PYRN), of which I am a new executive board member. PYRN’s full-day session on the Sunday before ICOP began was a highlight of the trip.

Beyond attending the multiple technical sessions that ran each day for several days, I also participated in a fieldtrip to see and measure a permafrost thaw slump along the Dalton Highway using shallow geophysical techniques. There is no substitute for seeing these phenomena in-person. The connections I made at ICOP continue to advance my research. Big thanks to the International Association of Geomorphologists for making this experience possible!