

# Mediating Environments: Nature, Culture, Power

*a joint session sponsored by the*  
**Canadian Communication Association**  
*and the*  
**Environmental Studies Association of Canada**

The environments we inherit, experience and act upon are never simply 'there,' but reach us through complex systems of social, cultural, and technical mediation. The representational politics of environment transcend easy distinctions between science and culture, technical and popular, expert and lay. This two-panel session attempts to question and think across such divides. The first panel, "Mediating Environments: Political Ecologies," addresses how modes of expert representation may shape and constrain environmental debate and action. The second panel, "Mediating Environments: Nature and Culture," follows such debates into popular culture (and back again), exploring cultural and discursive productions on and around 'nature.' The panels will offer substantive and methodological reflection on questions of mediation, representation, and power that are increasingly central to understanding in both our fields.

## *Participants:*

**Robert Babe ~ Jody Berland ~ Angela Carter ~ Adrian Ivakhiv  
Steven Jackson ~ Kim Sawchuk ~ Peter Van Wyck**

## *Times and Locations:*

**Session One – Mediating Environments: Political Ecologies  
Middlesex College, Rm 105, 9:00-10:30 am (Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup>)**

**Session Two – Mediating Environments: Nature and Culture  
University College, Rm 142, 11:00-12:30 (Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup>)**

*A complimentary coffee break between sessions will be offered in University College, Rm 137*