

1 **The Canadian Sea Ice and Snow Evolution Network (CanSISE):**
2 **Fourth Annual Progress Report**

3 **SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION, PROGRESS ON PROJECTS AND DELIVERABLES**

4 The CanSISE Network is a government-academic research partnership that seeks to advance
5 Canada's sea ice and snow prediction capacity on seasonal and longer timescales; enhance
6 process understanding and quantitative attribution of snow and sea ice related climate extremes
7 and associated impacts; and better of integrate state of the art snow and sea ice observations into
8 climate prediction systems. Since its inception in February 2013, the CanSISE Network has
9 enhanced Canadian leadership in these areas through careful analysis of snow and sea ice
10 processes in earth systems models and in observations in the context of climate variability arising
11 from natural and anthropogenic forcing and of observational uncertainty.¹ During Project Year 1
12 (2013-2014) the network established new collaborations and partnerships. Project Years 2 and 3
13 (2014-2015, 2015-2016) featured considerable progress on research, spurred by two concrete
14 outputs led by the CanSISE Network: the *CanESM Large Ensemble* of climate simulations and
15 the *Blended-5 snow water equivalent (B5 SWE)* observational dataset. Project Year 4 (February
16 2016 to January 2017) has seen the completion of Deliverable 1 (assessment of snow and sea ice
17 prediction in CanESM) and has set the stage for a clearer definition and completion of the
18 remaining three Deliverables, a continuing record of high quality and high impact publications,
19 advancement of HQP, and the development of two new projects building upon our research
20 activities in response to NSERC's "CCAR Network Enhancement Initiative (NEI)" call.
21 Communication and collaboration in the network has continued through regional and network-
22 wide workshops, as well as with regular telecons/webinars. We will briefly discuss our budget in
23 Section 2 (see budget tables in Appendix A), the proposed NEI activities and
24 management/partnership topics in Section 3. Updated membership list and
25 presentations/publications are presented in Appendix B and Appendix C.

26 **Projects and Deliverables**

27 1. For **Research Area A (S/SI Prediction and Projection)**, **Project A1's (Improved**
28 ***observational datasets for initialization and verification*)** scope was expanded and clarified
29 in Year 3 to target collation of datasets involving multiple sources of observations of
30 selected parameters for forecast system verification and initialization, and for additional
31 climate analysis. The creation and maintenance of multi-source datasets for sea ice and snow
32 is a key recommendation of the Deliverable 1 report (see item 19 below). The multisource
33 *Blended-5 SWE* (Mudryk et al. 2015; data available at the National Snow and Ice Data
34 Center at <http://nsidc.org/data/NSIDC-0668>) snow water equivalent dataset, which was
35 published last year and described in the Project Year 3 report, continues to find application
36 in several areas (described below). In Project Year 4, we have begun a project to produce
37 multisource datasets of recent (post Year 2000) sea ice observational data that will be started
38 with available resources from CanSISE. This *CanSISE Legacy Data Project* as envisioned
39 extends beyond the lifetime of the CanSISE Network but the short-term products of this
40 effort are expected to be immediately useful. Year 4 activity involved developing a gridded
41 multi-sourced sea ice thickness dataset using a similar approach to the B-5 SWE but
42 focusing on post-2000 to accommodate recent satellite and airborne sensors (e.g. Cryosat-2,
43 ICESat, Operation IceBridge) in addition to reanalysis products. All datasets are currently
44 being placed on a common grid for subsequent comparison (regional and pan-Arctic) and
45 determination of uncertainty and bias. This work is being led by M-E Gagné in collaboration
46 with Howell, Mudryk, and Kushner. For snow, the B5 SWE dataset and extensions to it

- 47 represented part of CanSISE's leadership in the evaluation of northern hemisphere snow
48 water equivalent (SWE) datasets for the European Space Agency (ESA) Satellite Snow
49 Product Inter-comparison Experiment (SnowPEX), which will conclude in early 2017. The
50 consistency of seven daily, gridded Northern Hemisphere snow water equivalent (SWE)
51 datasets (satellite, reanalysis driven land models) has been assessed and compared to in situ
52 reference datasets. The B5-SWE dataset is available to support CMIP6 analysis through the
53 Obs4MIPS program.
- 54 2. For **Project A2.1** (*Assessment of prediction skill for S/SI and related variables in CanSIPS*
55 *hindcasts based on current and enhanced verification datasets*), working with Merryfield
56 and Kharin, former CanSISE PDF Reinel Sospedra-Alfonso (now an NSERC Visiting
57 Fellow at CCCma) has extended previous work that examined potential predictability and
58 actual skill or snow water equivalent (SWE) in CanSIPS hindcasts and has found that (i) soil
59 moisture potential predictability has a rich and complicated behaviour apparently related to
60 the seasonal freeze/thaw cycle and to ENSO; (ii) higher actual skill is achieved when blends
61 of several analyses are used for verification data than when individual analyses are
62 considered, thus demonstrating the potential value of the multisource approach (Sospreda-
63 Alfonso et al. 2016 a,b).
 - 64 3. For **Project A2.2** (*Improved CanSIPS snow/land surface initialization*), CanSISE PDF
65 Jaison Ambadan (Guelph) working with Berg and Merryfield analysed lagged influences of
66 snowmelt on soil moisture memory and near-surface air temperatures in four reanalysis
67 products and two CanSIPS seasonal forecast models. A considerable diversity of behaviour
68 was found, likely relating to differing biases and land surface physics schemes in the various
69 models. In addition, Ambadan and new CanSISE University of Guelph PDF Manoj
70 Kizhakkeniyil have begun to develop procedures for mapping the values of variables in the
71 ISBA and SVS land surface models used in ECCC's land surface assimilation and weather
72 prediction models into the variable set of the Canadian land surface scheme (CLASS), which
73 is the land model employed by ECCC's seasonal forecast models. This should enable more
74 realistic land initialization in seasonal forecasts through incorporation of information from
75 ECCC's Canadian Land Data Assimilation System (CaLDAS) and a 30-year land reanalysis
76 now being developed by ECCC (collaboration with Dr. Bélair). Williamson (Guelph MSc.
77 2016) finished a thesis on evaluation of soil freeze thaw products for validation of freeze
78 thaw products from the Soil Moisture Active Passive Satellite (SMAP) and for land surface
79 models with ground data. Guelph Ph.D. student Renato Pardo will develop methods for soil
80 freeze thaw observations from satellites for assimilation into land surface models.
 - 81 4. In **Project A2.3** (*Improved CanSIPS sea ice initialization*), CanSISE PhD student Arlan
82 Dirkson, co-supervised by Merryfield and UVic faculty member Adam Monahan, completed
83 an analysis of CanSIPS hindcasts that use different statistical and dynamical methods for sea
84 ice thickness initialization. Marked improvements in CanSIPS forecasts of sea ice
85 concentration were found when ice thickness fields from the statistical models and PIOMAS
86 are employed for initialization, except in the Nordic Seas where improved sea ice thickness
87 amplifies an existing model bias (Dirkson et al. in press). In addition, this project was
88 extended to improve, relative to current operational practice, methods for probabilistic sea
89 ice forecasting (for example probabilities that sea ice concentration will exceed some
90 threshold value during the forecast period).
 - 91 5. For **Project A2.4** (*Streamflow predictions/Western Cordillera*), a comparison of six gridded
92 snow water equivalent (SWE) products with snow station measurements over BC has been

- 93 completed and published (Snauffer et al., 2016 a and b). Performance of gridded products
94 over BC was assessed and informed a follow-up effort to develop a SWE data fusion
95 product. Based on the products' relative performance, various combinations of the products
96 were averaged and also used as predictors in artificial neural networks (ANNs) and multiple
97 linear regressions (MLRs). A base set of relevant station covariates used as predictors in the
98 ANNs and MLRs including position, survey date, etc. was developed. Improvements were
99 also found across the province and in most regions when comparing the ANN with the
100 Variable Infiltration Capacity (VIC) hydrologic model run over BC by the Pacific Climate
101 Impacts Consortium (PCIC).
- 102 6. For **Project A3** (*Analysis of interannual to multidecadal S/SI predictions and projections*)
103 CanSISE investigators are contributing to the development of coupled climate model
104 experiments within the World Meteorological Organization/Climate and Cryosphere
105 (WMO-CliC) Earth System Model Snow Model Intercomparison Project (ESM-SnowMIP)
106 and the CMIP6 endorsed Land Surface, Snow, and Soil Moisture Model Intercomparison
107 Project (LS3MIP). A paper summarizing the LS3MIP experimental approach was completed
108 (van den Hurk et al., 2016) and ESM-SnowMIP test simulations using prescribed and/or
109 perturbed snow physics are underway. Large initial condition ensembles from CanESM2
110 and CESM were combined with a multi-model CMIP5 ensemble and an observational
111 ensemble of snow datasets (related to the B5-SWE product, Project A1) to assess historical
112 and future trends in continental scale snow cover (Thackeray et al., in press) and quantify
113 snow cover sensitivity to temperature forcing (Mudryk et al., in revision). Work on **Project**
114 **A4** (*Assessing limits to S/SI predictability*) was largely completed in Year 3.
- 115 7. For **Research Area B** (*Attributing change in S/SI and modelling its impacts*), **Project B1**
116 (*Drivers of S/SI change: High latitude temperature and precipitation*) is complete. For
117 **Project B2** (*Detection and attribution of northern hemisphere SCE changes*), a formal
118 detection and attribution (DA) analysis of SCE changes based on several different
119 observational datasets with different structural characteristics was undertaken. Early spring
120 (March-April) and late spring (May-June) NH SCE changes using climate simulations of the
121 responses to anthropogenic and natural forcings combined (ALL) and to natural forcings
122 alone (NAT) from the Coupled Model Intercomparison Project Phase 5 (CMIP5) were
123 analyzed. Results considerably strengthen the available body of evidence showing that
124 human influence on the climate systems has contributed to the observed snow cover extent
125 declines on hemispheric and continental scales (Najafi et al, 2016a).
- 126 8. The subprojects of **Project B3** (*Implications of precipitation and snow cover changes on*
127 *water resources*) deal with impacts of large-scale climate change to snow on hydrological
128 characteristics in the Western Cordillera:
- 129 a. A DA analysis on attribution of the regional SWE/summer runoff decline in Western
130 Canada was carried out at PCIC, focusing on the multi-decadal trend in SWE and in
131 summer runoff of four BC river basins with distinct hydro-climatic characteristics. A
132 suite of ten CMIP5 models were used including ALL, NAT, and preindustrial control
133 simulations (CTL). These simulations were downscaled to daily time series at 1/16°
134 spatial resolution to drive the VIC hydrologic model. Manual snow survey, and VIC
135 reconstructed SWE were projected onto the multi-model ensemble means of the VIC
136 simulated SWE based on the responses to different forcings using the optimal
137 fingerprinting approach. Results indicate a detectable influence of human induced
138 climate change on normalized SWE across the four basins and in three of the four

- 139 basins individually. These findings complement an earlier study that detected human
140 influence on the hydrology of the western USA (a water limited region) and
141 demonstrates the impact of human influence in a region with an energy limited (as
142 opposed to water limited) hydrologic regime (Najafi et al., 2016b, under review). A
143 similar analysis was performed considering summer stream flow changes in these
144 basins. Summer stream flow has declined, which is an expected consequence of
145 reduced winter snow storage. The study confirms that human induced climate change is
146 a factor contributing to the observed stream flow changes (Najafi et al., 2016c, under
147 review).
- 148 b. At PCIC and UNBC, an assessment of whether human induced climate change has
149 changed the risk of extreme annual maximum discharge (flooding) events on the Fraser
150 River was carried out. The hydrology of the FRB is dominated by snow accumulation
151 and melt processes, leading to a prominent annual peak daily streamflow (APDF)
152 invariably occurring in June-July. Historically, some of these APDFs have resulted in
153 damaging floods. However, as not all are associated with an unusually large spring
154 snowpack, it is unclear exactly what climatic conditions contributed to these extreme
155 events. Recently hired Research Associate Charles Curry has been using hydrological
156 model output to examine the sensitivity of APDFs to a set of predictors characterizing
157 the magnitude and timing of rainfall, SWE and temperature, using a regression
158 framework. The PCIC and UNBC implementations of VIC, with complementary
159 gridding approaches, are being compared.
- 160 c. The UNBC group focused on evaluating predictive uncertainties in the snow hydrology
161 of the Fraser River Basin (FRB) of British Columbia (BC), Canada, using the VIC
162 model forced with several high-resolution gridded climate datasets (Canadian
163 Precipitation Analysis, ANUSPLIN, NARR, etc.). Uncertainties at different stages of
164 the VIC implementation were analysed focusing on driving datasets, optimization of
165 model parameters, and model calibration during cool and warm phases of the Pacific
166 Decadal Oscillation (PDO). The forcing datasets (precipitation and air temperature) and
167 their VIC simulations (SWE) and runoff reveal widespread differences over the FRB
168 especially in mountainous regions. The analysis shows that the parameter choices and
169 choice of calibration period is less important in influencing the response than the choice
170 of forcing datasets. Further analyses of VIC forced with CMIP projections provide
171 evidence of increasing variability (and hence less predictability) in daily flows for the
172 main stem Fraser River at Hope. Thus in a warmer climate, streamflow for the Fraser
173 River may be more variable, either on a day-to-day basis or from year-to-year, implying
174 potentially less predictability in that system.
- 175 9. For **Project B4** (*Detection and attribution of Arctic sea ice and snow cover extreme events*),
176 U Vic Ph.D. student Bennit Mueller carried out a DA analysis of anthropogenic and natural
177 influences on observed trends in Arctic sea ice. Using updated records of Arctic sea ice
178 extent covering 1953 onwards, it has been possible to detect, for the first time, the separate
179 contributions of greenhouse gas forcing (GHG), other anthropogenic forcing (OANT;
180 notably aerosols) and natural external forcing from solar and volcanic activity (NAT) to
181 observed sea-ice extent changes. The results demonstrate that the effect of OANT has helped
182 to offset a substantial fraction of the sea ice loss that would have occurred if only GHGs had
183 influenced the Arctic. This has policy implications, since actions to curb aerosol and aerosol
184 precursor emissions may exacerbate sea-ice loss if greenhouse gas emissions are not

185 curtailed at the same time. U Vic PDF Megan Kirchmeier-Young led an event attribution
186 study for extremes in Arctic sea ice extent, demonstrating that extreme minimum events
187 such as the current records in both the September annual minimum and March annual
188 maximum extent would not have occurred without the inclusion of anthropogenic forcings.
189 This analysis also first confirmed that an anthropogenic signal was detected in the long-term
190 annual and September time series of Arctic sea-ice extent through a formal detection and
191 attribution assessment (Kirchmeier-Young et al., 2016, *J. Climate*, in press). The detection
192 of a natural forcing signal in the September time series using the multi-model CMIP5
193 ensemble was further explored in a paper by Gagne et al. (2016) investigating the influence
194 of major volcanic eruptions on Arctic sea ice.

195
196 As an important extension beyond the original proposal in 2016, the event attribution
197 methodology applied to sea ice extent extremes is being utilized for an analysis of extreme
198 wildfire/fire weather events in western Canada. The connections with and relevance for
199 CanSISE are twofold. First, and most directly, the study uses the CanSISE-sponsored
200 CanESM2 large ensemble. Secondly, it was motivated by the Fort McMurray wildfire that
201 burned 590,000 ha and extended from May to early July. Fire indices that inform wildfire
202 risk are affected by a number of climate variables, including antecedent moisture, which in
203 cold climates, is affected by snow storage. The CanESM2 and CESM large ensembles, plus
204 additional CMIP5 simulations, were downscaled before the calculation of indices from the
205 Canadian Forest Fire Weather Index (FWI) System. A major challenge for this project
206 involves defining the region(s) and specific events of interest, which includes considerations
207 of the signal-to-noise ratio for the various metrics/variables, the usefulness of the results,
208 and representing fire risk and/or occurrence using only output from an ESM that does not
209 include a fire model or human behaviours for ignition/suppression. Furthermore, snow data
210 from the ESM will be used/downscaled to determine appropriate start dates for the fire
211 season.

212 10. For **Research Area C Project C1.1-i** (*Snow-albedo feedback and other climate*
213 *interactions*) Chad Thackeray (PhD student at UWaterloo) investigated biases in simulated
214 snow cover and albedo, and their role in climate. Thackeray et al. (2016) evaluated the
215 uncertainty in historical and future simulations of Northern Hemisphere spring snow cover
216 using data from two climate model ensembles and seven observation-based snow products.
217 This study utilized the CanESM Large Ensemble to illustrate the role that internal climate
218 variability plays in simulated spring snow cover trends. A synthesis/review paper was also
219 published on snow albedo feedback (Thackeray and Fletcher, 2016). Extensive progress has
220 also been made with new offline land model simulations with the NCAR CESM model.
221 These simulations incorporate prescribed observation-based albedo measurements, and can
222 be used to quantify the impact on climate from previously-documented biases in simulated
223 albedo. Markus Todt (PhD student at Northumbria, co-supervised by Fletcher at Waterloo)
224 has made considerable progress toward implementing a new longwave canopy radiation
225 parameterization in the NCAR CLM model. He is currently diagnosing a simplified version
226 of the parameterization, and has now begun to test this code in CLM. Tyler Herrington (PhD
227 student at UWaterloo) and Kevin Nagtegaal (NSERC USRA recipient at UWaterloo)
228 investigated the role of internal variability in the wintertime snow-AO teleconnection.
229 Herrington's PhD thesis work will examine the role of Cloud Radiative Effects in Snow
230 Albedo Feedback. Bakr Badawy (PDF at UWaterloo) has ported the latest version (v3.6) of

- 231 the CLASS to SciNet. He has begun an uncertainty quantification analysis using offline
232 global simulations with CLASS, where the impact on climate from combinations of
233 uncertain model snow parameters, constrained by observational data, will be assessed.
- 234 11. **Project C1.1-ii** (*Sea-ice albedo feedback and related feedback processes*). In Project Year
235 4, CanSISE PDF Tandon continued his investigation of regional Arctic feedbacks between
236 sea ice and atmospheric circulation in the context of Arctic decadal variability. Previous
237 work characterizing the coupled sea ice drift process, which involves feedbacks between
238 wind driving and sea ice fluxes have characterized GCM behaviour in this area as very
239 poorly simulated. Tandon has found in fact that this is an artefact of the sampling used to
240 relate ice drift to wind variability, and this work suggests that the wind-driven sea ice drift
241 feedback has not played as important a role in long-term sea ice trends as previously
242 thought. This work was spurred in part by the participation of Kushner in the WCRP Polar
243 Climate Prediction Initiative's focus study on polar feedbacks (Section 3).
- 244 12. For **Project C1.2** (*Changes of wind-driven ice drift and deformation in relation to ice*
245 *thickness variations in observations and GCMs*) PDF Bajish, with Haas at York, finalized
246 his analysis of gridded snow-on-sea ice data, which is a critical parameter for the retrieval of
247 sea ice thickness from satellite remote sensing, in comparison to CanSIPS and CanESM (ms
248 in prep).
- 249 13. For **Project C1.3** (*Towards improved sea ice physics and dynamics in the Canadian GCMs*),
250 McGill Ph.D. student James Williams is running a viscous-plastic sea-ice model at
251 increasingly high spatial and temporal resolution. An idealized domain is being used to
252 study the dependence of sea-ice export (a metric for the amount of internal dissipation) as a
253 function of the spatial resolution of the model. Results show that a decrease in the
254 mechanical compressive strength of sea ice is required as spatial resolution is increased to
255 maintain the same ice export. The results were anticipated by theoretical analysis but are
256 inconsistent with laboratory experiments, suggesting that sea ice in natural floes has
257 weaknesses that reduces its mechanical strength to values that are well below that of
258 isolated, undamaged floes. McGill Ph.D. student G. Auclair is carrying out a numerical
259 study of a solver for the sea ice momentum equation to improve convergence as higher
260 resolution is achieved. The analytical Jacobian of the 1D sea ice momentum equation is
261 derived. Preliminary results show promise in terms of computational efficiency. Although
262 robustness remains an issue for some test cases, it is improved compared to the Jacobian free
263 approach. In order to make use of the strong points of both the new and Jacobian free
264 methods, a new hybrid pre- conditioner is also introduced, which combines robustness and
265 computational efficiency when solving the sea ice momentum equation.
- 266 14. For **Project C2.1** (*Changes in sea ice extent and impacts on circulation*) U Vic/U
267 Washington research associate, Kelly McCusker completed analysis and publication of the
268 effect of Barents-Kara sea ice loss on Eurasian winter temperatures. This work showed that
269 the multi-decadal decline of Barents-Kara sea ice concentration is unlikely to be the cause of
270 the trend toward cooler winters in central Eurasia since about 1980, and instead is likely due
271 to an internally-generated persistent high pressure over the Barents-Kara Seas and
272 downstream trough. McCusker also completed execution and analysis of a suite of
273 CanESM2 nudging simulations that isolate the effect of sea ice loss and increased CO₂
274 concentrations in a coupled model. Toronto Ph.D. student Russell Blackport has submitted a
275 study on the response to imposed sea ice loss in the NCAR coupled models CESM1 and
276 CCSM4. He applied a two-parameter pattern scaling technique to separate the response of

- 277 the atmospheric circulation from sea ice loss from that of low-latitude warming. This allows
278 atmospheric circulation responses over the North Pacific and the Eurasian continent in
279 winter to be separately attributed to sea ice loss and tropical warming separately (Blackport
280 and Kushner, in press). This work has continued with Toronto Ph.D. student Stephanie Hay,
281 who is collaborating with McCusker to compare the NCAR model responses to those found
282 in McCusker's experiments with CanESM. At McGill, the work described in Year 3 for
283 Tremblay's group on how patterns of Arctic air masses will be affected by sea ice loss and
284 polar amplification has been published (Gervais et al. 2016).
- 285 15. For **Project C2.2** (*S/SI response to teleconnected forcing*) work has continued from that
286 reported in Year 3 (Bichet et al. 2015, Bichet et al. J. Climate, in press) to estimate responses
287 in land-surface temperature, precipitation, and snow cover associated with greenhouse
288 warming, using a modelling approach that is tightly constrained by observed trends in sea
289 surface temperatures and sea ice. Year 4 focused on revising the Bichet et al. paper (J.
290 Climate, in press), which concerned on past trends, and completing analysis of projected
291 snow and land surface temperature trends.
- 292 16. For **Project C3.1** (*Declining SCE: Characteristics and causes*), work by Allchin at UNBC
293 has continued on 1) establishing Northern Hemisphere SCE trends at the grid point scale to
294 determine which regions are undergoing significant reductions or increases in SCE and their
295 relationships to vegetation cover and large-scale teleconnections such as the Arctic
296 Oscillation, 2) continuing to identify mechanisms contributing to recent springtime SCE
297 reductions in North America and Eurasia, 3) exploring the role of the snow-albedo feedback
298 on other climatic variables such as air temperature and precipitation phase and 4) preparing
299 an article that presents long-term (up to 10 years) hydrometeorological data collected from
300 BC's Cariboo Mountains.
- 301 17. For **Project C3.2-i** (*Changes in sea ice area and type in the Canadian Arctic Archipelago*)
302 Observed and modelled landfast ice thickness variability and trends spanning more than 5
303 decades within the Canadian Arctic Archipelago (CAA) were summarized. The observed
304 sites (Cambridge Bay, Resolute, Eureka and Alert) represent some of the Arctic's longest
305 records of landfast ice thickness. Observed end-of-winter (maximum) declining trends of
306 landfast ice thickness (1957–2014) were statistically significant at all sites except Resolute.
307 Snow depth was found to be strongly associated with the negative ice thickness trends.
308 Comparison with multi-model simulations from CMIP5, Ocean Reanalysis Intercomparison
309 (ORA-IP) and Pan-Arctic Ice-Ocean Modeling and Assimilation System (PIOMAS) show
310 that although a subset of current generation models have a "reasonable" climatological
311 representation of landfast ice thickness and distribution within the CAA, trends are
312 unrealistic.
- 313 18. Finally, for **Project C3.2ii** (*Changes in pan-Arctic SIE, thickness and snow on ice*) sea ice
314 area flux using RADARSAT from 1997 to 2014 was analyzed at three gates in Beaufort Sea:
315 the Canadian Basin (entrance), mid-Beaufort (midpoint), and Chukchi (exit). The majority
316 of ice transport in Beaufort Sea was found to occur from October to May providing
317 replenishment for ice lost during the summer months. The cross-strait gradient in sea level
318 pressure explains ~40% of the variance in the ice area flux at the gates. Remarkably, the
319 mean July–October net sea ice area flux at the Chukchi gate decreased by ~80% from 2008
320 to 2014 relative to 1997–2007 and became virtually ice-free every year since 2008. This
321 reduction was associated with younger (thinner) ice that was unable to survive the summer
322 melt season when either being sequestered from the Canadian Basin and transported through

323 Beaufort Sea during the melt season (2008–2011) or remaining immobile and present in the
324 vicinity of the Chukchi gate during the melt season (2012–2014).

325 19. The **CanSISE Network Deliverables** represent the synthesis of our research, geared
326 towards summarizing its broader implications. The **Deliverable 1 Report** (*Assessment of*
327 *S/SI Biases, Projections, and Predictions in the Canadian GCMs*) was posted in spring 2016
328 and shared with Environment Canada management. The report concluded that the quality of
329 the CanESM2 simulation of snow-related climate parameters, such as cold-region
330 temperature and precipitation, lies well within the range of currently available international
331 models. Accounting for the considerable disagreement among satellite-era observational
332 datasets on the distribution of snow water equivalent, CanESM2 has too much snow cover
333 and an unrealistic spatial distribution of SWE in the spring over the Canadian land mass and
334 has too much springtime snow over the Northern Hemisphere as a whole. CanESM2 exhibits
335 springtime retreat of snow in the satellite era that is generally greater than observational
336 estimates. Sea ice is biased low in the Canadian arctic and subarctic, and the amount of snow
337 on floating wintertime sea ice is probably also biased low, although observational estimates
338 of snow on sea ice are uncertain. The report discusses tradeoffs in having a model system
339 that is sufficiently computationally inexpensive to afford operational seasonal prediction and
340 multiple realizations under different forcings, but of high enough resolution to capture key
341 geographical features for simulating snow and sea ice. Improvements in climate prediction
342 systems like CanSIPS relies not just on simulation quality but on being able to take
343 advantage of novel observational constraints and being able to transfer research to an
344 operational setting. Research results from CanSISE suggest potential improvements in
345 seasonal forecasting practice using CanSIPS, including the impact of accurate initialization
346 of the state of snow and frozen soil, properly accounting for observational uncertainty in
347 forecast verification, and operational implementation of sea ice thickness initialization using
348 statistical predictors available in real time. The report concludes with recommendations and
349 areas of interest for future collaborative research; these cover benefits of entraining a
350 network of researchers bridging observational and modelling communities and bridging the
351 government and academic sector, benefits of multi-source observational datasets, and the
352 availability of large initial condition simulation ensembles.

353
354 The CanSISE Network is now well positioned to produce the remaining Deliverables of the
355 project. Derksen is leading the **Deliverable 2 Report** [*Assessment of Canadian snow and*
356 *sea ice trends (1981-2016) and projections (2020-2050)*] which will be submitted for
357 publication as part of ECCC's contribution to the Canadian National Climate Assessment
358 2020's foundational report *Canada's Changing Climate*. Figures for Deliverable 2 have
359 been produced and a draft of the report will be discussed at a CanSISE East regional
360 network meeting in February 2016. A related session will be held at CMOS in Toronto in
361 June 2016. A network-wide call for contributions to the **Deliverable 3 Report** (Snow and
362 sea ice related climate event attribution and impacts) will be the subject of a CanSISE West
363 regional workshop in April 2016. Preliminary results for **Deliverable 4** (*CanSISE Legacy*
364 *Multisource Snow and Sea Ice Data Project*) will be reported at a CanSISE East Regional
365 workshop in June (coincident with the Toronto CMOS meeting) and this Deliverable will be
366 finalized in Year 6.

367 **SECTION 2. BUDGET**

368 Table 1 (after Section 4) summarizes budgeting and spending in Project Year 4
369 (including estimated spending estimated from October 2016 to January 2017). We anticipate no
370 significant carry forward apart from the Year 4 Network Enhancement Initiative funds (\$43K)
371 that will be spent on the March 2017 *North2Warm* workshop (see below); the remaining carry
372 forward is <\$20K and CanSISE operating budgets for Year 5-6 remain essentially unchanged.

373 **SECTION 3. INTERACTION WITH PARTNERS, RESEARCH TEAM AND TRAINING**

374 A significant change in CanSISE leadership is that Prof. Christian Haas, who has joined the
375 Alfred Wegener Institute in Bremerhaven, Germany in September 2016, is no longer active in
376 the Network as an investigator but remains as a member of our Advisory Panel. In response to
377 this change in leadership we have asked Dr. Steven Howell (ECCC) and Prof. Chris Fletcher
378 (Waterloo) to join the Steering Committee. Deliberation by the Steering Committee has been of
379 critical importance for several decisions involving personnel, the response to the CCAR NEI call
380 and review process, and ensuring that our four deliverables are completed in a timely manner.
381 We continue our successful partnership and management model with monthly to bimonthly
382 telecons with the steering committee, advisory panel, and entire network, as well as the CanSISE
383 Research Report from selected HQP at the end of the Network telecons.

384 We held CanSISE regional meetings in January, May, and June 2016 (two in Toronto and one
385 in Victoria) and our All-Network Workshop in November 2017. These meetings, particularly the
386 all-network Workshop in March, provided important opportunities for interaction and
387 collaboration. The regional workshops will in Years 5 and 6 be increasingly focused on
388 finalizing project deliverables.

389 Our active partnerships were described in last year's report. Almost every project described
390 above involves a partnership between University and Environment Canada or PCIC researchers.
391 The generation of the CanESM Large Ensemble and the B5-SWE product has represented a great
392 example of resource commitment of EC to the benefit of the Canadian modeling community. As
393 in previous years, we list key collaborations between partners: Berg/Merryfield/Kharin,
394 Howell/Kushner/Derksen, Kushner/Derksen, Kushner/Fyfe, Fletcher/Derksen/Kushner,
395 Fletcher/Kushner/Howell, Zwiers/Zhang/Gillett, Déry/Brown/Derksen, Déry/Zwiers.

396 Regarding new partnership opportunities, Kushner and Fyfe took part in EU Horizon 2020
397 proposals related to polar research (one of which, *APPLICATE*, in which Fyfe is involved, was
398 successful); the U. Bergen proposal submitted in CanSISE Year 3 on the Dynamics of
399 Midlatitude-Arctic Teleconnections was successful and has led to partnership opportunities with
400 that institution; and Fletcher, Kushner and Howell submitted a proposal on calibration,
401 validation, and modelling of satellite-derived snow/sea ice/weather processes for the Canadian
402 Space Agency's Earth System Data Analysis call. Kushner helped represent Canada's efforts in
403 these areas at the WCRP/PCPI Polar Feedbacks workshop in Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium (May
404 2016).

405 In response to NSERC's CCAR NEI call, two project activities that build upon CanSISE's
406 original proposal were accepted by NSERC. The first, entitled *North2Warm: The impact of 1.5-
407 2.0 degrees Celsius warming on Canada's North*, is designed to respond to the UNFCCC's
408 COP21 call to the IPCC to produce a special report on the anticipated impacts of 1.5°C or greater
409 global warming above pre-industrial levels. An organizing committee consisting of Flato,
410 Howell, D. Lemmen of NRCAN, and Kushner, are convening a workshop in March 2017 that will
411 focus on climate change impacts on Canada's North and that will contribute to the material that
412 will be available for assessment in the IPCC Special Report. This activity is intended to integrate
413 Canadian research in these areas into a high profile international endeavour, and to provide

414 invaluable information to the Canadian public, policy makers, and the scientific and broader
415 research community concerned with this critical topic. The primary aim of our activity is to
416 submit and publish a peer-reviewed paper on this topic that, we hope, will provide highly
417 relevant reference material for the IPCC Special Report.

418 The second NEI project activity, *First look at the next generation Canadian Earth System Model*
419 *CanESM5*, will comprise a workshop and report that will coincide with the release to the
420 international research community of output of ECCC/CCCma's new model, CanESM5, for
421 WCRP CMIP6. The workshop will involve a Canada-wide call for analyses of the new model
422 (including but not limited to snow and sea ice processes) to build a community of researchers
423 who are vested in the ongoing development of Canada's climate prediction systems.

424
425 The enthusiasm and support for the NEI initiatives described above, which involve considerable
426 in-kind resources from ECCC, is emblematic of our continued strong partnership with ECCC. In
427 addition to this partnership, we continue to partner with other CCAR networks in various ways:
428 CanSISE, CCRN, and CNRCWP co-convened sessions at the 2016 CMOS meeting; CNRCWP
429 and CCRN participation has been sought in the North2Warm activity; L. Sushama of CNRCWP
430 presented an overview of that network's activity at the CanSISE West meeting in May 2016;
431 Kushner presented a CanSISE Deliverable 1 report overview at the CNRCWP workshop in May
432 2016; and all the CCAR Networks will be invited to participate in the *First Look CanESM5*
433 workshop in 2018.

434 We continue to report success of HQP who have advanced professionally with the help of
435 CanSISE Network support. Former CanSISE PDF Reza Najafi will start a new faculty position at
436 UWO in January 2017, former CanSISE Research Associate Lawrence Mudryk has obtained a
437 term physical scientist position at ECCC/CRD, former CanSISE PDF Neil Tandon has obtained
438 a Visiting Scientist PDF at ECCC/CRD, and Ph.D. student Russell Blackport has completed his
439 Ph.D. under CanSISE and is starting a postdoctoral position at U. Exeter.

440 **Section 4. CONCLUSION**

441 This concludes the penultimate report of the CanSISE Network. We now look forward to
442 the successful completion of the Network's activities in September 2018 that we will be able to
443 summarize in our Final Report in 2018. In particular, alongside our regular research output in the
444 form of high quality and high impact peer-reviewed literature, we look forward to providing:

- 445 1) An important update since IPY of recent and projected snow and sea ice trends over
446 Canada (Deliverable 2 report, input into the Canada National Climate Assessment 2020);
- 447 2) A broad survey of the role of human activity in recent climate extremes and impacts
448 related to sea ice and snow, including the hydroclimate of the Western Cordillera and
449 wildfires that are influenced by snow processes (Deliverable 3 report)
- 450 3) Production of a new multisource observational dataset for sea ice thickness for
451 initialization, validation, and analysis, to complement the B5-SWE dataset (CanSISE
452 Legacy Data Project and Deliverable 4 report)
- 453 4) An assessment involving climate scientists, social scientists, and stakeholders on the
454 impacts of the 1.5-degree target on Canada's North as input to the IPCC assessment
455 process (North2Warm CCAR NEI Activity and related publication); and
- 456 5) The engagement of a broad scientific community on Canada's next generation climate
457 prediction system based on CanESM5 (*First Look at CanESM5* CCAR NEI Activity and
458 related report).

459

460 **Endnote:**

461

ⁱ *Review of the CanSISE Project's organization:* CanSISE partners seven Universities (British Columbia, Guelph, McGill, Northern British Columbia, Toronto, Victoria, and Waterloo); Environment Canada (Climate Research Division in Downsview, CCCma in Victoria, CIS in Ottawa); the Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium (PCIC), and NSERC. The Research Areas of CanSISE aim to (A) improve EC's capacity to forecast seasonal snow cover and sea ice and related hydroclimate variables on timescales ranging from seasonal to the decadal; (B) support efforts to quantitatively attribute the impacts of human influence on snow/sea-ice related process; and (C) improve scientific understanding of snow/sea-ice processes and their coupling to atmosphere-ocean circulation. Through the research undertaken, CanSISE also aims to produce Deliverables in which, with respect to snow/sea-ice and related processes, (1) EC's prediction systems are evaluated, (2) an assessment of variability in the near-term (next 10-20 years) is produced, (3) human influence and related impacts is analyzed, and (4) key aspects of future observational network design are developed. Originally funded from February 2013 – January 2018, the CanSISE Network has received a no-cost extension into Year 6 with an end date of September 30, 2018.

**Omitted Budget Pages.
Membership, presentations,
publications included below.**

**Please contact us with any updates/
omissions for Project Year 4.**

Jaison Ambadan	Post-Doctoral Fellow	University of Guelph
Michael Allchin	PhD Student	University of Northern British Columbia
G. Auclair	MSc Student	McGill University
Bakr Badawy	Post-Doctoral Fellow	University of Waterloo
Stephan Belair	Collaborator	Environment Canada, MRD
Aaron Berg	Funded Collaborator	University of Guelph
Adeline Bichet	Post-Doctoral Fellow	University of Toronto
N. Bimochan	Undergraduate Student	McGill University
Cecilia Bitz	Steering Committee	University of Washington
C. Brunette	PhD Student	McGill University
Russell Blackport	PhD Student	University of Toronto
George Boer	Collaborator	Environment Canada, CCCma
Ross Brown	Collaborator	Environment Canada, CRD
Travis Burns	MSc Student	University of Guelph
Alex Cannon	Collaborator	University of Victoria
Marco Carrera	Collaborator	Environment Canada, MRD
Tom Carrieres	Advisory Panel	Environment Canada, CIS
Bob Christensen	Project Support	University of Toronto
Charles Curry	Research Associate	University of Victoria
Chris Derksen	Steering Committee, Funded Collaborator	Environment Canada, CRD
Stephen Déry	Steering Committee, Funded Collaborator	University of Northern British Columbia
Louis-Renaud Desjardins	PhD Student	McGill University
Patricia DeRepentigny	MSc Student	McGill University
Arlan Dirkson	Post-Doctoral Fellow	University of Victoria
Greg Flato	Steering Committee	Environment Canada, CCCma
Chris Fletcher	Steering Committee, Funded Collaborator	University of Waterloo
John Fyfe	Steering Committee, Funded Collaborator	Environment Canada, CCCma
Marie-Ève Gagne	Research Associate	University of Victoria
Nathan Gillett	Funded Collaborator	Environment Canada, CCCma
Christian Haas	Steering Committee, Advisory Panel, Funded Collaborator	York University
Marco Hernandez-Henriquez	Research Assistant	University of Northern British Columbia
Yuki Hata	PhD Student	McGill University
Stephanie Hay	PhD Student	University of Toronto
Tyler Herrington	Post-Doctoral Fellow	University of Waterloo
Stephen Howell	Steering Committee	Environment Canada, CRD
William Hsieh	Funded Collaborator	University of British Columbia
Siraj Islam	Post-Doctoral Fellow	University of Northern British Columbia
Euan Joly-Smith	Undergraduate Student	University of Toronto
Do Hyuk Kang	Post-Doctoral Fellow	University of Northern British Columbia
Mark Kazakevic	Undergraduate Student	University of Toronto
Slava Kharin	Collaborator	Environment Canada, CCCma

Megan Kirchmeier-Young	PhD Student	University of Victoria
Sanjiv Kumar	Post-Doctoral Fellow	University of Toronto
Paul Kushner	Primary Investigator, Steering Committee	University of Toronto
Frederic Laliberte	Research Associate	Environment Canada, CRD
Dennis Lettenmaier	Advisory Panel	University of Washington
Camille Li	International Collaborator	University of Bergen
Kelly McCusker	Post-Doctoral Fellow	University of Victoria
Humfrey Melling	Advisory Panel	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Bill Merryfield	Steering Committee, Funded Collaborator	Environment Canada, CCCma
Lawrence Mudryk	Post-Doctoral Fellow	University of Toronto
Bennit Mueller	Post-Doctoral Fellow	University of Victoria
Nagtegaal, N	Undergraduate Student	McGill University
David Pierce	Advisory Panel	Scripps Institution of Oceanography
Markus Schnorbus	Collaborator	Environment Canada, CCCma
John Scinocca	Collaborator	Environment Canada, CCCma
James Screen	International Collaborator	University of Exeter
Michael Sigmond	Collaborator	Environment Canada, CCCma
Alexandar Slavin	Post-Doctoral Fellow	McGill University
Doug Smith	Advisory Panel	UK Met Office
Andrew Snauffer	PhD Student	University of British Columbia
Seok-Woo Son	International Collaborator	Seoul University
Reinel Sospedra-Alfonso	Collaborator	University of Victoria
Neil Tandon	Post-Doctoral Fellow	University of Toronto
Laurent Terray	International Collaborator	CERFACS, France
Chad Thackery	PhD Student	University of Waterloo
Adrienne Tivy	Collaborator	Environment Canada, CIS
Markus Todt	PhD Student	University of Waterloo
Bruno Tremblay	Funded Collaborator	McGill University
Knut von Salzen	Collaborator	Environment Canada, CCCma
Libo Wang	Collaborator	Environment Canada, CRD
James Williams	PhD Student	McGill University
Matthew Williamson	MSc Student	University of Guelph
Younas Waqar	Research Associate	University of Northern British Columbia
Xuebin Zhang	Collaborator	Environment Canada, CRD
Xuesong Zhang	PhD Student	University of Toronto
Francis Zwiers	Steering Committee, Funded Collaborator	Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium

40 Appendix C: Publications and Presentations in Year 4**41 Published, in press, and accepted articles directly supported by CanSISE²**

- 42 1. Bichet, A., P.J. Kushner, and L.R. Mudryk, 2016: Estimating the Continental Response to Global
43 Warming Using Pattern-Scaled Sea Surface Temperatures and Sea Ice. *J. Climate*, doi:
44 10.1175/JCLI-D-16-0032.1.
- 45 2. Blackport, R., and P. J. Kushner, 2016: The Transient and Equilibrium Climate Response to
46 Rapid Summertime Sea Ice Loss in CCSM4. *J. Climate*, 29, 401–417, doi:10.1175/JCLI-D-15-
47 0284.1.
- 48 3. Dirkson, A., W. J. Merryfield, and A. Monahan, 2016: Impacts of sea ice thickness initialization
49 on seasonal Arctic sea ice predictions. *J. Climate*, doi:10.1175/JCLI-D-16-0437.1.
50 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1175/JCLI-D-16-0437.1> (Accessed December 6, 2016).
- 51 4. Gervais, M., E. Atallah, J. R. Gyakum, and L. B. Tremblay, 2016: Arctic Air Masses in a Warming
52 World. *J. Climate*, doi:10.1175/JCLI-D-15-0499.1.
- 53 5. Kang, D. H., H. Gao, X. Shi, S. ul Islam, and S. J. Déry, 2016: Impacts of a Rapidly Declining
54 Mountain Snowpack on Streamflow Timing in Canada's Fraser River Basin. *Scientific Reports*,
55 6, 19299.
- 56 6. Kirchmeier-Young, M. C., F. W. Zwiers, and N. P. Gillett, 2016: Attribution of Extreme Events in
57 Arctic Sea Ice Extent. *J. Climate*, doi: 10.1175/JCLI-D-16-0412.1
- 58 7. Kumar, S., F. Zwiers, P. A. Dirmeyer, D. M. Lawrence, R. Shrestha, and A. T. Werner (2016),
59 Terrestrial contribution to the heterogeneity in hydrological changes under global warming,
60 *Water Resour. Res.*, 52, 3127–3142, doi:10.1002/2016WR018607.
- 61 8. Kumar, S., J. L. Kinter III, Z. Pan, and J. Sheffield (2016). Twentieth century temperature trends
62 in CMIP3, CMIP5, and CESM-LE climate simulations – spatial-temporal uncertainties,
63 differences and their potential sources, *Journal of Geophysical Research-Atmospheres*,
64 accepted, doi: 10.1002/2015JD024382
- 65 9. Laliberté, F., S. E. L. Howell, and P. J. Kushner, 2016: Regional variability of a projected sea ice-
66 free Arctic during the summer months. *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, 43, 2015GL066855,
67 doi:10.1002/2015GL066855.
- 68 10. McCusker, K. E., J. C. Fyfe, and M. Sigmond, 2016: Twenty-five winters of unexpected Eurasian
69 cooling unlikely due to Arctic sea-ice loss. *Nature Geosci*, advance online publication.
70 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/ngeo2820>.

- 71 11. Najafi, M. R., F. W. Zwiers, and N. P. Gillett, 2016: Attribution of the spring snow cover extent
72 decline in the Northern Hemisphere, Eurasia and North America to anthropogenic influence.
73 *Climatic Change*, 1–16, doi:10.1007/s10584-016-1632-2.
- 74 12. Snauffer, A.M., A.J. Cannon, and W.W. Hsieh, 2016: Comparison of gridded snow water
75 equivalent products with in situ measurements in British Columbia, Canada, *Journal of*
76 *Hydrology*, 541, 714–726, doi:10.1016/j.jhydrol.2016.07.027
- 77 13. Sospedra-Alfonso, R., L. Mudryk, W. J. Merryfield, and C. Derksen, 2016a: Representation of
78 Snow in the Canadian Seasonal to Interannual Prediction System. Part I: Initialization. *J.*
79 *Hydrometeorol.*, 17, 1467–1488, doi:10.1175/JHM-D-14-0223.1.
- 80 14. Sospedra-Alfonso, R., W. J. Merryfield, and V. V. Kharin, 2016b: Representation of Snow in the
81 Canadian Seasonal to Interannual Prediction System. Part II: Potential Predictability and
82 Hindcast Skill. *J. Hydrometeorol.*, 17, 2511–2535, doi:10.1175/JHM-D-16-0027.1.
- 83 15. Thackeray, C.W., & Fletcher, C. G. (2016). Snow albedo feedback: Current knowledge,
84 importance, outstanding issues and future directions. *Progress in Physical Geography*.
85 doi:10.1177/0309133315620999
- 86 16. Thackeray, C. W., C. G. Fletcher, L. R. Mudryk, and C. Derksen, 2016: Quantifying the uncertainty
87 in historical and future simulations of Northern Hemisphere spring snow cover. *J. Climate*,
88 doi:10.1175/JCLI-D-16-0341.1. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1175/JCLI-D-16-0341.1>
- 89 17. Williams, J., Tremblay, B., Newton, R., and R. Allard (2016): Dynamic Preconditioning of the
90 Minimum September Sea-Ice Extent. *J. Climate*, doi:10.1175/JCLI-D-15-0515.1
- 91 **Published Articles related to CanSISE Science³**
- 92 1. Schwaizer, G., E. Ripper, T. Nagler, R. Fernandes, S. Metsämäki, R. Solberg, K. Luoju, C. Derksen,
93 L. Mudryk, and R. Brown. 2016. Snow Product Intercomparison and Validation Report. The
94 Satellite Snow Product Intercomparison and Evaluation Exercise Deliverable 13.
95 <https://earth.esa.int/web/sppa/activities/qa4eo/snowpex>
- 96 2. Wang, L., J. N.S. Cole, P. Bartlett, D. Versegny, C. Derksen, R. Brown, and K. von Salzen (2016),
97 Investigating the spread in surface albedo for snow-covered forests in CMIP5 models, *J.*
98 *Geophys. Res. Atmos.*, 121, 1104–1119, doi:10.1002/2015JD023824.
- 99 3. Wang, L., M. MacKay, R. Brown, P. Bartlett, R. Harvey, and A. Langlois (2014), Application of
100 satellite data for evaluating the cold climate performance of the Canadian Regional Climate
101 model over Québec, Canada, *Journal of Hydrometeorology*, 15, 614–630.

- 102 4. Williams, J., L.B. Tremblay, R. Newton, R. Allard, 2016: Dynamic preconditioning of the Septem-
103 ber sea-ice extent minimum, *Journal of Climate*, 5879-5891, August, doi: 10.1175/JCLI-D-15-
104 0515.1.

105 **Submitted**

- 106 1. Blackport, R., and P. Kushner. Isolating the atmospheric circulation response to Arctic sea-ice
107 loss in the coupled climate system. Submitted to *J. Climate*, April 2016.
- 108 2. Fyfe, J.C. & 10 co-authors. Large near-term projected snowpack loss over the western United
109 States. Submitted to *Nature Comms.* (2016).
- 110 3. Gagne, M.-E., M.C. Kirchmeier-Young, N.P. Gillett & J.C. Fyfe. Arctic sea ice response to the
111 eruptions of Agung, El Chichon and Pinatubo. Submitted to *Geophys. Res. Lett.* (2016).
- 112 4. Islam S and Déry S J (2016), Evaluating uncertainties in modelling the snow hydrology of the
113 Fraser River Basin, British Columbia, Canada, *Hydrology and Earth System Sciences*
114 Discussion, doi:10.5194/hess-2016-469, in review (directly supported by CanSISE).
- 115 5. Islam S., Déry S.J. and Werner A.T., 2015: Future climate change impacts on snow and water
116 resources of the Fraser River Basin, British Columbia, Submitted to *Journal of*
117 *Hydrometeorology*
- 118 6. Sospedra-Alfonso, R., and W. J. Merryfield, 2016: Influence of temperature and precipitation on
119 historical and future snowpack variability over the Northern Hemisphere in the Second-
120 Generation Canadian Earth System Model. Submitted to *Journal of Climate*, August 2016
- 121 7. Sigmond, M., M. C. Reader, G. M. Flato, W. J. Merryfield and A. Tivy, 2016: Skillful seasonal
122 forecasts of Arctic sea ice retreat and advance dates in a dynamical forecasting system.
123 *Geophysical Research Letters*, submitted.

124 **Presentations**

- 125 1. Allchin, M., Stephen Déry. (2016). Spatio-Temporal Patterns in Trends of Northern Hemisphere
126 Snow Extent and Duration, 1971-2014. Joint CMOS/CGU congress, Fredericton, Canada
- 127 2. Ambadan-Thomas, J., A. Berg, W. Merryfield. 2016. Effects of snow-melt on soil moisture
128 memory and on Land-Atmosphere interaction. Canadian Geophysical Union and Canadian
129 Meteorological and Oceanographic Society. Fredericton NB. Canada.
- 130 3. Bouchat, A., Tremblay, B., 2016, Can we improve the deformation distributions of viscous-
131 plastic sea-ice models?, *Ocean Science Meeting*, New Orleans (LA).
- 132 4. Bouchat, A., Tremblay, B., 2016, Using RGPS deformation fields to constrain sea-ice mechanical
133 strength parameters, *FAMOS Meeting*, Woods Hole (MA).

- 134 5. Bouchat, A., Tremblay, B., 2016, Using RGPS deformation fields to constrain sea-ice mechanical
135 strength parameters, Quebec-Ocean General Assembly, Rimouski (QC).
- 136 6. Bourdages L., Tremblay, B., 2016, Spatial and temporal variability of Arctic atmospheric
137 inversions, Rimouski.
- 138 7. Brunette C., Williams J, Tremblay B, Newton R, Pfirman S, 2016, Regional forecast of the
139 minimum sea ice extent: A Lagrangian approach, New Orleans.
- 140 8. Brunette C., Tremblay B., Williams J., Newton R., 2016, Coastal divergence as a Predictor for the
141 minimum sea ice extent, Polar Prediction Workshop, LDEO, Palisafes.
- 142 9. Derksen, C., L. Mudryk, R. Brown, K. Luoju, P. Marsh, C. Smith, and R. Sospedra-Alphonso.
143 Linking snow on the ground and snowfall. 5th International Workshop on Space-based
144 Snowfall Measurement, Bologna, Italy, October 2016.
- 145 10. Derksen, C., L. Mudryk, R. Brown, and K. Luoju. The role of remotely sensed datasets in the
146 characterization of northern hemisphere snow water equivalent. ESA Living Planet
147 Symposium, Prague, Czech Republic, May 2016.
- 148 11. Dirkson A, 2016: Skilful probabilistic forecasts of Arctic sea ice, AGU Fall Meeting, 12-16 Dec
149 2016, San Francisco
- 150 12. Hata Y., Tremblay B., Dupont F., 2016, The forces acting on sea ice in the Canadian Arctic
151 Archipelago, Woods Hole - the FAMOS meeting.
- 152 13. Hata Y., Tremblay B., 2016, Mechanical sea-ice strength parameterized as a function of ice
153 temperature, Vienna - he EGU General Assembly.
- 154 14. Hata Y., Tremblay B., 2016, Estimating the landfast sea ice strength in the Canadian Arctic
155 Archipelago, Banff - ArcTrain Meeting, related to CanSISE.
- 156 15. Herrington, T. and Fletcher, C. (2016) "Lucky" Realizations of the AO-Snow Relationship.
157 Canadian Association of Geographers - Ontario Division 2016, Waterloo, ON, 28 Oct 2016.
158 Poster.
- 159 16. Islam S. and Déry S.J. (2016) Quantification of uncertainties in modelling the present and
160 projected hydrology of the Fraser River Basin, British Columbia, 50th CMOS Congress & joint
161 CGU Annual Meeting, May 29- June 02, 2016, Fredericton, NB, Canada.
- 162 17. Kumar, S., R. Allan, F. Zwiers, D. Lawrence, and P. Dirmeyer (2016). Revisiting Trends in
163 Wetness and Dryness in the Presence of Internal Climate Variability. AMS 96th Annual
164 Meeting, New Orleans, 10-14 January 2016.

- 165 18. Kushner, P.J., Mudryk, L.R., Derksen, C., Brown, R., and Thackeray, C.W., 2016: Relationship
166 between snow cover and temperature trends in observational and earth-system model
167 ensembles. American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting, San Francisco.
- 168 19. Merryfield W J, 2016: Current and emerging seasonal and longer range ECCC forecasting
169 capabilities relevant to hydrological prediction, Ouranos sub-seasonal to seasonal workshop,
170 Montreal
- 171 20. Mudryk, L.R., P.J. Kushner, C. Derksen, C. Thackeray, "Snow cover response to temperature in
172 observational and climate model ensembles", CESM Workshop 2016, Bolder, CO, June 2016.
- 173 21. Sospedra-Alfonso R, Merryfield W J, 2016: Potential and actual predictability of snow water
174 equivalent in the Canadian Seasonal to Interannual Prediction System (CanSIPS), 50th CMOS
175 Congress, Fredericton
- 176 22. Sospedra-Alfonso R, 2016: Skill of snow water equivalent forecasts in CanSIPS, ECCC Climate
177 Research Division seminar, Toronto
- 178 23. Sospedra-Alfonso R, 2016: Skill of snow water equivalent forecasts in CanSIPS, ECCC
179 Recherche en prévision numérique seminar, Montreal
- 180 24. Sospedra-Alfonso R, 2016: Potential predictability and actual skill for snow water
181 equivalent and soil moisture in CanSIPS, Ouranos sub-seasonal to seasonal workshop, Montreal
- 182 25. Thackeray, C.W., Fletcher C.G., Mudryk, L.R., and Derksen C., 2016: Quantifying the uncertainty
183 in historical and future simulations of Northern Hemisphere spring snow cover. American
184 Geophysical Union Fall Meeting, San Francisco.
- 185 26. Thackeray, C.W., Fletcher C.G., and Derksen, C., 2016: The impact of simulated albedo biases on
186 climate in CLM. CanSISE Network Workshop 2016, Toronto.
- 187 27. Tremblay B, 2016: Rapid sea ice decline in the Arctic: an ocean mechanism, Reykjavik
188 (Iceland).
- 189 28. Tremblay B, Williams J, Brunette C, Newton R, Pfirman S, 2016: Regional forecast of the
190 minimum sea ice extent a Lagrangian approach, 2016 Polar Prediction Workshop, Palisades
191 (NY).
- 192 29. Tremblay B, 2016: Rapid sea ice decline in the Arctic: an ocean mechanism, Bologna (Italy).
- 193 30. Tremblay B, 2016: Regional forecast of the minimum sea ice extent: a Lagrangian approach,
194 Atelier sur la prévision saisonnière et décennale – Ouranos, Montreal.
- 195 31. Tremblay B, 2016: Review of the state of the Art in ice modeling, 17th Meeting of the
196 International Ice Charting Working Group, Ottawa.

- 197 32. Williams, J., Tremblay, B., Newton, R., Allard, R., 2016, Dynamic preconditioning of the
198 minimum September Sea-ice extent, European Geophysics Union, Vienna, Austria.
- 199 33. Williams, J., Tremblay, B., and Lemieux, J-F., 2016, The effects of elastic and plastic waves on
200 the numerical convergence of the Elastic-Viscous-Plastic and Viscous-Plastic sea-ice models,
201 Alfred Wegener Institute, Bremerhaven, Germany.
- 202 34. Williams, J., Tremblay, B., and Lemieux, J-F., 2016, Resolving plastic deformation in a Viscous-
203 Plastic sea-ice model, AGU Ocean Sciences, New Orleans, USA.
- 204 35. Williams, J., Tremblay, B., and Lemieux, J-F., 2016, Resolving plastic deformation in a Viscous-
205 Plastic sea-ice model, NASA Stennis Space Center, USA.

206

207

208

209 **Endnotes**

² We have grouped these papers together to clearly indicate which publications have come out in the reporting period that are directly supported by funds from the Network. There are 17 published, in press, and accepted papers.

³ In the following lists are papers that involve CanSISE researchers or collaborators but that are not directly supported by CanSISE, as well as papers that are not yet accepted (submitted/in revision) whether or not supported by CanSISE.

