



The Arctic Institute of North America presents the  
2015–2016

## *Arctic Speaker Series*

### Developing an integrative health index for Narwhal in the Canadian Arctic

**Who:** Sandie Black | **Date:** Wednesday, February 24, 2016 | **Time:** 4:00 – 5:00 pm | **Location:** University of Calgary; Engineering A 101

Working with hunter-collected samples from 1982 to the present, as well as samples and information collected through 10 years of fieldwork in the Canadian Arctic with Fisheries and Oceans, we are working to create an integrative retrospective and prospective health index for narwhal. This will involve a transdisciplinary scientific and traditional knowledge approach. Assessing the health of Arctic marine species can be very challenging due to remoteness and severe weather, therefore we are developing and using techniques that can provide health information from easily collected and archived samples. Tracking developing trends in Arctic wildlife health and ecology is important for modelling effects on the food security of Arctic residents, who access many of these species through hunting and fishing activities.



**Biography:** Dr. Sandie Black is the Head of Veterinary Services at the Calgary Zoo and a clinical associate professor in the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Calgary. Dr. Black is a Wildlife Veterinarian with 26 years' experience as a zoo veterinarian, and her research interests include looking at health, stress and population effects of environmental change and anthropogenic disturbance on arctic marine mammals. Her general interests include travel, canoeing, back country camping, hiking, skiing (any kind!), playing music, and her (rapidly growing up) kids.

This event is **free and open to the public**

There will be a reception in the AINA offices (ES-1040) immediately following the presentation

For the full speaker series schedule, please visit the website.

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