

**INTACT CENTRE**  
ON CLIMATE ADAPTATION

Generously  
supported by

**[intact]**

# helping Canadians adapt to **extreme weather**

The Intact Centre on Climate Adaptation (Intact Centre) is an applied research centre at the University of Waterloo. The Intact Centre was founded in 2015 with a gift from Intact Financial Corporation, Canada's largest property and casualty insurer.

The Intact Centre helps homeowners, communities and businesses to reduce risks associated with climate change and extreme weather events.







**Launch of the Intact Centre on Climate Adaptation** Left to right: **Dr. Jean Andrey** (Dean, Faculty of Environment, University of Waterloo); **Charles Brindamour** (CEO of Intact Financial Corporation); **Dr. George Dixon** (VP of Research, University of Waterloo); and **Dr. Blair Feltmate** (Head, Intact Centre).

# working together to protect Canadians

Over the past decade, more frequent and severe extreme weather events have resulted in a sharp rise in the costs associated with cleaning up weather-related damages across the country.

Bearing these costs is the shared responsibility of governments, homeowners and businesses.

The Intact Centre provides practical opportunities for Canadians to take action now to protect our communities from the extreme weather of tomorrow.

**HELPING HOMEOWNERS,  
COMMUNITIES AND BUSINESSES.**

# helping ...

## homeowners

### » HOME ADAPTATION ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

Extreme rainfall events, aging infrastructure and a lack of household level flood prevention measures are putting an increased number of Canadian households at risk of flooding. The Home Adaptation Assessment Program (HAAP) helps homeowners identify, install and maintain cost effective measures to reduce their risk of basement flooding.

During the HAAP home evaluation, homeowners and a trained HAAP Assessor engage in a practical, problem-solving conversation while they review 50 points of potential water entry into the home.

A prioritized list of short and long-term actions is provided in an easy-to-read report that also includes information about available subsidies, do-it-yourself fact sheets and tips for selecting qualified contractors. A customer help-line, seasonal maintenance reminders and a user-friendly website provide ongoing customer support.



**Problem-solving conversation**



Cleaning up after a basement flood Photo Courtesy of Michael Reiger



Downtown Calgary during 2013 flooding Photo courtesy of Sean Esopenko

# communities

The Natural Infrastructure Adaptation Program (NIAP) helps communities across Canada reduce the risk of flooding through three areas of focus:

## » FLOOD-RESILIENT COMMUNITY DESIGN

Advancing the design and implementation of characteristics for building communities that are more resilient to flooding

## » FLOOD REDUCTION THROUGH NATURAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Evaluating the potential of natural infrastructure (e.g., wetlands) to reduce the impacts of flooding and to create healthier and more livable communities

## » BUSINESS CASE FOR ADAPTATION

Researching the impacts of changing climate and extreme weather on financial institutions and investigating the business case for climate adaptation in the financial services sector

# businesses

## » CORPORATE SPECIFIC ADAPTATION PROGRAM

Our Corporate Specific Adaptation Program (CSAP) focuses on engaging business sectors (e.g. electricity, commercial real estate, telecommunications, etc.) to identify and reduce risks associated with climate change and extreme weather events.



## a national focus

Climate change is a complex, national challenge that impacts different parts of the country and different stakeholders in unique ways.

The Intact Centre therefore draws on a wide variety of subject matter experts from across Canada to assist with the development, implementation and continuous improvement of our programs.

Experts include those in government, finance, insurance, public policy, law, engineering, environmental science, urban planning, home inspection, landscaping and communications. Our programs will benefit multiple sectors and provinces.



UniverCity on Burnaby Mountain Photo courtesy of SFU Community Trust, SITE Photography

# changing the national conversation

Through our work, we are changing the national conversation on climate change to fully embrace on-the-ground action necessary to adapt and thrive in a changing climate. We achieve this by providing expert commentary in the media, publishing reports that are relevant to the public and decision-makers, and speaking with multiple stakeholders and the general public through keynote addresses and other events across the country.

## IN THE MEDIA

Dr. Blair Feltmate gives over 100 interviews a year – see below for some recent highlights:

**Globe & Mail**, November 2015

**CTV News Interviews**, 2013-2016

**CBC Radio**, February 2016

**CBC**, May 2014

## REPORTS

### *Flood Preparedness of Canada's Provinces and Territories (September 2016)*

Ranks Canada's provinces based on their readiness for flooding events.

### *Alberta Adapts to a Changing Climate (March 2016)*

Shares the outcomes of the Adaptation Leaders Conference Round Table Forum chaired by Dr. Blair Feltmate in January 2016.

### *Climate Change Adaptation: A Priorities Plan for Canada (May 2014)*

Outlines the key areas of focus and actions necessary for Canada to adapt to climate change. It was funded with a donation from Intact Financial Corporation.

To view more recent media and reports, visit our website at [intactcentreclimateadaptation.ca](http://intactcentreclimateadaptation.ca).

## KEYNOTE ADDRESSES

Looking for your next keynote speaker? Contact us to learn more.



**Dr. Blair Feltmate**

Head, Intact Centre  
[bfeltmat@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:bfeltmat@uwaterloo.ca)



**Dana Decent**

Manager, Intact Centre  
[ddecent@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:ddecent@uwaterloo.ca)



**Cheryl Evans**

Director, Home Adaptation Assessment Program (HAAP)  
[cbevans@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:cbevans@uwaterloo.ca)



**Natalia Moudrak**

Director, Natural Infrastructure Adaptation Program (NIAP)  
[nmoudrak@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:nmoudrak@uwaterloo.ca)

