

Session Title: **Climate Change, Migration and Economic Transformations in the High Medieval to Early Modern North**

Session #: ENCC3

Session Grouping : Environmental & Climate Change

Session Status: Open

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Session Description:

The Medieval Warm period witnessed extensive migration of peoples and communities within and into the regions of the Circumpolar North and involved significant changes in culture and subsistence technology and the creation of new settlements and societies. During the ensuing “Little Ice Age” certain Arctic and sub-Arctic communities relocated or became extinct, while most societies developed a new set of survival strategies and altered modes of production, and in the early modern period, successive waves of European expansion into the Arctic – driven by southern interests in marine resources and furs, trade and tribute connections, exploration and Christianizing, and colonizing or moving to “frontier areas” – brought major population, political and cultural changes; lead to conflicts as well as trade intensification and subsistence revolutions among indigenous peoples; and involved newcomers’ formation of large trading companies and the emergence of peoples of mixed indigenous and European ancestry.

Focusing on the period between c. 1000 and 1800 CE, this session will address thus described processes and topics by featuring case studies as well as comparative studies of human habitation, culture and socio-ecological change in the Arctic and sub-Arctic regions of Eurasia and North America, including islands of the North Pacific and the North Atlantic.

[back to top](#)
[back to Environmental & Climate Change](#)

