Riddell Faculty Seminar Series Presents:

Protecting the Peace
Indigenous-led conservation in the western Boreal Forest.

Dr. Faisal Moola, PhD. Associate Professor,
Department of Geography, University of Guelph

Date: Friday, February 9th, 2018
Time: 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Location: Klaus Hochheim Theatre
(5th floor, Wallace Building)

Abstract: Northeastern British Columbia's Peace Region is a vast combination of boreal forest, rolling grasslands and majestic rivers. This region is a critical habitat for iconic wildlife species, such as caribou and grizzly bears, and is the ancestral home to Dunne_Zaa and Cree First Nations. First Nations in the Peace Region are fighting for an Indigenous-driven approach to resource and land use development in the Peace Region, including the establishment of a network of Tribal Protected Areas, such as the 90,000 ha K’ih tsaa?dze Tribal Park. As noted by the late Doig River First Nation elder, Gerry Attachie, places like K’ih tsaa?dze are sacred spaces: “we’ve been there forever, even before they made the Alberta-B.C. border. We use it [K’ih tsaa?dze] for healing. Spiritual healing. We get healed out there and we pray. It’s the last place we have for our people.” Drawing from this initiative, Dr. Moola will address how Indigenous Peoples are exerting their sovereignty in protecting large swaths of their traditional territories as Tribal Parks and other Indigenous-led conservation areas and how such Indigenous-led efforts are critical to the future of nature conservation in Canada.

Dr. Faisal Moola is an Associate Professor in the Department of Geography at the University of Guelph. Prior to joining Guelph University, he worked for the David Suzuki Foundation for over 15 years, where he was the organization’s Director General for Ontario and Northern Canada. Faisal has a PhD in biology from Dalhousie University and has published widely in scientific journals on topics of ecology, conservation biology, and environmental policy.

12:00 p.m. There will be a pizza lunch for graduate students with Dr. Moola, Dean’s Office Boardroom - 453 Wallace Building.
Please email Bruce.Erickson@umanitoba.ca to RSVP for the lunch.