

## **C06-O05**

### **ADOPTING A FRAMEWORK TO MAKE SENSE OF PATCHWORK: THE EXAMPLE OF URBAN ECOLOGY**

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Urban ecology is a growing field of inquiry that is inter- and transdisciplinary. Much of the work in this field is also based on conceptualizations that understand cities to be complex and ever-changing configurations of human, natural and built environments, which requires a systems approach for analysis precisely because of the complexity that these environments hold (Grimm et al, Alberti et al. 2003). Other urban ecological scholars consider that this field should be based on four guiding principles: (1) locally informed research, (2) collaboration between scholars and non-academic professionals, (3) problem-based learning and (4) appreciative inquiry (Dooling et al., Graybill et al. 2006). This framework for conducting research attempts to make sense of patchworks of places and people. In this paper, I apply an urban ecological framework to explicate a potential path for Arctic research that attempts to understand sustainability and well-being for Arctic peoples and places.