

TABLE DES MATIÈRES

AVANT-PROPOS	ii
REMERCIEMENTS	iii
TABLE DES MATIÈRES	v
LISTE DES TABLEAUX	vii
LISTE DES FIGURES	viii
 CHAPITRE 1 : RÉSUMÉ SUBSTANTIEL	1
1.1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.2 PROBLÉMATIQUE	2
1.3 OBJECTIFS	3
1.4 MÉTHODOLOGIE	4
1.5 RÉSULTATS	8
1.6 CONCLUSIONS	9
 CHAPITRE 2 : PROGLACIAL SUCCESSION OF BIOLOGICAL SOIL CRUSTS AND VASCULAR PLANTS: BIOTIC INTERACTIONS IN THE HIGH ARCTIC	10
2.1 RÉSUMÉ	11
2.2 ABSTRACT	12
2.3 INTRODUCTION	13
2.4 MATERIALS AND METHODS	15
2.4.1 Site description	15
2.4.2 Glacier retreat in the High Arctic	16
2.4.3 Sampling design	17
2.4.3.1 Vegetation community analysis	17
2.4.3.2 Density	19
2.4.3.3 Soil and substrate collections	20
2.4.4 Data analysis	20
2.4.4.1 Species-environment relations	20
2.4.4.2 Density Analyses	21
2.5 RESULTS	22
2.5.1 General vegetation trends	22
2.5.2 Multivariate Analyses	24
2.5.3 Density	26
2.5.4 Individual species densities	26
2.6 DISCUSSION	27
2.6.1 General vegetation trends	27
2.6.2 Plant-crust interactions	30
2.7 CONCLUSION	33
2.8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	34
 CHAPITRE 3 : THE INFLUENCE OF BIOLOGICAL SOIL CRUSTS ON SOIL CHARACTERISTICS ALONG A HIGH ARCTIC GLACIER FORELAND, NUNAVUT, CANADA	50
3.1 RÉSUMÉ	51
3.2 ABSTRACT	52

3.3 INTRODUCTION	53
3.4 METHODS	55
3.4.1 Study Site	55
3.4.2 Sampling design.....	56
3.4.3 Microclimate measurements in and out of crust	56
3.4.4 Surface and soil core sampling	57
3.4.5 Data analyses.....	59
3.5 RESULTS	60
3.5.1 Climate and thawing degree days	60
3.5.2 Substrate differences in and out of crust.....	61
3.5.3 Changes with distance from the glacier	61
3.6 DISCUSSION	63
3.6.1 Substrate differences in and out of crust.....	63
3.6.2 Changes with distance from the glacier	64
3.6.3 Physical changes	65
3.6.4 Nutrient changes	66
3.6.4.1 Nitrogen	66
3.6.4.2 Phosphorus	68
3.6.4.3 Potassium	68
3.6.4.4 Organic carbon.....	69
3.6.5 Additional organic inputs.....	70
3.7 CONCLUSION.....	70
3.8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	71
 BIBLIOGRAPHIE	 85
 ANNEXE 1 : SEED RETENTION AND GERMINATION EXPERIMENTS ON BIOLOGICAL SOIL CRUSTS FROM A HIGH ARCTIC GLACIER FORELAND....	 94
 ANNEXE 2 : TEARDROP GLACIER RETREAT.....	 101
 ANNEXE 3 : MEASUREMENTS OF THE LICHEN, <i>XANTHORIA ELEGENS</i> AND THE RUSH, <i>LUZULA CONFUSA</i>	 103
 ANNEXE 4 : MEAN COVER AND FREQUENCY IN EACH OF THE 20 SITES ALONG THE TEARDROP GLACIER AND ADJACENT MORaine, SVERDRUP PASS, ELLESMERE ISLAND, NUNAVUT.....	 105