Dr. Norman Yan, FRSC  
Professor, Department of Biology at York University

Norman Yan’s long-term professional goal is to understand the impacts of multiple environmental stressors on the biota, particularly the animal plankton, of Canadian Shield lakes. He completed his Master’s degree at the University of Toronto on the effects of acid rain on phytoplankton, and his doctoral degree at University of Guelph on the factors regulating the accumulation of toxic metals in zooplankton. After working for the Ontario Ministry of the Environment for 25 years, Yan joined York University in Toronto in 2000, and he now splits his time between the university and the Ontario Ministry of the Environment’s Dorset Environmental Science Centre. Yan’s current areas of research are: 1) determining the individual and joint impacts on lake ecosystems of invading predators, and changes in climate, metals, acidity, calcium and nutrients; and 2) quantifying the regulators of recovery of lakes from past environmental damage. Yan has authored or co-authored over 200 publications, a body of work that has been acknowledged with both provincial and national awards of excellence in fundamental and applied research on Canadian lakes. In 2012, he was inducted as a Fellow into the Royal Society of Canada.