

Issue 64

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NEWS SAUR



...ontology
Laboratory &
Research Centre

(main entrance)



PHILIP J. CURRIE
DINOSAUR MUSEUM



MESSAGE FROM THE NEW MANAGER OF MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

It is with great enthusiasm that I introduce myself to you as the newest member of the Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum's marketing & communications department.

Though I can't remember exactly when my first encounter with dinosaurs was, the amazement of them left a lasting, visible impression on my life from early childhood: dinosaurs managed to find their way into my journal entries, creative endeavours, and even school projects. The unique opportunity to present and build the reputation of a very new dinosaur museum to the public is both humbling and exciting.

Since joining the team, I have been privileged to see first-hand the passion and diligence that goes into the museum's curation and operations. It is my goal to bring this labour of love to as many people - both local and distant - as possible.

When I'm not surrounded by dinosaurs, I enjoy spending time with family, visiting new places, and generally enjoying ice cream. I look forward to meeting you!

Brandon Low
Manager, Marketing & Communications



Lecture Series 2017 Continues

The audience might have faced a blustery February day getting to the museum, but inside the Aykroyd Family Theatre, the environment was Cretaceous as Dr. Aaron Leblanc from the University of Alberta discussed in last month's lecture how dinosaur teeth grew and functioned from his examination across the dinosaur family tree.

This month, we are happy to have Dr. Brian Chatterton, emeritus professor from the University of Alberta and world-renowned expert on trilobites, talk about the discoveries he and his lab have made all over the world.

Trilobites were a very successful group of ocean-living arthropods that lived before the dinosaurs. We are really looking forward to his talk, taking place immediately after Fossil ID on Mar. 18, 2017.

Our upcoming FREE lecture series talks include:

Mar 18, 2017 1pm Fossil ID Day - Bring your own rocks and fossils into the museum for free identification with our staff palaeontologist, Derek Larson

Mar 18, 2017 3pm Dr. Brian Chatterton "The ins and outs of trilobites, around the world"

Apr 8, 2017 3pm Dr. Rich McCrea "The Six Peaks Dinosaur Track Site"

Apr 8, 2017 4pm Dr. Lisa Buckley "Dinosaur tracks and behavior: an ichnology view into the lives of dinosaurs"

May 27, 2017 3pm Rick Scott "Peace Parkland Natural History Sites"

Fossil ID Drop-In

Do you have an interesting rock or fossil that you would like to know more about? Fossil ID Day is your chance to bring your find into the museum to be examined by our staff palaeontologist. This event is held every 2 to 3 months, and so far, a number of people have come in to show us their finds. While some finds turn out to be odd-shaped mudstone nodules, lots of fossils have been identified including tyrannosaur teeth, dinosaur bones, fossil shells, amber, and more. We hope to see you at our next Fossil ID Day, Mar 18, 2017.

New National Geographic Films Coming Soon!



Starting Saturday, April 1, the Aykroyd Family Theatre - A National Geographic Experience will be playing **Extreme Weather**.

“Weather has always been one of the most dynamic and complex forces shaping our planet, but now it’s intensifying in varied and complex ways. Extreme Weather takes us to the frontlines where few have gone. Follow researchers and everyday heroes as they uncover surprising connections to help us understand and adapt to our ever-changing weather.”

Extreme Weather will be replacing **Deepsea Challenge** at our theatre. If you have not had a chance to watch Deepsea Challenge, be sure to visit before Friday, March 31.

Also new to our theatre is the feature film **The Last Lions**. This 80 minute film follows the gripping real-life saga of Ma di Tau and her cubs as they fight for survival. The Last Lions plays Friday evenings at 6:00pm and Sunday afternoons at 3:00pm.

Visit our website dinomuseum.ca/visit/national-geographic-films for update information on show times, movie offerings and prices.

Volunteer Highlight

Dedicated volunteer, Courtney Rix has put many hours into her fossil specimen during our Fossil Preparation Lab. Shown here is the before and after photos of juvenile *Pachyrhinosaurus* skull bone. Way to go, Courtney!



Summer Student Positions Now Open

Are you a post-secondary student looking for an amazing summer job? Look no further - the museum is hiring for multiple opportunities!

If summer camps, public programming, spending time outdoors, and teaching people (of all ages) about palaeontology and geology is your thing, then considering applying to one of our **Tour Guide/Programs Assistant Summer Students**.

Do you have experience with and enjoy fossil preparation? Want to help our volunteer prep program at the museum grow and thrive? Looking for hands-on experience with fossil preparation and running a preparation program? Apply to our **Palaeontology Technician Summer Student** position.

Have experience with museum specimens? Looking to get experience in a museum setting and in the field? Apply for the position of **Collections and Field Assistant**.

All positions are dependent on receiving grants. Applicants must be full-time post-secondary students who are returning to studies in the fall. Applicants must also meet all Young Canada Works and Canada Summer Jobs requirements. Application deadline for all positions is **Monday, April 10**. For more information on the positions and how to apply please visit

dinomuseum.ca/support/career-employment

What’s up in the Fossil Lab?

The fossil preparation in the Fossil Lab is going strong. So far, since beginning on January 18, 2017, museum volunteers have contributing almost 270 hours cleaning and gluing fossil dinosaur bones from the Pipestone Creek Bonebed. But it’s not too late to sign up! If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering with the museum to work on real dinosaur bones, please apply at dinomuseum.ca/programs/public-programs/fossil-preparation-lab

Night at the Museum

Have you ever wanted to spend a night at the museum? Here is your chance! Stay overnight in the world of the Cretaceous with life-size dinosaurs! Not only will you explore the fascinating world of dinosaurs, you will get to sleep in our gallery, right next to our exceptional collection! With this event we will take you on an experience that you will never forget.

A Night at the Museum includes:

- A movie in our Aykroyd Family Theater - A National Geographic experience
- Explore the galleries after hours
- Participate in age-appropriate activities, crafts, and games
- Enjoy evening snacks and breakfast!

2017 Dates Available in March, June, August, October

*At this time, Night at the Museum is available for **group bookings only**.

For booking inquiries please contact Visitor Services at 587-771-0662 ext 403 or by email at visitorservices@dinomuseum.ca

Spot the Dino

Have you seen Aluk around Grande Prairie and surrounding communities? Come out to our Spot the Dino Friday events and take a picture with Aluk to be entered to win a prize!

Upcoming Events

Mar 17: Spot the Dino Friday - 4-5pm

Mar 18: Fossil ID Drop-In - 1-3pm;

Free Lecture Series: Dr. Brian Chatterton - 3pm

Mar 31: Spot the Dino Friday - 4-5pm;

Last day to watch 'Deepsea Challenge'

Apr 1: NG Film 'Extreme Weather' now playing;

Fossil Prep Lab - 10am-6pm

Apr 10: Application deadline for summer student positions

Dine-O-Saur

Open Tuesdays through Sundays, the Dine-O-Saur restaurant inside the museum offers a wide variety of dishes - all cooked in-house! Now serving Friday dinners and Sunday brunches, plus regularly changing specials! Come celebrate St. Patrick's Day on Friday night with a mouth-watering 6oz steak dinner, an order of beet ginger and coconut milk soup, or a 14" pizza, then wash it down with a festive green beer (\$6/glass or \$18/pitcher)!



www.dinomuseum.ca

New Staff



Brandon Low
Manager, Marketing & Communications



Glenn Allan
Assistant Caretaker



Tasha Johnson
Assistant Caretaker

Sponsors

