

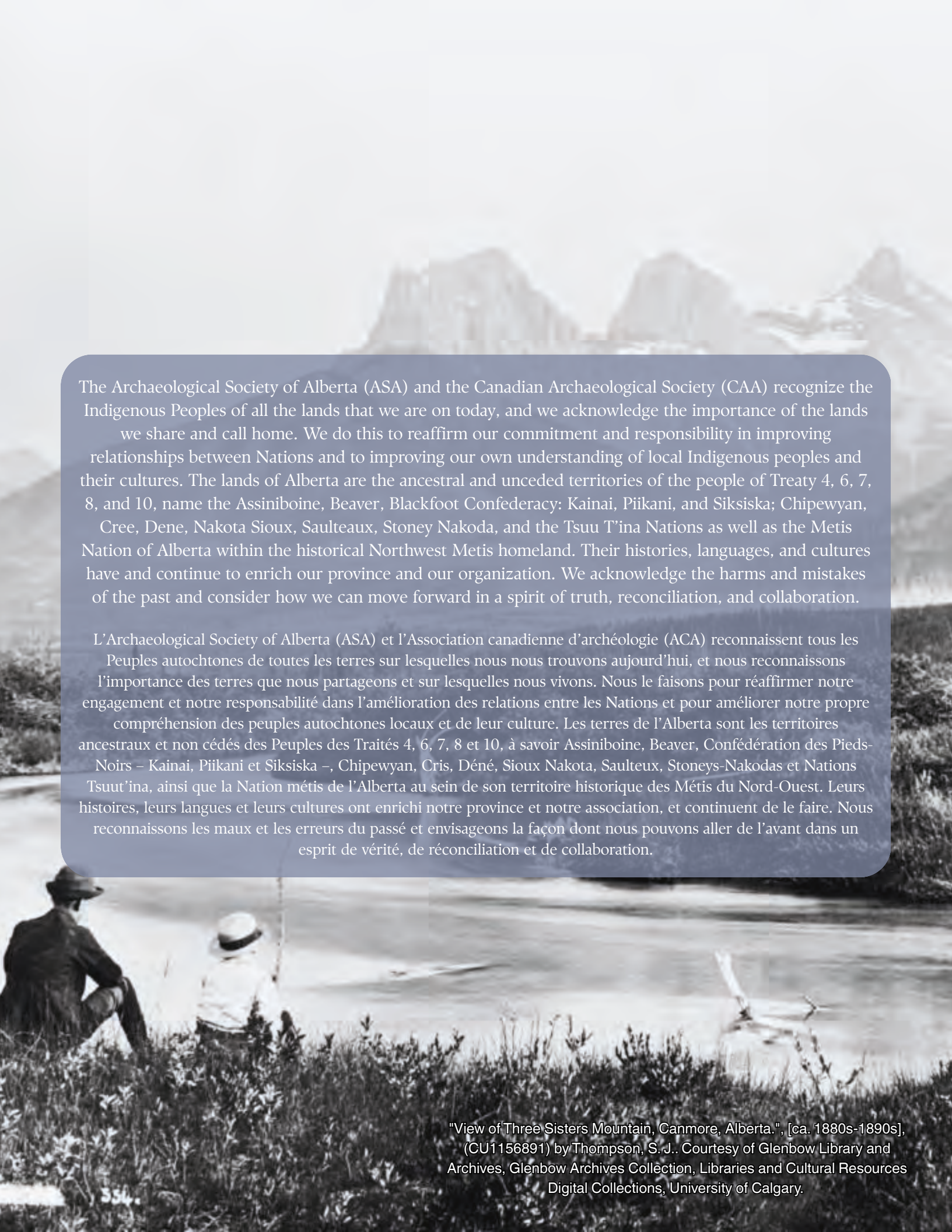


THE 58TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CANADIAN
ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION AND THE 51ST ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF ALBERTA

2026 CAA-ACA AND ASA CONFERENCE

MAY 6-10, 2026

COAST CANMORE HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTRE



The Archaeological Society of Alberta (ASA) and the Canadian Archaeological Society (CAA) recognize the Indigenous Peoples of all the lands that we are on today, and we acknowledge the importance of the lands we share and call home. We do this to reaffirm our commitment and responsibility in improving relationships between Nations and to improving our own understanding of local Indigenous peoples and their cultures. The lands of Alberta are the ancestral and unceded territories of the people of Treaty 4, 6, 7, 8, and 10, name the Assiniboine, Beaver, Blackfoot Confederacy: Kainai, Piikani, and Siksiska; Chipewyan, Cree, Dene, Nakota Sioux, Saulteaux, Stoney Nakoda, and the Tsuu T'ina Nations as well as the Metis Nation of Alberta within the historical Northwest Metis homeland. Their histories, languages, and cultures have and continue to enrich our province and our organization. We acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past and consider how we can move forward in a spirit of truth, reconciliation, and collaboration.

L'Archaeological Society of Alberta (ASA) et l'Association canadienne d'archéologie (ACA) reconnaissent tous les Peuples autochtones de toutes les terres sur lesquelles nous nous trouvons aujourd'hui, et nous reconnaissons l'importance des terres que nous partageons et sur lesquelles nous vivons. Nous le faisons pour réaffirmer notre engagement et notre responsabilité dans l'amélioration des relations entre les Nations et pour améliorer notre propre compréhension des peuples autochtones locaux et de leur culture. Les terres de l'Alberta sont les territoires ancestraux et non cédés des Peuples des Traités 4, 6, 7, 8 et 10, à savoir Assiniboine, Beaver, Confédération des Pieds-Noirs – Kainai, Piikani et Siksiska –, Chipewyan, Cris, Déné, Sioux Nakota, Saulteux, Stoneys-Nakodas et Nations Tsuut'ina, ainsi que la Nation métis de l'Alberta au sein de son territoire historique des Métis du Nord-Ouest. Leurs histoires, leurs langues et leurs cultures ont enrichi notre province et notre association, et continuent de le faire. Nous reconnaissons les maux et les erreurs du passé et envisageons la façon dont nous pouvons aller de l'avant dans un esprit de vérité, de réconciliation et de collaboration.

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SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE - THURSDAY

TIME	ORCHID	LADYSLIPPER	ARNICA	CROCUS	COUGAR / GRIZZLY	LYNX	SQUIRREL	WAPITI	CONCOURSE	Off Site & Other Events	
8:30											
8:50			Heritage Landscapes: Rediscovered, Remembered, and Recreated	From Capture to Care: Digital Heritage in Western Canada	Hidden No More: Archaeology and the Living Legacy of Black Heritage						
9:10		Research Methods in Mesoamerican Archaeology	Coffee	Coffee	Coffee						
9:30											
9:50	CCRA CRM Archaeology Showcase										
10:10	Coffee	Coffee	Heritage Landscapes: Rediscovered, Remembered, and Recreated	From Capture to Care: Digital Heritage in Western Canada	Coffee						
10:30											
10:50											
11:10		Research Methods in Mesoamerican Archaeology	Lunch	Lunch	Hidden No More: Archaeology and the Living Legacy of Black Heritage						
11:30	CCRA CRM Archaeology Showcase										
11:50											
12:10											
12:30											
12:50	Lunch	Lunch	Heritage Landscapes: Rediscovered, Remembered, and Recreated	From Capture to Care: Digital Heritage in Western Canada	Lunch						
1:10											
1:30	"They didn't teach us that in archaeology school!" Career Skills for CRM	Non-Invasive Archaeology and Truth and Reconciliation	Coffee	Coffee	Hidden No More: Archaeology and the Living Legacy of Black Heritage						
1:50											
2:10											
2:30	Coffee	Coffee	Theory Showcase		Coffee						
2:50											
3:10	Career Skills for CRM	Non-Invasive Archaeology and Truth and Reconciliation		Biomolecular Archaeology in Conservation							
3:30											
3:50											
4:10											
4:30											
5:00											
EVENING EVENTS											
7:00 - 9:00	Public Lecture: Bodies, Bones, Burials and Wrecks: Tracing the Archaeological and Human Legacies of the 1845 Franklin Northwest Passage Expedition										Live Recording of the New Brunswick Archaeology Podcast @ Grizzly Paw Downtown

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE - FRIDAY

TIME	ORCHID	LADYSLIPPER	ARNICA	CROCUS	COUGAR / GRIZZLY	LYNX	WOLVERINE	CARIBOU	SQUIRREL	WAPITI	CONCOURSE	Off Site & Other Events
8:30												
8:50	Sir John Franklin's 1845 Northwest Passage Expedition	Historical Archaeology in Western Canadian Contexts: New and Emerging Perspectives	The Long and Winding Road of Slow Archaeology	Deep in Time and Vast in Expanse: The Dene Language Family in Western North America	Coastal Visions: Archaeology, Landscapes, and Living Knowledge in shisháth swiya	Workshop Artifact Conservation & Analysis: Tips, Tricks, Techniques & Best Practices	Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakley Group A		ASA / Open Seating			
9:10		Coffee	Coffee	Coffee	Coffee							
9:30												
9:50												
10:10												
10:30												
10:50	Sir John Franklin's 1845 Northwest Passage Expedition	Historical Archaeology in Western Canadian Contexts: New and Emerging Perspectives	The Long and Winding Road of Slow Archaeology	Deep in Time and Vast in Expanse cont'd	Combating Anti-Intellectual and Pseudoarchaeology through Public Engagement							
11:10												
11:30												
11:50												
12:10		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch							
12:30												
12:50	Sir John Franklin's 1845 Northwest Passage Expedition											
1:10												
1:30		Coffee	Coffee	Coffee	Coffee							
1:50	Sir John Franklin's 1845 Northwest Passage Expedition											
2:10												
2:30												
2:50		Living Landscapes: Story, Practice, and Stewardship Across Time	The Long and Winding Road of Slow Archaeology	Deep in Time and Vast in Expanse cont'd	Castles, Strongholds, and Fortifications of the Medieval Period							
3:10												
3:30												
3:50												
4:10												
4:30												
5:00												
7:00 - 9:00	EVENING EVENTS											Lighting Round @ Canmore Brewery

Rat's Nest Cave Tour
12:15 - 6:00 p.m.

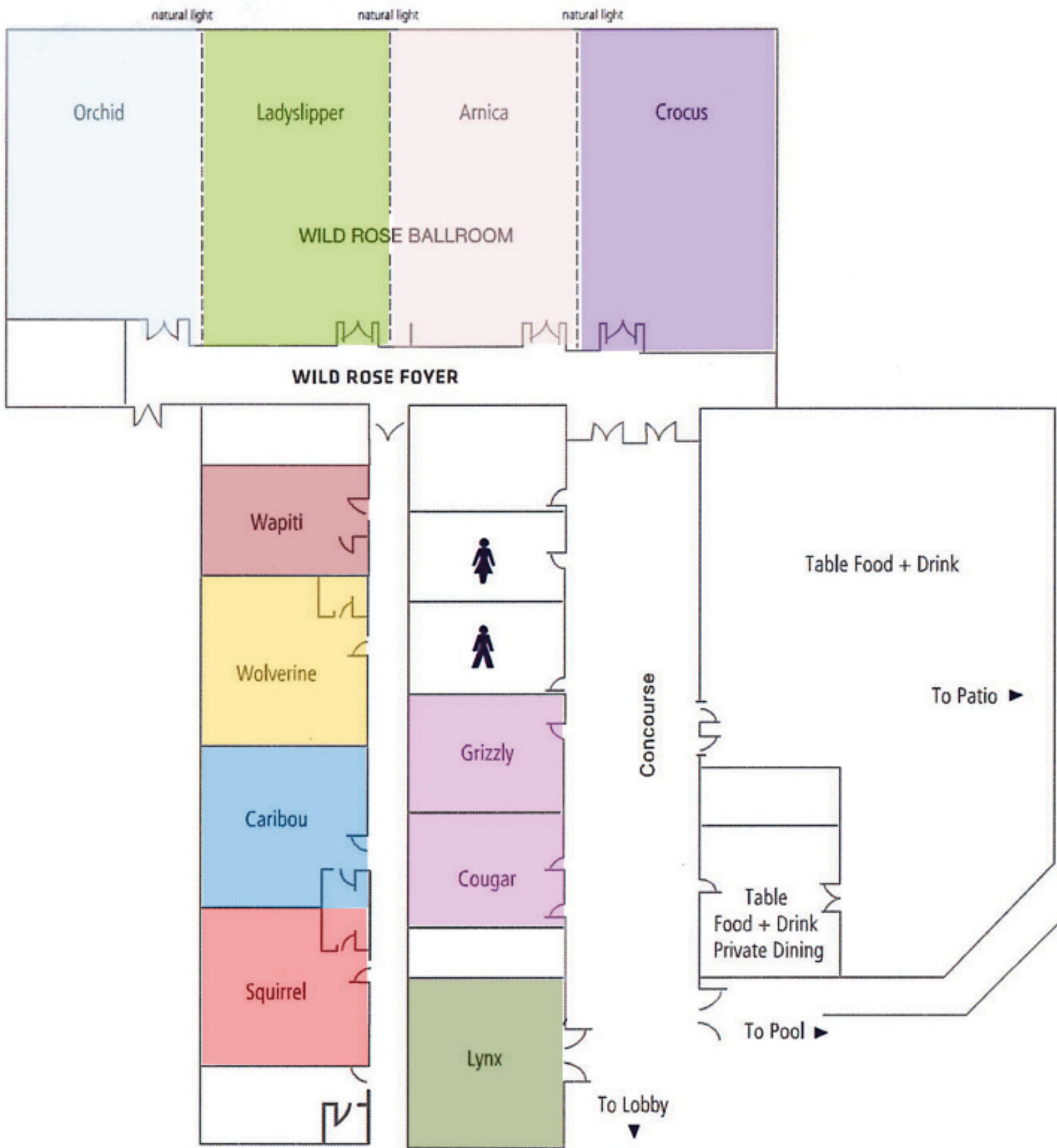
Workshop
Hand Drum Making
@ Canmore Museum
1:30 - 5:30 p.m.



SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE - SATURDAY

TIME	ORCHID	LADYSUPPER	ARNICA	CROCUS	COUGAR / GRIZZLY	LYNX	WOLVERINE	SQUIRREL	WAPITI	CONCOURSE	Off Site & Other Events
8:30											
8:50	Papers in Honour of Dr. Brian (Barney) Reeves	Supplementing, Transcending, and Subverting Conventional Archaeological Regulation	Corridors, Coasts, and Connections: Human Dispersal in North America	Multi-Modal Curation and Knowledge Mobilization with Archaeological Collections	Black-Racialized-Indigenous Archaeologists: Colonially Bounded Practice		Applied IIDAR, SLAM and GNSS Workflows for Archaeological Field Recording	ASA / Open Seating	Student Lounge	Bookroom and Vendors	Nature Journaling with Dawn Saunders Dahl 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.
9:10		Coffee	Coffee	Coffee	Coffee		Engagement & Demo Phase 1				
9:30			Corridors, Coasts, and Connections: Human Dispersal in North America	Multi-Modal cont'd	Obsidian Ceiling - Ethnic Archaeologists' Experiences in the CRM Field in Canada						
9:50											
10:10		Coffee									
10:30											
10:50	Papers in Honour of Dr. Brian (Barney) Reeves	Supplementing, Transcending, and Subverting Conventional Archaeological Regulation	Corridors, Coasts, and Connections: Human Dispersal in North America								
11:10											
11:30											
11:50		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch		Lunch				
12:10											
12:30											
12:50	Papers in Honour of Dr. Brian (Barney) Reeves	Supplementing, Transcending, and Subverting Conventional Archaeological Regulation	Corridors, Coasts, and Connections cont'd	Publishing CRM and Academic Research in Canada: Where, How, and Why							
1:10											
1:30											
1:50		Coffee		Coffee							
2:10	Papers in Honour of Dr. Brian (Barney) Reeves		Coffee	Coffee							
2:30			Fibre & Perishable Artifact Analysis, Conservation and Interpretation	Publishing CRM and Academic Research in Canada: Where, How, and Why							
2:50											
3:10											
3:30											
3:50											
4:10											
4:30											
5:00											
6:00 - 9:00	Banquet with Keynote Speaker & Awards										
EVENING EVENTS											
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div>ASA AGM</div> <div>CAA AGM</div> </div>											

COAST CANMORE HOTEL - FLOOR PLAN





ABOUT THE LOGO / CONCEPTION DU LOGO

The logo design was selected by the Conference Committee and is based on one of the pictographs found at Grassi Lakes just above Canmore, Alberta. This red ochre pictograph of a single figure holds a circle or ring above their shoulder. It is one of the most prominent figures still visible on a boulder above the lakes. While some have said the circle is a hoop, shield, or drum, there is no way anyone can be certain. Perils of misinterpretation continually shadow our discipline. However, in this instance each interpretation is connected to an action that gathers a group of people. A perfect ambassador for our gathering.

Le logo a été choisi par le Comité de la Conférence et s'inspire de l'un des pictographes découverts aux lacs Grassi, juste au-dessus de Canmore, Alberta.

Ce pictographe à l'ocrerouge dépeint un personnage unique tenant un cercle ou un anneau au-dessus de son épaule. Il s'agit de l'un des personnages les plus importants toujours visibles sur un rocher dominant les lacs. Certaines personnes ont vu dans le cercle un anneau, un bouclier ou un tambour, mais il n'y a aucune certitude. Le danger des interprétations erronées obscurcit constamment notre discipline. Cependant, dans ce cas, chacune de ces interprétations se relie à une action qui rassemble un groupe de gens. C'est l'ambassadeur parfait de notre réunion.

2026 CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE

- **Conference Co-chairs/ Président et Présidente de la Conférence:**
Joanne Braaten and Brian Vivian
- **ASA Calgary Centre reps/ Représentant de l'ASA:**
Christina Poletto and Brent Murphy
- **Registration/ Inscriptions:** Michelle Wickham
- **Sponsorship and Community Involvement/ Parrainages et implication communautaire:** Allison Landals, Kali Wade, Byron Smith
- **Sessions & Abstracts/ Sessions et résumés:** Brian Vivian
- **Workshops/ Ateliers:** Courtney Lakevold
- **Field Trips/ Excursions:** Tommy Ng
- **Students Organization/ Organisation des étudiant-e-s:**
Mia Kirkman, Steph Skelton, Beau Ratti, and Shawn Bubel
- **Poster Session/ Présentations par affiches:** Elizabeth Robertson
- **Book Room & Vendors/ Salon des livres et exposants:** Kevin McGeough
- **Website/ Site Internet:** Cheryl Takahashi
- **Social Media/ Réseaux sociaux:** Colleen Hughes (ASA) and Robyn Lacy (CAA)
- **Treasurer/ Trésorière:** Dawn Wambold
- **Program/ Programme:** Christina Poletto and Rebecca Gilmor
- **Translation/ Traduction:** Anne-Hélène Kerbiriou
- **Printing/ Impression:** JB Digital

GREETINGS FROM THE CAA!

Welcome to the ancestral and unceded territories of the people of Treaty 4, 6, 7, 8, and 10 and the Metis Nation of Alberta!

Welcome to Canmore!

On behalf of the Canadian Archaeological Association, I am delighted to welcome all the delegates and participants to the 58th Annual Meeting in Canmore. This year the Archaeological Society of Alberta and the Canadian Archaeological Association have teamed up and planned an exceptional gathering with innovative and inspired sessions, excursions and events. To those presenting papers, posters and panels, your commitment to sharing research, developing partnerships and collaborations, and providing a space to work on challenges, is key to a successful and fruitful conference. Thank you for being here, contributing, and supporting archaeology in Canada. Planning this conference and addressing details for 400+ attendees is an enormous task. The CAA Board and membership cannot thank enough the conference Chairs, Joanne Braaten and Brian Vivian, and their dedicated 2026 Team. We have a jam-packed 5 days ahead! Please take some time to visit with friends and colleagues and enjoy being together.

Yours, in archaeology,
Katie Cottreau-Robins, PhD
President

Bienvenue sur le territoire ancestral et non cédé des Peuples des Traités 4, 6, 7, 8 et 10, et de la Nation métisse de l'Alberta!

Bienvenue à Canmore!

Au nom de l'Association canadienne d'archéologie, je suis enchantée d'accueillir les délégué·e·s et les participant·e·s à notre 58e Réunion annuelle à Canmore. Cette année, l'Archaeological Society of Alberta et l'Association canadienne d'archéologie ont fait équipe pour planifier un rassemblement exceptionnel, dont les sessions, les excursions et les événements sociaux sont innovants et inspirants. Pour celles et ceux qui présentent des communications, des affiches ou des panels, votre engagement dans le partage de la recherche, du développement des partenariats et des collaborations, et dans le partage d'un espace pour travailler sur les défis que nous rencontrons, est essentiel à la réussite d'une conférence fructueuse. Merci d'être ici, pour contribuer à l'archéologie au Canada et pour la soutenir. La planification de cette conférence, ainsi que le suivi de tous les détails pour plus de 400 personnes y assistant, est une tâche énorme. Le Bureau de direction de l'ACA et ses membres ne pourront jamais assez remercier le président et la présidente de la Conférence, Joanne Braaten et Brian Vivian, et le dévouement de leur équipe de 2026. Nous avons cinq journées bien chargées devant nous ! N'hésitez pas à prendre le temps de visiter les lieux avec vos collègues et ami·e·s et à profiter de ces moments passés ensemble.

*Archéologiquement vôtre,
Katie Cottreau-Robins, PhD
Présidente*

GREETINGS FROM THE ASA

I want to welcome you to the joint CAA/ASA Conference here in Canmore on behalf of the Archaeological Society of Alberta (ASA).

Jointly meeting with the CAA allows us to offer a robust program of presentations, specials events and meetings. As an avocational archaeologist, I plan on learning and sharing many observations with my own centre. I am also encouraging members of the ASA to attend the ASA Annual General Meeting to be held on Saturday. Members will hear about ASA organized activities in the past year, as well as the election of the ASA Executive.

The ASA members have a special connection to the cultural heritage of our province and hopefully you will be able to explore some of it during your stay. The conference planners have offered tours of the iconic Bow Valley, Rat's Nest Cave, the Explorer Tour and the Cave and Basin National Historic Site. There are many more sites across the province!

There are many opportunities for sharing and learning with this joint CAA/ASA conference: papers, workshops, presentations. It all formally begins with the Welcome/Opening Reception Wednesday evening, followed by workshops and presentations Thursday to Saturday. It all concludes with the evening banquet with Keynote Speaker, Dr. John (Jack) Ives.

Sincerely,

Wendy-Ellen Nittel
President of the Archaeological Society of Alberta

Au nom de l'Archaeological Society of Alberta, je vous souhaite la bienvenue à la Conférence conjointe ACA/ASA, ici à Canmore.

Nous réunir en même temps que l'ACA nous permet de vous offrir un programme conséquent de communications, d'évènements spéciaux et de réunions. En tant qu'archéologue bénévole, je prévois apprendre et partager de nombreuses observations dans mon propre milieu. J'invite également nos membres de l'ASA à assister à notre Réunion générale annuelle qui se tiendra samedi. Nous y discuterons des activités organisées au cours de l'année passée, et nous élirons notre Bureau de direction. Les membres de l'ASA entretiennent un lien particulier avec le patrimoine culturel de notre province, et j'espère que vous pourrez en explorer une partie au cours de votre séjour. Les organisateurs de la Conférence nous ont proposé des excursions dans la fameuse Vallée de la Bow, à la grotte du Rat's Nest, sur le « circuit des explorateurs » (Explorer Tour) et au Lieu historique national Cave et Basin. Et il y a encore de nombreux autres sites dans toute la province!

Nous aurons de nombreuses occasions de partager et d'apprendre dans cette Conférence conjointe ACA/ASA : communications, ateliers, présentations par affiches. Tout commencera de façon formelle par la Réception inaugurale mercredi soir, suivie par les ateliers et les présentations, de jeudi à samedi. Nous terminerons par le banquet du soir avec notre conférencier invité, le Dr. John (Jack) Ives.

Sincèrement,

Wendy-Ellen Nittel
Présidente of l'Archaeological Society of Alberta

WELCOME FROM YOUR HOSTS

On behalf of the Canadian Archaeological Association and the Archaeological Society of Alberta it is our pleasure to welcome you to the 58th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Archaeological Association and the 51st Annual Meeting of the Archaeological Society of Alberta.

Hosting this conference in Canmore provides an opportunity to promote the rich archaeological and Indigenous history of the Bow Valley and open this national conference to marginalized populations, creating an inclusive event that allows the voices of all people within the region to be heard. Our overall goal is to create a more inclusive event that will encourage dialogue between and allow professional and avocational archaeologists, students, First Nations, and members of the general public alike to gather and share in this celebration of Canada's heritage. Thank you to the CAA and the ASA for bringing us all together and to the amazing organizing committee and volunteers, as well as the sponsors for enabling this gathering. We hope you enjoy your stay here and benefit from the many and varied presentations and poster sessions, workshops, social events, tours. We also hope you all have opportunity to renew old acquaintances and make new friends while here in Canmore at Canada's premier archaeological conference.

Wishing everyone an amazing week!

Joanne Braaten

Brian Vivian

Au nom de l'Association canadienne d'archéologie et de l'Archaeological Society of Alberta, nous avons le plaisir de vous accueillir à la 58e Réunion annuelle de l'Association canadienne d'archéologie, et à la 51e Réunion annuelle de l'Archaeological Society of Alberta.

Accueillir cette Conférence à Canmore nous donne l'opportunité de promouvoir la riche histoire archéologique et autochtone de la Vallée de la Bow, et d'ouvrir cette conférence nationale aux populations marginalisées, en créant un événement inclusif qui permette aux voix de tous les peuples de la région de se faire entendre. Notre objectif d'ensemble est de créer un événement plus inclusif qui permettra aux archéologues professionnels et amateurs ainsi qu'aux étudiant·e·s, aux membres des Premières nations comme au grand public, de dialoguer, de se rassembler et de célébrer ensemble notre patrimoine canadien.

Merci à l'ACA et à l'ASA de nous avoir réunis, ainsi qu'au formidable comité organisateur et aux bénévoles, et aux sponsors qui ont permis ce rassemblement. Nous espérons que nous apprécieriez votre séjour ici et que vous profiterez des sessions nombreuses et variées de communications et présentations par affiches, des ateliers, des événements sociaux et des excursions. Nous espérons également que vous aurez tous et toutes l'opportunité de renouer avec de vieilles connaissances et d'en faire de nouvelles, ici à Canmore, à l'occasion de la plus grande conférence archéologique du Canada.

En vous souhaitant à tous et à toutes une merveilleuse semaine !

Joanne Braaten

Brian Vivian

ABOUT THE CAA - LES OBJECTIFS DE L'ACA



The Canadian Archaeological Association (CAA) was founded in 1968. Membership includes professional, avocational and student archaeologists, as well as individuals of the general public of any country, who are interested in furthering the objectives of the Association.

The objectives of the CAA are as follows:

- To promote the increase and the dissemination of archaeological knowledge in Canada;
- To promote active discourse and cooperation among archaeological societies and agencies and encourage archaeological research and conservation efforts;
- To foster cooperative endeavours with aboriginal groups and agencies concerned with First Peoples' heritage of Canada;
- To serve as the national association capable of promoting activities advantageous to archaeology and discouraging activities detrimental to archaeology;
- To publish archaeological literature, and;
- To stimulate the interest of the general public in archaeology.

L'Association canadienne d'archéologie (ACA) a été fondée en 1968. Ses adhérents comptent des archéologues dont c'est la profession ou un violon d'Ingres et des étudiants, ainsi que des membres venant du grand public et de n'importe quel pays, qui ont en vue de favoriser les objectifs de l'Association.

- *Les objectifs de l'ACA sont les suivants:*
- *promouvoir l'accroissement et la propagation de connaissances archéologiques au Canada;*
- *promouvoir une coopération et des échanges actifs entre les sociétés et les organismes archéologiques, et favoriser le travail de recherche et de conservation;*
- *stimuler les efforts de coopération avec les groupes autochtones et les organismes concernés par le patrimoine canadien des Premières nations;*
- *servir d'association nationale pouvant promouvoir les activités avantageuses pour l'archéologie et décourager les activités nuisibles à l'archéologie;*
- *publier de la documentation archéologique;*
- *stimuler l'intérêt du grand public pour l'archéologie.*

CAA EXECUTIVE

President/Présidente Katie Cottreau-Robins

President-Elect/Président élu TJ Hammer

Vice President/Vice-présidente Rebecca Dunham

Treasurer/Trésorière Joanne Braaten

Treasurer-Elect/Trésorière élue Dawn Wambold

Secretary/Secrétaire Solène Mallet Gauthier

CJA Editor/Editor Helen Dunlop

ABOUT THE ASA- LES OBJECTIFS DE L'ASA

The Archaeological Society of Alberta enhances the public's understanding of Alberta's archaeological resources and instills an appreciation of our collective past. The Archaeological Society of Alberta advocates for the safeguarding of our non-renewable cultural heritage.

The objectives of the Archaeological Society of Alberta are to advance education in archaeology and related disciplines in Alberta by:

- Disseminating archaeological information to all interested persons. This may be in the form of public talks, events, school visits, publications, and social media;
- Investing in ASA centres across the province that educate and engage the public;
- Providing training, advice, and assistance in the proper methods of locating, excavating, classifying, recording, and studying archaeological sites and the artifacts recovered;
- Facilitating networking to share information and best practices in archaeology;
- Engaging with academics, cultural resources management (CRM) professionals, and the First Nations, Metis, and Inuit (FNMI);
- Providing scholarships to outstanding students studying archaeology.

L'Archaeological Society of Alberta cherche à améliorer la compréhension du public des ressources archéologiques de l'Alberta et incite une appréciation pour notre passé commun. L'Archaeological Society of Alberta milite pour la sauvegarde de notre patrimoine culturel non renouvelable.

Les objectifs de l'Archaeological Society of Alberta sont les suivants faire avancer l'éducation en archéologie et dans les disciplines connexes en Alberta en :

- *Diffusant des informations sur l'archéologie à toutes les personnes intéressées. Cela peut prendre la forme de conférences publiques, d'événements, de visites d'écoles, de publications et de publications sur les médias sociaux ;*
- *Investir dans des centres de l'ASA à travers la province qui éduquent et mobilisent le public;*
- *Fournir une formation, des conseils et une assistance sur les méthodes appropriées de localisation, de fouille, de classification, d'enregistrement et d'étude des sites archéologiques et des artefacts récupérés ;*
- *Faciliter le réseautage pour partager l'information et les meilleures pratiques en archéologie ;*
- *Collaborer avec des universitaires, des professionnels de la gestion des ressources culturelles (CRM) et les Premières Nations, Métis et Inuits (PNMI);*
- *Offrir des bourses à des étudiants exceptionnels en archéologie.*

ASA CALGARY EXECUTIVE

- **President/Président:** Brent Murphy
- **Past President/Ancienne présidente:** Janet Blakey
- **Vice President/Vice-présidente:** Lusine Petrosyan
- **Secretary/Secrétaire:** Christina P.
- **Treasurer/Trésorière:** Zoe Cascadden-Jassal
- **Directors/Administrateurs:**
Ian Robertson, Oralia Cabrera, Brian Vivian, Matt Munro, Sarah E., Byron Smith
- **Mount Royal College Liaison/Liaison avec le Collège Mount Royal:** Rebecca Gilmour
- **Lifetime Honorary Director/ Administratrice honoraire à:** Sheila Johnston

PROVINCIAL ASA EXECUTIVE

- **President/Présidente**
Wendy-Ellen Nittel
- **Past President/Ancien président**
Brian Vivian
- **Treasurer/Trésorière**
Joanne Braaten
- **Secretary/Secrétaire**
Christina P.
- **Provincial Coordinator**
Colleen Hughes
- **President-Elect/Présidente élue**
Shawn Bubel

CODE OF CONDUCT

The Canadian Archaeological Association and Archaeological Society of Alberta Joint Annual Conference is dedicated to providing a positive, safe, and harassment-free conference experience in which diverse participants may learn, network, and enjoy the company of colleagues in an environment of mutual respect. We recognize a shared responsibility of all participants (attendees, speakers, sponsors, exhibitors, organizers, and volunteers), and hotel staff, to treat others with respect and to foster that spirit to the benefit of everyone. Harassment in all its forms is strictly prohibited. Disrespectful behaviours will not be tolerated at CAA and ASA related events. To ensure a positive environment for all, we have defined unacceptable behaviour and harassment, outlined consequences for inappropriate behaviour, and provided guidance on what to do if you witness or are subject to harassment.

Unacceptable Behaviour

These behaviours, in any form, will not be tolerated at the conference:

- Harassment (See full definition below)
- Intimidation, deliberate stalking or following
- Abuse
- Discrimination
- Use of dehumanizing language, images, or clothing. This includes presentations, slides, and speaker content
- Possession of an item that can be used as a weapon causing harm to self and others

Our Definition of Harassment Includes the Following:

- Unwelcome or hostile behaviour, including verbal or written comments that intimidate, create discomfort or interfere with a person's participation in the conference
- Unwelcome physical contact
- Unwelcome sexual attention
- Cyber-bullying

If You Experience or Witness Unacceptable Behaviour

We need your help to keep the conference community safe, accountable, and responsible. If you experience or witness unacceptable behaviour, please bring your concerns to the immediate attention of conference organizers. CAA and ASA staff will be able to assist anyone experiencing harassment during the conference.

Consequences of Unacceptable Behaviour

Participants asked to stop unacceptable behaviour are expected to comply immediately. Participants who violate the code of Conduct may be expelled from the conference and related activities without a refund and banned from future events at the discretion of the CAA and ASA organizers and CAA and ASA Board of Directors.

Member safety / Sécurité des membres

If at some point you feel unsafe and would like a volunteer to accompany you to your next destination on the conference premise, you can ask a volunteer and they will be happy to assist.

In the event you would like to make a complaint directed to another conference attendee, a form is made available on the CAA website and in paper format at the registration desk. The volunteers are there to assist you.

If a complaint is filed, a member of the ethics committee will meet you and will do all they can to help you.

If you are facing a criminal action (aggression, violence, death threat), call the police: 911.

CODE DE CONDUITE

La Conférence canadienne annuelle sur l'Association canadienne d'archéologie se consacre à offrir une expérience de conférence positive, sécuritaire et sans harcèlement dans laquelle diverses participantes peuvent apprendre, réseauter et profiter de la compagnie de collègues dans un environnement de respect mutuel. Nous reconnaissons une responsabilité partagée de toutes les participantes (participantes, conférencières, commanditaires, exposantes, organisatrices et bénévoles), et du personnel de l'hôtel, de traiter les autres avec respect et de favoriser cet esprit au profit de toutes. Le harcèlement sous toutes ses formes est strictement interdit. Les comportements irrespectueux ne seront pas tolérés lors d'événements liés au ACA. Pour garantir un environnement positif pour toutes, nous avons défini les comportements inacceptables et le harcèlement, décrit les conséquences d'un comportement inapproprié et fourni des conseils sur ce qu'il faut faire si vous êtes témoin ou victime de harcèlement.

Comportements inacceptables

Ces comportements, sous quelque forme que ce soit, ne seront pas tolérés lors de la conférence :

- Harcèlement
- Intimidation, harcèlement délibéré ou poursuite
- Abuser de
- Discrimination
- Utilisation d'un langage, d'images ou de vêtements déshumanisants. Cela inclut les présentations, les diapositives et le contenu des conférenciers.
- Possession d'un objet pouvant être utilisé comme une arme causant du mal à soi-même et aux autres

Notre définition du harcèlement comprend les éléments suivants

- Comportement impertinent ou hostile, y compris les commentaires verbaux ou écrits qui intimident, créent de l'inconfort ou interfèrent avec la participation d'une personne à la conférence
- Contact physique importun
- Attention sexuelle importune
- Harcèlement sur internet

Si vous rencontrez ou êtes témoin d'un comportement inacceptable

Nous avons besoin de votre aide pour assurer la sécurité, la responsabilité et la responsabilité de la communauté de la conférence. Si vous rencontrez ou êtes témoin d'un comportement inacceptable, veuillez porter vos préoccupations à l'attention immédiate du personnel de la conférence. Le personnel du ACA se fera un plaisir d'aider toute personne victime de harcèlement pendant la conférence.

Conséquences d'un comportement inacceptable

Les participantes à qui l'on demande d'arrêter un comportement inacceptable doivent s'y conformer immédiatement. Les participantes qui violent le code de conduite peuvent être expulsées de la conférence et des activités connexes sans remboursement et bannies des événements futurs à la discrétion des organisatrices du ACA et du conseil d'administration du ACA.

Sécurité des membres

Si vous craignez pour votre sécurité et souhaitez qu'un.e bénévole vous rejoigne et vous accompagne à votre destination sur les lieux de la réunion annuelle, vous pouvez demander directement à un bénévole de vous accompagner. Dans le cas où vous désirez déposer une plainte à l'endroit d'un individu lors de la réunion annuelle, un formulaire en ligne est disponible sur le site de l'ACA et en version papier à l'accueil. Les bénévoles sont là pour vous assister. Si tel est le cas, un membre du comité d'éthique vous rencontrera et fera tout en son pouvoir pour vous aider. Dans le cas d'un acte criminel (agression, violence, menace de mort), communiquez directement avec la police: 911.

REGISTRATION / INSCRIPTION

The Registration Desk will be located in **MAIN CONCOURSE**. Individuals who have registered in advance can pick up their registration package here. Those who have not registered in advance can register at the desk. Credit card, Debit, and Cash will be accepted as payment for onsite registration.

The registration desk will be open at the following times:

- Wednesday, May 6th, 2:00 – 6:00 pm
- Thursday, May 7th, 8:00 am - 10:00 am
- Friday, May 8th, 8:00 am - 10:00 am, and 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
- Saturday, May 8th, 8:00am – 10:00 am

Registration package will include:

- Lanyard and name badge
- Conference Tote Bag
- Tickets to events

Please notify the Registration Desk if one of these items is missing.

Durant toute la Conférence, le bureau des inscriptions sera situé dans le grand hall de l'hôtel et centre des Congrès Canmore Coast. Les personnes s'étant inscrites à l'avance pourront y prendre leur trousse d'inscription. Celles qui ne l'ont pas déjà fait pourront s'y inscrire. Le paiement par carte de crédit, de débit ou en espèces est accepté lors des inscriptions sur place.

Le bureau d'inscription sera ouvert :

- Mercredi 6 mai, de 14h à 18h dans le grand hall
- Jeudi 7 mai, de 8h à 10h dans le grand hall
- Vendredi 8 mai, de 8h à 10h dans le grand hall; de 16h à 18h dans le grand hall
- Samedi 9 mai, de 8h à 10h dans le grand hall

La trousse d'inscription comprend :

- un badge d'identification avec cordelette
 - le sac fourre-tout de la Conférence
 - les billets pour les événements
- N'hésitez à vous adresser au bureau des inscriptions s'il vous manque l'un de ces éléments.*

Badge Use

Conference registration badges are required to attend all events during the conference, including the banquet. Registrants are asked to wear their badges at all times.

Les insignes attestant de l'inscription a la conference sont obligatoires pour assister a toutes les séances et a tous les événements pendant la conférence. Les participants doivent porter leur insigne en tout temps.

Touch Stickers / Autocollants de contact

Touch stickers will be available at the registration desk and can be added to your name badge.

Red - NO TOUCHING PLEASE

Yellow – PLEASE ASK BEFORE TOUCHING

Green - TOUCH IS WELCOMED

Des autocollants de contact seront proposés au bureau des inscriptions et pourront être ajoutés à votre badge nominatif, si vous le souhaitez.

Rouge – PAS DE CONTACT SVP

Jaune – SVP DEMANDEZ AVANT DE TOUCHER

Vert – CONTACT BIENVENU

WELCOME / OPENING RECEPTION

RÉCEPTION INAUGURALE

As we gather to share the stories of this land and those that have come before us, we wish to acknowledge the unknown person who told their own story in painting the image we have borrowed for our Conference logo in a pass overlooking Canmore. This image and others found in the Rocky Mountains remind us of the many persons who have travelled this way and the indigenous populations who have made this their homeland since time immemorial. Recognizing the importance of these First Nations voices, we are honoured to welcome Hank Snow and Bill Snow, Elders from the neighbouring Stoney Nakoda Nation and Îethka Oyate, the Drum and Dance Troupe from the Good Stoney Tribe. We also wish to extend a welcome to Richard Piche, an Elder from the Piche and Dumont families whose great grandfather guided Sir George Simpson on well known trails through the Rockies when the latter told of “discovering” Simpson Pass in 1841. Simpson’s exaggerated claims of discovery bring into focus the work all of us do which relies on the many that came before us.

Tandis que nous nous rassemblons pour partager les histoires de cette terre et de ceux qui y ont vécu avant nous, nous souhaitons évoquer la personne inconnue qui a raconté sa propre histoire en peignant l'image que nous avons empruntée pour le logo de notre Conférence, sur un col dominant Canmore. Cette image et d'autres comme elle, découvertes dans les montagnes Rocheuses, nous rappellent les nombreuses personnes qui ont voyagé par là et les populations autochtones qui en ont fait leur domaine depuis des temps immémoriaux. En reconnaissance de l'importance qu'ont les voix des Premières Nations, nous sommes honorés d'accueillir Hank Snow et Bill Snow, aînés de la nation voisine Stoney Nakoda, et la Troupe de danse et tambour, Îethka Oyate, de la tribu Good Stoney. Nous souhaitons également la bienvenue à Richard Piche, un Aîné des familles Piche et Dumont, dont l'arrière-grand-père a guidé Sir George Simpson à travers les pistes bien connues des Rocheuses, avant qu'il ne déclare avoir « découvert » la passe Simpson en 1841. Les prétentions exagérées de Simpson au sujet de cette découverte ramènent au premier plan le travail que nous faisons, qui repose sur les nombreuses personnes qui sont passées avant nous.

COFFEE BREAKS AND LUNCH BUFFET

An assortment of coffee, tea, water, and food will be available in the concourse each day. Due to the amazing number of participants we have registered for the conference this year, our host hotel has asked that we stagger the coffee breaks and buffet lunch to accommodate everyone. [Please refer to the program schedule.](#)

Un assortiment de café, thé, eau et nourriture sera mis à votre disposition dans le grand hall tous les jours. En raison de l'incroyable nombre de personnes participant à la Conférence cette année, notre hôtel nous a demandé d'échelonner les pauses café et le lunch pour que tout le monde puisse être servi. [Veuillez consulter les horaires du programme.](#)

BOOKROOM AND VENDORS

The book room and vendors will be located in the main concourse of the Canmore Coast Hotel and Conference Centre. Here you will find a variety of archaeology and related publications, as well as Indigenous artisan vendors.

Hours:

Thursday and Friday from 9:00am to 4:00pm

Saturday from 9:00am to 12:00pm.

Le Salon des livres et les exposants se trouveront dans le grand hall de l'hôtel et centre des congrès Canmore Coast. Vous y trouverez une grande variété de publication archéologiques et de sujets apparentés, ainsi que des vendeurs d'artisanat autochtone. Horaire :

mardi et vendredi, de 9h à 16h

samedi de 9h à midi.

TOURS - EXCURSIONS

Wednesday, May 6, 2026 / Mercredi, 6 mai 2026

The Iconic Bow Valley Tour - Visite de la célèbre vallée de la rivière Bow

This coach tour is an overview of the famous Banff National Park along TransCanada Highway 1 through the Bow Valley. The day begins in Canmore with stops at several iconic locations. These include Castle Mountain, Lake Louise and the Lower Spiral Tunnel Viewpoint. The return trip will travel on Highway 1A (Bow Valley Parkway) with stops at Morant's Curve, Johnston Canyon and Lake Minnewanka, ending back in Canmore.

The bus for this tour will be leaving from the Canmore Coast Hotel and Conference Centre by 10:00am and returning by late afternoon, by about 4:00pm. Lunch, snacks and beverages will be provided. This entire tour will be approximately 5-6 hours long.

Cette visite en autobus se déroulera dans le célèbre Parc national de Banff le long de la route Transcanadienne 1 à travers la vallée de la Bow. L'excursion commencera à Canmore avec des arrêts à plusieurs endroits iconiques. Parmi ceux-ci, Castle Mountain, le lac Louise et le tunnel inférieur en spirale de Viewpoint. Le trajet de retour suivra l'autoroute 1A (route du Parc de la vallée de la Bow) avec des arrêts aux belvédères de Morant's Curve, du canyon Johnston et du lac Minnewanka, avant de revenir à Canmore. Pour cette excursion, l'autobus partira de l'hôtel et centre des congrès Canmore Coast à 10 heures, et reviendra à la fin de l'après-midi, vers 16 heures. Le lunch, la boisson et les snacks seront fournis. Cette excursion durera environ cinq ou six heures.

Friday, May 8, 2026 / Vendredi, 8 mai 2026

Rat's Nest Cave, the Explorer Tour / Rat's Nest Cave (la Grotte du nid de rat), visite d'exploration

This cave is under Grotto Mountain and is a Provincial Historic Site (HS15252) with pictographs at its entrance, where two projectile points were reportedly uncovered, one of which was identified to be associated with the Pelican Lake Period (ca. 3600 - 2700 BP). This tour is for those who are more adventurous and is a guided tour through Canmore Cave Tours, known for "wild caving tours". For further information on the Explorers Tour see <https://www.canmorecavetours.com/>. It is slick, wet, cold, and dark inside, and you'll spend time sliding on your butt, climbing and walking slick surfaces. The tour includes a caver guide, helmet, coveralls, headlamp, and a safety harness. Please wear good shoes, gloves, and a warm jacket.

Transportation will leave the Canmore Coast Hotel and Conference Centre at 12:15pm. The tour will begin at 12:30 pm at the Canmore Cave Tour office for a safety orientation and equipment sizing. The entire tour is anticipated to take approximately 3.5hrs, returning to the Canmore Coast Hotel and Conference Centre around 6:00pm. The trip includes a 30-45 minute hike up to the cave, which is approximately 200m elevation above the parking lot level. On reaching the cave the actual caving experience will then take about 2-3 hours (depending on size of group). Lunch Buffet prior to leaving. Snacks and beverages will be provided.

Cette caverne se trouve sous le mont Grotto et c'est un Site historique provincial (HS15252) dont l'entrée présente des pictogrammes et où deux pointes de projectiles ont été découvertes, l'une étant associée au complexe de Pelican Lake (datant environ de 3600 ans à 2700 ans avant le présent). Cette visite est destinée aux personnes les plus aventureuses; il s'agit d'une visite guidée des grottes environnant Canmore, qui fait partie des circuits « de spéléologie sauvage ». Pour plus d'informations sur les Explorers Tours, rendez-vous sur <https://www.canmorecavetours.com/>. À l'intérieur de la grotte, il fait humide, froid et sombre, le sol est glissant et vous allez passer du temps à faire du tobogan sur les fesses, à grimper et à marcher sur des surfaces lisses. Pour cette visite, vous aurez un guide spéléologue, un casque, une salopette, une lampe frontale et un harnais de sécurité. Portez de bonnes chaussures, des gants et une veste chaude.

Le véhicule partira de l'hôtel et centre des Congrès Canmore Coast à midi un quart. La visite commencera à midi et demi à l'office du tourisme des grottes de Canmore pour vous fournir l'équipement à votre taille et des conseils de sécurité. La visite est censée durer 3 heures et demie, avec un retour à l'hôtel et centre des congrès Canmore Coast vers 18 heures. Cette excursion comprend une ascension à pied de 30 à 45 minutes jusqu'à la grotte, qui se trouve à peu près à 200 mètres au-dessus du niveau du parking. Une fois sur place, la visite de la grotte elle-même prendra de deux à trois heures (selon la taille du groupe). Un lunch (buffet) sera servi avant le départ, et les boissons et snacks seront fournis.

TOURS - EXCURSIONS

Sunday, May 10, 2026 / Dimanche, 10 mai 2026

Cave and Basin National Historic Site / Lieu historique national Cave and Basin

This tour will have transportation leaving the Canmore Coast Hotel and Conference Centre at 10:00am. The primary focus of this tour is a stop at the Cave and Basin National Historic Site, where the history of Banff National Park began with the 1883 identification of subterranean thermal springs by CPR workers and the creation of Banff National Park in 1885. An entrance tunnel, bathhouses and a pavilion was constructed afterwards. This self-guided tour will be joined by speakers who will talk about the history of Banff National Park.

The Cave and Basin National Historic Site is within the Banff townsite, and there will be opportunities to explore the town afterwards. Return transportation to the Canmore Coast Hotel and Conference Centre is scheduled for 1:00pm, but if you wish to explore the town of Banff longer on your own, you can use the Roam Transit <https://roamtransit.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/2025.Route-3.Schedule.pdf> to return to Canmore any time in the afternoon.

Pour cette visite, le véhicule de transport partira de l'hôtel et centre des congrès Canmore Coast à 10 heures. L'objet principal de cette excursion est un arrêt au Lieu historique national Cave and Basin, où a commencé l'histoire du Parc national de Banff en 1883 avec la découverte de sources thermales souterraines par les ouvriers du Chemin de fer Canadien-Pacifique, et la création du Parc national de Banff en 1885. Un tunnel d'entrée, des bains publics et un pavillon y furent construits par la suite. À cette visite autoguidée se joindront des conférenciers qui évoqueront l'histoire du Parc national de Banff.

Le Lieu historique national Cave and Basin se situe sur le territoire de la ville de Banff, et vous aurez ensuite la possibilité de visiter la ville. Le transport de retour à l'hôtel et centre des congrès Canmore Coast est prévu pour treize heures, mais si vous souhaitez rester explorer un peu plus longtemps la ville de Banff, vous pourrez revenir à Canmore à n'importe quelle heure durant l'après-midi par le Roam Transit <https://roamtransit.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/2025.Route-3.Schedule.pdf>.

EVENTS - ÉVÈNEMENTS

Wednesday May 6, 2026 / Mercredi 6 mai 2026

Student Meet & Greet: 4:00pm - 6:00pm / Accueil-rencontre des étudiant-e-s: de 16h à 18h

A chance for students to meet ahead of the conference, and mingle over snacks and party/board games. All students attending the conference are welcome.

C'est l'occasion pour les étudiante-s de se rencontrer avant la conférence, et de socialiser tout en grignotant ou en jouant à des jeux de société. Tous les étudiants et toutes les étudiantes assistant à la conférence sont les bienvenues.

Thursday, May 7, 2026 / Jeudi 7 mai 2026

Indigenous Archaeologists' Luncheon: 12:00pm – 1:20pm / Repas des archéologues autochtones: 12h à 1:20h

LOCATION: Coast Hotel - Private Table

Hosted courtesy of the Institute of Prairie and Indigenous Archaeology. A room has been reserved for the Indigenous Archaeologists' Luncheon. Buffet lunch will be provided. Attendees must register as space is limited. This is a great opportunity to network and connect with other professionals who may share similar challenges and wins in the industry.

Aimablement offert par le Prairie Institute et Indigenous Archaeology. Une salle a été réservée, et un buffet prévu, pour le repas des archéologues autochtones. Les participant-e-s devront s'inscrire, car les places sont limitées. Il s'agit d'une grande opportunité de rencontrer d'autres professionnel-le-s et de nouer des liens avec des gens qui partagent avec vous les difficultés et les réussites de ce métier.

EVENTS - ÉVÈNEMENTS



Thursday, May 7, 2026 / Jeudi 7 mai 2026

Women in Archaeology Wine & Cheese: 4:00pm - 6:00pm / Les femmes et l'archéologie Vin et fromage: 16h à 18h

LOCATION: Coast Hotel - Wapiti

Hosted courtesy of **The Fairfield Foundation**. The Fairfield Foundation is excited to host its fifth annual event at the joint CAA and ASA conference in Canmore, inviting women and all marginalized genders to attend an intimate happy hour focused on sharing our experiences in archaeology. This is a great opportunity to network and connect with other professionals who may share similar challenges and wins in the industry. We'll discuss career paths, highlights, favourite parts of working in archaeology, and what day-to-day life looks like for people in the field.

*Aimablement offert par la **Fondation Fairfield**. La Fondation Fairfield a le plaisir de tenir son cinquième événement annuel à la Conférence conjointe de l'ACA et de l'ASA à Canmore, en invitant les femmes et toutes les personnes de genre marginalisé à participer à un apéritif où l'on discutera de nos expériences en archéologie. Il s'agit d'une grande opportunité de créer des liens et de faire la connaissance d'autres professionnel-le-s qui partagent avec vous les difficultés et les réussites de ce métier. Nous discuterons des orientations de carrière, des temps forts, des aspects préférés du travail en archéologie, et nous chercherons à connaître la vie quotidienne des personnes qui travaillent sur le terrain.*

Live Recording of the New Brunswick Archaeology Podcast: 7:00pm – 9:00pm /

Enregistrement en direct du Podcast Archéologie au Nouveau-Brunswick: 19h à 21h

LOCATION: Grizzly Paw Pub (622 8th Street, Canmore)

Have you been looking for that perfect blend of entertainment and scholarly content? Was your session today and the business of the conference over? Or are you just looking for a place to put the final touches on your morning session paper tomorrow? What better way to kick off your CAA - ASA weekend than sitting down with friends for a live recording of the New Brunswick Archaeology Podcast! Winners of the 2024 CAA Public Communications Award, hosts Gabe Hrynich (University of New Brunswick) and Ken Holyoke (University of Lethbridge) will be bringing the east to the west with guests, prizes, and lots of archaeology fun at the Grizzly Paw Pub in downtown Canmore. The event is complementary, but as part of the fun, we're offering exclusive NB Arch Pod swag to the first 20 people to make a donation of \$25.00 or more to the CAA Scholarship Fund of your choosing.

Proof of donation can be sent to newbrunswickarchaeology@gmail.com.

Avez-vous déjà été à la recherche de ce parfait mélange entre divertissement et contenu savant? Votre session et votre participation à la conférence sont-elles finies pour aujourd'hui? Ou cherchez-vous seulement un endroit pour mettre la touche finale à votre communication de demain? Quelle meilleure façon de donner le coup d'envoi à votre fin de semaine ACA-ASA que de vous assoir entre amis pour une émission en direct du Podcast de l'archéologie au Nouveau-Brunswick! Les récipiendaires du Prix des communications publiques de 2024, Gabe Hrynich (de l'Université du Nouveau-Brunswick) et Ken Holyoke (Université de Lethbridge) rapprocheront l'est et l'ouest avec leurs invités, leurs prix et le meilleur de l'archéologie au pub Grizzly Paw dans le centre-ville de Canmore. Les places sont réduites, aussi veuillez vous inscrire ici. Vous êtes cordialement invités, mais, pour ajouter au plaisir, le Podcast « Archéologie au Nouveau-Brunswick » offrira en exclusivité un cadeau aux 20 premières personnes qui feront un don de 25 dollars ou plus à une bourse de l'ACA (CAA Scholarship Fund) de leur choix. La preuve de la donation pourra être envoyée à newbrunswickarchaeology@gmail.com

EVENTS - ÉVÈNEMENTS

Thursday, May 7, 2026 / Jeudi 7 mai 2026

Public Lecture: Bodies, Bones, Burials and Wrecks: Tracing the Archaeological and Human Legacies of the 1845 Franklin Northwest Passage Expedition - 7:00pm - 9:00pm / Conférence publique: Des corps, des os, des sépultures et des épaves. Sur les traces des vestiges archéologiques et humains de l'Expédition de Franklin pour découvrir le passage du Nord-Ouest en 1845 - 19h-21h

Food Bank Donations Requested for: Bow Valley Food Bank (Canmore, AB) and Îyahrhe Nakoda Food Bank (Mîîî Thnî, AB) / Sollicitations de dons aux banques alimentaires de : Bow Valley Food Bank (Canmore, Alberta) et Îyahrhe Nakoda Food Bank (Mîîî Thnî, Alberta)

LOCATION: Coast Hotel - Ballroom

Presenters: Douglas Stenton is a Canadian archaeologist best known for his research on Inuit history and the 1845 Franklin Expedition in the Canadian Arctic. Jonathan Moore is an underwater archaeologist with Parks Canada's Underwater Archaeology Team who has been involved in the search for and study of the wrecks of HMS Erebus and HMS Terror since 2008.

In May 1845 Sir John Franklin set sail from England with HMS Erebus and HMS Terror in search of a Northwest Passage through what is now Nunavut, Canada. The voyage ended in disaster, with the death of all of its men and the sinking of the two state-of-the-art ships. This one-hour presentation will describe over a decade of terrestrial and underwater archaeological fieldwork and research on the expedition. It will dive into the expedition's historical context, previous studies (both on land and underwater), and some of the methods, analytical approaches and techniques used in both the field and laboratory. Key research progress and findings will be highlighted, along with the ways in which this work is contributing to a deeper understanding of people, places and events of this fascinating expedition.

Douglas Stenton est un archéologue canadien connu pour ses recherches sur l'histoire inuit et l'Expédition de Franklin dans l'Arctique canadien en 1845.

Jonathan Moore est un archéologue sous-marin de l'équipe d'archéologie sous-marine de Parcs Canada, qui a contribué depuis 2008 à la recherche et à l'étude des épaves des navires HMS Erebus et HMS Terror.

En mai 1845, Sir John Franklin fit voile à partir de l'Angleterre avec les navires royaux Erebus et Terror à la recherche d'un passage du Nord-Ouest, à travers ce qui est aujourd'hui le Nunavut, au Canada. Le voyage finit en désastre, tous les hommes ayant péri et les vaisseaux – les plus modernes de leur temps – ayant coulé. Cette conférence d'une heure décrira plus d'une décennie de travail archéologique, sur terre et sous la mer, et de recherches sur l'expédition. Nous plongerons dans le contexte historique de cette expédition, dans les études précédentes (tant terrestres que sous-marines) et dans quelques-unes des méthodes, approches analytiques et techniques utilisées, tant sur le terrain qu'en laboratoire. Les principales avancées et découvertes de cette recherche seront mises en lumière, en même temps que la façon dont ce travail contribue à une meilleure compréhension des gens, des lieux et des événements de cette passionnante expédition.

EVENTS - ÉVÈNEMENTS

Friday May 8th, 2026 / FRENCH DATE

Janet Blakey Poster Session – Breakfast: 8:00 am–10:00 am / Session de présentations par affiches dédiée à Janet Blakey – Petit déjeuner: 8h à 10h

LOCATION: Coast Canmore Hotel - Orchid

This poster session honours the legacy of Janet Blakey—her love for and contributions to archaeology, and her gift for supporting and advancing archaeology by creating lasting friendships with and networks among her peers and colleagues. We invite participants from all stages and branches of the field—student, avocational, academic, consulting and beyond—to join us in celebrating Janet's ability for making lasting bonds in her archaeological pursuits, along with her talent for creating effective and engaging conference posters. We particularly encourage contributions that highlight Janet's passion for public archaeology, Alberta archaeology and what it means to be a consulting archaeologist. At the same time, like Janet, this session also welcomes contributions that make broader connections between archaeology and the many people for whom it holds meaning.

Cette session de présentation par affiches est dédiée à la mémoire de Janet Blakey — à son amour de l'archéologie et aux contributions qu'elle lui a apportées, et au don qu'elle avait de soutenir l'archéologie et de la faire progresser en nouant des amitiés durables et en créant des réseaux avec ses pairs et ses collègues. Nous invitons des participant-e-s de tous les niveaux et de toutes les spécialisations — étudiant-e-s, amateurs, universitaires, consultant-e-s et autres — à se joindre à nous pour célébrer l'aptitude qu'avait Janet de créer des liens durables dans ses recherches archéologiques, de pair avec son talent de créatrice de présentations par affiches efficaces et captivantes. Nous lançons cette invitation plus particulièrement en direction de contributions soulignant la passion de Janet pour faire connaître l'archéologie au grand public, pour l'archéologie en Alberta et sur ce que signifie être archéologue consultant-e. En même temps, comme le faisait Janet, cette session accueillera avec plaisir des contributions établissant des connexions plus larges entre l'archéologie et les nombreuses personnes pour qui elle a un sens.

“Lightning Round” 7:00pm – 9:00pm (\$5) / « Ronde des communications-éclair » de 18h30 à 21h (5\$)

LOCATION: Canmore Brewing Company at 1460 Railway Avenue

At this year's joint CAA and ASA AGM and Conference in Canmore, we are holding a special “Lightning Round” paper session. Presenters have FIVE (5) minutes to speak to the audience on a topic of their choosing related to archaeology. It can be any topic, even if only very loosely related to archaeology, the CAA, or the ASA. However, presenters must follow strict rules, and the time limit will be aggressively enforced! Each presenter must submit a PowerPoint presentation beforehand with exactly 15 slides. Once the moderator says “go”, the slides will automatically advance every 20 seconds. There are no pauses, no restarts, and no time extensions. The frantic pace of the presentations makes for an exciting and fun-filled session!

Cette année, pour la conférence et l'assemblée générale que l'ACA et l'ASA tiennent conjointement, nous organisons une session de communications « éclair » à la Canmore Brewing Company, 1460 Railway Avenue.

Les présentateurs et présentatrices auront cinq (5) minutes pour parler au public d'un sujet de leur choix lié à l'archéologie. Il peut s'agir de n'importe quel sujet, même s'il ne se rapporte que d'un peu loin à l'archéologie, l'ASA ou l'ACA. Cependant, les participant-e-s seront soumis-e-s à des règles strictes et le temps imparti sera sévèrement limité ! Chaque présentateur et présentatrice devra soumettre au préalable une présentation d'exactly 15 images. Une fois que le modérateur aura donné le signal du départ, les images se succéderont automatiquement toutes les 20 secondes. Il n'y aura pas de pause, pas le droit de recommencer, et aucune rallonge de temps. Le rythme frénétique de ces présentations nous promet une session passionnante et animée!

WORKSHOPS - ATELIERS

Thursday, May 7, 2026 / Jeudi 7 mai 2026

Toolkit: Introduction to Digital Data Collection and Management in Archaeology - 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (\$10) /

Toolkit: introduction à la collecte et à la gestion numériques des données en archéologie de 10h30 à 12h (10\$)

LOCATION: Coast Canmore Hotel - Lynx

This interactive workshop offers a hands-on experience of Toolkit, the first bespoke and complete digital tool for professional archaeologists. Through a series of realistic archaeological project scenarios, participants will use the platform as they would in real-world field and office conditions.

The workshop covers the complete archaeological workflow, from data recording to stratigraphic drawing and the export of final, report-ready outputs. Emphasis is placed on workflow integration, scientific rigour, and the efficiency gains enabled by a digital approach developed by archaeologists and for archaeologists. Participants will use their own phone for this workshop.

Cet atelier interactif propose une prise en main concrète de Toolkit, le premier outil numérique complet et sur mesure conçu pour les archéologues professionnels. À partir de scénarios réalistes de projets archéologiques, les participants utiliseront la plateforme comme ils le feraient en conditions réelles, autant au terrain qu'au bureau.

L'atelier couvre l'ensemble du workflow archéologique, de la saisie des données au dessin stratigraphique, jusqu'à l'export de livrables finaux prêts pour la rédaction de rapports. L'accent est mis sur l'intégration des workflows, la rigueur scientifique et les gains d'efficacité, rendus possibles par une approche numérique développée par des archéologues, pour des archéologues. Les participants utiliseront leur propre téléphone lors de l'atelier.

Friday May 8, 2026 / Vendredi 8 mai 2026

Artifact Conservation & Analysis: Tips, Tricks, Techniques & Best Practices - 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. (\$25) /

Conservation et analyse des artefacts : conseils, astuces, techniques et meilleures pratiques de 9h à 11h30 (25\$)

LOCATION: Coast Canmore Hotel - Lynx

Join professionals in the field of artifact conservation and analysis to learn and discuss best practices for artifact conservation and handling, and possibilities for artifact analysis. This session moves beyond the basics to explore conservation techniques, modern analysis technology, and the delicate art of professional handling.

Through talks, demonstrations and open discussion, you will learn to stabilize, identify, and protect the integrity of your collection.

The Highlights

- Cleaning and Conservation: Techniques for cleaning and processing diverse material types without causing irreversible damage.
- Analysis Tech: Exploring modern possibilities for analyzing artifacts or other relevant material at a site.
- Strategic Storage: Professional best practices for housing and labeling collections for the long term.

Venez vous joindre à des professionnels du domaine de la conservation et de l'analyse des artefacts pour apprendre et discuter des meilleurs pratiques de conservation et de manipulation, et des possibilités d'analyse. Cette session va au-delà des éléments de base pour explorer les techniques de conservation, les technologies modernes d'analyse et l'art délicat de la manipulation au niveau professionnel.

Avec ces présentations et ces démonstrations, tout en discutant, vous apprendrez à stabiliser, identifier et protéger l'intégrité de votre collection.

Points principaux

- *Nettoyage et conservation : Techniques de nettoyage et de traitement des divers types de matériaux pour éviter de causer des dommages irréversibles.*
- *Techniques d'analyse : Exploration des possibilités modernes d'analyses des artefacts et d'autres types de matériel provenant d'un site.*
- *Entreposage stratégique : Meilleures pratiques professionnelles pour abriter et étiqueter les collections dans une optique à long terme.*

WORKSHOPS - ATELIERS

Friday May 8, 2026 / Vendredi 8 mai 2026

Student Workshop (Complimentary) / Atelier étudiant-e-s (Gratuit)

LOCATION: Coast Canmore Hotel - Squirrel

This informal, peer facilitated, students only workshop will create a safe space and an opportunity for new archaeologists to discuss the issues and barriers students face today in industry and academia. This workshop is meant to create an open conversation amongst students regarding the future of archaeology. There will be an in-depth conversation on highlighted topics such as under-recognized needs, representation discrepancies, and other unique hallmarks of our generation. This will be followed by focus groups, and finishing off with a group reflection period. Students will have the chance to workshop major themes that arise during the opening discussion into suggestions and ideas for the betterment of both the industry as a space of labor, in academia, and beyond. This workshop will be moderated and facilitated by volunteer students, who will be selected based on their lived experiences and related research in archaeology.

Cet atelier informel réservé aux étudiant-e-s et organisé par les pairs constituera un espace sécuritaire et une opportunité, pour les nouveaux archéologues, de discuter des problèmes et des obstacles que rencontrent les étudiant-e-s aujourd'hui dans la profession et dans le monde universitaire. Cet atelier a pour objectif de lancer une conversation ouverte entre les étudiant-e-s au sujet de l'avenir de l'archéologie. Cette conversation portera en profondeur sur des sujets déterminés tels que les besoins méconnus, les disparités de représentation et autres particularités de notre génération. Elle sera suivie de groupes thématiques et se terminera par une période de réflexion en groupe. Les étudiant-e-s auront la possibilité de transformer les thèmes les plus importants issus de cette discussion en suggestions et idées pour l'amélioration tant de la profession en tant qu'espace de travail, que du monde universitaire, et au-delà. Les modérateurs et modératrices de cet atelier seront des étudiant-e-s bénévoles, qui seront sélectionné-e-s en fonction de leur expérience vécue et de leurs recherches en archéologie.

Hand Drum Making Workshop with Stoney Elder Artist, Helmer Twoyoungmen - 1:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. (\$225) / Atelier de fabrication d'un tambour à main - Stoney Elder Artist, Helmer Twoyoungmen - 13h30 à 17h30 (225\$)

10" drum materials provided / pour un tambour de 10 pouces (matériaux fournis)

LOCATION: Canmore Museum; 902B 7th Avenue

Helmer Twoyoungmen is a grandfather and actor from the Stoney Nakoda First Nation. He teaches his culture to others, including students at local schools, and hosts guests to share the knowledge he has learned. Hand drums are used for ceremonies, healing and community bonding. They are constructed in the traditional way from rawhide tightened over wooden frames. Participants will have the opportunity to make a hand drum and drum stick, learn how to use it, while learning about drum teachings and Stoney culture.

Atelier de fabrication d'un tambour à main donné par un artiste stoney, l'aîné Helmer Twoyoungmen.

Helmer Twoyoungmen est un grand-père et un acteur de la Première nation Stoney Nakoda. Il enseigne sa culture aux autres, y compris aux élèves des écoles locales et aux personnes invitées à partager le savoir qu'il a acquis. Les tambours à main sont utilisés pour les cérémonies, les rituels de guérison, et pour renforcer les liens dans la communauté. Ils sont fabriqués de manière traditionnelle, en peau tendue sur un cadre de bois. Les participant-e-s auront l'opportunité de fabriquer un tambour à main et une baguette de tambour, et d'apprendre à les utiliser, tout en s'informant sur la tradition du tambour dans la culture Stoney.

WORKSHOPS - ATELIERS

Saturday May 9, 2026 / Samedi 9 mai 2026

Nature Journaling with Dawn Saunders Dahl of Listen Studios - 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. (\$75) / Tenir un journal dans la nature, avec Dawn Saunders Dahl des Studios - de 9h à 11h30 (75\$)

LOCATION: Meet at the Coast Hotel front door

Reconnect and re-imagine nature through the lens of an artist. Nature journaling invites you to slow down and build a personal connection with the environment. Drawing inspiration from the way archaeologists record field notes, this workshop offers a fresh perspective on the world. Whether you want to sharpen your observation skills or simply find a creative way to explore, Dawn Saunders Dahl of Listen Studios will guide you through Canmore's beautiful landscapes of Spring Creek and the Bow River.

What to Expect:

- A guided walk through Canmore's natural paths.
- Creative prompts focused on observing, questioning, and connecting.
- Hands-on practice filling sketchbook pages with pencils, inks, and watercolors.
- No experience required: You don't need to be an artist or a naturalist to join!

Se reconnecter à la nature et l'imaginer avec l'œil d'une artiste. Tenir un journal dans la nature, cela vous invite à ralentir et à nouer des liens personnels avec l'environnement. S'inspirant de la façon dont les archéologues consignent leurs notes de terrain, cet atelier présente un point de vue inédit sur le monde. Que vous souhaitiez aiguïser vos capacités d'observation ou tout simplement trouver un moyen d'exploration créatif, Dawn Saunders Dahl, des Studios Listen, vous guide dans les magnifiques paysages de Spring Creek et de la rivière Bow, à Canmore.

À quoi vous attendre :

- Une promenade à pied commentée dans les sentiers naturels de Canmore.
- Idées créatives soufflées à partir d'observations, de questions et de connexions.
- Exercices pratiques sur les pages du carnet de croquis avec des pinceaux, des encres et de l'aquarelle.
- Aucune expérience exigée : Pas besoin d'être artiste ou naturaliste pour se joindre au groupe !

2026 CAA BANQUET AND AWARDS – 2026 BANQUET ET PRIX DE L'ACA

Saturday May 9, 2026 / Samedi 9 mai, 2026

6:00 pm – 9:00 pm / de 18h à 21h

Location: Canmore Coast Hotel and Conference Centre Wildrose Ballroom

Collapsing Time—Vignettes to Engage the Archaeological Mind

Keynote Speaker: Dr. John W. (Jack) Ives, Professor Emeritus, University of Alberta

From things a North American archaeologist thinks about on safari in Africa to remarkable discoveries in western North America, stories both large and small that draw us closer to the human condition in the past, inspiring our sense of wonder, or just to wonder about...

Le temps écroulé —Anecdotes pour piquer la curiosité archéologique

Conférencier invite: Dr. John W. (Jack) Ives, Professeur émérite, Université de l'Alberta

Depuis les pensées d'un archéologue nord-américain lors d'un safari en Afrique jusqu'aux découvertes remarquables faites dans l'ouest de l'Amérique du Nord, ces histoires et historiettes nous rapprochent de la condition humaine du passé, nous inspirent et nous émerveillent, ou bien nous laissent songeurs, tout simplement...

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SESSION CHAIRS

Chairs are encouraged to use their own laptops. Chairs should ensure session presentations are loaded prior to the start time (such as during breaks) from a USB stick or by connection their laptop to the projector. Please maintain the established schedule in fairness to the persons planning to attend specific presentations. If a scheduled speaker fails to appear, please pause for the period allotted in the program. Volunteers and A/V technicians will be in the room to support the process. The room will be **open 20 minutes ahead of your sessions scheduled start time** to allow you time to ensure your session is set up properly.

If you have questions, please talk to your room's volunteer or AV technician for support.

Nous invitons les président-e-s de séance à utiliser leurs propres ordinateurs portables. Les président-e-s de séances doivent s'assurer avant le début de la séance (lors des pauses par exemple) que les communications ont bien été téléchargées à partir des clés USB ou par connexion des ordinateurs au projecteur. Veillez à respecter l'horaire établi pour les personnes ayant prévu d'assister à d'autres présentations. Si une personne devant prononcer une communication manque à l'appel, faites une pause d'une durée correspondant à celle du programme. Les bénévoles et les personnes en charge de l'audiovisuel seront sur place pour vous assister. La salle sera ouverte 20 minutes avant l'heure programmée de vos sessions pour vous laisser le temps de vous assurer que tout est correctement installé.

Si vous avez besoin d'aide, adressez-vous au/à la bénévole ou à la personne préposée à la technique.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PODIUM PRESENTERS

Paper presenters are allocated a maximum of 20 minutes in which to present. Please arrive at least 20 minutes ahead of your session's scheduled start time or in the break before your session is scheduled to start to upload your presentation from a USB stick to the room computer. Each room will have a projector. Volunteers and A/V technicians will be in the room to support the process.

Les conférenciers se voient allouer un maximum de 20 minutes pour leur présentation. Veuillez arriver au moins 20 minutes avant l'heure programmée du début de votre présentation ou au moment de la pause précédant votre session afin de télécharger votre présentation à partir d'une clé USB à l'ordinateur de la salle. Chaque salle disposera d'un projecteur. Les bénévoles et les personnes en charge de l'audiovisuel seront sur place pour vous assister.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR POSTER PRESENTERS

Poster presentations will take place in the **Wolverine / Caribou from 8:00 AM – 11:50 PM** for Group A and **12:30 - 4:10 PM** for Group B. Set up time for students will be from 8-8:30 am and 12-12:30 pm respectively. Posters will be assigned to a numbered poster board for adjudication purposes and the order will be indicated on the list held by the session chair. Pins for the mounting of posters will be provided.

Les présentations par affiches se tiendront dans les salles **Wolverine et Caribou de 8h30 à 11h50** por les personnes présentant des affiches dans la Session A, et de **12h30 à 16h10** por les personnes présentant des affiches dans la Session B. *Les horaires d'installation réservés aux étudiant-e-s sont de 8h à 8h30 et de midi à 12h30, respectivement. Les affiches seront assignées à un panneau d'affichage numéroté à des fins d'arbitrage, et leur ordre sera indiqué sur la liste tenue par le/la président-e de séance. Les punaises pour l'installation des affiches seront fournies.*

CAA STUDENT TRAVEL GRANT / BOURSE DE VOYAGE ÉTUDIANTE



The CAA is able to offer assistance to student conference participants to offset their travel costs. Grants apply only to the travel portion of conference expenses and not accommodations. Grant applicants must be members in good standing and must participate directly in the scholarly program of the Annual Conference by presenting a paper or poster for which they are first (primary) author, or by being a Session Discussant or an Invited Presenter. Applicants must submit a completed application form (you must be logged in to access the application form on the Members Only page) along with original travel receipts for travel expenses claimed, **no later than July 1, 2026**. Undergraduate and graduate students are eligible for funding. All eligible applications will receive an equivalent percentage of their expenses. Preference will be given to student members who have not received support in immediately preceding years. Download the PDF file, fill it out, and submit to the CAA Treasurer by July 1, 2026. Any questions can be addressed to treasurer@canadianarchaeology.com

*L'ACA/CAA offre la possibilité de venir en aide aux étudiants participant à la réunion annuelle en couvrant une partie de leurs frais de voyage. Ces subventions ne s'appliquent qu'aux frais de déplacement et ne couvrent pas les dépenses d'hébergement. Les candidats doivent être membres de l'Association à jour de leur cotisation et participer effectivement au programme de la Conférence annuelle en y présentant une communication ou une présentation par affiches dont ils sont les auteurs (principaux), ou en faisant partie des commentateurs de la session ou des présentateurs invités. Les candidats doivent soumettre le formulaire complété (vous devez être inscrit en ligne pour pouvoir accéder au formulaire de demande sur la page Réserve aux membres) en même temps que les reçus originaux de leurs frais de voyage, **au plus tard le 1er juillet 2026**. Ce financement s'adresse aux étudiants de premier comme de second et troisième cycles. Toutes les candidatures retenues recevront un pourcentage équivalent à leurs dépenses. La préférence sera donnée aux membres étudiants n'ayant pas reçu d'aide financière au cours des années immédiatement précédentes. Téléchargez le fichier pdf, remplissez-le et soumettez-le au trésorier de l'ACA d'ici le 1er juillet 2026. Toute question peut être envoyée à treasurer@canadianarchaeology.com.*

POSTER PRIZES / CONCOURS DE PRÉSENTATION PAR AFFICHES

The 2026 Joint Canadian Archaeological Association (CAA) and the Archeological Society of Alberta (ASA) Conference in Canmore, AB is pleased to announce sponsorship of **two (2) Student Poster Awards sponsored by the CAA and one (1) Poster Award sponsored by the ASA and the Association of Consulting Archaeologists (ACA)**. The CAA will have the posters evaluated by a committee formed of the 2026 CAA Conference Organizers and will be assessed on content, presentation, and the overall contribution that the research makes to the field. The student poster competition does not require students be present with their poster for judging. The CAA offers **one (1) prize of \$250, for the best poster by an undergraduate student, and one (1) for \$250, for the best poster by a graduate student**. The ASA/ACA will be hosting an anonymous vote by all conference attendees for their Poster Award for **one (1) for a prize of \$500 for the recipient**. Their eligibility includes any contributions by students, professional consultants, or other, regardless of the session theme.

*La Conférence conjointe de l'Association canadienne d'archéologie (ACA) et de l'Archaeological Society of Alberta (ASA) à Canmore, AB, a le plaisir d'annoncer le parrainage de **deux (2) Prix étudiants de présentation par affiches parrainés par l'ACA, et d'un Prix de présentation par affiche parrainé par l'ASA et l'Association of Consulting Archaeologists**. L'Association canadienne d'archéologie fera évaluer les présentations par affiches par un comité constitué des organisateurs de la Conférence de l'ACA ; ces présentations seront évaluées en fonction de leur contenu, de la présentation et de la contribution d'ensemble de cette recherche à la discipline. Il n'est pas nécessaire que les étudiant·e·s soient présent·e·s lors de cette évaluation. L'ACA attribue **un (1) prix de 250\$ pour la meilleure présentation par affiches pour un·e étudiant·e de premier cycle, et un (1) prix de 250\$ pour un·e étudiant·e de second ou troisième cycle**. L'ASA et l'Association of Consulting Archaeologists organiseront un vote anonyme pour toutes les personnes assistant à la Conférence pour attribuer leur Prix de la présentation par affiche, soit **un (1) prix de 500\$ pour le/la récipiendaire**. Peuvent être éligibles toutes les contributions apportées par des étudiant·e·s, des consultant·e·s professionnel·le·s, ou autres, indépendamment du thème de la session.*

SESSIONS IN DETAIL

Daily sessions presented in alphabetical order

Thursday, May 7, 2026

Biomolecular Archaeology in Conservation Schedule

Location: Crocus

Organizers: Willem King¹, Genevieve Wick¹, Yuxin Cao¹

¹Department of Archaeology, Simon Fraser University

2:30 p.m.	<p><i>The Role of Traditional Conservation Practices in Modern Pacific Salmon Management</i> Wick, Genevieve¹; and Reimer, Rudy¹ ¹ Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia</p>
2:50 p.m.	<p><i>Ancient DNA Analysis of Caribou and Muskox Remains from Banks Island: Implications for Biodiversity and Past Human Subsistence</i> Cao, Yuxin¹; Hodgetts, Lisa²; Rodrigues, Antonia¹; Zhang, Hua¹; and Yang, Dongya¹ ¹ Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia; ² Western University, London, Ontario</p>
3:10 p.m.	<p><i>Fish ZooMS on the Pacific Northwest Coast: Preliminary results and potentials for a comprehensive ZooMS database of archaeologically significant fish species</i> Hilsden, Jay¹; Paskulin, Lindsey¹; Yuan, Emily¹; Jacobs, Nicholas¹; Buttress, Angela¹; Gomez Merlo, Azquet¹; Mahil, Jasmine¹; McKay, Lauren¹; and Speller, Camilla¹ ¹ University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia</p>
3:30 p.m.	<p><i>Tracing the Origins and Dietary Impact of Introduced Goats on Curaçao using Ancient DNA</i> King, Willem¹; Zhang, Hua¹; Yang, Dongya¹; and Giovas, Christina¹ ¹ Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia</p>
3:50 p.m.	<p><i>Past Ecologies, Present Decisions: Reconstructing Lost Ecosystems of the Great Lakes</i> Guiry, Eric^{1,2}; Orchard, Trevor³; Royle, Thomas⁴; Buckley, Michael⁵; Lesage, Louis⁶; Needs-Howarth, Suzanne^{7,8}; and Hawkins, Alicia³ ¹ Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia; ² Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario; ³ University of Toronto Mississauga, Mississauga, Ontario; ⁴ Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim, Norway; ⁵ The University of Manchester, Manchester, United Kingdom; ⁶ Independent Researcher, Wendat Nation, Wendake, Quebec; ⁷ Perca Zooarchaeological Research, Toronto; ⁸ The Archaeology Centre, University of Toronto, Toronto</p>

CCRA CRM Archaeology Showcase Schedule

Location: Orchid

Organizers: Kurtis Blaikie¹ and Dave Norris²

¹Canadian Cultural Resources Association; ² Woodland Heritage Northwest

9:50 a.m.	<i>Dynamics and Challenges in Canadian CRM Archaeology</i> Munro, Matthew ^{1,2} ; Holyoke, Kenneth ³ ; and Amundsen-Meyer, Lindsay ² ¹ Stantec Consulting Ltd.; ² The University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta; ³ University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge, Alberta
10:10 a.m.	<i>Heritage Resource Assessment Studies for the Coffee Gold Project</i> Bennett, Tim ¹ ¹ Ecofor Consulting Ltd.
10:50 a.m.	<i>Cody Knives in Alberta</i> Roe, Jason ¹ ¹ Lifeways of Canada, Calgary, Alberta,
11:10 a.m.	<i>The Last Five Years: A Multi-Disciplinary Approach to Archaeology in the Springbank Area</i> Read, Joshua ¹ ¹ Stantec Consulting Ltd.
11:30 a.m.	<i>More Than Burned Stone: Confronting the Barriers Limiting Fire-broken Rock (FBR) Research</i> Bradford, Allie ¹ ¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta,
11:50 a.m.	<i>Too Significant to Stop: Archaeological Discovery at the Ostby Lands, Southern Alberta</i> de Guzman, Margarita ¹ ; and Bieraugle, Megan ¹ ¹ Circle CRM Group Inc., Calgary, Alberta
12:10 a.m.	<i>Building a Bridge to the Past: Excavations at the Frank Channel Site (Deh K'è, K'òòta Nijilji) (KePI-</i> Roe, Jason ¹ ; Lepka, Cheyanne ¹ ; and McDonald, Wyatt ¹ ¹ Lifeways of Canada Limited, Calgary, Alberta

Climate Change Archaeology: Where Are We and Where Do We Go? Schedule

Location: Cougar Grizzly

Organizers: Andrea Richardson¹, Robin Woywitka², and Christian Thériault³

¹ Cape Sable Historical Society, Nova Scotia² MacEwan University, Edmonton, Alberta; ³ Government of PEI

2:50 p.m.	<i>Answering the calls: Climate change archaeology practice in Canada</i> Woywitka, Robin ¹ ; Pelley, Damon ¹ ; Cedron, Zabarah ¹ ; and Brendan, Boyd ¹ ¹ MacEwan University, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
3:10 a.m.	<i>Archaeology, Climate Change and You: Sites, Stewardship and Identifying Climate Threats in Nova Scotia</i> Richardson, Andrea ¹ ¹ Cape Sable Historical Society, Nova Scotia
3:30 p.m.	<i>The Effects of Climate Change and Coastal Erosion on Prince Edward Island's Archaeological Heritage</i> Thériault, Christian ¹ ¹ Government of PEI
3:50 p.m.	<i>Valuable Sites on Vulnerable Shores: The Camp Rayner Site (EgNr-2) Case Study</i> Rychlo, Jennifer ¹ ¹ Stantec

4:10 p.m.	<p><i>Interdunal peatlands as archaeological contexts and paleoenvironmental archives: A case study from the Smoky River dune field, northern Alberta.</i> Poole, Cameron¹; Woywitka, Robin²; Wadsworth, William^{1,3}; Tirlea, Diana⁴; and Reyes, Alberto¹ ¹ University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta; ² MacEwan University, Edmonton, Alberta; ³ University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia; ⁴ Royal Alberta Museum, Edmonton, Alberta</p>
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From Capture to Care: Digital Heritage in Western Canada Schedule

Location: Crocus

Organizers: Peter Dawson¹, Christina Robinson², Madisen Hvidberg¹, and Mavis Chan¹

¹ University of Calgary, Alberta; ² Historic Resources Management Branch, Government of Alberta

8:30 a.m.	<p><i>Technicians of Identity: Why Digital Heritage Matters to Communities</i> Dawson, Peter¹ ¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta</p>
8:50 a.m.	<p><i>The Big Rock (Okotoks Erratic) Digital Conservation Management Plan</i> Robinson, Christina¹; Dawson, Peter²; Berry, Meg³; Chan, Mavis²; and Rubalcava, Elisa¹ ¹ Historic Resources Management Branch, Government of Alberta, Alberta; ² Department of Anthropology and Archaeology, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta; ³ Seed Cultural and Environmental Heritage Ltd., Alberta</p>
9:10 a.m.	<p><i>Practical Applications For The Use Of Photogrammetry To Record Petroglyphs, A Case Study From Writing-On-Stone</i> Dawe, Robert¹; Murray, Owen²; and Giering, Karen¹ ¹ Royal Alberta Museum, Edmonton, Alberta; ² OMM Photography, Edmonton, Alberta</p>
9:30 a.m.	<p><i>Never Quite Set in Stone: Digital Reconstruction and Physicalization of Pictographs for Knowledge Mobilization</i> Chan, Mavis¹; Dawson, Peter¹ ¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta</p>
9:50 a.m.	<p><i>Detecting Change in the Far North: UAV Photogrammetry and Arctic Heritage at Risk</i> O'Keefe, Katelyn¹ ¹ AECOM Canada</p>
10:30 a.m.	<p><i>Looking Down, Looking Back: Drone-based Data Capture Revealing Insights into High Alpine Heritage</i> Pennanen, Kelsey¹ ¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta</p>
10:50 a.m.	<p><i>Midden Volume, Harvested Fish Biomass, and Pre-contact Minimum Population Estimates for Nuu-chah-nulth Territories in Barkley Sound, British Columbia</i> Gustas, Robert¹ ¹ Archaeological Survey of Alberta, Alberta</p>
11:10 a.m.	<p><i>From Emergency Mitigation to Digital Repatriation: 3D Visualization of Displaced Pictographs at Nak'al Bun (Stuart Lake)</i> Fegan, Anthony¹ ¹ Ecofor Consulting</p>
11:30 a.m.	<p><i>Evaluating iPhone-Based 3D Scanning Applications for Heritage Documentation</i> Abdelghany, Abdelrahman¹; Lichti, Derek¹; Dawson, Peter²; and Jabari, Shabnam³ ¹ Dept. of Geomatics Engineering, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta; ² Dept. of Anthropology and Archaeology, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta; ³ Dept. of Geodesy and Geomatics Engineering, University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, New Brunswick</p>

12:30 p.m.	<i>Digital Storytelling and the Commemoration of Indian Residential School Landscapes: A Reflection on Data, Accessibility, and Proprietary Software</i> Cascadden-Jassal, Zoe ¹ ; and Dawson, Peter ¹ ¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada
12:50 p.m.	<i>Transforming GPR Data into Physical Models for Subsurface Visualization</i> Golchin, Farima ¹ ; Dawson, Peter ¹ ; and Samavati, Faramarz ¹ ¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada
1:10 p.m.	<i>The Leavings: Monitoring Heritage at Risk</i> Van Vugt, Erica Maria Antoinette ¹ ; Daswon, Peter ¹ ; and Hvidberg, Madisen ¹ ¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada
1:30 p.m.	<i>Ghosts of the Grain Trade: Digitally Preserving Prairie Elevators</i> Hvidberg, Madisen ¹ ; Cascadden-Jassal, Zoe ¹ ; and Dawson, Peter ¹ ¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Heritage Landscapes: Rediscovered, Remembered, and Recreated Schedule

Location: Arnica

Organizers: Natascha Beisswenger-Mooney¹
¹ Western University and TMHC inc.

8:30 a.m.	<i>Inconcrete: The archaeological seeps, drips and flows of calthemite</i> Whitridge, Peter ¹ ¹ Memorial University of Newfoundland, Newfoundland
8:50 a.m.	<i>To Site or Not to Site: Interrogating Colonizing Practice in Archaeology</i> Beaulieu, Terry ¹ ¹ St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, Nova Scotia
9:10 a.m.	<i>Constantly Co-Created Landscapes: Interpreting the Invisible Marks of Chemical Enrichment</i> Fletcher, Beatrice ¹ ¹ McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario
9:30 a.m.	<i>Weaving Knowledge Together: Bringing Alberta Archaeology to the Public</i> Judson, Sam ¹ ¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta
9:50 a.m.	<i>The Social History of Canada's First Protected Archaeological Resource</i> Thomas, Louis ¹ ; and Poole, Peter ² ¹ Secwepemc, Elder; ² Bowstrings Heritage Foundation, Banff, Alberta
10:30 a.m.	<i>The Six Seasons of the Asiniskaw Īthinīwak Project in Northern Manitoba: Archaeology Supporting Ongoing Rocky Cree Cultural Reclamations</i> Taylor-Hollings, Jill ^{1,2} ¹ Dept. of Anthropology, Lakehead University, Thunder Bay, Ontario; ² Ontario Archaeological Society
10:50 a.m.	<i>If Walls Could Talk: The Stories Heritage Homes Help Retell</i> Beisswenger-Mooney, Natascha ¹ ¹ Department of Anthropology, Western University, London, Ontario
11:10 a.m.	<i>Handheld Landscapes: How 3D Printing Helps Preserve Heritage Homes</i> MacFarlane, Adam ¹ ; and Beisswenger-Mooney, Natascha ¹ ¹ Western University, London, Ontario,

11:30 a.m.	<i>Mapping and Documenting St. Dominic's Cemetery with and for the Community</i> Succee, Rory ¹ ¹ Western University, London, Ontario
12:30 p.m.	<i>"Pay Attention to the Roads": Place-Based Identity Among Glengarrian Scottish Descendants</i> Gillies, El ¹ ¹ Western University, London, Ontario,
12:50 p.m.	<i>A Mansion House Complex on the Avalon: An Historical and Archaeological Analysis of Ferryland's Principal Residence from the 17th to 21st Century</i> Hollahan, Jordan ¹ ¹ Memorial University of Newfoundland, Newfoundland
1:10 p.m.	<i>Relishing the Unexpected and Viewing Landscapes through a Multifocal Lens</i> Dunham, Rebecca ¹ ¹ Terrestrial Archaeology, ISCH, Parks Canada
1:30 p.m.	<i>New Insights on Methodological Approaches in Examining Looted Human and Animal Remains in the Jequetepeque Valley, Peru</i> Breau, Samantha ¹ ; Pacheco, Ellen ¹ ; Berquist, Stephen ¹ University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario
1:50 p.m.	<i>Norse Homes and Pictish Hearths - The Norse Settlement of the Orkney Islands from the 9th to 11th centuries</i> Tristan Paron

Hidden No More: Archaeology and the Living Legacy of Black Heritage Schedule

Location: Cougar Grizzly

Organizers: William T. D. Wadsworth¹ and Lindsay Amundsen-Meyer²

¹ Department of Anthropology, University of British Columbia; ² Department of Anthropology and Archaeology, University of Calgary

9:30 a.m.	<i>"Not for the Benefit of Humankind:" African Diaspora Archaeology Under Threat and How We Survive It</i> Ike, Nkem ¹ ¹ University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario
9:50 a.m.	<i>"The Science of Ware": The application of geospatial and non-invasive archaeology to Black History in the Canadian Prairies</i> Wadsworth, William T. D. ¹ ; Dagg, Lyndsay ² ; and Amundsen-Meyer, Lindsay ³ ¹ University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia; ² University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta; ³ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta
10:10 a.m.	<i>Exploring Black History of the Western Canadian Prairies: Archaeology at the John Ware Homestead (2025 Excavations)</i> Amundsen-Meyer, Lindsay ¹ ; and Foggo, Cheryl ¹ Dept of Anthropology and Archaeology, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta
10:30 a.m.	<i>When The Object Meets The Story</i> Foggo, Cheryl
11:10 a.m.	<i>Resowing the Seeds that Grew Early Windsor, Essex County: Community-centred Approaches to Black Farmstead Archaeology</i> Martelle, Holly ¹ ; and Harding-Davis, Elise ² ¹ TMHC Inc., London, Ontario; ² African-Canadian Heritage Consultant

11:30 a.m.	<i>Digging for a Promised Land? The Blackburns and the Archaeology of the Underground Railroad</i> Smardz Frost, Karolyn ¹ ¹ Affiliated Research Scholar, University of Buffalo (SUNY); Adjunct at Acadia and Dalhousie Universities
11:50 a.m.	<i>Activating a Place for Black Heritage in Archaeological Consulting</i> Martelle, Holly ¹ ; Beaudoin, Matthew ¹ ; Dent, Joshua ¹ ; and Moody, John ¹ ¹ TMHC Inc., London, Ontario
12:10 p.m.	<i>Mapping Black Livingness: Archaeologies of Enslavement and Freedom in New Brunswick</i> Draicchio, Emily ¹ ¹ McGill University, Montreal, Quebec
1:10 p.m.	<i>The Work Continues - Directions in African Nova Scotian Archaeology and Engagement</i> Cottreau-Robins, Catherine ¹ ¹ Nova Scotia Museum, Nova Scotia
1:30 p.m.	<i>The Monochrome Mosaic: The Representation of Black Colonial Period (1501-1867 C.E) History in Atlantic Canada's Monumental Landscape</i> Tough, Heather ¹ ¹ Memorial University of Newfoundland, Newfoundland
1:50 p.m.	<i>Hidden No More in the Caribbean: The 8th of March Project and the Archaeology of Black Heritage in Antigua</i> Simpson, Rachel ¹ ; Gardner, Desley ² ; Varney, Tamara ³ ; Murphy, Reg ² ; Swanston, Treena ¹ ; Ross, Jade ⁴ ; Johnstone, Brenna ³ ; and Waters, Christopher ⁵ ¹ MacEwan University, Edmonton, Alberta; ² Antigua and Barbuda National Parks, Antigua and Barbuda; ³ Lakehead University, Thunder Bay, Ontario; ⁴ Woodland Heritage, Thunder Bay, Ontario; ⁵ The University of the West Indies

Non-Invasive Archaeology and Truth and Reconciliation Schedule

Location: Lady Slipper

Organizers: William T. D. Wadsworth¹ and Isaac S. Bender²,

¹ University of British Columbia / University of Alberta; ² TMHC Inc./Western University

1:10 p.m.	<i>Indian Residential School investigations: interpretative context for remotely sensed data.</i> Hamilton, Scott ¹ ¹ Lakehead University, Thunder Bay, Ontario
1:30 p.m.	<i>The Sturgeon Landing Residential School Project: Research Activities Beyond Burial Investigations</i> Panas, Timothy and Peter Ballantyne Group of Companies
1:50 p.m.	<i>A revised interpretive method for identifying burials with ground-penetrating radar.</i> Martindale, Andrew ¹ ¹ University of British Columbia
2:10 p.m.	<i>More Data, More Better? Evaluating Multi-Channel GPR Arrays for Burial Investigations</i> Bender, Isaac S. ^{1,2} ¹ TMHC Inc., London, Ontario; ² Western University, London, Ontario
2:50 p.m.	<i>Integrating Machine Learning Models with Aerial Remote Sensing for Enhanced Feature Detection: Automated Detection of Graves and Burial Features Associated with Indian Residential Schools</i> Kuncewicz, Nick ¹ ¹ ARCH Airworks Inc.

3:10 p.m.	<p><i>An evaluation of the potential of lidar survey in the identification of unmarked graves within woodlots</i> Eastaugh, Edward¹; MacDonald, Zack¹; Bender, Isaac²; Burke, Adrian³; Champagne, Micaela⁴; Dawson, Peter⁵; Hamilton, Scott⁶; Hodgetts, Lisa¹; Martindale, Andrew⁷; Supernant, Kisha⁸; and Wadsworth, William⁷ ¹ University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario; ² TMHC Inc.; ³ Université de Montréal, Québec; ⁴ University of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan; ⁵ University of Calgary, Alberta; ⁶ Lakehead University, Thunder Bay, Ontario; ⁷ University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia; ⁸ University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta</p>
3:30 p.m.	<p><i>Soil Spectroscopy in Burial Contexts: Parameters and Limitations</i> Lefurgey, Sara¹; Chaput, Talisha¹; Supernant, Kisha¹, Élisabeth Cuerrier-Richer² ¹ University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta; ² Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières, Trois-Rivières, Québec</p>
3:50 p.m.	<p><i>Evaluating the use of multiple technologies for locating unmarked graves</i> Dagg, Lyndsay¹; Wadsworth, William T. D^{1,2}; and Supernant, Kisha¹ ¹ University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta; ² University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia</p>

Research Methods in Mesoamerican Archaeology Schedule

Location: Lady Slipper

Organizers: Arianne Boileau¹ and Mary Kate Kelly²

¹ Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Mount Royal University

² Department of General Education, Mount Royal University

8:50 a.m.	<p><i>Socializing Space and Cosmological Centering: Socio-Spatial Analysis of the Central 'E Group' Architecture at Yaxnohcah, Campeche, Mexico</i> Lockett-Harris, Joshua¹; Reese-Taylor, Kathryn¹; Kupprat, Felix²; Anaya Hernandez, Armando³; Walker, Debra⁴; Montgomery, Shane¹; Gutierrez Rodriguez, Sophia²; and Montserrat Sauza Nunez, Valeria² ¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta; ² Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, Mexico; ³ Universidad Autonoma de Campeche, Campeche, Mexico; ⁴ University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, USA</p>
9:10 a.m.	<p><i>Documenting migrant life in new landscapes, pXRF obsidian and pottery analysis in Late Postclassic Guiengola, Oaxaca</i> Ramón Celis, Pedro Guillermo¹ ¹ McGill University, Montreal, Quebec</p>
9:30 a.m.	<p><i>A Relational Ethnoarchaeology of Modernity in San Marcos Tlapazola, Oaxaca.</i> Cunningham, Jerimy¹ ¹ University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge, Alberta</p>
9:50 a.m.	<p><i>Sensing Heritage: A multisensory ethnographic approach to Indigenous perspectives in Francisco Sarabia, Chiapas, Mexico.</i> Campos Diaz, Lyla Patricia¹ ¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta</p>
10:10 a.m.	<p><i>3D Modeling Ancient Maya Monuments</i> Kelly, Mary Kate¹ ¹ Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta</p>

10:50 a.m.	<p>Visualizing Archaeological Materials: Methodological Opportunities and Challenges in Applied CT and μ-CT Paris, Elizabeth H.¹; Meanwell, Jennifer L²; Sabatini, Benjamin²; George, Miranda³; Serafin, Stanley⁴; Dickson, Blake⁴</p> <p>¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta; ² Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA; ³ Circle CRM Group Inc., Calgary, Alberta; ⁴ University of New South Wales, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia</p>
11:10 a.m.	<p>Re-Evaluating the Taphonomy of Non-Marine Culinary Gastropods: A Case Study from Tenam Puente, Chiapas, Mexico Hernandez, Isabella¹; Paris, Elizabeth¹; Meanwell, Jennifer²; Lopez Bravo, Roberto³; Lalo Jacinto, Gabriel⁴</p> <p>¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta; ² Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA; ³ Universidad de Ciencias y Artes de Chiapas, Tuxtla Gutiérrez, Chiapas, Mexico; ⁴ Centro INAH Chiapas, Tuxtla Gutiérrez, Chiapas, Mexico</p>
11:30 a.m.	<p>Nursing Fawns or Hunting Deer? Reassessing Deer Husbandry in the Maya World Boileau, Arianne¹</p> <p>¹ Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta</p>
11:50 a.m.	<p>Ancient Maya Fishing Nets and Inland Subsistence Practices in East-Central Belize Peuramaki-Brown, Meaghan¹; Blaine, Dave¹; Jensen, Isabelle¹; Morton, Shawn²; Jordan, Jillian³; Teul, Sonieda⁴; Saqui, Aurora⁵</p> <p>¹ Athabasca University, Athabasca, Alberta; ² Northwestern Polytechnic, Grande Prairie, Alberta; ³ Independent Scholar; ⁴ Georgetown Technical High School, Georgetown, Belize; ⁵ Ich-Komonil Organization, Belize</p>
12:10 a.m.	<p>The Research Methods of the Dolores Slow Archaeology Program Lamoureux-St-Hilaire, Maxime¹</p> <p>¹ Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta</p>

“They didn’t teach us that in archaeology school” Career Skills for CRM Schedule

Location: Orchid

Organizers: Kurtis Blaikie¹

¹ Canadian Cultural Resources Association

1:10 p.m.	<p>From University to Field to Office: Building Essential CRM Skills with a Focus on Regulatory Submissions Burchill, Alexandra¹</p> <p>¹ Archaeological Survey of Alberta, Alberta</p>
1:30 p.m.	<p>“This One Time, at Field School...” Student Perspectives on Archaeological Training Lameg, Drenna¹</p> <p>¹ University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba</p>
1:50 p.m.	<p>Thriving, Not Just Surviving: Mental wellness, and Psychological Safety in CRM Friend, Katrina¹; and Palmer, Manda¹</p> <p>¹ Kleanza Consulting Ltd., British Columbia</p>
2:10 p.m.	<p>Headaches, Strategies, and a Frozen Swamp: Navigating Logistical Challenges in Consulting Archaeology Teesdale, Shane¹</p> <p>¹ Woodland Heritage Northwest</p>
2:50 p.m.	<p>“The Mid-Career Off Ramp” - Improving career paths in Alberta CRM Blaikie-Birkigt, Kurtis¹</p> <p>¹ Canadian Cultural Resources Association</p>

3:10 p.m. | ***Levelling the Field: Mentorship as a Response to the Skills Gap in CRM Archaeology***
 de Guzman, Margarita¹
¹ Circle CRM Group Inc., Calgary, Alberta

Theory Showcase Schedule

Location: Arnica

2:50 p.m. | ***Archaeology is Culture History, or it is Nothing: Culture History as an Epi-Paradigmatic Framework for Archaeological Practice***
 Betts, Matthew¹; Hrynick, M. Gabriel²; and Anderson, Arthur³
¹ Canadian Museum of History, Gatineau, Quebec; ² University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, New Brunswick; ³ University of New England, Biddeford, Maine, USA

Friday, May 8, 2026

Castles, Strongholds, and Fortifications of the Medieval Period Schedule

Location: Cougar Grizzly

Organizers: David Berikashvili¹, and Andrew Siebert²

¹ The University of Georgia; ² Calgary Classical Academy

12:50 p.m.	<p><i>Emergent Networks in Iron Age Southern Jordan: Insights from the Busayra Cultural Heritage Project</i> McGeough, Kevin¹; Bubel, Shawn¹; Porter, Benjamin²; and Weitzel, Jordan² ¹ University of Lethbridge; Lethbridge, Alberta; ² University of California, Berkeley, California, USA</p>
1:10 p.m.	<p><i>Fortification and Power in Medieval Georgia: The Case of Kvetera Fortress</i> Tvaladze, Shota¹ ¹ The University of Georgia, Tbilisi, Georgia</p>
1:30 p.m.	<p><i>"Valley of 60 Towers": Khada gorge defensive towers as representative of Caucasus regional continuity for 5000 years</i> Siebert, Andrew¹ ¹ Alberta Classical Academy, Calgary, Alberta</p>
2:10 p.m.	<p><i>Zakagori Fortress as Part of a Regional Medieval Defensive System: Archaeological and Landscape Analysis</i> Kvakhadze, Levan¹ ¹ The University of Georgia, Tbilisi, Georgia</p>
2:30 p.m.	<p><i>Fortress of Triple Walls: Archaeological Insights into Nokalakevi–Archaeopolis and the Byzantine–Sasanian Frontier</i> Murgulia, Nikoloz¹ ¹ Georgian National Museum</p>
2:50 p.m.	<p><i>Beyond the Citadel: Mapping the Complex Fortification System of a Medieval City Site Using LiDAR – A Case Study of Samshvilde (Georgia, South Caucasus)</i> Berikashvili, David¹ ¹ The University of Georgia, Tbilisi, Georgia</p>

Coastal Visions: Archaeology, Landscapes, and Living Knowledge in shíshálh swiya Schedule

Location: Cougar Grizzly

Organizers: Glenn Stuart¹, Terence Clark¹, and Tina Greenfield²

¹ Department of Anthropology, University of Saskatchewan

² Department of Anthropology, University of Winnipeg

9:10 a.m.	<p><i>"We Were Here, We Were Always Here": A Holistic Approach to the Pictographs of Iekw'emin (Jervis Inlet)</i> Sielsky, Kali¹ ¹ University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan</p>
9:30 a.m.	<p><i>sEARChing for Seeds: The Root of Plant Production in the swiya</i> Stuart, Glenn¹; Dube, Emerson¹; Fender, Christie¹; Greenfield, Tina²; and Clark, Terence¹ ¹ Department of Anthropology, University of Saskatchewan; ² Department of Anthropology, University of Winnipeg</p>
9:50 a.m.	<p><i>Storied Bones: Faunal Histories and Indigenous Foodways in the shíshálh swiya</i> Greenfield, Tina¹; and Willie, Kathleen¹ ¹ University of Winnipeg, Manitoba</p>

10:10 a.m.	<i>The Impact of Contact on Houses and Social Behaviour at the Village Site of ts'unay</i> Burant, Angela
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Combating Anti-Intellectual and Pseudoarchaeology through Public Engagement Schedule

Location: Cougar Grizzly

Organizers: David Berikashvili¹ and Andrew Siebert²

¹ The University of Georgia; ² Calgary Classical Academy

10:50 a.m.	<i>Money, Political Agenda and Ill-informed Enthusiasts: shining the light on science in a pseudo-scientific world. A Public Former Servant's perspective.</i> Brewer, Gary ¹ ¹ Kleanza Consulting Ltd, British Columbia
11:10 a.m.	<i>Pseudo-archaeology as a disinformation gateway? Observational data from Québec youth</i> Riel-Salvatore, Julien ¹ ; Bouchard-Plante, Félicité ¹ ; Côté, Daniel ¹ ; D'Argent, Marieke ¹ ; Duchaine-Brunet, Sydney ¹ ; Legault-Coursol, Louanne ¹ ; Maitre, Estelle ¹ ; Michelot, Florent ² ; Roy, Normand ¹ ; Talbot, Julie ¹ ; and Tanner, Samuel ¹ ¹ Université de Montréal, Montreal, Quebec; ² Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec
11:30 a.m.	<i>The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly of Archaeology YouTube</i> Carbonell, Curt
11:50 a.m.	<i>Understanding AI technologies in Digital Heritage</i> Cleveland, Anna ¹ ¹ University of British Columbia Okanagan, Kelowna, British Columbia

Deep in Time and Vast in Expanse: The Dene Language Family in Western North America Schedule

Location: Crocus

Organizers: Kevin P. Gilmore¹ and John W. Ives²

¹ HDR; ² University of Alberta (emeritus)

9:30 a.m.	<i>Ancient environmental DNA from a 6000-year-old moccasin preserved in alpine ice reveals biogeographic reflections of the distribution of Mount Edziza obsidian</i> McLaren, Duncan ^{1,2} ; Murchie, Tyler J. ^{3,4} ; Da Silva Coelho, Flavio ³ ; Barrera, McIntyre A. ³ ; Hebda, Christopher F.G. ^{3,5} ; Grant, Danielle ³ ; Natola, Libby ³ ; Ives, John W. ⁶ ; and Gray, Brendan ¹ ¹ Cordillera Archaeology Inc., British Columbia; ² Department of Anthropology, University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia; ³ Biodiversity Genomics, Hakai Institute, British Columbia; ⁴ Department of Anthropology, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario; ⁵ University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia; ⁶ Department of Anthropology, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta
9:50 a.m.	<i>Adoption of the Bow and Arrow Across the Dene Language Family Was Not a Simple Process</i> Ives, John W. (Jack) ¹ ¹ University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta
10:10 a.m.	<i>Pipes and Puberty in Dene Languages</i> Snoek, Conor ¹ ¹ University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge, Alberta

10:50 a.m.	<p><i>Jade exchange and Dene migration in western Canada</i> Kristensen, Todd¹; Duke, John²; Morin, Jesse³; Meyer, David⁴; Lekach, Terra⁵; Carroll, Rachel²; Losey, Robert²; and Ives, John² ¹ Archaeological Survey of Alberta, Alberta; ² University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta; ³ Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia; ⁴ University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan; ⁵ Independent</p>
11:10 a.m.	<p><i>Hide and Seek: Tabular Bifaces of the Okanagan Valley, Canada</i> Werner, Joseph Jeffrey¹; and Surette, Flannery¹ ¹ Okanagan College, Kelowna, British Columbia</p>
11:30 a.m.	<p><i>Phantom Hearths and Spilled Toolkits: Reading the Spatial Record at Eaglenest Portage (HkPa-4)</i> Rawluk, Matthew¹ ¹ Stantec Consulting Ltd.</p>
11:50 a.m.	<p><i>Dené Continuity at Doe'thu'choh (Winefred Lake)</i> Dersch, Ave¹ ¹ Chipewyan Prairie First Nation</p>
12:50 p.m.	<p><i>Bison ecology at the late AD 13 th century Promontory Caves: Insights from carbon and oxygen isotopes in serially-sampled tooth enamel</i> Briggs, Emily¹; Metcalfe, Jessica Z.¹; Widga, Chris²; Ives, John W.³ ¹ Department of Anthropology, Lakehead University, Thunder Bay, Ontario; ² Department of Geosciences, Pennsylvania State University, State College, Pennsylvania; ³ Department of Anthropology, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta</p>
1:10 p.m.	<p><i>Pronghorn During Cultural Interactions at Promontory Cave 1, Utah</i> Kohut, Grace¹; Ives, John²; Kennedy, Hailey³; Janetski, Joel⁴; Nomokonova, Tatiana⁵ ¹ Lifeways of Canada Limited, Calgary, Alberta; ² Department of Anthropology, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta; ³ Ember Archaeology, Sherwood Park, Alberta; ⁴ Department of Anthropology, Brigham Young University, Provo, USA; ⁵ Department of Anthropology, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan</p>
1:30 p.m.	<p><i>Bridging the Divide: Toward a trans-Rocky Mountains Athapaskan archaeology in southern Wyoming</i> Pelton, Spencer¹; and Page, Michael ¹ Office of the Wyoming State Archaeologist, Wyoming, USA</p>
2:10 p.m.	<p><i>Making Do with What's at Hand: Recognizing "Resource Naivete" as an Approach for Identifying Recent Proto-Apache Immigrants in the Archaeological Record on the Western High Plains of Colorado, USA.</i> Gilmore, Kevin¹ ¹ HDR, Englewood, Colorado, USA</p>
2:30 p.m.	<p><i>Paths of Persistence: New Evidence of Ndee Lifeways at the Foot of the Southern Rockies</i> Hedlund, Jonathan¹; Espinosa, Marcus¹; and Velarde, Lisa² ¹ ERO Resources Corporation, Lakewood, Colorado, USA; ² Independent Researcher</p>
2: 50 p.m	<p><i>Encountering the Ndee: Comparing the timing and economy Apachean settlement on the Central High Plains with other Plains Groups</i> Hill, Matthew E., Jr¹; Nelson, Fox G.¹; Juptner, Derick P.¹; Beck, Margaret E.¹ ¹ University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, USA</p>

Historical Archaeology in Western Canadian Contexts: New and Emerging Perspectives Schedule

Location: Lady Slipper

Organizers: Solène Mallet Gauthier¹ and Sara Lefurgey¹

¹ University of Alberta

8:50 a.m.	<p><i>Stone Stories of the Métis: Stone Tool Making and Use as a Relational Practice at Overwintering Settlements</i> Hemmingsen, Cody¹ ¹ University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta</p>
9:10 a.m.	<p><i>More than a Fort: Métis Archaeology at pehonanik (FfNp-1)</i> Pocha-Tait, Sarah¹ ¹ University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan</p>
9:30 a.m.	<p><i>Mountie Memories of Metis: Using NWMP memoirs to identify and interpret Metis archaeological sites</i> Wambold, Dawn¹ ¹ Institute of Prairie and Indigenous Archaeology, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta</p>
9:50 a.m.	<p><i>Fur-Trade Sites And Maps</i> Belyea, Barbara¹ ¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta</p>
10:30 a.m.	<p><i>Ghost Lines: Unpublished Field Maps from the Palliser Expedition</i> Cooper, Christian</p>
10:50 a.m.	<p><i>The Old Bezanson Townsite: Historical Archaeology as an Entry Point to Heritage Education and Appreciation</i> Morton, Shawn¹; Peuramaki-Brown, Meaghan²; and Steidel, Reily³ ¹ Northwestern Polytechnic, Grande Prairie, Alberta; ² Athabasca University, Athabasca, Alberta; ³ University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta</p>
11:10 a.m.	<p><i>Underwater Archaeology in Esquimalt Harbour, BC: Supporting 15 Years of Seabed Remediation</i> Moore, Charles¹ ¹ WSP Canada</p>
11:30 a.m.	<p><i>Discussant: Reimagining Historical Archaeology in Western Canada</i> Supernant, Kisha¹ ³ IPIA, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta</p>

Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey Schedule

Location: Wolverine / Caribou

Organizers: Dale Boland¹, Jordi Malasiuk², Christina Poletto³, Andrea Richardson⁴, Elizabeth Robertson⁵, and Michelle Wickham⁶

¹ Roy Northern Land & Environmental/Aim Land Services; ² WSP; ³ Stantec; ⁴ Cape Sable Historical Society; ⁵ Two Worlds Consulting; ⁶ Bison Historical Services

Group A - MORNING

TITLE	AUTHOR
Proposing a New Categorization System for the Pottery of Meroë, Sudan	Brotherton, Adam ¹ ; and Lamoureux-St-Hilaire, Maxime ¹ ¹ Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta, Canada
Learning from the Land: Experiential Learning in Archaeology	Cascadden-Jassal, Zoe ¹ ; and Amundsen-Meyer, Lindsay ¹ ¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada
Using X-ray Instrumentation to Find Contextual Clues: A Case Study of Artifacts from the LaHave River, Nova Scotia, Canada	Culligan, Emma ¹ ; Parsons, Jillian ¹ ; and Steele, Fiona ² ¹ Oak Island Materials and Archaeological Services, Western Shore, Nova Scotia, Canada ² Oak Island Archives and Research Organization, Nova Scotia, Canada
Put Down the Glue: Archaeological Pottery Deconstruction	Calder-Rasmussen, Fynley ¹ ¹ Royal Saskatchewan Museum
A Field-Based Comparison and Assessment of Portable 3D Recording Technologies in the Canadian Arctic	Dore, Mathieu
The Toolkit Project: An Applied Research Initiative in Digital Archaeological Workflows	Guindon, François ¹ ¹ Archéoconsultant Inc., Quebec, Canada
Ancient DNA Analysis of Deer Remains from Curaçao	Hui, Alpha ¹ ; Conlan, Christine ¹ ; Kraan, Claudia T. ² ; Zhang Hua ¹ ; Giovas, Christina ¹ ; Yang, Dongya ¹ ¹ Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada ² Independent Researcher, Willemstad, Curaçao
Janet Blakey: A Life in Archaeology	Johannesson, Erik ¹ ; and Roe, Jason ¹ ¹ Lifeways of Canada Limited, Calgary, Alberta, Canada
Participating with the Past: A Report on the 2024 and 2025 University of Calgary's Public Archaeology Program	Judson, Sam ¹ ; Cascadden-Jassal, Zoe ¹ ; Amundsen-Meyer, Lindsay ¹ ¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada
Comparative Analysis of Large Lithic Assemblages from Limestone Mountain	MacLennan, Ranger ¹ ; and Tsounis, Thanos ² ¹ University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada ² Ember Archaeology, Sherwood Park, Alberta, Canada
Digging It Up, Again: Excavating Context from a Fort Calgary Collection	McNab, Jade ¹ ; Beatch, Haylie ¹ ; and Holyoke, Kenneth ¹ ¹ University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada
Public Archaeology: To Alberta and Beyond!	Moore, Tamara ¹ ¹ The Bodo Archaeological Society, Bodo, Alberta, Canada
A Cross-Canadian Connection: An Overview of Material Culture Recovered from the Berens River Bridge Project Excavations.	Moorey, Paige ¹ ; and Teesdale, Shane ¹ ¹ Woodland Heritage Northwest, Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada
Local and Exotic Lithics in the Rocky Mountain	Platzer, Jayne ¹ ¹ University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
ASA Calgary: Continuing Janet's Legacy	Poletto, Christina ¹ ; ASA Executive ¹ ¹ Archaeological Society of Alberta - Calgary Centre, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Ethnoarchaeology, Memory and a Path Forward: Research Assistants Transcribe Interviews of Grassroots Archaeologists in Dolores, Guatemala.	Rosero, Dominique ¹ ; Bond, Cerena ¹ ; Tamez Rodriguez, Victor ¹ ; and Lamoureux-St-Hilaire, Maxime ¹ ¹ Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta, Canada
The Impacts of Choice & Subjectivity: A Case Study on Consequences in Archaeological Research	Sinclair, Jacinda ¹ ¹ Memorial University of Newfoundland, Newfoundland, Canada
Insight into Neanderthals' Fire Making: Preliminary Micromorphological Study of Combustion Features from Stratigraphic Unit 13 at The Oscurusciuto Rock Shelter, Apulia.	Strath, Mckenzie ¹ ; Boscato, Paolo ² ; Boschini, Francesco ² ; Berna, Francesco ^{1,2} ¹ Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada ² University of Siena, Siena, Tuscany, Italy
Implications of lipid extraction protocols for stable isotope analysis of faunal remains	Thompson, Amy ¹ ; Meyer, Caroline ¹ ; Buchanan, Ash ¹ ; Dolan, Katherine ¹ ; and Szpak, Paul ¹ ¹ Department of Anthropology, Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario, Canada
From Outcrop to Artifact: Methods for Sourcing Chert Artifacts	Towers-Jones, Katherine ^{1,2} ; and Kawei, Zebedee ¹ ¹ Ecofor Consulting Ltd., Canada ² Vancouver Island University, Nanaimo, British Columbia, Canada
Overcoming Tropical Degradation: Ancient DNA Species Barcoding for Avian Remains from the Caribbean	Zhang, Jiawei ¹ ; King, Willem ¹ ; Zhang, Hua ¹ ; Giovas, Christina ¹ ; and Yang, Dongya ¹ ¹ Department of Archaeology, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada

Group B - AFTERNOON

TITLE	AUTHOR
Ephemeral Hunting Camps in the Northwest Territories: Lithic Reanalysis of Sites KePd-2 and KfPc-1	Anderson, Jaryn ¹ ¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada
Lessons in Kalaallisut - Academic Partnerships: The Aasivissuit - Nipisat Interactive Heritage Map, West Greenland	Boassen-Ilisimatusarfik, Paninnguaq ¹ ; and Porter, M. Cecilia ² ¹ University of Greenland, Nuuk, Greenland ² University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada
Ancient Lanka: A Model for International Collaboration and Diamond Standard Open Access Publishing	Bond, Cerena ¹ ; Kirkman, Mia ¹ ; and Kulatilake, Samanti ¹ ¹ Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta, Canada
Defining Microblade Assemblages in Northeastern Alberta	Craft, Tatiana ¹ ¹ University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada
The Pre-contact Lithic Landscape of Alberta	Kristensen, Todd ¹ ; Moffat, Emily ¹ ; and Ives, Jack ² ¹ Archaeological Survey of Alberta, Alberta, Canada ² University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
Investigating Sex-Selective Fishing of Chinook Salmon at Smokehouse Island through Ancient DNA Analysis of Archaeological Salmon Vertebrae	Lee, Emmet ¹ ; Proctor, Ellery ¹ ; Wick, Genevieve ¹ ; King, Willem ¹ ; Zhang, Hua ¹ ; Rahemtulla, Farid ² ; and Yang, Dongya ¹ ¹ Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada ² University of Northern British Columbia, Prince George, British Columbia, Canada
A 9,000-Year-Old Landscape Beneath Lake Huron: Plant Macrofossils from Submerged Peat Deposits on the Alpena-Amberley Ridge	Lin, Mengxi ¹ ; and Boyd, Matthew ¹ ¹ Lakehead University, Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada

<p>Materializing Complexity and Continuity: A Construction History of the Central E Group at Yaxnohcah, Campeche, Mexico</p>	<p>Lockett-Harris, Joshua¹; Reese-Taylor, Kathryn¹; Kupprat, Felix²; Anaya Hernandez, Armando³; and Walker, Debra⁴ ¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada ² Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, Mexico ³ Universidad Autonoma de Campeche, Campeche, Mexico ⁴ University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, USA</p>
<p>Teasing Apart Time in Mixed Stratigraphy</p>	<p>McDonald, Wyatt¹ ¹ Lifeways of Canada Limited, Calgary, Alberta, Canada</p>
<p>Recovering Archaeological Insights from Decontextualized Faunal Remains</p>	<p>Norn, Cadence G.¹; and Boileau, Arianne¹ ¹ Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta, Canada</p>
<p>Participating in the K.A.R.P. 2025 Field School</p>	<p>Ohirko, Finn¹ ¹ Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta, Canada</p>
<p>Community Stewardship, Climate Adaptation and Archaeology in Nova Scotia</p>	<p>Richardson, Andrea¹ ¹ Cape Sable Historical Society, Nova Scotia, Canada</p>
<p>An interdisciplinary approach to experimental archaeology of Indigenous material culture</p>	<p>Saulnier, Autumn¹ ¹ University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada</p>
<p>Illuminating the Lives of Roman Civilians: Examining Status through Grave Construction in Carnuntum, Austria</p>	<p>Sinani, Iris¹; Joffe, Talia¹; Igl, Roman²; Pollhammer, Eduard³; Gilmour, Rebecca J.¹ ¹ Department of Sociology & Anthropology, Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta, Canada ² ARDIG - Archäologischer Dienst GesmbH, St. Pölten, Austria ³ Office of the Lower Austrian Provincial Government, Department of Art and Culture, Archaeological Park Carnuntum, Bad Deutsch-Altenburg, Austria</p>
<p>Drawing from the Past: Connecting Pictograph Sites to Canmore's Coal History</p>	<p>Spear, Lauren</p>
<p>Inconsistencies between in Cemetery Records, Grave Markers and GPR in Early 20th Century Cemeteries in Windsor, Ontario</p>	<p>Sussens, Nicole¹ ¹ University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada</p>
<p>Isotope Mapping of British Columbia for Archaeological Research</p>	<p>Tarrant, Damon¹; and Richards, Michael¹ ¹ Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada</p>
<p>ZooMS-ing In: Identifying Fragmentary Remains With Mass Spectrometry</p>	<p>Thornitt, Allison¹ ¹ Ember Archaeology, Sherwood Park, Alberta, Canada</p>
<p>Turtles as storytellers: Utilizing ancient DNA analysis to draw inferences on Maya culture, life, and traditions</p>	<p>Toyber, Yael¹; Boileau, Arianne²; Zhang, Grace Hua¹; and Yang, Dongya¹ ¹ Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada ² Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta, Canada</p>
<p>Updated Occupation: Re-Dating Sites in the Limestone Mountain Area Using Faunal Remains</p>	<p>Tsounis, Yiorgos¹; MacLennan, Ranger²; and Allan, Timothy¹ ¹ Ember Archaeology, Sherwood Park, Alberta, Canada ² University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada</p>
<p>A Preliminary Typology of Groundstone Hand Tools of the Northwest</p>	<p>Yano, Wren¹; Dvorkin, Michelle; and Werner, J. Jeffrey²; and Surette, Flannery² ¹ University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada ² Okanagan College, Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada</p>

Living Landscapes: Story, Practice, and Stewardship Across Time Schedule

Location: Lady Slipper

Organizers: M. Berry¹, J. Barteaux¹, and N. Risdon¹

¹ Seed Cultural and Environmental Heritage

2:10 p.m.	<p><i>Constructing Connection: Irrigation as Relational Infrastructure in Cerro Cañoncillo, Jequetepeque Valley, Peru</i> Crasto, Cecilia¹; and Berquist, Stephen² ¹ University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario; ² Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, Lima, Peru</p>
2:30 p.m.	<p><i>From Mother Earth, Back to Her Peoples: Rematriation, Responsibility, and Indigenous Authority in Archaeology</i> Cross-Delisle, Katsi'tsahen:te¹ ¹ Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke, Kahnawake, Quebec</p>
2:50 p.m.	<p><i>Locating Wisdom in Place: Archaeology and Cultural Landscapes on the Northwestern Plains</i> Amundsen-Meyer, Lindsay¹; Ayoungman, Kent²; and Potts, Jerry³ ¹ Dept of Anthropology and Archaeology, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, ² Siksika Nation; ³ Piikani Nation</p>
3:10 p.m.	<p><i>Shield Bearers on the Edge: Northern Distribution of SBW motif as Evidence of Cultural Transmission and Continuity.</i> Turney, Michael¹ ¹ Lifeways of Canada Limited, Calgary, Alberta</p>

Sir John Franklin's 1845 Northwest Passage Expedition Schedule

Location: Orchid

Organizers: Jonathan Moore¹

¹ Parks Canada – Underwater Archaeology Team

8:30 a.m.	<p><i>The last days of the Franklin expedition: is the absence of evidence finally becoming evidence of absence?</i> Park, Robert¹ ¹ University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario</p>
8:50 a.m.	<p><i>Reassessing the State of Franklin Expedition Primary Research.</i> Freebairn, Alison; and Zachary, Logan</p>
9:10 a.m.	<p><i>Excavating data sources to understand the health of the Franklin expedition, 1845 to 1848</i> Millar, Keith¹; and Bowman, Adrian² ¹ University of Glasgow College of Medical, Veterinary & Life Sciences, Glasgow, Scotland; ² University of Glasgow School of Mathematics & Statistics, Glasgow, Scotland</p>
9:30 a.m.	<p><i>Terrestrial Investigations of the 1845 Franklin Expedition on King William Island and Adelaide Peninsula—New Insights and Unresolved Questions.</i> Stenton, Doug¹ ¹ University of Waterloo, Ontario</p>
9:50 a.m.	<p><i>Ten Years of Underwater Archaeology at the Wreck of HMS Erebus</i> Moore, Jonathan¹ ¹ Parks Canada – Underwater Archaeology Team</p>
10:30 a.m.	<p><i>Artifacts from HMS Erebus: Excavating Context and Meaning</i> Dagneau, Charles¹ ¹ Parks Canada - Underwater Archaeology Team</p>

10:50 a.m.	<p><i>“We have caused a great variety of valuable instruments to be put on board the ships”: Science on the 1845 Franklin Expedition</i> Ratcliffe, John¹ ¹ Parks Canada – Underwater Archaeology Team</p>
11:10 a.m.	<p><i>Coastal Engineering Approaches to Understanding Environmental Impacts to Submerged Archaeological Sites – HMS Erebus and HMS Terror</i> Kipping, Darren¹ ¹ Stantec Consulting Ltd., Canada</p>
11:30 a.m.	<p><i>Examining Site Changes at the Wreck of HMS Erebus via 3D Digital Comparative Analysis</i> Lockhart, Brandy¹ ¹ Parks Canada – Underwater Archaeology Team</p>
12:30 p.m.	<p><i>Biodeterioration Beneath the Ice: Investigating wood preservation on HMS Erebus</i> Eriksen, Anne Marie¹; Müller, Oliver²; Rosenfeldt Lauridsen, Nanna¹; and Gregory, David¹ ¹ National Museum of Denmark, Copenhagen, Denmark; ² University of Bergen, Bergen, Norway</p>
12:50 p.m.	<p><i>The Care and Keeping of a Cold Case: The Conservation of Marine Archaeological Artifacts from HMS Erebus</i> Stockstill, Kristen¹ ¹ Parks Canada</p>
1:10 p.m.	<p><i>Niviuqtiit - Wrecks Guardian Program: Incorporating Inuit Traditional Knowledge and Lifeways into Operations at the Wrecks of HMS Erebus and HMS Terror NHS</i> Keanik, Jacob¹; and Dagneau, Charles² ¹ Nattilik Heritage Society, Gjoa Haven, King William Island, Nunavut; ² Parks Canada – Underwater Archaeology Team</p>
1:50 p.m.	<p><i>“Very deep & full as an egg”: The Wreck of HMS Terror</i> Harris, Ryan¹ ¹ Parks Canada – Underwater Archaeology Team</p>
2:10 p.m.	<p><i>From Admiralty Plans to Arctic Seabed: Reconciling Design, Fitting, and Modification Aboard HMS Terror (1845)</i> Betts, Matthew¹; Harris, Ryan²; Pillar, Carol²; Dagneau, Charles² ¹ Independent Researcher; ² Parks Canada – Underwater Archaeology Team</p>
2:30 p.m.	<p><i>Making Space for Cultural Continuity: The Expansion of the Nattilik Heritage Centre brings the 1845 Franklin Expedition into dialogue with local communities</i> Beam-Borg, Sarah¹; Ullulaq, Jennifer²; and Cameron, Campbell³ ¹ Origin Studios Inc.; ² Nattilik Heritage Centre, Gjoa Haven, King William Island, Nunavut; ³ Four Peaks Consulting, Alberta</p>

The Long and Winding Road of Slow Archaeology Schedule

Location: Arnica

Organizers: Lisa Hodgetts¹, Jessica Metcalfe², and Natasha Lyons³

¹ Western University; ² Lakehead University; ³ Ursus Heritage Consulting

9:10 a.m.	<p><i>Photogrammetry in Three Acts</i> Markert, Patricia¹ ¹ The University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario</p>
9:30 a.m.	<p><i>The Graduate Perspective: Being Stewards of Existing Relationships and Conducting Community-Based Research</i> Beisswenger-Mooney, Natascha¹; Succee, Rory¹; and Markert, Patricia G.¹ ¹ Department of Anthropology, Western University, London, Ontario</p>

9:50 a.m.	<p><i>In it for the Long Game: Developing the Inuvialuit Living History Website 2.0</i> Hodgetts, Lisa¹; Lyons, Natasha²; Gruben, Ethel-Jean³; Kotokak, Lena³; Arnold, Charles⁴; Pokiak, Letitia⁵; von Szombathy, Chris⁶; and Lukuku, Jasmine⁶ ¹ Western University, London, Ontario; ² Ursus Heritage Consulting, British Columbia; ³ Inuvialuit Cultural Centre, Inuvik, Nunavut; ⁴ Independent Researcher; ⁵ University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia; ⁶ YupLook, British Columbia</p>
10:10 a.m.	<p><i>Meanings of Moose: Lessons for Slow Archaeology from Tsattine Territory</i> Metcalfe, Jessica¹; and Wanihadie, Victoria² ¹ Lakehead University, Thunder Bay, Ontario; ² Tsattine Land</p>
10:50 a.m.	<p><i>“We Take Care of Each Other”: Learning the Pace of Erosion Archaeology in the Lower Wolastoq</i> Holyoke, Kenneth¹; Nicholas, Ramona² ¹ University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge, Alberta; ² University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, New Brunswick</p>
11:10 a.m.	<p><i>Slow Science in Fast Times: Catching Up with Archaeology’s Platform in a Changing Arctic</i> Walls, Matthew¹; Kleist, Mari²; and Knudsen, Pauline² ¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta; ² Ilisimatusarfik (University of Greenland), Nuuk, Greenland</p>
11:30 a.m.	<p><i>The Aasivissuit – Nipisat Interactive Heritage Map: slowing down for genuine partnership</i> Porter, M. Cecilia¹ ¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta</p>
11:50 a.m.	<p><i>Trust is Key, and Trust takes Time : Archaeology in Kahnwà:ke in the 21st century</i> Bracewell, Jennifer¹; Cross-Delisle, Katsi’tsahén:te² ¹ Projet Onkwehón:we Project; ² Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke, Kahnawake, Quebec</p>
12:50 p.m.	<p><i>‘There’s no rush’: engaging with slow archaeology paths as ways of creating meaningful community-based engagement</i> Barbel Le Page, Héloïg¹; Onalik, Lena² ; and Pijogge, Liz² ¹ Université Laval, Quebec City, Quebec; ² Nunatsiavut Archaeology and Heritage Office</p>
1:10 p.m.	<p><i>Strong Like Two People: Reflecting on Methodology, Practice, and Positionality</i> Bourgeois, Rebecca¹ ¹ Western University, London, Ontario</p>
1:30 p.m.	<p><i>Four Years of Slow Archaeology in Dolores, Guatemala</i> Lamoureux-St-Hilaire, Maxime¹ ¹ Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta</p>
2:10 p.m.	<p><i>Reframing Archaeological Practice in Nunavik: Forty Years of Community-Driven Research</i> Lofthouse, Susan¹; and Cencig, Elsa¹ ¹Avataq Cultural Institute, Quebec</p>
2:30 p.m.	<p><i>What We Owe the Future: Slow Archaeology and the Long-Term Stewardship of Digital Heritage</i> Dawson, Peter¹; and Aycock, John¹ ¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta</p>

Saturday, May 9, 2026

Black-Racialized-Indigenous Archaeologists: Colonially Bounded Practice Schedule

Location: Cougar Grizzly

Organizers: Uju Rita Onah¹ and Neha Gupta¹

¹ The University of British Columbia

8:50 a.m.	<p><i>Applying Decolonial Frameworks in Nationalist Settings: Community-Collaborative Archaeology in Tlaxcala Mexico</i> Plummer, Sabine¹ ¹ McGill University, Montreal, Quebec</p>
9:10 a.m.	<p><i>Transformative Cultural Materiality: Archaeologies of Displacement, Persistent Lifeways, & Identity</i> Ike, Nkem¹ ¹ University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario</p>
9:30 a.m.	<p><i>Archaeological evidence as proof of existence and identity: Italian Diaspora and the Saturnia's last voyage</i> Angel-Mira, Melissa¹ ¹ University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia</p>
9:50 a.m.	<p><i>Indigeneity Beyond Borders: Validating Transnational Indigenous Identity</i> Onah, UJu Rita¹ ¹ University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia</p>
10:10 a.m.	<p><i>Amalgamation and Afterlives: On the Worthiness of Preserving Nigeria's Colonial Origin Site.</i> Ezenwe, Chinonso¹ ¹ Memorial University of Newfoundland</p>

Fibre & Perishable Artifact Analysis, Conservation and Interpretation Schedule

Location: Arnica

Organizers: Tracy Martens¹

¹ Royal Saskatchewan Museum

2:30 p.m.	<p><i>Micro-Excavation of Three Birch Bark Objects</i> Neis, Cindy¹ ¹ Royal Saskatchewan Museum, Regina, Saskatchewan</p>
2:50 p.m.	<p><i>Colour, Craft, and Status: Chemical Insights from the Sassanid Saltman Textiles of Chehrabad, Iran</i> Ahmadi, Shokoufeh^{1,2}; Goltz, Douglas¹; and Craig, Douglas¹ ¹ Chemistry Dept, University of Winnipeg, Winnipeg, Manitoba; ² History Dept, University of Winnipeg, Winnipeg, Manitoba</p>
3:10 p.m.	<p><i>Archaeological Textile Fibre Identification; Past, Present and Future</i> Martens, Tracy¹ ¹ Royal Saskatchewan Museum, Regina, Saskatchewan</p>

Corridors, Coasts, and Connections: Human Dispersal in North America Schedule

Location: Arnica

Organizers: Jack Ives¹ and Robin Woywitka²

¹ University of Alberta (Emeritus); ² MacEwan University

8:50 a.m.	<p><i>The Coast was Clear (but where were the people?): a review of the current state of late Pleistocene archaeological evidence on the Northwest Coast</i> Letham, Bryn¹; McLaren, Duncan^{2,3}; Fedje, Daryl²; Hebda, Christopher F.G.⁴; Dyck, Angela³; Gauvreau, Alisha⁵; and Stafford, Jim⁶ ¹ Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia; ² Department of Anthropology, University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia; ³ Cordillera Archaeology, British Columbia; ⁴ Hakai Institute, British Columbia; ⁵ Associate Principal, Community & Culture, Two Worlds Consulting; ⁶ Coast Interior Archaeology, British Columbia</p>
9:10 a.m.	<p><i>Late glacial paleontology and archaeology at Gah-ahs-galx-hahx Cave, northern Vancouver Island, Canada</i> McLaren, Duncan^{1,2}; Wigen, Rebecca³; ; Letham, Bryn⁴; Hebda, Christopher F.G.⁵; Fedje, Daryl²; Hunt, Mark⁶; Hebda, Richard; Worden, Lindsay⁷; Stafford, Jim⁸; and Dyck, Angela¹ ¹ Cordillera Archaeology Inc., British Columbia; ² Department of Anthropology, University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia; ³ Pacific Identifications, Victoria, British Columbia; ⁴ Department of Archaeology, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia; ⁵ Hakai Institute, British Columbia; ⁶ Quatsino First Nation ; ⁷ Department of Geography, University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia; ⁸ Coast Interior Archaeology, British Columbia</p>
9:30 a.m.	<p><i>Mammoths in the Late Pleistocene of British Columbia</i> Termes, Laura¹; and Richards, Michael¹ ¹ Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia</p>
9:50 a.m.	<p><i>Examining Variation in Chindadn Point Shape Using Elliptical Fourier analysis</i> Younie, Angela¹; Combs, Evelyn²; Smith, Heather³; Chu, Elaine³; Goebel, Ted⁴; and Graf, Kelly⁴ ¹ Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc., Davis, California, USA; ² Healy Lake Tribal Council; ³ Texas State University, San Marcos, Texas, USA; ⁴ University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, USA</p>
10:10 a.m.	<p><i>Possible Mesa and Sluiceway Projectile Points in Northern British Columbia</i> Magne, Martin^{1,2}; Kawei, Zebedee¹; Clifford, Joss¹; and Dawe, Bob³ ¹ Ecofor Consulting BC Limited, British Columbia; ² Retired, Parks Canada; ³ Royal Alberta Museum, Edmonton, Alberta</p>
10:50 a.m.	<p><i>Microanalyses As Means to An End</i> Kawei, Zebedee^{1,2}; and Surette, Clarence^{2,3} ¹ Ecofor Consulting Ltd.; ² Lakehead University, Ontario; ³ Wanikan Archaeology and Analytical Services</p>
11:10 a.m.	<p><i>Timing of human occupation in the ice-free corridor</i> Woywitka, Robin¹ ¹ MacEwan University, Edmonton, Alberta</p>
11:30 a.m.	<p><i>Insights into post-glacial succession and environmental change in Alberta from stable carbon, nitrogen, and sulfur isotope analyses of Pleistocene and Holocene Bison</i> Woolsey, Nicholas¹; and Metcalfe, Jessica¹ ¹ Lakehead University, Thunder Bay, Ontario</p>
11:50 a.m.	<p><i>The Fletcher Site: Another Look at a Cody Period Bison Communal Hunting Site</i> Kohut, Grace¹; Ockerman, Vanessa²; and Nomokonova, Tatiana² ¹ Lifeways of Canada Limited, Calgary, Alberta; ² Department of Anthropology, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan</p>
12:50 p.m.	<p><i>The Socio-Demographic Implications of Toolstone use in the Postglacial Ice-Free Corridor</i> Ives, John¹ ¹ University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta</p>

Multi-Modal Curation and Knowledge Mobilization with Archaeological Collections Schedule

Location: Crocus

Organizers: Evelyn Nimmo¹ and Séamus Rudden¹

¹ University of Alberta

8:50 a.m.	<i>Reconnecting with the Memories of Museums</i> Rudden, Séamus ¹ ¹ University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta
9:10 a.m.	<i>The Work of Return: Small Museums and Repatriation in Manitoba</i> Chapdelaine, Nicole ¹ ¹ University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba
9:30 a.m.	<i>Beyond Function: Perceptions and Realities of Pottery Use by Northern Great Plains Communities</i> Lints, Andrew ¹ ; Adams, KC; and Sutton, Garth ² ¹ Royal Alberta Museum, Edmonton, Alberta; ² Peguis First Nation
9:50 a.m.	<i>Just Representation? Indigenous Representation in Newfoundland & Labrador Museums</i> Hogan, Jared T. ¹ ¹ Memorial University of Newfoundland (Archaeology), Newfoundland
10:10 a.m.	<i>Hands-on Heritage: 3D Artifact Replicas as a Bridge Between Inuinnait Youth, Elders, and Archaeology</i> Clinker, Susannah ¹ ; Pitquhirnikkut Ilihautiniq/ Kitikmeot Heritage Society ² ; and Friesen, Max ¹ ¹ University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario; ² Pitquhirnikkut Ilihautiniq/ Kitikmeot Heritage Society, Cambridge Bay, Nunavut
10:50 a.m.	<i>Integrating Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Digital Technologies in Collaborative Heritage Work</i> Nimmo, Evelyn ¹ ; Rudden, Séamus ¹ ; Greeniaus, Jeffrey W. ² ; and Supernant, Kisha ³ ¹ Dept. of Anthropology, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta; ² amiskwaciy Academy, Edmonton, Alberta; ³ IPIA, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta
11:10 a.m.	<i>A Return from the Vatican: Interpretative crisis in the Reparation of Displaced Indigenous Cultural Belongings</i> Onah, Uju Rita ¹ ; and Onah, Ifeanyi ² ¹ University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia; ² York University, Toronto, Ontario

Obsidian Ceiling - Ethnic Archaeologists' Experiences in the CRM Field in Canada Schedule

Location: Cougar Grizzly

Organizers: John Somogyi-Csizmazia

10:50 a.m.	Reimagining the Archaeological Field School
11:10 a.m.	Round Table Discussion: Somogyi-Csizmazia
11:30 a.m.	Round Table Discussion: Bassal

Papers in Honour of Dr. Brian (Barney) Reeves Schedule

Location: Orchid

Organizers: Alison Landals¹ and Margaret Kennedy

¹ Stantec

8:30 a.m.	Introductory Remarks
9:10 a.m.	Reeves: First Encounters Byrne, Bill
9:30 a.m.	The Right Ways – Lifeways' 54 Years (and counting) in Consulting Archaeology Vivian, Brian ¹ ; and Bourges, Claire ¹ ¹ Lifeways of Canada Limited, Calgary
9:50 a.m.	What Goes Around Comes Around: Adoptions and Adaptations of Archaeological Theory in the Past Excavations at Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump Bubel, Shawn ¹ ; and McGeough, Kevin ¹ ¹ University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge, Alberta
10:30 a.m.	X Marks the Spot: How Reeves' Forgotten Excavation Unit Rewrites the Chronology of Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump Sawchuk, Matthew
10:50 a.m.	Ten Thousand Years and Six Decades of Archaeology in the Crowsnest Pass Kennedy, Margaret ¹ ¹ retired
11:10 a.m.	Ascribing ethnicity to ceremonial stone feature landscapes: Reeves' Old Women's and Avonlea phase definitions, and the many potential homelands of the Gros Ventre/White Clay People Landals, Alison ¹ ¹ Stantec Consulting Ltd.
11:30 a.m.	Applying The Concept Of "Ceremonial Landscapes" In North-Central Montana Rennie, Patrick ¹ ¹ Montana DNRC (State of Montana), USA
12:30 p.m.	"Our Mountains are our Pillows": Towards a Piikáni Sacred Ecology Peacock, Sandra ¹ ¹ University of British Columbia - Okanagan, Kelowna, British Columbia
12:50 p.m.	Counter-mapping the Blackfoot Landscape Oetelaar, Gerald ¹ ; and Oetelaar, D. Joy ¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta
1:10 p.m.	Snakes in the Grass: Eighteenth-Century 'Plains' Shoshone on the Northwestern Plains Peck, Trevor ¹ ¹ Synergy Land and Environmental Services, Calgary, Alberta
1:30 p.m.	Ceramic Diversity During the Terminal Precontact Period of the Canadian Plains: Implications and Challenges Walde, Dale
2:10 p.m.	Illuminated Rocks: Sourcing and Paleoindian Use of Quartz Crystals in the Western U.S. Meatte, Daniel ¹ ¹ Washington State Parks (Retired), Washington, USA
2:30 p.m.	Contributed Personal Reminiscences of Barney Reeves Various Contributors

Publishing CRM and Academic Research in Canada: Where, How, and Why Schedule

Location: Crocus

Organizers: Helen Dunlop¹ and Todd Kristensen²

¹ Canadian Journal of Archaeology; ² Archaeological Survey of Alberta

12:50 p.m.	<i>Canadian Archaeology in Transformation: The Legacy of the “Orange Books”</i> Desrosiers, Pierre M. ¹ ¹ Musée canadien de l'histoire, Gatineau, Quebec
1:10 p.m.	<i>Newfoundland & Labrador’s Provincial Archaeology Office Review</i> Brake, Jamie ¹ ¹ Newfoundland Provincial Archaeologist
1:30 p.m.	<i>Nothing to Read Here (apparently): Issues Disseminating Manitoba archaeology</i> Lameg, Drenna ¹ ; and Halwas, Sara ^{1,2} ¹ University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba; ² Manitoba Archaeological Society, Manitoba
1:50 p.m.	<i>Putting Words to Paper/PDF: A Look at Past SAS Publishing Practices & Considerations for the Future</i> Riehl-Fitzsimmons, Belinda ¹ ¹ Saskatchewan Archaeological Society, Saskatchewan
2:30 p.m.	<i>Changing roles of the Archaeological Survey of Alberta’s Occasional Paper Series</i> Kristensen, Todd ¹ ¹ Archaeological Survey of Alberta, Alberta
2:50 p.m.	<i>Field of (CRM) Dreams: if you build it, will they come?</i> MacKay, Jode ¹ ¹ Circle CRM Group, Calgary, Alberta
3:10 p.m.	<i>Yukon Heritage Publications – Then and Now</i> Heffner, Ty ¹ ; Smith, Holly ¹ ; Grooms, Michael ¹ ; and MacMillan, Jodie ¹ ¹ Government of Yukon, Yukon
3:30 p.m.	<i>Stories Worth Telling: Some Challenges and Potential Solutions to Publishing Cultural Resource Management Research in Canada</i> Johannesson, Erik ¹ ¹ Lifeways of Canada Limited, Calgary, Alberta
3:50 p.m.	<i>Open Discussion</i>

Supplementing, Transcending, and Subverting Conventional Archaeological Regulation Schedule

Location: Lady Slipper

Organizers: Joshua Dent¹, and Natasha Lyons²

¹ TMHC Inc.; ² Ursus Heritage Consulting

8:50 a.m.	<i>K’ómoks First Nation’s Cultural Heritage Inspection Permits (CHIPs): A Reconcili-Action Tool</i> Bevilacqua, Raini ¹ ¹ K’ómoks First Nation
9:10 a.m.	<i>Living Heritage, Living Lands: Indigenous Youth, Cultural Stewardship and Wellness in Churchill</i> Larcombe, Linda ¹ ¹ University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba
9:30 a.m.	<i>Relationality as framework: Archaeology at Chimney Coulee (DjOe-6), Saskatchewan</i>

	Mallet Gauthier, Solène ¹ ¹ University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta
9:50 a.m.	<i>The role of archaeology in the cumulative effects space with a case study from ḱíćəý (Katzie) territory, Fraser Delta, British Columbia</i> Lyons, Natasha ^{1,2} ; Hails, Emily ¹ ; Vogelaar, Colton ¹ ; Cameron, Ian ¹ ; Leon, Roma ³ ; and Armour, Kimberly ³ ¹ Ursus Heritage Consulting, British Columbia; ² Department of Archaeology, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia; ³ Katzie First Nation
10:30 a.m.	<i>The Ancestors of Kwenten Mak'wali</i> Coupland, Gary ¹ ; Clark, Terence ² ; and Feschuk, xwash Steve ³ ¹ University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario; ² University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan; ³ shishalh First Nation
10:50 a.m.	<i>Beyond Compliance: Indigenous Engagement and the Changing Practice of Archaeology in Northern Ontario</i> Norris, David ¹ ¹ Woodland Heritage Northwest, Thunder Bay, Ontario
11:10 a.m.	<i>Independent Technical Review in support of Indigenous Cultural Heritage in the Alberta Oilsands</i> Blaikie-Birkigt, Kurtis ¹ ¹ Blaikie Archaeological Consulting, Alberta
11:30 a.m.	<i>Archaeology within a Landscape of Contested Sovereignities: Reflections on an Failed Attempt at Community Collaboration at a Heritage Site in Montreal, Quebec</i> Canady-Binette, Karonhianoron Dallas ¹ ¹ McGill University, Montreal, Quebec
12:30 p.m.	<i>Bibliography, Podcasting, and Public Archaeology: New Extra-Governmental Approaches to Research Dissemination in New Brunswick</i> Holyoke, Kenneth ¹ ; Dow, Trevor ^{2,3} ; Hrynich, Gabriel ³ ¹ University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge, Alberta; ² Ecofor Consulting Ltd.; ³ University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, New Brunswick
12:50 p.m.	<i>Stop Waiting for Permission: Philosophy for Daily Archaeological Praxis</i> Connaughton, Sean P. ¹ ¹ Inlailawatash, British Columbia
1:10 p.m.	<i>The IPIA Guide to Good Relations: Putting Principles into Practice</i> Supernant, Kisha ¹ ; and Chaput, Talisha ¹ ¹ University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta
1:30 p.m.	<i>Self-propelled & Service-fueled: Surpassing Archaeological Regulation</i> Dent, Joshua ¹ ; and Lyons, Natasha ² ¹ TMHC Inc., London, Ontario; ² Ursus Heritage Consulting, British Columbia

Applied LiDAR, SLAM and GNSS Workflows for Archaeological Field Recording: A Practical Demonstration

Location: Cougar Grizzly

8:30 a.m.	Engagement / Set-up
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Demonstration (Phase 1)
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Demonstration (Phase 2)

SESSIONS & ABSTRACTS / SESSIONS ET RÉSUMÉS DE COMMUNICATION

Applied LiDAR, SLAM and GNSS Workflows for Archaeological Field Recording: A Practical Demonstration

Time: Saturday, May 9, 2026.

Session Hosting Format: Demonstration

Location: Wolverine

Organizer(s):

- Nick Kunczewicz, ARCH Airworks Inc.

Session Abstract:

This session will showcase the integration of handheld and ground-based SLAM LiDAR and imaging systems within archaeological field survey and excavation workflows. Using compact LiDAR and GNSS equipment, attendees will be introduced to a practical, end-to-end process from field data acquisition through point cloud generation for visualization and digital twin creation. The focus of the session is to highlight how these tools can be used to capture high-resolution spatial data in near real time, and overcome field data collection challenges, supporting both documentation and interpretation during active fieldwork. Applications include the recording of archaeological features in situ, monitoring stratigraphic changes within excavation units, and generating detailed three-dimensional representations of site conditions as they evolve.

In addition to SLAM-based systems, we will discuss GNSS solutions designed for integration with remotely piloted aircraft systems, highlighting how aerial and ground-based datasets can complement one another. We will also explore visual documentation workflows using platforms such as the Oscar Trek, emphasizing how imagery can enhance context alongside spatial data.

Beyond feature-level documentation, these tools can support broader site operations, including mapping excavation layouts, tracking equipment staging areas, and improving overall site coordination. This informational session emphasizes accessible, field-ready approaches to digital recording that support efficient and informed archaeological practice.

Equipment featured in this session will be provided through Tersus GNSS solutions and associated platforms, courtesy of Desert Creative Group and ARCH Airworks.

Biomolecular Archaeology in Conservation

Time: Thursday, May 7, 2026. Afternoon

Session Hosting Format: In-Person Session

Location: Crocus

Organizer(s):

- Willem King, Department of Archaeology, Simon Fraser University
- Genevieve Wick, Department of Archaeology, Simon Fraser University
- Yuxin Cao, Department of Archaeology, Simon Fraser University

Session Abstract:

Human-driven environmental change, including pollution, overexploitation, and other factors, has significantly altered the landscape, endangering native species and ecosystems. A key effort in conservation is the restoration of the functions of past ecosystems prior to modern disturbances by reconstructing historical and prehistoric baselines. The archaeological record, with its deep-time perspective, provides unique opportunities to tackle this issue. Leveraging this deep-time perspective, biomolecular archaeology applies a range of techniques, including ancient DNA, stable isotopes, proteomics, and lipid analysis, to inform targeted, actionable conservation strategies for habitat restoration, species recovery, and sustainable resource management. This session aims to highlight how these methods connect the archaeological record to modern conservation efforts in Canada and worldwide.

Our aim is to advance biomolecular approaches to conservation and promote the importance of collaboration among archaeologists, ecologists, geneticists, policymakers, and stakeholders. Any contribution that applies methods in biomolecular archaeology to environmental conservation or policy is welcome, including Indigenous-led projects and/or novel methods.

Black–Racialized–Indigenous Archaeologists: Colonially bounded Practice

Time: Saturday, May 9, 2026. Morning

Session Hosting Format: In-Person Session

Location: Cougar / Grizzly

Organizer(s):

- Uju Rita Onah, The University of British Columbia
- Neha Gupta, The University of British Columbia

Session Abstract:

Global Indigenous Peoples' story is a shared history of peoples who not only survived but thrived in spite of the persistent structures of colonialism. This session explores the question of who tells an Indigenous story, and its relationship to ownership of, and authority in, archaeology. In Canadian archaeology, there is currently limited social and intellectual space for the identities, perspectives and knowledges of diaspora people with Indigenous origins as well as descendant communities. The framing of indigeneity as fixed, unchanging groups that a national government recognizes as Indigenous typically overrides, obscures and diminishes the ways that Indigenous Peoples see themselves and how they relate with other communities. In practice, these racisms are intertwined with colonialism and administrative and legal control over identity, making Indigenous Peoples invisible when they are "dislocated" from their place of origin, disconnecting them from cultural communities. Yet, diaspora communities can provide insights into the experience of colonization in Canada because globally, Indigenous Peoples and descendant communities were colonized with similar goals, similar strategies, and outcomes. This session invites papers focusing on knowledges of Indigenous Peoples and descendant communities in the transnational practice of archaeology. We especially welcome scholars who challenge colonial agendas and destabilize dominant understandings of indigeneity in Canada and beyond.

Castles, Strongholds, and Fortifications of the Medieval Period in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus

Time: Friday, May 8, 2026. Afternoon

Session Hosting Format: In-Person Session

Location: Cougar / Grizzly

Organizer(s):

- David Berikashvili, The University of Georgia; Andrew Siebert, Calgary Classical Academy

Session Abstract:

Medieval fortifications remain among the most enduring material witnesses to the political, military, and cultural landscapes of the past. Castles and strongholds served not only as centers of defense but also as loci of administration, economic control, and symbolic power. While Western European castles have been extensively studied, the fortifications of Eastern Europe and the Caucasus regions that stood at the crossroads of empires, trade routes, and shifting frontiers have received comparatively less international attention. Yet these regions preserve a remarkable diversity of fortified sites, from citadels crowning volcanic promontories to walled urban centers and frontier garrisons. This session seeks to bring together scholars investigating the construction, function, and transformation of medieval fortifications across these interconnected regions. Contributions may explore themes including: architectural typologies and innovations; the role of fortifications in shaping settlement hierarchies and landscapes; military strategies and siege technologies; and the cultural meanings of castles as symbols of authority, identity, and resistance. We also welcome case studies that integrate archaeological, historical, and scientific approaches as bioarchaeology, paleoenvironmental reconstruction, and materials analysis to illuminate the lived experiences of those who built, inhabited, and attacked these strongholds. By highlighting the fortifications of Eastern Europe and the Caucasus within a broader comparative framework, this session aims to foster dialogue on regional particularities as well as shared patterns of medieval defensive architecture. In doing so, it will contribute to a more inclusive understanding of medieval fortifications as dynamic elements of social, political, and cultural life across Eurasia.

CCRA CRM Archaeology Showcase

Time: Thursday, May 7, 2026. Morning

Session Hosting Format: In-Person Session

Location: Orchid

Organizer(s):

- Kurtis Blaikie, Canadian Cultural Resources Association
- Dave Norris, Woodland Heritage Northwest

Session Abstract:

We want Canada's CRM firms and professionals to share the great work, research and innovation they are doing across all aspects of Cultural Resources Management.

Canada's CRM sector is responsible for the overwhelming majority of the archaeology undertaken in this country. When these projects make the news, it's often in a negative light, as a delay or risk to development projects, or because of disturbance to significant or sensitive sites. For every bad news story, CRM professionals identify, study and protect hundreds of archaeological and historical sites.

This session is an opportunity to highlight the day to day work of the CRM sector. We want to hear about the interesting sites, challenging projects, and innovations in methods or special analysis your company has undertaken. We want to hear about both successes and learnings, but mostly we want to give you an opportunity to share work you're proud of with the broader archaeology community.

This is an opportunity to showcase your firm and the great work you do, organized by the Canadian Cultural Resources Association as part of the CRM Expo.

Climate change archaeology: Where are we and where do we go?

Time: Thursday, May 7, 2026. Afternoon

Session Hosting Format: In-Person Session

Location: Cougar / Grizzly

Organizer(s):

- Andrea Richardson
- Robin Woywitka
- Christian Thériault

Session Abstract:

Hazards associated with climate change are destroying cultural heritage sites and landscapes at increasing rates across the globe. The Canadian archaeological record is at particular risk because most sites are preserved in surface or shallowly buried settings that have high exposure to erosional forces associated with fire, extreme weather events, floods, permafrost thaw, and rising sea levels. The severity of this was recognized in the CAA's 2022 statement on climate change archaeology. Calls to action in that document recommended that archaeologists should: 1) act now, 2) work collaboratively, 3) adopt new methods, 4) gather more data, 5) be advocates for threatened archaeological heritage. We welcome contributions that address any of these calls and other relevant studies. A discussion panel of invited speakers will conclude the session.

Coastal Visions: Archaeology, Landscapes, and Living Knowledge in shíshálh swiya

Time: Friday, May 8, 2026. Morning

Session Hosting Format: In-Person Session

Location: Cougar / Grizzly

Organizer(s):

- Glenn Stuart, Department of Anthropology, University of Saskatchewan
- Terence Clark, Department of Anthropology, University of Saskatchewan
- Tina Greenfield, Department of Anthropology, University of Winnipeg

Session Abstract:

This session is dedicated to presenting and synthesizing results from sARP (shíshálh Archaeological Research Project) and its subsidiary sEARCH (sinku Environmental ARChaeology), bringing together project collaborators to demonstrate how diverse archaeological, climate, and Indigenous knowledge datasets can be integrated to better understand long-term resource management, status inequality, settlement patterns, territoriality, ritual, and human–environment relationships within shíshálh lands (swiya) on the Northwest Coast of British Columbia. sARP and sEARCH are collaborative, community-based research initiatives developed in partnership with the shíshálh Nation to investigate long-term adaptive land management patterns from time immemorial through the present to plan for the future.

Central to both sARP and sEARCH is the integrated analysis of archaeological evidence, palaeoenvironmental and climate records, and shíshálh knowledge. Access to the shíshálh Nation's extensive ethnographic archival database—including interviews, traditional use studies, and land-use documentation—enables detailed reconstructions of past human–environment interactions. Archaeological research focuses on the antiquity and intensity of resource management through examinations of both previously excavated and newly obtained archaeological collections combined with investigations into behavioural patterns reflecting ideology, mobility, and status. Importantly, sARP and sEARCH operate within a formal legal framework of Reconciliation, aligning with Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. This session presents sARP and sEARCH as models for archaeological research in the Era of Reconciliation, offering critical reflection on collaborative practices, data integration, and governance while advancing new understandings of Indigenous economies on the Northwest Coast.

Combating Anti-Intellectualism and Pseudoarchaeology through Public Engagement

Time: Friday, May 8, 2026. Morning

Session Hosting Format: In-Person Session

Location: Cougar / Grizzly

Organizer(s):

- Curt Carbonell

Session Abstract:

There is nothing unique about Canada's education system that inoculates its population from anti-intellectualism. At home and abroad, funding is being gutted in the name of cost savings and the health of millions is being influenced by anti-science populism rather than data-driven expertise. Archaeology is not immune to these problems. As Humanities and social sciences programs across the world are being decimated, heritage conservation and cultural resource management are reaching a crisis point where there is more archaeology required than there are archaeologists to do it. So, what are archaeologists doing to combat the growth of anti-intellectualism?

The continuing popularity of pseudoarchaeological television and streaming programmes, along with social media apps full of pseudoscientific videos, suggests a public interest and demand for archaeology. However, uncontested by genuine archaeological research, these media merely serve to contribute to anti-intellectualism, spreading objectively and demonstrably false ideas as plausible if not probable by conflating "just asking questions" with rigorous scientific inquiry. Additionally, as generative AI art becomes more sophisticated, the effort required to produce pseudoarchaeological content is becoming increasingly trivial and risks dominating the popular narrative of human history, feeding into denialism, erasure, and anti-science rhetoric.

Archaeology requires researching, writing, citing, and quality presentation. In other words, it takes time, a luxury unavailable to many of those best positioned to share their expertise. This, and the constant need for online promotion and engagement, make it unfortunate, if not unsurprising, that many professional archaeologists choose to avoid public engagement through popular media.

However, the problems of anti-intellectualism are not going away on their own. This session invites papers that examine how archaeologists are sharing archaeology. Where are we succeeding and how can we overcome obstacles? How can we collectively, as a community and discipline, support one another to combat pseudoarchaeology, anti-intellectualism, denialism, and erasure.

Corridors, Coasts, and Connections: Human dispersal in North America

Time: Saturday, May 9, 2026. Morning / Afternoon

Session Hosting Format: In-Person Session

Location: Arnica

Organizer(s):

- Jack Ives, University of Alberta (Emeritus)
- Robin Woywitka, MacEwan University

Session Abstract:

The questions of when and how human beings entered North America endure as keystone themes of Quaternary science. Although intrinsically archaeological questions, addressing them has spurred significant advances in many social and natural science disciplines for over a century, inquiry of human dispersal into and within the North American landscape also provides a space where Indigenous ways of knowing and scientific principles can intertwine, although this remains a developing practice.

These epistemological connections mirror the geographic, cultural, and biological connections observed in the Late Pleistocene and Early Holocene archaeological record. What appeared to be a simple story of ice age journeys between two ice sheets has turned into a complex web that ties Asia to America, coast to interior, and most importantly, humans to each other. These bonds also resonate through time, ranging from scientific, narrative, and spiritual pasts into the studies and stories of today.

The aim of this session is to examine the entry of humans into North America and the legacy of that arrival. Studies from archaeological, Indigenous, anthropological, geoscientific, paleoenvironmental, genomic, historic, and any other relevant perspectives are welcome.

Deep in Time and Vast in Expanse: The Dene Language Family in Western North America

Time: Friday, May 8, 2026. All day

Session Hosting Format: In-Person Session

Location: Crocus

Organizer(s):

- Kevin P. Gilmore, HDR
- John W. Ives, University of Alberta (emeritus)

Session Abstract:

The story of the Dene language family starts early in the Pleistocene, a mid-Holocene inflection of Siberian origin, and eventual expansion to encompass many parts of western North America. The theme for the session will be broad, looking at the Dene experience from deep time to the present day, the initial migration south and west from the northern Canadian and interior Alaskan homeland to the coast of the current states of California and Oregon, the western Great Plains, and eastern Great Basin, and the eventual dispersal and differentiation of the different groups to modern homelands. We welcome a diversity of approaches and topics, and the intent of this session is to expand on the narrower focus of the Apachean Origins session at the 2022 CAA meeting in Edmonton to include all aspects of the Dene experience, from their arrival in the North to their role in the Southwest culture area as agents of innovation, trade and social evolution.

Fibre and Perishable Artifact Analysis, Conservation and Interpretation

Time: Saturday, May 9, 2026. Afternoon

Session Hosting Format: In-Person Session

Location: Arnica

Organizer(s):

- Tracy Martens, Royal Saskatchewan Museum

Session Abstract:

Fibre and perishable artifacts present unique analytical, conservation, and interpretive challenges stemming from their inherent perishability and the lack of attention they receive. Recent research highlights the need for further work on basic plant fibre identification procedures and reference materials, as well as on basic training in artifact identification, description, handling, and storage procedures. This session invites papers and project descriptions focused on detailed recording, conservation and analysis of fibre and perishable artifacts from archaeological, historical, or museum contexts. We welcome projects that demonstrate the research value and potential of these artifacts, that contribute to or utilize new methods for fibre or dye identification, or that demonstrate best practices for handling, recording, and storing fibre and perishable artifacts and associated tools.

From Capture to Care: Digital Heritage in Western Canada

Time: Thursday, May 7, 2026. Morning / Afternoon

Session Hosting Format: In-Person Session

Location: Crocus

Organizer(s):

- Peter Dawson, Christina Robinson, Madisen Hvidberg, Mavis Chan, Department of Anthropology and Archaeology, University of Calgary

Session Abstract:

Across Western Canada, many culturally significant places—historic buildings, Indigenous heritage landscapes, industrial sites, and community-valued structures—are increasingly threatened by wildfire, flooding, climate instability, development pressures, and long-term neglect. Although many of these places remain undocumented or undesignated, they hold deep meaning for the communities and Nations connected to them. The Alberta Digital Heritage Archive (ADHA) was established in 2017 with support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to develop a scalable, community-informed model for digital preservation across the region. Using terrestrial LiDAR, aerial photogrammetry, and other reality-capture tools, the ADHA curates high-resolution 3D datasets that support reconstruction, monitoring, and teaching applications. The ADHA is part of a rapidly expanding ecosystem of digital heritage work occurring throughout Western Canada.

This session invites contributions from British Columbia, Yukon, NWT and the Prairie Provinces that explore how digital technologies are being used across Western Canada to document, protect, and revitalize heritage resources. We welcome papers on LiDAR, photogrammetry, 3D modelling, remote sensing, VR/AR, database design, and related methods, with attention to community partnerships, Indigenous data governance (FAIR/CARE), methodological innovation, and the role of digital documentation in addressing growing heritage vulnerability.

Heritage Landscapes: Rediscovered, remembered, and recreated

Time: Thursday, May 7, 2026. Morning / Afternoon

Session Hosting Format: In-Person Session

Location: Arnica

Organizer(s):

- Natascha Beisswenger-Mooney, Western University and TMHC inc.

Session Abstract:

Whether in passing or on a daily basis, the spaces that we engage with hold many stories about the past. These stories may be beneath the ground, held in memory, or even hidden in plain sight. This session explores how people remember, rediscover, and recreate heritage landscapes, as well as the landscapes' history and significance. In North America, when background research suggests that a location is culturally significant, archaeologists, especially those in CRM, may excavate to find, collect, and record artifacts and features that the landscape may have hidden beneath its surface.

However, using a shovel and trowel to rediscover the heritage landscape simply scratches the surface of what can be learned. Archival studies and digital technologies offer additional ways to rediscover the community and individual histories held within heritage landscapes and recreate what the heritage landscape may have previously looked like. Additionally, the growing emphasis on descendant and community engagement through individuals' memories or oral histories adds a human element that is essential for a more holistic understanding of the heritage landscapes. Interdisciplinary methods can help answer questions about heritage landscapes hidden in plain sight, such as repurposed or ruined buildings, or in places where excavation is highly intrusive, such as cemeteries.

Contributions that consider novel ways to retell, rediscover, and recreate heritage landscapes are welcome. Potential themes could include: How are different technologies and practices being used to rediscover and record heritage landscapes? In what ways are heritage landscapes narrated and remembered by communities? How are heritage landscapes being protected, incorporated, or recreated using various technologies?

Hidden No More: Archaeology and the Living Legacy of Black Heritage

Time: Thursday, May 7, 2026. Morning / Afternoon

Session Hosting Format: In-Person Session

Location: Cougar / Grizzly

Organizer(s):

- William T. D. Wadsworth, Department of Anthropology, University of British Columbia
- Lindsay Amundsen-Meyer, Department of Anthropology and Archaeology, University of Calgary

Session Abstract:

Despite previous work (primarily centered in Eastern Canada) Black heritage sites remain understudied and poorly represented in Canadian scholarship, an issue addressed by sessions at the 2019 and 2024 CAA's which highlighted the important, but limited, work that had occurred in this space. Through the identification and study of Black heritage sites, papers in this session highlight the important work that has occurred in the intervening years to amplify stories of the Black communities and individuals who are part of Canadian history and demonstrate that archaeological study of Black heritage sites can counter histories of erasure, both in the past and present, through the preservation and celebration of heritage sites. The heightened need for this work is underscored by growing threats to Black heritage sites, which increasingly face pressures from development, social dynamics, and revisionist historical narratives that risk erasing these communities and their history. By investigating Black heritage sites across the country, archaeologists have the opportunity to tell historical stories in a way that includes stories from the many Black individuals and communities who have contributed to our modern identities and to create historical narratives in which these communities see themselves represented.

Historical Archaeology in Western Canadian Contexts: New and Emerging Perspectives

Time: Friday, May 8, 2026. Morning

Session Hosting Format: In-Person Session

Location: Lady Slipper

Organizer(s):

- Solène Mallet Gauthier, University of Alberta
- Sara Lefurgey, University of Alberta

Session Abstract:

Although historical archaeology has been at the center of Canadian archaeology since its early beginnings, some parts of the country and topics, such as settler history, have been explored more than others. We turn here to Western Canada, where researchers have not only been increasingly thinking about historical archaeology, but also going beyond traditional questions, methods, and topics. Building on our colleagues' previous 2024 Saskatoon CAA conference session, which centred on historic period archaeology in Saskatchewan, this session aims to showcase new projects, themes, and approaches exploring historical archaeology in Western Canada more broadly. We invite papers from professionals, academics, and students related to the post-contact period in the western provinces, especially those focused on new methodologies, technologies, the critical reexamination of previous collections or research projects, and/or fresh perspectives on minority and marginalized groups.

Living Landscapes: Story, Practice, and Stewardship Across Time

Time: Friday, May 8, 2026. Afternoon

Session Hosting Format: In-Person Session

Location: Lady Slipper

Organizer(s):

- M. Berry, Seed Cultural and Environmental Heritage
- J. Barteaux, Seed Cultural and Environmental Heritage
- N. Risdon, Seed Cultural and Environmental Heritage

Session Abstract:

People have always made, inhabited, and cared for a place through story, practice, and relationship. This conference session examines how meaning is embedded in landscapes and how those meanings are recognized, extracted, interpreted, and cared for over time. Drawing on archaeological and historical examples and highlighting spaces that reflect dynamic lifeways and diverse forms of symbolic expression, the session explores how narratives are materially and immaterially inscribed, engaged through archaeological and community-based research, and interpreted and protected through dynamic and unique ways long after their creation. The session moves across scales, from specific sites to expansive cultural landscapes, foregrounding both community and Indigenous ways of knowing as essential frameworks for understanding archaeological signatures, place-making and stewardship. Rather than approaching landscapes as static backdrops or bounded sites, the session invites contributions that emphasize place as relational, living, and continually renewed through practice, memory, and responsibility.

Multi-modal curation and knowledge mobilization with archaeological collections

Time: Saturday, May 9, 2026. Morning

Session Hosting Format: In-Person Session

Location: Crocus

Organizer(s):

- Evelyn Nimmo, University of Alberta
- Séamus Rudden, University of Alberta

Session Abstract:

Archaeological museum and teaching collections are repositories of material evidence, ordered through classification, documentation, and analytical protocols. Yet collections also function as interpretive and relational assemblages, in which meaning is made not only through objects and texts, but through spatial, sensory, embodied, narrative, and social forms of engagement. This session will explore multi-modal curation and knowledge mobilization as an approach to integrating different ways of knowing into museum and teaching collections. Here, we consider multimodality as a framework that moves beyond multisensory or multimedia approaches, attending to how different modes of meaning-making, including material, bodily, spatial, visual, oral, and textual, interact to produce knowledge. From this perspective, collections are not passive stores of data, but active assemblages in which knowledge is continually negotiated and transformed. Focusing on narratives, accessibility, and multi-sensorial engagement, we will examine how these practices expand what is understood as curatorial knowledge and transform how collections are used, interpreted, and cared for. Rather than treating narrative, embodied, and community-based knowledges as supplementary to material and documentary records, multi-modal approaches can foreground them as integral to curatorial practice and to archaeological interpretation. The session welcomes contributions that explore how these multi-modal approaches are implemented in concrete contexts, including collections management, teaching, exhibitions, and community-based projects. We are particularly interested in work that foregrounds embodiment, accessibility, and collaboration with a range of publics and descendant communities. This session asks what it means to curate not only material belongings, but also relationships, experiences, and multiple forms of knowledge, and how multi-modal curation might reshape the ethical and pedagogical work of archaeological museum and teaching collections.

Non-Invasive Archaeology and Truth and Reconciliation

Time: Thursday, May 7, 2026. Afternoon

Session Hosting Format: In-Person Session

Location: Lady Slipper

Organizer(s):

- William T. D. Wadsworth, University of British Columbia / University of Alberta
- Isaac S. Bender, TMHC Inc./Western University

Session Abstract:

Non-invasive archaeological methods have become crucial components in truth and reconciliation initiatives across Canada. Archaeologists and Indigenous Nations are regularly employing these technologies to answer a broad spectrum of questions while grappling with the associated complexities. Most notably among these applications is the deployment of geophysical and remote sensing techniques (e.g., ground-penetrating radar or GPR) to identify graves at highly sensitive sites (e.g., former Indian Residential Schools). While ground search techniques and results often dominate public discourse, in practice, non-invasive archaeology encompasses a much broader suite of methods, applications, and questions. This session will explore the breadth of non-invasive research being undertaken within Canadian archaeology, with a focus on applications, challenges, and ethical responsibilities related to investigating burial landscapes and other truth and reconciliation initiatives. Presentations will showcase applications of ground- and drone-based geophysical and remote-sensing technologies; their integration with archaeological, archival, oral testimony, and geospatial evidence; and the complexities and challenges that come with conducting this type of work. Papers may also address issues such as data sovereignty, analytical uncertainty, trauma-informed and culturally-grounded practice, and the challenges associated with communicating results to Survivors, descendant communities, and the public.

Obsidian Ceiling - Ethnic Archaeologists Experiences in the CRM Field in Canada

Time: Saturday, May 9, 2026. Morning

Session Hosting Format: In-Person Session

Location: Cougar / Grizzly

Organizer(s):

- John Somogyi-Csizmazia - Moderator

Session Abstract:

Archaeological consulting in Canada plays a critical role in cultural resource management, development review, and heritage stewardship. Yet, despite increasing attention to equity, diversity, and inclusion across the discipline, the lived experiences of non-indigenous ethnic minorities working in archaeological consulting remain underrepresented and insufficiently examined. This panel is a continuation of previous CAA discussions bringing together archaeologists from diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds to share personal and professional experiences navigating consulting practice within varied regional, institutional, and regulatory frameworks across Canada.

Panelists will explore themes including access to employment and advancement, workplace culture, fieldwork dynamics, interactions with clients, regulators, and Indigenous communities, and the emotional and professional labour involved in negotiating identity in predominantly Eurocentric professional spaces. The discussion will also address systemic barriers, micro-aggressions, mentorship gaps, and strategies for resilience, advocacy, and change within consulting environments. The session invites participation from ethnic archaeologists' community at all career stages, consultants, regulators, and allied professionals committed to building a more reflective and representative discipline.

Papers in Honour of Dr. Brian (Barney) Reeves

Time: Saturday, May 9, 2026. All Day

Session Hosting Format: In-Person Session

Location: Orchid

Organizer(s):

- Dr, Alison Landals, Stantec
- Dr. Margaret Kennedy

Session Abstract:

Even though it has been three years since Brian (Barney) Reeves died in August of 2023, it is a testament to his profound impact on the field of archaeology and more importantly on his former students, colleagues and friends that we gather in Canmore to remember and celebrate his impressive legacy. The papers to be presented at this session reflect Barney's influences and foundational ideas in archaeology - his major contributions to Plains/Mountain culture history and classification through his pioneering recording programs in Waterton National Park and the Crowsnest Pass, his deep interest in northern plains ethnography, ethnobotany, communal bison hunting (Head-Smashed-In), archaeoastronomy and ceremonial landscapes, all of which was enhanced by his decades-long and close friendship with a number of Piikani elders. Also to be considered was his amazingly wide first-hand familiarity with the archaeological literature and artifact collections inside and outside of the plains and his impressive ability to synthesize vast quantities of information into comprehensive models of culture history. He brought an insatiable curiosity and dedication to the research he took on and profoundly influenced many of us throughout our careers. The papers to be given in this session honour his memory and personality, his ongoing academic legacy and highlight the large number and variety of contributions he made to archaeology.

Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey

Time: Friday, May 8, 2026. All Day

Session Hosting Format: In-Person Session

Location: Wolverine / Caribou

Organizer(s):

- Dale Boland, Roy Northern Land & Environmental/Aim Land Services
- Jordi Malasiuk, WSP
- Christina Poletto, Stantec
- Andrea Richardson, Cape Sable Historical Society
- Elizabeth Robertson, Two Worlds Consulting
- Michelle Wickham, Bison Historical Services

Session Abstract:

This poster session honours the legacy of Janet Blakey – her love for and contributions to archaeology, and her gift for supporting and advancing archaeology by creating lasting friendships with and networks among her peers and colleagues. We invite participants from all stages and branches of the field – student, avocational, academic, consulting and beyond – to join us in celebrating Janet's ability for making lasting bonds in her archaeological pursuits, along with her talent for creating effective and engaging conference posters. We particularly encourage contributions that highlight Janet's passion for public archaeology, Alberta archaeology and what it means to be a consulting archaeologist. At the same time, like Janet, this session also welcomes contributions that make broader connections between archaeology and the many people for whom it holds meaning.

Publishing CRM and Academic Research in Canada: Where, How, and Why

Time: Saturday, May 9, 2026. Afternoon

Session Hosting Format: In-Person Session

Location: Crocus

Organizer(s):

- Helen Dunlop (Editor-in-Chief, Canadian Journal of Archaeology)
- Todd Kristensen (Archaeological Survey of Alberta)

Session Abstract:

The majority of archaeological work in Canada is not being disseminated to its potential. This session offers exposure to provincial, national, and international publication venues as well as the rationales to publish. In particular, how can we share Cultural Resource Management data? How do we publish for descendent communities? And have modern conditions changed the utility of theses, dissertations, and the value of publishing them? Presentations will help guide future submissions, challenge conventional ideas about publishing, and discuss broader impacts of knowledge production in Canadian archaeology.

Research Methods in Mesoamerican Archaeology

Time: Thursday, May 7, 2026. Morning

Session Hosting Format: In-Person Session

Location: Crocus

Organizer(s):

- Arianne Boileau, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Mount Royal University
- Mary Kate Kelly, Department of General Education, Mount Royal University

Session Abstract:

Archaeology is an inherently multi-disciplinary pursuit. To build narratives that integrate the varied data produced by archaeological research, we rely on specialists across diverse, allied fields. In this session, we aim to create a space to discuss both traditional and novel research methods in Mesoamerican archaeology and to foreground the bridges that connect them.

This session engages classic methods (e.g. ceramic and lithic analysis, zooarchaeology, paleoethnobotany, epigraphy, iconography, and ethnography) in synergy with newer techniques, including but not limited to remote sensing, GIS-based modelling, residue/lipid analysis, stable isotopes, proteomics, 3D modelling, ancient DNA, machine learning, and multisensory ethnography. Case studies integrating multiple lines of evidence to answer long-standing questions about subsistence, landscape modifications and monumentality, socio-political complexity, ritual practice, sustainability, and colonial entanglements across Mesoamerica are especially welcome.

As part of rigorous method-building, we highlight works that operationalize decolonizing and Indigenizing frameworks in concrete ways: community-informed research questions, co-developed sampling and curation strategies, Indigenous data sovereignty and consent, and co-production of knowledge. Of particular interest are studies showing how these commitments shape methodological choices and strengthen knowledge acquisition, interpretation, and dissemination.

This session aims to sustain a genuine dialogue between methods rather than parallel monologues. By centering collaborations among archaeologists, curators, data scientists, and Indigenous knowledge keepers, this session will highlight approaches that couple rigour with innovation and reflexivity to sharpen our interpretations of Mesoamerica's past.

Supplementing, Transcending, and Subverting Conventional Archaeological Regulation

Time: Saturday, May 9, 2026. All Day

Session Hosting Format: In-Person Session

Location: Lady Slipper

Organizer(s):

- Joshua Dent, PhD, TMHC Inc.
- Natasha Lyons, PhD, Ursus Heritage Consulting

Session Abstract:

Although provincial and territorial regulation of archaeological practice varies across the country there is a consistent thread. Where and when these government laws, regulations, and policies fall short, other entities step up. This session explores the different facets of alternative archaeological oversight and service delivery. Examples may include: municipal planning and partnerships, Indigenous heritage stewardship, and service-oriented CRM. Across Canada, localized progressive solutions are bumping the needle towards better archaeological resource management outcomes. One of these outcomes includes early adoption of the principles of the United Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) even as most conventional governments drag their feet towards UNDRIP implementation. The objective of this session is to inspire similar unconventional activities capable of supplementing, transcending or subverting conventional archaeological regulation.

The long and winding road of slow archaeology

Time: Friday, May 8, 2026. All Day

Session Hosting Format: In-Person Session

Location: Arnica

Organizer(s):

- Lisa Hodgetts, Western University
- Jessica Metcalfe, Lakehead University
- Natasha Lyons, Ursus Heritage Consulting

Session Abstract:

Alongside the rise of collaborative community-based approaches in archaeology and cultural heritage in recent decades we have seen a call for “slow archaeology.” It is part of a broader “slow science” movement that counters the dominant “fast science” approach that is “competitive, data-centric, technocratic, and alienated from the societies it serves and studies” (Cunningham & MacEachern 2014:4). Slow archaeology prioritizes deep long-term engagements with research collaborators, participants and the material record, and reflexive, ethical practice. Drawing on grounded theory, it involves embracing process, listening and being responsive, taking an iterative approach that demands patience and sitting with uncertainty.

This session invites reflections on the benefits and challenges of slow archaeology’s longer timelines in community-based research. How does the slower pace and the focus on relationships influence the outcomes and impact of the work? How do we build and maintain long-term research relationships and how do they develop and change over time? What tensions exist between a slow, relational approach and existing structures in the academy, museums and CRM, and how might we alleviate them?

Join us and share your slow archaeology research journeys: lessons learned (sometimes the hard way), things (big and small) to celebrate along the way, and implications for broader archaeology and heritage research practice.

“The Expedition excites the strongest interest”: Recent Archaeology, Research and Public Presentation on Sir John Franklin’s 1845 Northwest Passage Expedition

Time: Friday, May 8, 2026. All Day

Session Hosting Format: In-Person Session

Location: Orchid

Organizer(s):

- Jonathan Moore, Parks Canada

Session Abstract:

On May 19, 1845, on the day of the departure of HMS Erebus and HMS Terror from England for a renewed search for a Northwest Passage, Captain Sir John Franklin wrote that “The Expedition excites the strongest interest in England among all parties and likewise on the Continent”. This statement is as true today as it was in 1845, even more so. Franklin could scarcely have imagined how that public interest transformed from hope for success, anxiety over the missing crews and ships, knowledge learned from Inuit about sunken ships and cannibalism, and ultimately the public craving for archaeological evidence for an expedition that had come undone by April 1848. Archaeological study of the expedition, both terrestrial and underwater, can be traced back to the early 1960s, and has steadily progressed, both through individual projects and bursts of activity. A renewed archaeological search for the wrecks of Erebus and Terror and terrestrial archaeological evidence launched in 2008, and the locating of the wrecks in 2014 and 2016 respectively, have resulted in significant archaeological advances over the last fifteen years. As a follow-up to papers presented at the CAA’s 2017 annual meeting, this session brings together a range of archaeologists, researchers, community members and museum professionals to give an overview of recent advances in the study of an expedition that has captured the public’s interest and imagination for 180 years.

“They didn’t teach us that in archaeology school” Career Skills for CRM

Time: Thursday, May 7, 2026. Afternoon

Session Hosting Format: In-Person Session

Location: Orchid

Organizer(s):

- Kurtis Blaikie, Canadian Cultural Resources Association

Session Abstract:

Many of us came into the CRM sector unprepared for the realities of the business world. Resumes, interviews, professional communication, collaboration, supervision, technical writing, time management, project management, budgeting, accounting, scheduling, hiring, personnel management, negotiation and leadership aren’t commonly seen on our class syllabi. We learn these, and then teach them, on the job.

This session is targeted at students and junior professionals embarking on a career in CRM. It will provide practical learnings on professional and business topics, and how they apply to archaeology. It will include several invited presentations and is also open to volunteered papers from professionals who want to share their experience with the next generation.

This session is organized by the Canadian Cultural Resources Association as part of the CRM Expo.

ABSTRACTS

Evaluating iPhone-Based 3D Scanning Applications for Heritage Documentation

Abdelghany, Abdelrahman¹; Lichti, Derek¹; Dawson, Peter²; and Jabari, Shabnam³

¹ Dept. of Geomatics Engineering, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

² Dept. of Anthropology and Archaeology, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

³ Dept. of Geodesy and Geomatics Engineering, University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada

Podium Session: From Capture to Care: Digital Heritage in Western Canada

Historic wardens' cabins and other wooden structures located in Canada's national parks are increasingly vulnerable to deterioration, environmental change, and wildfire, making accurate digital documentation essential for long-term preservation. While terrestrial laser scanners (TLS) provide highly detailed data, their cost and operational complexity limit their use for routine documentation in remote environments. Recent advances in LiDAR-equipped smartphones offer a low-cost alternative, but their accuracy and reliability for heritage documentation remain uncertain. This study evaluates the performance of several iPhone-based 3D scanning applications for documenting historic log cabins in Yoho National Park, Canada. Field datasets from two federally designated heritage buildings were compared with high-resolution reference scans acquired using a GeoSLAM ZEB Horizon mobile LiDAR system. An indoor dataset was also captured in a metrology laboratory to evaluate app performance under controlled conditions. Results indicate that smartphone LiDAR can capture sufficient structural detail for heritage documentation, although the results from some applications exhibit geometric distortions. A newly developed prototype application demonstrates improved structural fidelity and reduced distortion, suggesting that smartphone LiDAR has strong potential as a low-cost tool for routine heritage documentation and digital twin creation.

Colour, Craft, and Status: Chemical Insights from the Sassanid Saltman Textiles of Chehrabad, Iran

Ahmadi, Shokoufeh^{1,2}; Goltz, Douglas¹; and Craig, Douglas¹

¹ Chemistry Dept, University of Winnipeg, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

² History Dept, University of Winnipeg, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Podium Session: Fibre and Perishable Artifact Analysis, Conservation and Interpretation

This study uses capillary electrophoresis to analyze microscopic red, yellow, and green fibers from the Sassanid "Saltman I" (224–651 AD) discovered in Chehrabad, Iran. Analysis identified alizarin (madder) in red threads and flavonoids consistent with weld in yellow fibers. Significantly, green textiles showed complex color layering rather than simple mixtures, revealing sophisticated technological choices and specialized botanical knowledge in Sassanid Iran. By integrating molecular dye analysis into the international Saltman project, this research expands interpretations of craft production, status, and regional knowledge systems. This interdisciplinary approach clarifies ancient artisanal skills and aids in preserving global textile heritage.

Exploring Black History of the Western Canadian Prairies: Archaeology at the John Ware Homestead (2025 Excavations)

Amundsen-Meyer, Lindsay¹; and Foggo, Cheryl

¹ Dept of Anthropology and Archaeology, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: Hidden No More: Archaeology and the Living Legacy of Black Heritage

John Ware was among Alberta's first non-white settlers, following fortune and cattle herds north from Texas to Canada in 1882. He remained on the Alberta Prairies, eventually establishing his own ranch near Millarville where he and his family resided ca. 1888-1902. In 2025, a team from UCalgary conducted a four-week excavation of Ware's Millarville homestead (EePo-29), which uncovered a well-dated layer of belongings associated with the Ware family and intact structural remains of their home. This presentation will cover a range of topics that touch on the historical presence of Black families on the prairies, the material culture of the everyday, and the role of women in historic ranching communities. Specifically, we examine how excavated belongings help us piece together the everyday life of the Ware family, which is not well-understood from historic record, including their place in Alberta's ranching community as well as how Mildred Ware, an individual less well known than her husband John, may have adapted to life on the prairies.

Locating Wisdom in Place: Archaeology and Cultural Landscapes on the Northwestern Plains

Amundsen-Meyer, Lindsay¹; Ayoungman, Kent²; and Potts, Jerry³

¹ Dept of Anthropology and Archaeology, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

² Siksika Nation

³ Piikani Nation

Podium Session: Living Landscapes: Story, Practice, and Stewardship Across Time

Archaeology in North America still occurs in a settler-colonial context. Knowing that the colonial moment has not passed, we reflect on and consider the complex interplay between archaeologists and Indigenous descendant communities today, as well as how these interactions both contribute to and can combat ongoing settler-colonialism. In particular, this paper explores concepts within landscape archaeology and discusses the need to step back from the level of the individual archaeological site to consider the entire cultural landscape in order to honor the ways of knowing of both Blackfoot ancestors and modern descendant communities. Using three case studies from the Blackfoot homeland of the Northwestern Plains, we demonstrate how viewing archaeological sites within their broader landscape context can identify intangible cultural heritage, foster cultural connection, and reclaim places for descendant communities, ultimately contributing to the process of reconciliation.

Ephemeral Hunting Camps in the Northwest Territories: Lithic Reanalysis of Sites KePd-2 and KfPc-1

Anderson, Jaryn¹

¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey *

Decades of gradual economic and legislative shifts have caused the majority of archaeological work in Canada to be carried out by CRM (cultural resource management) companies. Consequently, there is rising interest in re-examining this data, not only to identify potential areas of further research and/or documentation, but also to ensure that academic archaeologists are familiar in working both the CRM and academic spheres. This project reanalyzed data provided by Stantec and the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Center on a single project in the Northwest Territories that uncovered lithic materials from two archaeological sites, and provided an updated interpretation based on a combination of lithic analysis methodologies and an in-depth archaeological background. The conclusions of this research suggest the two sites, though briefly-occupied, are culturally-significant and located within a greater network of human occupations generally relating to the hunting of caribou in the Northwest Territories. This research hopes to provide an opportunity for future conversation around CRM-based research projects and potentially-increased collaboration between academic and CRM-focused archaeologists.

Archaeological evidence as proof of existence and identity: Italian Diaspora and the Saturnia's last voyage

Angel-Mira, Melissa¹

¹ University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

Podium Session: Black-Racialized-Indigenous Archaeologists: Colonially bounded Practice

Since the formation of Canada as a nation, dominant groups have used indigenous people's stories and archaeological materials as a tool for colonial domination. Diaspora peoples in Canada have similarly faced historical marginalization with their stories, histories, and archaeological materials being presented or erased by dominant groups to reinforce colonial narratives.

The purpose of this presentation is to explore how oral stories can be used to validate or invalidate the findings of cultural materials when they change through time and space. Using my lived experience as a second generation Canadian of Italian descent, this paper demonstrates the power of oral history when archaeological evidence is destroyed or hidden by dominant groups to maintain power.

Analysis from records preserved in the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21 in Nova Scotia and my family's history starting in Sicily, voyaging to Halifax, Nova Scotia on the last sailing of the Saturnia ship (which was destroyed) – will draw inference to archaeological evidence of their arrival in America and existence. This is significant because it corresponds with Indigenous archaeology and oral traditions, both of which affirm their existence and identity– elements that were disrupted, erased, and redefined through a colonial lens.

'There's no rush': engaging with slow archaeology paths as ways of creating meaningful community-based engagement

Barbel Le Page, Héloïg¹; Onalik, Lena² ; and Pijogge, Liz²

¹ Université Laval, Quebec City, Quebec, Canada

² Nunatsiavut Archaeology and Heritage Office

Podium Session: The long and winding road of slow archaeology

During this presentation, we share the slow archeological approaches we have been elaborating since 2021, rooted on community-based engagement in Nunatsiavut, in the Nain area in particular. The several projects conducted through the years allowed us to develop plural ways of engaging with archaeology as ways of creating collective spaces for community members to connect with their heritage and their land and to engage with memory as a lived experience. At the core of our approach is a long-term thinking on meaningful ways of doing, that led us to reappropriate classical archaeological methods of investigations to expand them into socially grounded perspectives. This led us to initiate during the summer 2025 a cyclic program that aims to provide care to locales where material heritage is currently at risk due to soil warming and the expansion of the shrub cover. Our 'gardening' approach of the problem consists in providing 'maintenance' of the locales by cutting the shrubs and delaying the expansion of their root systems into the material remains. These slow and long-term activities were conducted as ways of engaging with the living memory of the locales through embodied experiences, perpetuating their inscription in the land- and memoryscapes of the community.

Round Table Discussion: Bassal

Bassal, Etner

Podium Session: Obsidian Ceiling - Ethnic Archaeologists Experiences in the CRM Field in Canada

Archaeological consulting is central to cultural resource management and heritage stewardship in Canada, yet the experiences of non-indigenous ethnic minorities within the profession remain underrepresented. Drawing on my trajectory as an internationally trained archaeologist, from Botswana, with professional experience across Africa and Europe, to graduate study and consulting work in Canada, this papers reflects on navigating archaeological practice as a racialized and foreign-trained professional.

I explore themes of access to employment, workplace culture, fieldwork dynamics, and mentorship within Canadian consulting archaeology, as well as interactions with clients, regulators, and Indigenous communities. Particular attention is given to the challenges of credential recognition, professional integration, and the emotional labour involved in working within predominately Eurocentric institutional spaces. I also reflect on the effectiveness and limitations of diversity and inclusion in both public and private sector archaeology.

Making Space for Cultural Continuity: The Expansion of the Nattilik Heritage Centre brings the 1845 Franklin Expedition into dialogue with local communities

Beam-Borg, Sarah¹; Ullulaq, Jennifer²; and Cameron, Campbell³

¹ Origin Studios Inc.

² Nattilik Heritage Centre, Gjoa Haven, King William Island, Nunavut, Canada

³ Four Peaks Consulting, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: "The Expedition excites the strongest interest": Recent Archaeology, Research and Public Presentation on Sir John Franklin's 1845 Northwest Passage Expedition

Knowledge shared by Natchilik Inuit, past and present, from the Kitikmeot Region was essential to locating the wreck sites of HMS Erebus and Terror. Shortly thereafter, the Wrecks of HMS Erebus and HMS Terror National Historic Site of Canada Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement was signed outlining the importance of co-management, monitoring, and partnership between Parks Canada and Inuit of the region.

This cooperation led to the expansion of the Nattilik Heritage Centre. Opened June 2025, it houses offices, multipurpose community spaces, a studio for oral histories, a makerspace, and storage for belongings and artifacts. Further, it was determined that selected artifacts excavated from the shipwrecks would be displayed in a purpose-built NHC exhibition where oral histories of local Inuit share how explorers affected traditional ways of life. "Unlocking the Ice" showcases artifacts from the shipwrecks alongside historic and contemporary Inuit belongings with a narrative that centers Natchilik knowledge.

Jennifer Ullulaq, Campbell Cameron, and Sarah Beam-Borg will outline how collaboration with NHC staff and engagement with local Community guided this project and harnessed the power of co-creation built on trust and passion. A dynamic hub for cultural heritage, the NHC serves as a powerful model for shared stewardship throughout the region.

To Site or Not to Site: Interrogating Colonizing Practice in Archaeology

Beaulieu, Terry¹

¹ St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, Nova Scotia, Canada

Podium Session: Heritage Landscapes: Rediscovered, remembered, and recreated

For more than two decades there have been calls to acknowledge and redress colonizing practices in archaeology. While progress has been made, some processes remain largely unchallenged. If archaeology is not willing to earnestly examine - and potentially jettison - fundamental disciplinary concepts and practices for their potentially colonizing impacts, can the discipline legitimately claim to be earnestly addressing charges of colonialism? Consider the foundational concept of the archaeological site. Archaeological sites are modern constructions subjectively defined by Western trained archaeologists, employing Western concepts, for Western audiences. And it is largely those subjective Western creations that legitimize past Indigenous place in the minds of the public, government, and industry. Furthermore, the spaces beyond the boundaries of those Western defined archaeological sites necessarily become characterized as archaeologically inferior to those lying within the bounds of the archaeological sites. The simple practice of creating an archaeological site imposes Western concepts of space onto Indigenous place and necessarily becomes a colonizing practice. The reluctance to thoroughly interrogate the colonizing effects of the archaeological site concept, then, must also be a colonizing practice. If archaeology is serious about decolonizing the discipline, is it time to eschew the rigid adherence to the archaeological site concept?

The Graduate Perspective: Being Stewards of Existing Relationships and Conducting Community-Based Research

Beisswenger-Mooney, Natascha¹; Succee, Rory¹; and Markert, Patricia G.¹

¹ Department of Anthropology, Western University, London, Ontario, Canada

Podium Session: The long and winding road of slow archaeology

Grad student projects take place over short periods of time and might not be what one thinks about when they think of “slow” research. However, our masters’ projects are an extension of nearly a decade’s worth of community-based work in Medina County, Texas. In this paper, we reflect on our experiences of being stewards of our supervisors (Dr. Patricia G. Markert) community relationships, while also creating our own community connections through participating in community events, and interactions that extend beyond our research into our daily life. One of the projects uses photogrammetry and oral history interviews to understand German-Texan experiences during World War Two as well as the architecture of two settler homes in Quihi, Texas. The other project surveyed St. Dominic’s cemetery in D’Hanis, Texas to study how 19th century headstones reflect identity, social, cultural, and artistic trends of the time. In both projects, community members participated in the collection of data and provided vital information. We conclude by reflecting on the ways that our experiences with the community not only shaped and influenced our research but also helped shape us as researchers.

Fur-Trade Sites and Maps

Belyea, Barbara¹

¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: Historical Archaeology in Western Canadian Contexts: New and Emerging Perspectives

In 1774 the Hudson’s Bay Company built Cumberland House to compete with increased Montreal trade west of Lake Winnipeg. By then the Montreal men were headed north to Lake Athabasca. Cumberland House masters took note of rivals passing their door for fifteen years before Philip Turnor and Peter Fidler surveyed the northern route in 1790-92. Ten more years elapsed before Fidler built Nottingham House.

These events cover the decades before two companies faced each other in the fierce competition described in fur-trade histories. How did the trade “expand” during this time? Archaeological reports use dots to signify an accumulation of sites. What these maps don’t show is the pattern of post construction and short-lived occupation. Nor do they show the traders’ changing image of the territories they colonized.

My paper looks at the uneven pattern of fur-trade progress to Lake Athabasca. Maps drawn in the 1770s are compared with the Turnor-Fidler survey of 1790-92. A new “dot” map based on the survey locates the posts that Turnor and Fidler observed in passing their doors. Since house plans are small maps, the paper also looks at Fidler’s plan for a new Nottingham House.

More Data, More Better? Evaluating Multi-Channel GPR Arrays for Burial Investigations

Bender, Isaac S.^{1,2}

¹ TMHC Inc., London, Ontario, Canada

² Western University, London, Ontario, Canada

Podium Session (pre-recorded): Non-Invasive Archaeology and Truth and Reconciliation

Multi-channel GPR arrays are increasingly promoted as an efficient means of rapidly surveying large areas at high spatial resolution for graves. This paper examines whether that apparent efficiency translates into more effective grave identification in practice. Although arrays allow for denser sampling and faster coverage compared to more traditional single-channel systems, higher spatial resolution does not necessarily produce clearer or more reliable results. Array workflows often place interpretive emphasis on 3D amplitude maps, even though the clearest indicators of graves are often only visible in individual profiles. This is particularly important because grave detectability often depends on subtle contrasts between the grave shaft, grave fill, and local geology. As a result, graves may only appear as subtle reflections in individual profiles while remaining effectively invisible in 3D amplitude maps. This presentation considers the often-overlooked costs of array surveying, including increased processing time and the data interpretation, storage, and sovereignty burdens created by these very large datasets. These limitations emphasize the importance of using geophysics in conjunction with other lines of evidence, including survivor testimony, archival documentation, local cemetery records, and historical landscape change, so that fieldwork can be directed toward the highest potential areas.

Heritage Resource Assessment Studies for the Coffee Gold Project

Bennett, Tim¹

¹ Ecofor Consulting Ltd., Canada

Podium Session: CCRA CRM Archaeology Showcase

The Coffee Gold Project is located approximately 130 km south of Dawson City, YT and 95 km north-east of Beaver Creek, YT within the traditional territories of the Tr’ondëk Hwëch’in, Selkirk First Nation, the First Nation of Na-cho Nyäk Dun, and asserted territory of the White River First Nation. The Coffee claims were first staked in 2006, and Ecofor Consulting Ltd. has been involved with the heritage resource program for the project since 2016. Ecofor’s involvement builds on three heritage resource studies conducted before Ecofor joined the project, and has led to an additional two Heritage Resource Overview Assessments, 10 Heritage Resource Impact Assessments (HRIAs) related to the claims themselves, and three HRIAs related to the Northern Access Route access road linking the claims to the Yukon highway system. Combined these studies have identified/assessed 53 archaeological sites and 16 Yukon Historic Sites Inventory. This body of work has been instrumental in developing a comprehensive Heritage Resource Protection Plan for the project. This presentation summarizes the heritage work done to date, highlights some of the significant sites that have been recorded, and sets the stage for future work related to the Coffee Gold Project.

Beyond the Citadel: Mapping the Complex Fortification System of a Medieval City Site Using LiDAR - A Case Study of Samshvilde (Georgia, South Caucasus)

Berikashvili, David¹

¹ The University of Georgia, Tbilisi, Georgia

Podium Session: Castles, Strongholds, and Fortifications of the Medieval Period in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus

Medieval fortresses and fortified settlements constitute a pivotal component of the South Caucasus’ cultural heritage, embodying the region’s intricate political and urban trajectories. Within this context, the archaeological complex of Samshvilde in southern Georgia offers a critical case study for examining the evolution and organization of medieval landscapes. Despite its significance, the fortification system of Samshvilde has remained largely understudied, with limited understanding of its spatial organization, defensive strategies, and hydrological infrastructure. Previous archaeological excavations, conducted over the past decade, have provided valuable but insufficient insights. The layout of the Samshvilde

Citadel, in particular, was poorly understood, as it appeared to function as the site's sole fortified element—a configuration atypical for medieval Caucasian urban centers—an impression reinforced by dense vegetation. To overcome these limitations, LiDAR survey was undertaken in summer 2024, documenting the citadel and its surroundings. The resulting data necessitate a significant reinterpretation of the site's defensive network, revealing a complex system comprising two principal components and multiple towers. This study underscores the potential of non-invasive methodologies to advance the analysis of medieval urban and military infrastructures in the region.

If Walls Could Talk: The Stories Heritage Homes Help Retell

Beisswenger-Mooney, Natascha¹

¹ Department of Anthropology, Western University, London, Ontario, Canada

Podium Session: Heritage Landscapes: Rediscovered, remembered, and recreated

In this paper, I present early findings from my master's research regarding how the heritage landscape of German-Texan settlers in Quihi, Texas, has been remembered and engaged with by the descendant community. Quihi was settled by German migrants as part of a settler-colonial project in the 19th century. In the decades following German settlers' arrival in Quihi, they began constructing rock houses and creating a new built landscape with churches and shops. Some of these 19th-century buildings still stand, while others have fallen into ruin. My research focuses on two of the 19th-century rock houses that have fallen into ruin, as well as the landscape surrounding them. During my fieldwork, I created 3D models of the ruins using photogrammetry and conducted semi-structured oral history interviews with seven individuals from the descendant community, focusing on personal and family experiences with these houses. During the interview participants shared recollections of (re)discovery of their ancestors' homes, how those who lived there remember them, and information about the houses' lives. I conclude by discussing how the 3D models are being layered with archives and the oral histories to create public-facing outputs.

Archaeology is Culture History, or it is Nothing: Culture History as an Epi-Paradigmatic Framework for Archaeological Practice

Betts, Matthew¹; Hrynick, M. Gabriel²; and Anderson, Arthur³

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² University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada

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Podium Session: Archaeological Theory Showcase

For nearly seventy years, archaeologists have argued that culture history is a paradigm that should be “excised” from the discipline (Feinman and Neitzel, 2020:1). Critiques initiated by processualists and expanded by advocates of post-processual, behavioral, Darwinian, historical-processual, and relational paradigms have been reinvigorated by advocates of large-scale radiometric dating and Bayesian modeling. These new criticisms, however, have scarcely evolved, focusing on four points: 1) culture history's normative and homogeneous concept of culture; 2) its reliance on migration and diffusion as mechanisms of change; 3) its assumption of cultural-biological correspondence; and 4) its susceptibility to political misuse. Yet culture history endures, providing the structural framework for archaeological practice worldwide. We argue that culture history has been mischaracterized by conflating it with the normative-diffusionist paradigm. By divorcing it from specific theories of cultural change, it becomes “epi-paradigmatic”, an overarching framework operating prior to and independent of explanatory theory. Its core tenets - description, systematics, classification, and periodization - are logically indispensable prior to theoretical interpretation. A renewed commitment to this form of culture history is essential for description and archiving, interpretation and comparison, Cultural Resource Management, community collaboration, and climate crisis archaeology.

From Admiralty Plans to Arctic Seabed: Reconciling Design, Fitting, and Modification Aboard HMS Terror (1845)

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¹ Independent Researcher

² Parks Canada – Underwater Archaeology Team

Podium Session: “The Expedition excites the strongest interest”: Recent Archaeology, Research and Public Presentation on Sir John Franklin’s 1845 Northwest Passage Expedition

This paper presents the first systematic comparison between the historically reconstructed “as designed” 1845 configuration of HMS Terror and its wreck in Terror Bay, Nunavut, investigated by Parks Canada’s Underwater Archaeology Team from 2016 to 2024.

The historical reconstruction draws on Admiralty plans, official and private correspondence, patent documentation, naval gazettes, newspaper accounts, expedition narratives, and scientific compendia. These sources were synthesized to create detailed plans of the ship’s upper and lower decks as configured at the commencement of the Franklin Expedition in 1845. These reconstructions are juxtaposed with archaeological plans derived from diving observations, sketches, sonar, high-resolution photography, and video, yielding interpretive plans of the decks and fittings. Enabled by the wreck’s near-pristine condition and minimal post-sinking disturbance, the comparison reveals undocumented modifications absent from known historical records. Some alterations likely occurred during final dockside preparations, while others suggest adaptive changes made during the expedition. By integrating these historical and archaeological datasets, the study provides fresh insights into vessel performance, shipboard life, and operational decisions during a nineteenth-century Arctic exploration. It illustrates how Admiralty designs were adapted through dockyard practices and Arctic exigencies, underscoring the value of combining archival reconstruction with underwater archaeology for interpreting well-preserved naval vessels.

K’ómoks First Nation’s Cultural Heritage Inspection Permits (CHIPs): A Reconcili-Action Tool

Bevilacqua, Raini¹

¹ K’ómoks First Nation

Podium Session (pre-recorded): Supplementing, Transcending, and Subverting Conventional Archaeological Regulation

Although archaeology is provincially protected, the lack of awareness of the Heritage Conservation Act, as well as the shortcomings of the Act itself, led the K’ómoks First Nation (KFN) to enact its Cultural Heritage Policy (CHP) in 2020, which states that the KFN “in the spirit of reconciliation ... commit to working with the newcomers in the appropriate management of our cultural heritage. By enacting the [CHP], we are reconciling our Aboriginal rights and title to our territory, with the newcomers’ desire to live in and modify our territory.” The CHIP program is a way for KFN to obtain free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC) on ground altering projects. CHIPs are required for medium/large project within the designated area of archaeological potential, a zone created by buffering known archaeological sites and major waterways. The minimum requirement of a site survey (preliminary field reconnaissance) or construction monitoring prior to ground alteration, as well as CHIPs for Provincially permitted projects, has allowed for KFN to obtain FPIC, and has created avenues for early site detection, cultural heritage mitigation, and increased public and governmental awareness of provincial requirements and the importance of K’ómoks history, while decreasing site destruction, and project timelines and costs.

Independent Technical Review in support of Indigenous Cultural Heritage in the Alberta Oilsands

Blaikie-Birkigt, Kurtis¹

¹ Blaikie Archaeological Consulting, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: Supplementing, Transcending, and Subverting Conventional Archaeological Regulation

In the Alberta oilsands, First Nations are systematically excluded from the Historical Resources Act compliance process. Since 2013 I have worked as an independent technical reviewer for several First Nations, providing comments on cultural heritage concerns as part of the project Consultation process. Although these technical reviews have no formal regulatory weight, they have exerted pressure and influence on project proponents to ensure HRA compliance and best practices.

This work supplements the Alberta regulatory framework by ensuring additional oversight on project HRA compliance, integrating an extensive TLU database into project reviews, and filling a regulatory capacity gap in long-term monitoring. Over the years, I’ve attempted to transcend the “minimum regulatory requirements” status quo by communicating best practices, and working to develop First Nation cultural heritage policy and procedures. I have also had the opportunity to work

collaboratively to address cultural heritage challenges that fall outside the routine regulatory process. I've also made efforts to subvert the project-based regulatory regime to address cumulative impacts, and the "rocks in boxes" mitigation model to address the real loss of local community heritage.

"The Mid-Career Off Ramp" - Improving career paths in Alberta CRM

Blaikie-Birkigt, Kurtis¹

¹ Blaikie Archaeological Consulting, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: "They didn't teach us that in archaeology school" Career Skills for CRM

The Canadian CRM sector is facing a capacity crisis driven by training gaps and poor retention. Research has indicated that both skills alignment and satisfaction increase with experience. I argue this is mainly due to survivorship bias. Workers unsatisfied with the industry's structural flaws exit via a "mid-career off-ramp", taking their experience with them. We need to address both junior preparedness and senior retention. First, we need to ensure students have a clear picture of the CRM career path. Transparency about the business of regulatory compliance will recruit workers better suited for long-term consulting careers. Second, we need to address the misalignment between the compliance business and a permitting system built for academic research. I propose a pair of policy changes that will help keep experience in the sector:

- Revised Permitting Standards: Formally implement permitting based on regional and subject-matter expertise.
- Structural Mentoring: Reduce direct field supervision requirements for senior staff in exchange for formal oversight roles.

These changes would increase the business value of experience to improve compensation and work-life balance, while building oversight and mentoring into the regulatory framework to support knowledge transfer, and keep expertise in the field when it matters.

Lessons in Kalaallisut - Academic Partnerships: The Aasivissuit - Nipisat Interactive Heritage Map, West Greenland

Boassen-Ilisimatusarfik, Paninnguaq¹; and Porter, M. Cecilia²

¹ University of Greenland, Nuuk, Greenland

² University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey *

This poster specifically engages with the question how better approached Academic – Kalaallit Inuit partnerships can better co-produce and represent knowledge. This question is considered via a case study of the creation of an interactive heritage map for the Aasivissuit – Nipisat UNESCO World Heritage site in West Greenland. Specifically the project team, which comprised one Kalaaleq (Greenlandic Inuk) project staff member and one settler-Canadian researcher, is considered. These differing professional and personal positions brought different perspectives to the work. The poster highlights lessons learned in the development of the map project, as well as key takeaways with regards to pursuing genuine community - academic partnership.

Nursing Fawns or Hunting Deer? Reassessing Deer Husbandry in the Maya World

Boileau, Arianne¹

¹ Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: Research Methods in Mesoamerican Archaeology

Ethnohistoric sources have often been used to suggest that the ancient Maya practiced deer husbandry. A well-known 16th-century account by Diego de Landa describes fawns being raised in Maya households, with young deer even suckling from women's breasts. Whether these passages reflect episodes of household taming versus systematic provisioning remains uncertain, as archaeological evidence for deer husbandry is limited and ambiguous. This paper assesses the hypothesis of deer husbandry in the Maya world by integrating zooarchaeology, stable isotope analysis, and iconographic evidence, treating each dataset as necessary but not sufficient on its own. Zooarchaeological data offer a baseline for evaluating deer exploitation through skeletal patterns, mortality profiles, and butchery practices that may indicate captive management rather than opportunistic hunting. Stable carbon and nitrogen isotope analysis of deer tissues helps differentiate between sustained maize provisioning and diets influenced by field-edge foraging in human-modified landscapes. Finally,

deer imagery in elite and ritual media provides insight into how this animal was conceptualized within Maya society, clarifying where, if at all, management would be archaeologically visible. Collectively, these lines of evidence suggest that, although support for widespread deer husbandry remains limited, deer were highly valued animals associated with elite consumption and ritual activities.

Ancient Lanka: A Model for International Collaboration and Diamond Standard Open Access Publishing

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Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey *

Ancient Lanka, is a diamond-standard open-access journal that supports reconstructing the past, archaeological and beyond, within Sri Lankan contexts and through collaborative academic publishing. Hosted by the Mount Royal University Library and sustained through volunteer editorial work and institutional support, the journal offers a decolonial pathway amplifying diverse voices by publishing in three languages: English, Sinhala, and Tamil, while using open review, that supports transparency and constructive scholarly exchange. The editorial team consists of volunteer professionals who work collaboratively with authors. The journal involves Mount Royal University undergraduates who work closely with the Editor-in-Chief as Research Assistants, assisting with correspondence, proofreading, references and article formatting. Research Assistants benefit by developing transversal skills, while being valued members of an open access publishing community. This poster highlights the international collaborations undertaken to create Volume 4 (2025), commemorating the life and work of a distinguished Sri Lankan archaeologist, Professor Sudharshan Seneviratne. The volume embraces interdisciplinarity with articles on archaeological excavations, surveys, material culture, and commentaries that illuminate Sri Lanka's past.

Strong Like Two People: Reflecting on Methodology, Practice, and Positionality

Bourgeois, Rebecca¹

¹ Western University, London, Ontario, Canada

Podium Session: The long and winding road of slow archaeology

The Tłı̄ch̄q strive to be “strong like two people,” which means that they work to bring together people from diverse perspectives to build a toward the future collaboratively. In this presentation, I detail our process to build out a strong like two research methodology, which unites traditions, communities, Elders, youth, researchers, and language as kindling from which to ignite a fire for teaching and learning. Built from participatory action research, grounded theory, collaborative research paradigms, and Tłı̄ch̄q traditional values, a strong like two research methodology unites people of different backgrounds under a common purpose. Further, it equips research team members with the confidence they need to go out and seek knowledge, returning to the group for collaborative interpretation. While our approach requires the investment of time to establish the fundamentals of a project prior to jumping into direct research questions, this slow start leads to greater relationships, more impactful research practices, and heightened efficiency within a program that centers Indigenous values

Trust is Key, and Trust takes Time: Archaeology in Kahnwà:ke in the 21st century

Bracewell, Jennifer¹; Cross-Delisle, Katsi'tsahén:te²

¹ Projet Onkwehón:we Project

² Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke, Kahnawake, Quebec, Canada

Podium Session: The long and winding road of slow archaeology

In this presentation we will be giving two very different perspectives on archaeology in the Kanien'kehá:ka (Mohawk) community of Kahnawà:ke.

Jennifer's experience in Kahnawà:ke began with her first field excavation as an undergraduate at McGill in 2002. She will discuss the context of that first excavation, as well as the slow process of building relationships over a number of years when interest in archaeology in the community deepened and became more political. She will end at a turning point, when she met Christine Zachary-Deom, an extraordinary woman and Chief who set up the band council's first archaeology department.

Katsi'tsahén:te presents a reflective examination of the development of Archaeology in Kahnawà:ke, rooted in the foundational work and vision of Christine Zachary-Deom. Recounting an early field school encounter involving the uncovering

of Ancestral Remains, an event that shaped her professional trajectory. The importance of building meaningful relationships, within the community, across the broader Western scientific field and with governmental entities. Emphasizing that such relationships require ongoing education, mutual respect, and a willingness among researchers to be accountable.

More Than Burned Stone: Confronting the Barriers Limiting Fire-broken Rock (FBR) Research

Bradford, Allie¹

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Podium Session: CCRA CRM Archaeology Showcase

Fire-broken rock (FBR) and burned-rock features (BRF) are among the most ubiquitous yet poorly understood components of the archaeological record, despite their significant potential to inform interpretations of past human behavior. Throughout the Holocene, BRF functioned as cooking facilities, heat sources, and focal points of social and ceremonial activity. These features are typically identified through concentrations of FBR—thermally altered stone exhibiting discoloration, fracturing, and other heat-induced modifications.

This paper argues that current approaches, utilized in both academic and cultural resource management (CRM) contexts, for identifying and classifying BRF are insufficient, resulting in misinterpretation of these features. These challenges are exacerbated by inconsistent excavation methods, variable recording practices, and a lack of standardized terminology. Consequently, BRF are frequently oversimplified or misidentified, limiting their analytical and comparative value.

Drawing on data from the Junction Site (DkPi-2) in southern Alberta, this paper demonstrates the need for a more rigorous and standardized framework for BRF identification and classification. By emphasizing methodological clarity and standardized approaches to recording BRF, this work underscores the importance of these features as key proxies for understanding past technological practices, site use, and cultural behavior.

Newfoundland and Labrador's Provincial Archaeology Office Review

Brake, Jamie¹

¹ Newfoundland Provincial Archaeologist

Podium Session: Publishing CRM and Academic Research in Canada: Where, How, and Why

The Provincial Archaeology Office (PAO) Annual Review began in 2002 as a two page newsletter intended to provide a brief overview of archaeological activity in Newfoundland and Labrador. Nearly twenty five years later, it has evolved into a substantial online journal, with recent volumes typically ranging between 250 and 300 pages. Each year, archaeologists holding NL permits—whether for academic research or impact assessment—are invited to submit an article summarizing their fieldwork. This process fulfills interim reporting requirements under the Archaeological Investigation Permit Regulations and has resulted in near universal participation by permit holders. The outcome is the rapid dissemination of archaeological data and interpretations to professional, student, and public audiences. The Review is widely read and routinely cited and it was recognized by the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador in 2012 through a Public Service Award of Excellence. It received national recognition in 2021 through a Canadian Archaeological Association Public Communications Award. Its scope has expanded well beyond NL, with contributions from across Atlantic Canada, Quebec, Parks Canada, and Saint Pierre and Miquelon, as well as specialists in underwater archaeology, conservation, dendrochronology, and bioarchaeology. A retrospective analysis published in the 20th anniversary volume identified long term trends in archaeological research and practice. With the 25th anniversary approaching, this paper revisits the PAO Review to examine emerging themes, institutional collaborations, and shifting research priorities, highlighting its enduring role as a central platform for archaeological knowledge exchange in the region.

New Insights on Methodological Approaches in Examining Looted Human and Animal Remains in the Jequetepeque Valley, Peru

Breau, Samantha¹; Pacheco, Ellen¹; Berquist, Stephen

¹ University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Podium Session: Heritage Landscapes: Rediscovered, remembered, and recreated

Mortuary practices are well documented throughout the Jequetepeque Valley in the North Coast of Peru (Alaica, 2022; Donnan et al., 1997; Huffman, 1997; Tomasto-Cagigao et al., 2016; Zabler and Sutter, 2016; Zori and Johnson, 2011). Issues in relation to archaeological disturbances and looting activity in the region have significantly impacted how we are able to both collect and examine osteological material. As such, the need for salvage-based excavations has become necessary to provide future direction in navigating these issues. The presence of extensive looted funerary material, both osteological and other artifacts such as ceramics, within the boundaries of the Cañoncillo Archaeological Project (2004-present) in the Jequetepeque Valley presents the opportunity to explore novel approaches in such salvage-based methods. This paper presents the preliminary results from the 2025 field season and offers insight into novel approaches in the region in identifying looted versus non-looted material/structures, and how we aim to continue future exploration of the region in collaboration with the local community of Jatanca. Overall, we aim to provide alternate perspectives on the importance of the materials from looted contexts and emphasize how such material can benefit both academic and local understanding of the past.

Money, Political Agenda and Ill-informed Enthusiasts: shining the light on science in a pseudo-scientific world. A Public Former Servant's perspective

Brewer, Gary¹

¹ Kleanza Consulting Ltd, British Columbia, Canada

Podium Session: Combating Anti-Intellectualism and Pseudoarchaeology through Public Engagement

Since the creation of effective, globally connected mass media, archaeology has been dragged out of the shadows of academia along with urban and rural myths to join the pantheon of speculative science. Held up alongside the great unsolved mysteries of the world, "alternative" archaeological interpretations are considered on par with cryptids (here there be dragons!), legendary epic sagas of Classical and Norse mythology (if some legends are based in fact then aren't they all?), and the plethora of validated and unvalidated religious texts from all of the world's great religions. This paper explores the origins of pseudo-science as it relates to archaeology, with several case studies managed in a provincial government CRM context by the author and discusses a number of possible solutions to illuminating the facts and filtering out the fiction of archaeology for public consumption.

Bison ecology at the late AD 13th century Promontory Caves: Insights from carbon and oxygen isotopes in serially-sampled tooth enamel

Briggs, Emily¹; Metcalfe, Jessica Z.¹; Widga, Chris²; Ives, John W.³

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³ Department of Anthropology, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: Deep in Time and Vast in Expanse: The Dene Language Family in Western North America

Bison are the most abundant animal species found in the Promontory Caves of Utah during their late 13th century AD occupation. The presence of bison at Promontory Point during this interval was likely responsible for the intensive human use of the caves. Yet we know little about bison migration or the ecological contexts for seasonal bison hunting at Promontory. Were bison present at Promontory year-round, or only during particular seasons? Were bison skeletal remains obtained from different bison herds visiting the area at different times of year? To address these questions, we obtained carbon and oxygen isotope values ($\delta^{13}\text{C}$, $\delta^{18}\text{O}$) for serial enamel samples collected from six bison molars. Five molars had inverse relationships in $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$, suggesting the animals engaged in consistent seasonal movement patterns and/or were from the same herd. The sixth molar had an inverse relationship through most of its sequence, but also a short-term transition to higher $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values. Strontium isotope analysis will help determine whether this individual made a brief journey away from its typical range.

Proposing a New Categorization System for the Pottery of Meroë, Sudan

Brotherton, Adam¹; and Lamoureux-St-Hilaire, Maxime¹

¹ Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey *

Mount Royal University (MRU) holds a vast pottery collection excavated at the ancient Nubian city of Meroë (Sudan), some of which is now used for teaching purposes. Surprisingly and despite a complex history of ceramic production, little research has been done in regards to proposing a comprehensive ceramic classification system for Meroë. This poster presents a new type-variety classification for Meroitic pottery that goes beyond the traditional four-clay-colour system (Brown, Red, Grey, and Eggshell).

The proposed type-variety classification system was developed based on the analysis of a sample of 1614 sherds from MRU's collection. The principal attributes used for the system are: the clay colour and visible inclusions, the presence of overall external surface treatment (such as slip), and further research into broader decoration metrics. Our results suggest that up to 36 type-varieties can be reconstructed for Meroitic pottery, organized around five distinct clay types (adding a new distinction between fine and coarse red), a mix of slipped/unslipped surface treatments, and decorated/undecorated vessels.

Join us to discuss the research process behind the creation of this system and to explore photographs of some of the most diagnostic new pottery types we propose.

What Goes Around Comes Around: Adoptions and Adaptations of Archaeological Theory in the Past Excavations at Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump

Bubel, Shawn¹; and McGeough, Kevin¹

¹ University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session (ASA): Papers in Honour of Dr. Brian (Barney) Reeves

Inspired by a presentation on the past and future of Alberta archaeology delivered by Barney Reeves at the 40th Anniversary of the Archaeological Society of Alberta, this paper explores how the excavators of Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump have driven the theoretical approaches to archaeology in the province. As one of the most internationally recognized sites in Alberta, excavations at Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump have both mirrored and defied the trends in archaeological theory in other parts of North America and the world. Barney Reeves, for example, in his work at HSIBJ, offered an approach to Alberta prehistory that merged culture-historical methods with insights derived from cultural ecology and Parsonian processualism that came to be idiosyncratically foundational for archaeology in the province. This paper will discuss the theoretical contributions of Reeves and other previous investigators, such as Junius Bird and Boyd Wettlaufer, and examine how those contributions reflect larger trends in the development of archaeological theory and method in Alberta.

The Impact of Contact on Houses and Social Behaviour at the Village Site of ts'unay

Burant, Angela

Podium Session: Coastal Visions: Archaeology, Landscapes, and Living Knowledge in shíshálh swiya

The shíshálh Nation's existence during the precontact period has been well established, but minimal data has been collected to show their continued presence throughout and after Contact. The case study of ts'unay, one of the shíshálh Nation's first four villages of creation, reviews the impacts of Contact on social behaviour expressed spatially within households through a holistic lens. Taking a household archaeology approach, this study uses archaeological information alongside oral history, historical documents, and interviews with community members to establish family affiliation between the households at ts'unay and the shíshálh Nation. This work will show the continuation of shíshálh people occupying the swiya and demonstrates that change occurred in social behaviour at ts'unay due to forced shifts in shíshálh worldview after Contact. Despite the many changes that occurred, community and identity remained fundamental to ts'unay social organization.

From University to Field to Office: Building Essential CRM Skills with a Focus on Regulatory Submissions

Burchill, Alexandra¹

¹ Archaeological Survey of Alberta, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: "They didn't teach us that in archaeology school" Career Skills for CRM

Cultural Resource Management (CRM) plays a critical role in protecting archaeological resources while enabling responsible development. As regulatory frameworks grow increasingly complex, students entering the field must develop a diverse skill set that extends beyond traditional archaeological training. This presentation explores practical strategies students and eligible permits holders can use to strengthen their competencies in CRM and produce higher-quality regulatory submissions to government agencies.

The talk highlights areas that are essential for effective CRM practice, specifically regulatory literacy, technical reporting, field documentation, data management, soil science, GIS skills, and professional communication. Emphasis is placed on understanding heritage legislation and compliance requirements, organizing and interpreting field data for regulatory review, and producing clear, defensible reports that meet government standards.

Reeves: First Encounters

Byrne, Bill

Podium Session (ASA): Papers in Honour of Dr. Brian (Barney) Reeves

My long and convoluted history with Brian Olfert Kemmis Reeves began with my first exposure to archaeological field work in 1963. I had just completed my freshman year at what was then called "The University of Alberta at Calgary" when the university did not yet have a Department of Archaeology but had announced that one would be established in the coming academic year. Barney had already been accepted as a graduate student in the forthcoming department. That year he was still employed by the Glenbow Museum, and the project I was to participate in with him that summer was funded by and executed by the same institution. That began a memorable journey for both of us, with our professional and personal association persisting for the best part of the next many decades. My comments will relate some of those earliest moments.

Put Down the Glue: Archaeological Pottery Deconstruction

Calder-Rasmussen, Fynley¹

¹ Royal Saskatchewan Museum, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey *

New technologies and techniques have made archaeological pottery reconstructions increasingly rare in research contexts, and recognition of the damage caused by this practice has prompted shifts in materials and methods where it is still applied. At the Royal Saskatchewan Museum, vessels reconstructed with adhesives now recognized as inherently damaging to pottery were identified in the collection with conservators tasked with deconstruction to prevent further damage. This process is presented as our pilot study that focused on removing such adhesives from prehistoric pottery from a significant bison drive site in Southcentral Saskatchewan (EcNm-8). UV-A induced visible fluorescence photography and spot testing were employed to identify the adhesives present followed by mechanical and chemical removal of the adhesives as dictated by the types identified. Due to the porosity of the ceramic fabric, complete adhesive removal cannot be claimed. However, this treatment achieved the maximum practical reduction consistent with conservation best practice.

Sensing Heritage: A multisensory ethnographic approach to Indigenous perspectives in Francisco Sarabia, Chiapas, Mexico.

Campos Diaz, Lyla Patricia¹

¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: Research Methods in Mesoamerican Archaeology

This paper presents findings from community-engaged research examining Indigenous perspectives on cultural heritage in Francisco Sarabia, Chiapas, Mexico. Moving beyond traditional archaeological approaches that privilege visual and material analysis, this research employs a multisensory ethnographic methodology to understand how heritage is experienced and

given meaning through embodied practices. The study centers on ceremonial and pilgrimage traditions where heritage emerges as a living, multisensory phenomenon. Through collaborative work with community members, the research traces how maize connects archaeological sites with contemporary devotional practices dedicated to a colonial oil painting of the Virgen Corazón de María. The sensory dimensions of heritage become evident through pilgrimage journeys and ceremonial performances. These embodied experiences reveal how sight, sound, smell, taste, and movement interweave to create meaningful heritage encounters that resist institutional categories. Drawing on conservation training where hands-on engagement shapes understanding, this research demonstrates how multisensory approaches reveal the gaps between professional heritage management and community-based practices. This work contributes to decolonizing methodologies in Latin American archaeology by centering Indigenous epistemologies and sensory ways of knowing that institutional frameworks often overlook.

Archaeology within a Landscape of Contested Sovereignties: Reflections on an Failed Attempt at Community Collaboration at a Heritage Site in Montreal, Quebec

Canady-Binette, Karonhianoron Dallas¹

¹ McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Podium Session: Supplementing, Transcending, and Subverting Conventional Archaeological Regulation

In Quebec, collaboration between professional archaeologists and Indigenous peoples is a rare and relatively recent phenomenon. Current legislation governing archaeology in the province does not include parameters for what collaboration should look like and renders almost all decision-making powers to the Minister of Culture and Communications. This disconnect is further exacerbated for English-speaking Indigenous communities due to the fact that most practicing archaeologists in the province are francophone.

This presentation offers a Kanien'keha:ka perspective on a unique attempt at a cooperative archaeological project at the Royal Victoria Hospital site in downtown Montreal, Quebec. Here, a number of diverse stakeholders converged including a university, the provincial government, and a collective of Indigenous women known as the Mohawk Mothers. Although the relationship between archaeologists and Indigenous stakeholders began positively, the work environment quickly became adversarial. While professional archaeologists conceptualized collaboration as accommodating cultural difference, Indigenous stakeholders repeatedly asserted their rights to sovereignty and self-determination and insisted on disrupting historical power dynamics. Drawing on ethnographic notes taken during my time as part of a team of Indigenous cultural monitors, I argue that this attempt ultimately failed due to a profound misunderstanding of what it means to collaborate with Indigenous peoples.

Ancient DNA Analysis of Caribou and Muskox Remains from Banks Island: Implications for Biodiversity and Past Human Subsistence

Cao, Yuxin¹; Hodgetts, Lisa²; Rodrigues, Antonia¹; Zhang, Hua¹; and Yang, Dongya¹

¹ Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada

² Western University, London, Ontario, Canada

Podium Session: Biomolecular Archaeology in Conservation

Caribou and muskox are native species to Banks Island in Inuvialuit Nunangat (the Inuvialuit homelands in Canada's Northwest Territories). Their skeletal remains are found in many archaeological sites across the island, suggesting that they played a key role in the subsistence of past humans. Inuvialuit knowledge and historical records show that their populations have fluctuated dramatically since the early 20th century, raising questions about their long-term stability, as well as the impact of these fluctuations on the Indigenous Inuvialuit community and the Arctic ecosystem. To better understand how and why these fluctuations occur and their possible impacts, an investigation into the species' past populations through ancient DNA is needed.

We analyzed 105 caribou and 123 muskox bones from 17 Banks Island sites that span over 3,000 years. We obtained mitochondrial D-Loop fragments with a high success rate (>85%), allowing the reconstruction of past population size changes and haplogroup replacements. These events will be integrated with knowledge of human activities, interspecific competition, and climate change in the region to explore their interconnections. This study will shed light on the patterns and mechanisms of caribou and muskox population changes and how past humans interacted with them, eventually informing future conservation strategies.

The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly of Archaeology YouTube

Carbonell, Curt

Podium Session: Combating Anti-Intellectualism and Pseudoarchaeology through Public Engagement

Popular video and social media platforms such as YouTube, TikTok, Instagram, X (formerly known as Twitter), Facebook, and others provide free and unprecedented access to information for anyone with an Internet connection. However, the veracity of the content created and shared on these platforms is difficult for the interested layperson to discern, especially when content exposure is governed by algorithms that primarily promote engagement (positive or otherwise), not truth. Nevertheless, there is good archaeology being shared on social media, just as there is bad and downright ugly pseudoarchaeological content vying for views, likes, and subscriptions. In an environment where financial success is determined not by the integrity of the content but by the number of views one has, content creators are often incentivized to get views by any means possible, which can lead to opaque ethical situations. This paper reviews twelve popular YouTube channels dealing directly or indirectly with archaeological theory, results, or popular discourse, and regarding them from the perspective of a professional archaeologist. Several observations are then provided to highlight strategies for effective public engagement in archaeology, i.e., what seems to work, what doesn't work, what to avoid, as well as common trends in the archaeology-pseudoarchaeological conflict.

Learning from the Land: Experiential Learning in Archaeology

Cascadden-Jassal, Zoe¹; and Amundsen-Meyer, Lindsay¹

¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey *

The pedagogies and teaching strategies used in archaeology has shifted as community archaeology has grown in North American archaeology. Within this shift, land-based learning experiences have been identified as important opportunities for students to connect with and critically understand the deeper implications of what they are learning. This poster will discuss the outcomes of a study that explored the benefit in learning students received from in-the-field learning and inclusion of non-University affiliated educators including Indigenous Elders, heritage experts, and professional archaeologists in learning curricula. We will present the results of a multi-year Scholarship of Teaching and Learning study completed during three seasons of the University of Calgary field school. Data collected through anonymous reflections and group interviews was analyzed using Thematic Analysis. The data was codified and key themes were identified for the 2022, 2023, and 2024 field seasons. Some of the key themes included increased inter-cultural competency confidence, connection of landscape and archaeology, and increased understanding of the complexities of archaeology and Indigenous history.

Digital Storytelling and the Commemoration of Indian Residential School Landscapes: A Reflection on Data, Accessibility, and Proprietary Software

Cascadden-Jassal, Zoe¹; and Dawson, Peter¹

¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: From Capture to Care: Digital Heritage in Western Canada

The Digitally Preserving Former Indian Residential Schools in Alberta project has existed since 2018 with the goal of digitally commemorating the three remaining residential school structures in Alberta, including the commemoration of schoolgrounds, which are imbued with experience and memory. This paper examines the development of methods for the digital preservation of landscapes and the work completed thus far in commemorating the schoolgrounds of Old Sun Residential School located on Siksika Nation through digital storytelling. A story map has been created using ESRI ArcGIS StoryMap, a proprietary program that allows for the creation of narrative maps that integrate multiple media sources. The story map combines the data collected through the Digitally Preserving Former Indian Residential Schools in Alberta project, archival aerial images, and maps to tell the history of the schoolgrounds. StoryMap provides an excellent platform for digital storytelling, however the use of such a program requires considerable evaluation to ensure that responsible data principles, such as CARE, are followed. This paper will reflect on the complexities faced by community-based projects in data responsibility through the Old Sun schoolgrounds storymap example and contemplates the path forward to ensure data sovereignty and accessibility.

Never Quite Set in Stone: Digital Reconstruction and Physicalization of Pictographs for Knowledge Mobilization

Chan, Mavis¹; Dawson, Peter¹

¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: From Capture to Care: Digital Heritage in Western Canada

My research explores the application of filament painting, a 3D printing technique, in reconstructing Indigenous pictographs in Alberta, Canada. Pictographs, ochre paintings on rock surfaces, are under increasing threat. Over time, exposure to natural elements has contributed to the fading of many pictographs across Alberta, with human activity also posing a considerable risk. As the pictographs become increasingly difficult to see, sharing their meaning and the urgency of their preservation with the public has become increasingly important—and increasingly challenging. Without clear representation, raising awareness and developing public engagement in preservation efforts remains a major challenge. I successfully conducted photography-based reconstruction and generated 3D models and prints of some of Alberta's pictographs at risk. It demonstrates the potential of digital preservation methods to communicate the urgency of rock art loss to broader audiences. It creates a practical tool for raising public consciousness about the ongoing loss of rock art heritage while simultaneously creating a tangible record for future generations. My findings suggest that the effectiveness of these reconstructions is not based on exact replication, but rather on their capacity to transform abstract concerns about cultural heritage loss into a tangible, lived understanding that inspires preservation action.

The Work of Return: Small Museums and Repatriation in Manitoba

Chapdelaine, Nicole¹

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Podium Session: Multi-modal curation and knowledge mobilization with archaeological collections

Small museums are navigating the complex work of housing, caring for, and repatriating Indigenous cultural belongings; however, they are often left out of conversations regarding this work, which often focuses on larger institutions. The experiences, capacities, and support needs of small museums differ from those of larger institutions. Drawing on archaeological ethnography and semi-structured interviews with museum professionals, my MA project analyses how small museums interpret and implement frameworks such as the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and the Canadian Museum's Association's repatriation guidelines in Manitoba. Initial findings have identified structural and institutional barriers to repatriation and Indigenous-led curation and caretaking while highlighting the pivotal role of narrative, collaboration, and accessibility in reconfiguring curatorial practice in Manitoba. These insights offer practical conversations that can contribute to policy and legislation reform in Manitoba.

Understanding AI technologies in Digital Heritage

Cleveland, Anna¹

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Podium Session: Combating Anti-Intellectualism and Pseudoarchaeology through Public Engagement

Archaeologists are beginning to use artificial intelligence tools in everyday tasks such as data analysis, translation, as well as academic research and teaching. Drawing from my experience as an upper-level undergraduate student in anthropology to examine challenges in using AI tools for archaeology, with specific focus on reclaiming heritage. The information that commercial AI tools draw from is reflective of biases in Western culture, and because AI tools rearrange pre-existing information to match user prompts, there are real implications for archaeology students and learners when they use these tools without critical lenses on power and knowledge production in the digital age. AI tools have confirmation bias that leads to misinformation and that can also reproduce problematic pseudoscientific claims that misinterpret archaeological methods, and narratives about societies. I present examples in which AI chatbots generate and reinforce patriarchal and colonial biases about heritage reclamation. The currently available AI tools regularly generate false citations, and sanitized language which give the user the impression that heritage work is neutral, all while obscuring the power of privileged groups in knowledge production. To unpack these issues, I discuss how students and scholars can critically examine the strengths and limitations of AI chatbots in heritage research.

Hands-on Heritage: 3D Artifact Replicas as a Bridge Between Inuinnait Youth, Elders, and Archaeology

Clinker, Susannah¹; Pitquhirnikkut Ilihautiniq/ Kitikmeot Heritage Society²; and Friesen, Max¹

¹ University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

² Pitquhirnikkut Ilihautiniq/ Kitikmeot Heritage Society, Cambridge Bay, Nunavut

Podium Session: Multi-modal curation and knowledge mobilization with archaeological collections

This presentation reports on the Hands-on Heritage project, a community-led initiative in Iqaluktuuttiaq (Cambridge Bay), Nunavut, that explores how archaeological research can be mobilized to better share scientific and local knowledges. Developed in partnership with the Pitquhirnikkut Ilihautiniq/Kitikmeot Heritage Society (PI/KHS) and archaeologists at the University of Toronto, this project creates archaeology-based educational kits for local schools that integrate 3D-printed replicas of Inuit and Paleo-Inuit (Dorset) artifacts with Elder-recorded Oral Histories and pedagogical materials grounded in Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit (IQ, Inuit Traditional Knowledge). The kits aim to bring archaeology into classrooms, foster intergenerational learning, and strengthen youth engagement with cultural heritage. This presentation documents the collaborative development process, including artifact selection, 3D scanning and printing, and consultations with Elders, Knowledge Holders, and educators. Ultimately, this project demonstrates how community-centred, service-oriented archaeological practice can support local priorities, enhance heritage education, and increase the tangible benefits of research occurring in and around communities.

Stop Waiting for Permission: Philosophy for Daily Archaeological Praxis

Connaughton, Sean P.¹

¹ Inlailawatash, British Columbia, Canada

Podium Session: Supplementing, Transcending, and Subverting Conventional Archaeological Regulation

Cultural resource management (CRM) archaeology is unrelenting: the pace is fast, the pressures proliferate, and a project's success is often measured by one's ability to "grind." Legislation and regulators fall short, and institutional change is slow. When so much is out of our control, how can archaeologists maintain their composure? In the challenging context of CRM, I contend that values-driven direct action is not just possible but necessary. Archaeologists must centre themselves with a philosophical framework that guides their action, ethics, and creates meaning in the work they do each and every day. This talk presents such a framework for praxis — not abstract theory, but a lived, working set of codes, or values, and advocacy that archaeological practitioners can carry into the field, the boardroom, and the negotiating table. CRM isn't going to change on its own. Stop waiting for permission.

Ghost Lines: Unpublished Field Maps from the Palliser Expedition

Cooper, Christian

Podium Session: Historical Archaeology in Western Canadian Contexts: New and Emerging Perspectives

In 1858, James Hector—a 23-year-old physician and geologist attached to the British North American Exploring Expedition—traversed the front ranges of the Rocky Mountains on a route that would nearly kill him and eventually lend its name to Kicking Horse Pass. Over the course of the Palliser Expedition (1857--1860), Hector filled hundreds of notebook pages with compass bearings, geological observations, and hand-drawn sketch maps—notebooks he physically carried with him over the pass and through the mountains. More than 600 of these manuscript pages, including the map shown above, have now been digitized and transcribed for the first time, making the full detail of his field record available to researchers after more than 160 years. This paper presents the previously unpublished maps recovered through that transcription, including the sketch shown above depicting the expedition's crossing of the Ghost River west of present-day Cochrane. From there, Hector's notebooks trace a route directly through what is now Canmore, Alberta—the site of this conference—and onward into the front ranges toward Kicking Horse Pass. By geo-referencing Hector's original drawings against modern topography, the author reconstructs these day-by-day travel routes with new precision. When plotted, the georeferenced data raise significant questions about the accepted location of the Kicking Horse Pass incident—and its corresponding national monument in Yoho National Park, which the manuscript evidence suggests is misplaced by approximately 37 kilometres.

The Work Continues - Directions in African Nova Scotian Archaeology and Engagement

Cottreau-Robins, Catherine¹

¹ Nova Scotia Museum, Nova Scotia, Canada

Podium Session: Hidden No More: Archaeology and the Living Legacy of Black Heritage

African Nova Scotian archaeology began its existence in Nova Scotia in the early 1990s. Much has taken place over the decades. To date, we have 63 sites in the provincial archaeology database as well as numerous noted landscapes and historic cemeteries. We have thankfully arrived at a place where consideration of the African Nova Scotian past is mainstream from a CRM project perspective and from an academic research perspective. Much has been examined in the field and archive and the material culture collection continues to grow. Even in government, there is an office specifically in place to address African Nova Scotian affairs, land claims, cultural heritage and social concerns. Today, when needed, there are people to call, museums to consult, funding mechanisms to access and community enthusiastic to participate. This is good news but for many, not enough news. Where are we headed? Where can we be most impactful and how can we challenge the remaining limited space for this story? This paper draws from a chapter nearing publication. Comments are invited and welcome.

The Ancestors of Kwenten Mak'wali

Coupland, Gary¹; Clark, Terence²; and Feschuk, xwash Steve³

¹ University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

² University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada

³ shishalh First Nation

Podium Session: Supplementing, Transcending, and Subverting Conventional Archaeological Regulation

Preliminary archaeological investigations at Kwenten Mak'wali (DjRw-14) in 2009 yielded evidence that suggested the possibility that shishalh ancestors may have been interred at the site. When asked by the shishalh First Nation to verify this possibility, and to provide any and all information related to our findings, we proceeded with the unusual and unexpected step of excavating five ancestral burials. The results of this work aided the shishalh in their negotiations with the Province of British Columbia for control of this site location.

Defining Microblade Assemblages in Northeastern Alberta

Craft, Tatiana¹

¹ University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey *

Microblade technology is a defining feature among archaeological assemblages in the Arctic, with lower occurrences in Subarctic regions like northern Alberta. There are, however, over 50 sites with reported evidence of microblade technology within Alberta's Lower Athabasca Basin. Despite the prevalence, these assemblages have often been described using classification systems from neighbouring regions, resulting in confusion about the origins of microblade technologies in this region, and the technological processes that produced these tools. This poster describes the development of a typology that will allow archaeologists to more effectively identify and compare microblade assemblages in northeastern Alberta. By studying the frequency, distribution, and material types of microblades, microcores, projectile points, and associated debitage present in Lower Athabasca Basin Middle pre-contact (ca. 7,750 to 4,000 BP) assemblages, I argue microblades and their associated artifacts within that region suggest interactions with Arctic groups to the north and west. Creating a technologically focused typology is the first step towards understanding the nature of these interactions.

Constructing Connection: Irrigation as Relational Infrastructure in Cerro Cañoncillo, Jequetepeque Valley, Peru

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² Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, Lima, Peru

Podium Session: Living Landscapes: Story, Practice, and Stewardship Across Time

Irrigation canals are often understudied beyond questions of function, reflecting colonial narratives that privilege monumental architecture over everyday or ritualized infrastructure. In the Andes, however, these systems did far more than sustain agriculture in an arid environment; they materialized relationships among people, water, and sacred landscapes. The Cañoncillo Archaeological Complex in the Jequetepeque Valley on Peru's north coast comprises multiple ceremonial centres connected by canal systems drawing from Cerro Cañoncillo, a prominent mountain peak that has structured settlement, ritual, and agricultural life from the Formative Period to the present. In Andean worldviews, such peaks are not passive landmarks but animate beings imbued with ancestral power. Canals linking the mountain to surrounding communities therefore functioned not only as infrastructure but as pathways embedded within a broader cosmological system. Maintained through episodic practices of ritual cleaning, repair, and offering, these systems were central to ongoing engagements with the landscape. Drawing on research from the Tecapa Archaeological Project, ethnographic examples from Indigenous Andean communities, and microfossil analysis to identify episodes of canal use and maintenance, this paper argues that irrigation systems can be understood as active cultural landscapes, sustained through reciprocal relationships and revealing enduring practices of stewardship.

From Mother Earth, Back to Her Peoples: Rematriation, Responsibility, and Indigenous Authority in Archaeology

Cross-Delisle, Katsi'tsahen:te¹

¹ Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke, Kahnawake, Quebec, Canada

Podium Session: Living Landscapes: Story, Practice, and Stewardship Across Time

Archaeology is often framed as a neutral Scientific practice focused on data collection, standardized methodologies, and material analysis. Yet when working with Indigenous Ancestors, and their Belongings, Archaeology carries responsibilities that extends far beyond technical procedure. It requires respect, accountability, and an ethical relationship with the Earth, the Waters, and the communities whose histories are being studied.

This presentation emphasizes the value of oral history, land-based knowledge, and Indigenous worldviews as legitimate and essential forms of data. These knowledge systems offer interpretive depth that cannot be accessed through material analysis or written accounts alone. By prioritizing Indigenous languages and epistemologies, Archaeological sites are understood not as static locations or "resources," but as living relatives, places embedded with memory and spirit. Reminding us to maintain ongoing relationships.

By bringing together rematriation, community-led interpretation, and Indigenous knowledge systems, this session calls for Archaeological practices rooted in responsibility rather than extraction. From Mother Earth to our hands, Archaeologists hold a profound obligation to ensure that what is unearthed is treated not as data alone, but as relations that must ultimately be returned to their people to be respectfully cared for and loved.

Using X-ray Instrumentation to Find Contextual Clues: A Case Study of Artifacts from the LaHave River, Nova Scotia, Canada

Culligan, Emma¹; Parsons, Jillian¹; and Steele, Fiona²

¹ Oak Island Materials and Archaeological Services, Western Shore, Nova Scotia, Canada

² Oak Island Archives and Research Organization, Nova Scotia, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey

Two plaquette-style figurines recovered from the banks of the LaHave River, Nova Scotia, were analyzed by Oak Island Materials and Archaeological Services (OIMAS) to assess their composition and potential historical affiliation. The region is in proximity to Isaac de Razilly's 1632 Fort Sainte-Marie-de-Grâce, an enduring archaeological significance as part of early French colonial settlement. Using complementary X-ray techniques – X-ray Microscopy (XRM/CT), micro-X-ray Fluorescence (μXRF), and X-ray Diffraction (XRD) – the study examined the figurines' elemental, mineralogical, and structural characteristics to distinguish historic from modern manufacture. μXRF results showing high silicon and aluminum with

minimal calcium indicate a non-calcareous, quartz-rich, illitic/micaceous aluminosilicate clay body. XRM/CT imaging revealed a heterogeneous, void-rich internal fabric with elongated pores and limited vitrification, while XRD confirmed a quartz-dominant composition containing illite/phengite, anatase, and minor mullite. Evidence of uneven firing, non-vitrified core and surface-localized mullite, suggests a low-to-mid firing range. Comparison with eighteenth-century clay pipes revealed shared commonalities in raw materials, processing and firing; contrasting with the refined kaolinitic clays of later manufacture. Considering the analytical results alongside regional history, the evidence aligns most closely with seventeenth- to eighteenth-century earthenware production, while not negating alternative origins, favouring early modern rather than contemporary ceramic technology.

A Relational Ethnoarchaeology of Modernity in San Marcos Tlapazola, Oaxaca.

Cunningham, Jeremy¹

¹ University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: Research Methods in Mesoamerican Archaeology

Ethnoarchaeology has often emphasized the study of traditional cultural practices that seem to remain outside the deprecation of the global capitalist system. Yet, the belief that coeval cultures can exist outside modernity – and these should be the focus for ethnoarchaeology – has faced substantial critique. In this discussion, I introduce the Crafting Capitalism research program that envisions ethnoarchaeology as a critical standpoint science. My case study shows how ceramic production is constantly reinvigorated in the community of San Marcos Tlapazola, Oaxaca, Mexico. The barro rojo created by potters in San Marcos has deep time roots in Oaxaca's central valley and was even subject to previous ethnoarchaeological analyses. Yet, women's ceramic production is not vestigial, and it does not exist because of cultural inertia. Instead, potters continue to create new social and economic relations to ensure ceramic production is economically viable within the shifting frameworks of network capitalism. These new relationalities alter the cultural value of barro rojo for potters and an increasingly global set of consumers. The preliminary findings show how ethnoarchaeology can eschew modern versus traditional temporalities while still achieving the goal of expanding the “analogical consciousness” of archaeologists (following Nicolas David).

Evaluating the use of multiple technologies for locating unmarked graves

Dagg, Lyndsay¹; Wadsworth, William T. D^{1,2}; and Supernant, Kisha¹

¹ University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

² University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

Podium Session: Non-Invasive Archaeology and Truth and Reconciliation

Discussions surrounding ground-penetrating radar (GPR) have dominated many of the conversations around the search for unmarked graves at former Indian Residential Schools (IRS). While GPR has always been, and remains, a valuable tool in the search for unmarked graves, it is only one of many techniques suitable for this work. Due to the limitations of GPR, it has long been argued that multiple technologies should be used in combination to produce more holistic results. However, the combination of multiple datasets can lead to interpretive challenges and requires a deep understanding of how different techniques complement or contradict each other. The Institute of Prairie and Indigenous Archaeology (IPIA) has worked to address this challenge, and here we present a potential matrix for evaluating the combined use of multiple technologies in the search for unmarked graves. Our aim is to highlight the myriad of ways multiple technologies can be combined and evaluated for a particular goal. We also discuss the importance of consistency, reproducibility, and accountability in this important work.

Artifacts from HMS Erebus: Excavating Context and Meaning

Dagneau, Charles¹

¹ Parks Canada - Underwater Archaeology Team

Podium Session: “The Expedition excites the strongest interest”: Recent Archaeology, Research and Public Presentation on Sir John Franklin's 1845 Northwest Passage Expedition

The archaeological study and excavation of the HMS Erebus wreck site between 2014 and 2024 produced a significant collection of artifacts, most of which originated from well-defined and sealed archaeological contexts on the lower deck. This paper looks at the methodology used for the underwater excavation and on-site artifact management, including innovative

approaches developed for this project in the Canadian Arctic. This presentation also addresses the potential for understanding and interpreting artifact assemblages from different functional spaces aboard Erebus, including the presumed Second and Third Lieutenant's cabins, presumed Captain's Steward's pantry, and a seamen's chest in the forecabin. Knowledge pertaining to these spaces, and the specific individuals they may relate to, may be valuable for answering some of the fundamental questions related to the 1845 Franklin Expedition

Practical Applications For The Use of Photogrammetry to Record Petroglyphs, A Case Study From Writing-On-Stone

Dawe, Robert¹; Murray, Owen²; and Giering, Karen¹

¹ Royal Alberta Museum, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

² OMM Photography, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: From Capture to Care: Digital Heritage in Western Canada

One of the largest inventories of rock art on the Plains occurs at Writing-On-Stone Park situated on the Milk River in southern Alberta. The petroglyphs that dominate this incredible record are fashioned on the weathering outcrops of sandstone bluffs and hoodoos. Erosion is incessantly diminishing this unique and important cultural resource. Various methods of accurately recording the artwork have been undertaken, including drawing, tracing, photography, casting and laser scanning, each of which poses certain challenges and limitations. We demonstrate the use of photogrammetry as an indispensable method of recording rock art. Our case study contrasts two examples of using photogrammetry: one at the Haven site, DgOw-79, and the other from panel 17 at site DgOv-2. Photogrammetry provides an inexpensive, versatile, accurate, and readily available solution for recording three dimensional datasets for archival applications including monitoring of the condition of rock art. We believe the various benefits of photogrammetry should argue for this method of recording to be a regular consideration in the documentation of the deteriorating resource that rock art presents.

Technicians of Identity: Why Digital Heritage Matters to Communities

Dawson, Peter¹

¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: From Capture to Care: Digital Heritage in Western Canada

Many heritage sites that hold deep significance for communities and individuals lack formal designation or official recognition of their importance. As a result, they are especially vulnerable to destruction and loss, despite serving as powerful sources of cultural identity for descendant communities. In 2017, I established the Alberta Digital Heritage Archive, a research program dedicated to the digital preservation of heritage resources that frequently fall outside existing regulatory protection frameworks but to which communities and individuals maintain strong cultural attachments. Over the past nine years, our research group has created digital twins of more than 60 heritage sites across Western Canada. During this time, we have come to understand that personal memory shapes individual identity, while shared memory shapes collective identity—and that digital heritage can help preserve both. In this presentation, we examine how digital heritage can serve as a conduit through which the deep emotional and cultural connections people maintain with heritage places become visible and more widely recognized.

What We Owe the Future: Slow Archaeology and the Long-Term Stewardship of Digital Heritage

Dawson, Peter¹; and Aycock, John¹

¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: The long and winding road of slow archaeology

In this presentation, we address a critical and underexplored challenge in heritage preservation: how to ensure that digital representations of cultural heritage remain intelligible and accessible over extremely long time-frames—ranging from 100 to 10,000 years. In the digital realm, bit rot, technological obsolescence, and the loss of contextual information have replaced climate change and human-caused destruction as existential threats to cultural memory. Longtermism is a philosophical perspective that emphasizes our ethical responsibility to positively shape the far future. This perspective intersects with digital heritage through a shared commitment to safeguarding cultural heritage for future generations. As heritage plays a crucial role in cultural awareness, identity, and revitalization in many parts of the world, its loss would have significant consequences for future societies. We introduce the concept of “reconstructive preservation”—a novel approach that treats digital objects

not as static archives, but as artifacts that can be reinterpreted and reconstructed by people in the far future, even if they survive only in degraded form. In addition to advocating for the development of frameworks for the long-term stewardship of digital heritage data, we encourage archaeologists to consider how their work may remain meaningful and impactful beyond their own lifetimes.

Too Significant to Stop: Archaeological Discovery at the Ostby Lands, Southern Alberta

de Guzman, Margarita¹; and Bieraugle, Megan¹

¹ Circle CRM Group Inc., Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: CCRA CRM Archaeology Showcase

In 2025, Circle CRM Group conducted a Historic Resources Baseline Assessment of the Ostby Lands in the Milk River region of southern Alberta. The project identified 35 new historic resource sites and revisited eight previously recorded sites across a coulee landscape immediately adjacent to Writing-on-Stone (Áísínai'pi), a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The assemblage, including rock art, ceramics, stone features, and lithics, speaks to patterns of cultural continuity in late pre-contact southern Alberta and raises important questions about the relationship between the Ostby Lands and Áísínai'pi.

This paper presents the project's archaeological findings, but also presents them honestly. Scoped at four days with four archaeologists, the project grew to 16-plus field days with crews of up to 23. The archaeology made that inevitable. We use this project to reflect honestly on what fixed-scope government contracts cannot accommodate, and to make a case for transparency about the real costs of working in landscapes that turn out to matter.

Levelling the Field: Mentorship as a Response to the Skills Gap in CRM Archaeology

de Guzman, Margarita^{1,2}

¹ The Fair Field Foundation, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

² Circle CRM Group Inc, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: "They didn't teach us that in archaeology school" Career Skills for CRM

Archaeology programs prepare graduates to excavate, analyze, and interpret the past. They rarely prepare them to negotiate a contract, manage a crew, supervise conflict, or navigate a workplace that wasn't designed with them in mind. CRM professionals learn these skills on the job. Or they don't, and they leave.

That gap doesn't fall equally. Women and marginalized professionals in CRM archaeology face compounding disadvantages: fewer senior role models, less access to informal networks, and an industry lifestyle that structurally disadvantages those who bear disproportionate domestic and caregiving responsibilities. The result is a retention problem the sector has long acknowledged and done little to solve.

The Fair Field Foundation was established to do something about it. This paper presents the Foundation's mentorship model, which pairs women and marginalized folks in archaeology with experienced mentors for structured, ongoing support, as a practical response to both the skills gap and the retention crisis. We reflect on what mentorship can and cannot fix, what the sector owes its junior professionals, and what building genuine community looks like when the industry itself keeps getting in the way.

Self-propelled & Service-fueled: Surpassing Archaeological Regulation

Dent, Joshua¹; and Lyons, Natasha²

¹ TMHC Inc., London, Ontario, Canada

² Ursus Heritage Consulting, British Columbia, Canada

Podium Session: Supplementing, Transcending, and Subverting Conventional Archaeological Regulation

Archaeological regulation is the engine of much of current archaeological practice in Canada. In this environment, archaeology is less about realizing any sort of inherent value and more about risk management. This paper discusses how and why archaeology cannot rely on regulation alone to justify the bulk of practice. Commercial archaeology especially, but other archaeologies as well, must innovate and cultivate the means to achieve heritage objectives outside of rote regulatory practice or seemingly narrow and introspective academic pursuits. A self-propelled archaeology is fueled by the value derived

from its inherent mandate to better understand the past, but broadened to encompass the spectrum of interests invested in that understanding: to better understand the past in service of the present. Using macro and micro examples, this paper demonstrates that the present includes an array of rightsholders, stakeholders, and the public.

Dené Continuity at Doe'thu'choh (Winefred Lake)

Dersch, Ave¹

¹ Chipewyan Prairie First Nation

Podium Session: Deep in Time and Vast in Expanse: The Dene Language Family in Western North America

The boreal forest of northern Alberta is often thought of as lacking cultural continuity due to population disruptions caused by conflict and epidemics from the fur trade. Winefred Lake, *Doe'thu'choh*, provides a counter narrative to this story showing continuity between Athabaskan speaking *Talttheilei* people, the Dené of the historic fur trade era, and Chipewyan Prairie Dené hunters, fishers, trappers, plant gatherers, and businessmen of today. At present, the Dené of Chipewyan Prairie are fighting to protect their Way of Life in the face of rapid oil sands expansion all while ancestral (archaeological) sites are being surveyed and excavated without their knowledge or inclusion. Today archaeological excavations at Winefred Lake provide youth with a tangible connection to the hundreds of generations of Dené ancestors who came before them. These temporal roots provide the foundation needed to face the challenges that lie ahead such as how to 'reclaim' Dené cultural heritage values in post-oil sands development landscapes.

Canadian Archaeology in Transformation: The Legacy of the "Orange Books"

Desrosiers, Pierre M.¹

¹ Musée canadien de l'histoire, Gatineau, Quebec, Canada

Podium Session (pre-recorded): Publishing CRM and Academic Research in Canada: Where, How, and Why

Since its creation in 1972, the Mercury Series has played a central role in the dissemination of research on Canadian cultural heritage. Originally developed within the National Museum of Man to accelerate publication, the Series quickly became a key corpus for archaeology, especially for sharing results of fieldwork and collections research. Over time, it has supported a wide range of interpretations, regional syntheses, and the development of archaeological practice in Canada. This presentation traces the history of the Series with particular attention to its role as a long-term record of archaeological research produced at and beyond the Canadian Museum of History. It explores how the Series reflects broader changes in archaeology, including the shift from rapid publication toward peer-reviewed scholarship, as well as improvements in format and accessibility. Special attention is given to recent developments, notably the growing presence of Indigenous scholars and collaborative projects. These changes reflect a broader transformation in Canadian archaeology, where Indigenous perspectives are increasingly central to research design, interpretation, and authorship.

A Field-Based Comparison and Assessment of Portable 3D Recording Technologies in the Canadian Arctic

Dore, Mathieu

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey *

The proposed research conducts a comparative analysis of the 3D recording capabilities of CREALITY's Ferret, the iPhone 17 and the standardized hand-drawn method. Current methodologies for recording arctic features involve time consuming measured drawings of each structural stone, or limited photographs of the feature. By utilizing 3D scans from these portable and affordable technologies, archaeologists will be able to gather accurate data with increased interpretive and community-oriented value.

To assess properly the capabilities of these devices, proof of concept testing has been completed in laboratory space at the Department of Anthropology (U of S). Fieldwork in the form of a survey within Nunavut will be conducted in partnership with Stantec Consulting. Here, the Ferret, the iPhone 17 pro, and the analog method will be deployed to gather secure recording data for analysis. Key metrics for analysis include accuracy (through calibrated reference points), speed, data security, interpretive value, change detection capabilities, time and cost.

Following fieldwork, the effectiveness of each technology and the programs that they rely on will be determined based on an aggregate of key metrics. My research will result in situational recommendations for each area of archaeological work including CRM, community based participatory research, and scholastic pursuits.

Mapping Black Livingness: Archaeologies of Enslavement and Freedom in New Brunswick

Draicchio, Emily¹

¹ McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Podium Session: Hidden No More: Archaeology and the Living Legacy of Black Heritage

This paper unsettles the familiar narrative of Canada as a haven for people escaping U.S. slavery via the Underground Railroad by identifying and investigating a selection of sites used as living quarters by Black enslaved people in Loyalist New Brunswick (1783-1834). While scholarship on Canadian slavery has grown, archaeological research remains limited, with most studies focused on plantations in the U.S., Caribbean, and South America. Drawing on community-based archaeological research that integrates surveys, oral histories, archival records, and planned future excavations, this paper expands the archaeology of slavery beyond tropical plantation contexts to the temperate North. It examines practices of fugitivity through an analysis of fugitive slave advertisements alongside a GIS-based survey of enslaved quarter sites to map potential escape routes and connections to free Black communities across the province. By centering Black heritage sites associated with both enslavement and freedom in Loyalist New Brunswick and outlining future community-based research, this paper demonstrates how archaeology can challenge narratives of erasure and Canadian exceptionalism, while foregrounding Black livingness and resistance. It contributes to a more inclusive archaeological history of the African Diaspora and Transatlantic Slavery by meaningfully accounting for the experiences of enslaved people and their descendants in Canada.

Relishing the Unexpected and Viewing Landscapes through a Multifocal Lens

Dunham, Rebecca¹

¹ Terrestrial Archaeology, ISCH, Parks Canada

Podium Session: Heritage Landscapes: Rediscovered, remembered, and recreated

Archaeological fieldwork often reveals 'the unexpected' which can be inconvenient or illuminating, all depending on the lens through which it is viewed. The beauty of unknowing is that it is humbling and encourages us to see our work through a multifocal lens – seeking clarity in the near (the site), the far (the landscape), and in-between (the interface between them). At Fort Anne National Historic Site in Nova Scotia, a small sinkhole popped open last December revealing a long-forgotten aspect of the cultural landscape that challenges prevailing assumptions about the place and how it has changed over time. At Sable Island National Park Reserve, a remote island best known for its wild horses, recent archaeological recording of cultural sites detoured slightly to examine eroding paleosols. The paleosols proved fascinating when viewed through a cultural lens, revealing evidence of European arrival and irreversible transformation of the island's landscape. These thin black lines in the sand dunes have encouraged us to step back and consider human history on Sable Island from the land's point of view, in a way we hadn't before.

An evaluation of the potential of lidar survey in the identification of unmarked graves within woodlots

Eastaugh, Edward¹; MacDonald, Zack¹; Bender, Isaac²; Burke, Adrian³; Champagne, Micaela⁴; Dawson, Peter⁵; Hamilton, Scott⁶; Hodgetts, Lisa¹; Martindale, Andrew⁷; Supernant, Kisha⁸; and Wadsworth, William⁷

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Podium Session: Non-Invasive Archaeology and Truth and Reconciliation

Lidar has become an established tool for the visualization and interpretation of large complex landscapes and as such is being increasingly used in the investigation of former Indian Residential Schools. It has already proven extremely useful for the identification of depressions formed by grave slumps in known cemeteries in open areas, as well as revealing structures and other larger features hidden within tree lots. Less clear is the degree to which lidar can identify relatively small and shallow grave depressions in woodlots as well. Are the more commonly applied lidar systems able to identify these depressions and can we distinguish them from the myriad of other complex topographic features, such as tree hollows, that we often see within woodlots? This paper presents preliminary results of an experimental study designed to establish the utility of lidar in the identification of unmarked grave depressions within woodlots and whether they can be reliably distinguished from other natural feature types.

Biodeterioration Beneath the Ice: Investigating wood preservation on HMS Erebus

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Podium Session: “The Expedition excites the strongest interest”: Recent Archaeology, Research and Public Presentation on Sir John Franklin’s 1845 Northwest Passage Expedition

Recent archaeological work on the wreck of HMS Erebus has opened new avenues for understanding biological and environmental processes affecting wooden materials on Arctic shipwrecks. This paper presents a multidisciplinary study conducted in partnership with Parks Canada that integrates experimentally deployed pine blocks and archaeological wood from the wreck with molecular, physical, and imaging-based analyses to characterise wood degradation across the Erebus site.

As part of a controlled field experiment, modern pine blocks were deployed for one year providing a baseline for assessing decay through visual assessment of structural damage, microbial DNA profiling, weight-loss measurements, and X-ray imaging to detect internal damage, including potential shipworm activity. Complementary analyses target archaeological wood from Erebus, including structural timbers, interior fittings, and wooden artefacts preserved in contrasting microenvironments—buried in sediment or exposed in the water column.

The combined dataset enables comparison of degradation pathways across site microenvironments and assessment of how microbial communities, wood anatomy, and environmental variability shape preservation.

By integrating controlled in situ exposure with laboratory-based molecular and materials-science analyses, this project demonstrates the value of a multi-proxy approach for advancing understanding of wood decay and preservation on Erebus, contributing new perspectives to archaeological research on the Franklin expedition.

Amalgamation and Afterlives: On the Worthiness of Preserving Nigeria’s Colonial Origin Site.

Ezenwe, Chinonso¹

¹ Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada

Podium Session: Black-Racialized-Indigenous Archaeologists: Colonially bounded Practice

In 1914, the British colonial administration formally amalgamated the Northern and Southern Protectorates at what is now known as the Amalgamation House in Old Calabar, now Ikot Abasi, Akwa Ibom, Nigeria. This building marks the administrative birth of the Nigerian state. Yet the territorial and political entity it inaugurated remains deeply contested, evidenced by civil war, secessionist movements, insurgency, and ongoing struggles over belonging and sovereignty. This paper asks a deliberately provocative question: Is the Amalgamation House “worthy” of restoration?

Rather than treating preservation as inherently virtuous, I approach the site as material evidence of colonial state-making and imposed political ontology. The 1914 amalgamation was not a consensual union, but an administrative Consolidation designed to optimize imperial governance. As such, the building is not merely an architectural heritage site: it is an infrastructure of colonial citizenship and territorial imagination in postcolonial Nigeria.

Drawing on decolonial theory and Critical Heritage Studies, I examine how restoration may function as a subtle act of state legitimation, reaffirming the inevitability of colonial cartography. Simultaneously, I explore whether repurposing such sites can instead operate as a form of epistemic intervention, transforming monuments of imperial administration into spaces of critical pedagogy and counter-memory.

Transforming GPR Data into Physical Models for Subsurface Visualization

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¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: From Capture to Care: Digital Heritage in Western Canada

Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) is a non-invasive geophysical technique that uses high-frequency radio waves transmitted into the ground to detect changes in subsurface materials. In archaeology, it is used to identify, map, and interpret buried structures, features and stratigraphy without need of excavation. GPR produces radar profiles and time slice images that are caused by contrasts in buried materials, but they do not directly identify archaeological features. As a result, the interpretation of GPR data can be challenging for non-specialist stakeholders. Data physicalization is the process of translating digital or numerical data into tangible, three-dimensional objects that people can see and touch. By materializing data in physical form, complex information—especially spatial data—can become easier to interpret, explore, and communicate. In this presentation, I examine how physicalization of GPR data sets might be used in communicating subsurface anomalies to non-specialists in a more intuitive way.

From Emergency Mitigation to Digital Repatriation: 3D Visualization of Displaced Pictographs at Nak'al Bun (Stuart Lake)

Fegan, Anthony¹

¹ Ecofor Consulting, Canada

Podium Session: From Capture to Care: Digital Heritage in Western Canada

In response to the natural degradation of a significant pictograph rock art site on Nak'al Bun in Fort St. James, BC, an emergency salvage permit was obtained to recover fallen pictograph segments and assess the cliff face. This presentation details the recovery and the subsequent "digital repatriation" of the site through terrestrial and drone-based photogrammetry. High-resolution 3D models were generated for both the in-situ panels and the recovered fragments, creating a permanent digital record of the site's precarious state.

While the physical segments were transitioned to the care of Nak'azdli Whut'en at a local school, the project sought to bridge the gap between CRM mitigation and community-led heritage education. The 3D assets were integrated into an "Interactive Digital Environment," to allow students and community members to virtually explore the site, interact with the fallen segments, and view the site in its original spatial context. By prioritizing the return of the three-dimensional data to Nak'azdli Whut'en, this project demonstrates how emergency CRM salvage can be elevated into a long-term, accessible resource for Indigenous youth and local heritage stewardship.

Constantly Co-Created Landscapes: Interpreting the Invisible Marks of Chemical Enrichment

Fletcher, Beatrice¹

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Podium Session: Heritage Landscapes: Rediscovered, remembered, and recreated

What happens when archaeological data fails to present a clear ethnographic snapshot in time? How do we interpret unruly datasets that resist the delineation of clear site boundaries or defy the bounding of neatly defined activity areas? Drawing on soil x-ray fluorescence (XRF) multi-element chemical analyses from six locations in Southern Ontario, this paper explores how minimally invasive methods, developed in collaboration with community, can illuminate dynamic histories of landscape creation rather than static moments of occupation.

This study encompasses a wide range of contexts, from hunter-gatherer camps to spaces at the core of Wendat village life, as well as areas perceived as peripheral to or even beyond village boundaries. By foregrounding variability in phosphorus and other anthropogenically enriched elements, rather than relying on absolute concentrations, this analysis demonstrates how chemical patterning can reveal subtle, cumulative traces of human activity and differentiate between distinct past lifeways. Ultimately, I argue that developing sampling protocols attuned to variability, and adopting a landscape-oriented approach, allows archaeological narratives to better reflect the complexity, movement, and relational nature of past human–environment interactions.

When The Object Meets The Story

Foggo, Cheryl

Podium Session: Hidden No More: Archaeology and the Living Legacy of Black Heritage

As a researcher of Black Prairie History, I employ multiple forms of storytelling to disseminate history. Experience has demonstrated that canonical archives are limited by absences that are baked in. Systems such as censuses, property rolls, photo banks, and newspapers have excluded or distorted the presence of Afro-descended history makers.

These factors have created holes, which we historian/artists must fill. Scholar Melissa Nelson describes my history-based creative projects as “heart work that takes traces of archival evidence to reassemble our past...there is an element of truth and an element of imagination...important because if we only tell the stories of what remains in the archives, that leaves us with a lot of gaps.”

Since embarking on a multi-year dig at the Millarville Ware family ranch, under the guidance of archaeologist Dr Lindsay Amundsen-Meyer, I have learned that the land contains our stories in a way that the archives do not.

The exploration has produced thousands of artifacts, many of which have lived in scenes I have imagined the Wares into.

This paper examines the ways this dig, a first on the Canadian Prairie, offers potential, not to undo transgressions of past record keepers, but to create a completely new path.

Reassessing the State of Franklin Expedition Primary Research

Freebairn, Alison; and Zachary, Logan

Podium Session: “The Expedition excites the strongest interest”: Recent Archaeology, Research and Public Presentation on Sir John Franklin’s 1845 Northwest Passage Expedition

The 1845 Franklin Expedition carries the public perception of attracting obsessives, meticulously poring over every clue from the past. This paper argues that such activity has largely revolved around the reading and re-reading of secondary sources, while swaths of primary sources and physical evidence go neglected. Repeating the popular narrative of obsession – from television documentaries to academic commentary – has attracted more attention than the underlying evidence itself, leaving outright basic work undone even today. The original focus of trying to rescue survivors, and the continuing focus of trying to explain their demise, further sidelines any material appearing irrelevant to those pursuits. Examples are presented, detailing fundamental observations on Franklin Expedition relics that might have been made in the 19th century, but that went unremarked until the 21st century. As Canada and Nunavut have renewed archaeological fieldwork on the Franklin Expedition, fresh reassessments are warranted for any and all evidence collected from before the archaeologists arrived.

Thriving, Not Just Surviving: Mental wellness, and Psychological Safety in CRM

Friend, Katrina¹; and Palmer, Manda¹

¹ Kleanza Consulting Ltd., British Columbia, Canada

Podium Session: “They didn’t teach us that in archaeology school” Career Skills for CRM

Archaeology training programs tend to emphasize field methods, theory, and analysis, yet they rarely address the personal and workplace skills needed to sustain a healthy, enjoyable, and long-term career in consulting archaeology. Proactively addressing mental wellness, disability accommodation and psychological health and safety in the workplace is essential for a sustainable career in CRM. Drawing on many years of experience in the CRM industry, this presentation reflects on the structural and cultural challenges that have historically shaped archaeological workplaces and influenced who has access to, and who can remain in, this profession. It will outline basic legislative rights and available resources related to psychological safety and neurodivergent accommodation in the workplace, along with practical approaches to self-advocacy. We will discuss encouraging shifts within the industry, many of them driven by newer generations of archaeologists advocating for healthier, more sustainable workplace practices. By sharing lessons learned and practical guidance, this presentation aims to empower early-career archaeologists to continue driving positive change, while also encouraging discussion about how CRM employers can better support the wellbeing and long-term success of their teams.

“Pay Attention to the Roads”: Place-Based Identity Among Glengarrian Scottish Descendants

Gillies, El¹

¹ Western University, London, Ontario, Canada

Podium Session (pre-recorded): Heritage Landscapes: Rediscovered, remembered, and recreated

In archaeology, we often turn to material culture and ruins to investigate, engage with, and recreate heritage landscapes. My project adds to a growing number of archaeological investigations that draw on non-material culture - namely archival material and oral histories- to study how a community's identity emerges through place-based narratives over time. I study the Scottish descendant community of Glengarry County, Ontario, and investigate how they narrate their identity nearly 250 years after a migration event. When asked to introduce themselves and their family history, oral history participants almost all chose to situate themselves at hyper-localized scales such as concessions and local roads, rather than broader places like “Glengarry County” or “Canada”. I discuss the prominence of concessions and roads in identity narratives, to illustrate the construction of unique place-based identities in this Scottish-Canadian diaspora community. I will conclude by discussing the use ArcGIS mapping software to map the migration related narratives of community members, and through this method discover patterns among the places, roads, concessions, and journeys that descendants narrate in relation to their cultural identity situated in the Scottish Glengarrian heritage landscape.

Making Do with What's at Hand: Recognizing “Resource Naivete” as an Approach for Identifying Recent Proto-Apache Immigrants in the Archaeological Record on the Western High Plains of Colorado, USA.

Gilmore, Kevin¹

¹ HDR, Englewood, Colorado, USA

Podium Session: Deep in Time and Vast in Expanse: The Dene Language Family in Western North America

Analysis of perishable material culture, primarily diagnostic Subarctic style moccasins recovered from the Proto-Apache Promontory Culture component at Franktown Cave, Colorado, establishes late-twelfth to early-thirteenth century entry of Apacheans onto the Western High Plains. However, in the absence of chronometric dates and culturally diagnostic artifacts, determining the proto-Apache cultural affiliation of undated artifact scatters structurally similar to sites left by other highly mobile foragers is challenging. However, examination of the lithic assemblage at Franktown Cave and sites in its vicinity reflect a pattern of raw material procurement and tool production I have termed “resource naivete,” which can be identified by an over reliance on raw materials available on-site or in the immediate vicinity. This pattern indicates the recent arrival of Proto-Apache immigrants and their unfamiliarity with the location of available lithic resources. This is evident in the unusually large proportion of Wall Mountain tuff (WMT), a locally ubiquitous volcanic rock with highly variable and mostly suboptimal knapping characteristics in the Promontory component at Franktown Cave. The use of WMT predominantly for hide processing tools could also indicate a possibly smaller resource catchment area for women hide workers, resulting in reduced access to sources of more suitable tool stone.

Storied Bones: Faunal Histories and Indigenous Foodways in the shíshálh swiya

Greenfield, Tina¹; and Willie, Kathleen¹

¹ University of Winnipeg, Manitoba

Podium Session: Coastal Visions: Archaeology, Landscapes, and Living Knowledge in shíshálh swiya

Animal remains do more than document diet—they encode relationships among people, animals, and place. This paper examines faunal assemblages from the shíshálh Nation's swiya within the sinku (Salish Sea/Strait of Georgia) as part of the sEARCH (sinku Environmental ARChaeology) project, situating zooarchaeological data within a holistic, community-engaged framework grounded in shíshálh knowledge and oral histories. Analyses of taxonomic composition, skeletal element representation, age profiles, and butchery patterns reconstruct shifts in diet, seasonality, and procurement across village and seasonal sites. The results point to a flexible subsistence system structured around marine and terrestrial resources, with selective harvesting, processing, and storage strategies indicative of long-term sustainability. Integrated with oral histories, these faunal patterns take on deeper cultural significance, illuminating the roles of key species in ceremony, the continuity of harvesting practices, and enduring reciprocal relationships with animal populations. This approach moves beyond subsistence reconstruction to foreground food as both sustenance and cultural practice. By embedding zooarchaeological evidence within Indigenous knowledge systems, the study offers a more nuanced understanding of past lifeways and contributes to broader discussions of adaptability, resilience, and Indigenous-led resource management.

The Toolkit Project: An Applied Research Initiative in Digital Archaeological Workflows

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Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey

Toolkit is the result of a three-year applied research and development initiative led by the Archéoconsultant team, in collaboration with professional software developers. Following two years of iterative prototyping and field testing, Toolkit has evolved into a bespoke, production-ready digital environment, designed specifically for professional archaeological practice.

The platform was developed to address persistent limitations in archaeological data management by supporting the entire archaeological workflow within a single system. Toolkit enables standardized field data recording through structured forms, as well as graphical recording, including stratigraphic drawings. It operates across diverse field contexts, including shovel test pit surveys, excavations in Indigenous contexts, and fieldwork based on the Tikal methodology.

Observed results include measurable productivity gains, improved data consistency through error detection (e.g., duplicates), partial automation of recurrent tasks, and remote monitoring of team progress. More broadly, Toolkit contributes to increased efficiency, improved data quality, and enhanced collective intelligence through integrated information sharing.

Past Ecologies, Present Decisions: Reconstructing Lost Ecosystems of the Great Lakes

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Podium Session: Biomolecular Archaeology in Conservation

We examine how biomolecular analyses of archaeological fauna can generate conservation-relevant ecological knowledge that is inaccessible from historical observations or modern monitoring alone. Through three late Holocene Lower Great Lakes case studies, we show how stable isotope, aDNA, and proteomic analyses clarify species ecology, ecosystem change, and extinction dynamics at temporal and spatial scales relevant to restoration and management. Analyses of Atlantic salmon from the Lake Ontario watershed demonstrate that individuals from this now-extinct population were freshwater-resident rather than anadromous, resolving long-standing uncertainty about life history and establishing critical baselines for reintroduction planning. Isotopic and proteomic analyses of salmon, lake trout, and whitefishes show that Lake Ontario's nitrogen cycle and food web structure remained stable for centuries before undergoing an abrupt shift coincident with industrial-scale deforestation in the early nineteenth century, identifying forest clearance—rather than long-term Indigenous land use—as a threshold driver of watershed-scale nutrient disruption. Finally, isotopic and ancient DNA evidence from passenger pigeon demonstrates substantial dietary plasticity prior to extinction, challenging habitat-loss-only explanations and underscoring the dominant role of intensive exploitation. We conclude by outlining future research directions linking biomolecular archaeological datasets from endangered species with conservation planning, emphasizing sustained collaboration among archaeologists, ecologists, and Indigenous communities.

Midden Volume, Harvested Fish Biomass, and Pre-contact Minimum Population Estimates for Nuu-chah-nulth Territories in Barkley Sound, British Columbia

Gustas, Robert¹

¹ Archaeological Survey of Alberta, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: From Capture to Care: Digital Heritage in Western Canada

Coastal shell midden deposits are a quintessential element of the archaeological record on the Pacific Northwest Coast recording thousands of years of daily life. Here I present new research which contributes to understandings of pre-contact

Indigenous demographics and marine resource use in Nuu-chah-nulth Territories in Barkley Sound, British Columbia, Canada. This research combines spatial analysis, zooarchaeology, and human metabolic requirements to estimate the volume of midden sites, the harvested fish that they contain, and the minimum local human population that could have been supported from these fish. These archaeologically derived estimates of population and biomass are grounded in a computationally conservative inductive theoretical framework which draws on archaeological data and minimizes the use of analogy and historical comparison. I show that known Barkley Sound shell midden sites comprise over 100,000 m³ of sediment representing the harvesting of over 1,000,000,000 fish by Indigenous fishers. The calories derived from these fish would be sufficient to support a population of nearly 1,000 individuals per day over the last three millennia. This research offers a framework for creating volume, biomass, and ultimately population estimates in other coastal sites globally and has important implications for governance and natural resource policy in Indigenous communities.

Indian Residential School investigations: interpretative context for remotely sensed data

Hamilton, Scott¹

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Podium Session: Non-Invasive Archaeology and Truth and Reconciliation

Popular understanding of Indian Residential School (IRS) investigations emphasizes near-surface geophysics and drone imagery. These data are usually integrated with Survivor memories, archival records and ground inspection to achieve 'multi-proxy' insight. This requires interdisciplinary research teams, development of Indigenous technical capacity, and strategies for coping with information overload, analytic 'silo' effects and project management bottlenecks. This is easy to say but hard to achieve.

This presentation offers examples how historic imagery can further analysis by providing historical and taphonomic context for remote sensing output. It can reveal the evolving cultural geography of IRS grounds, and aid interpretation of Survivor testimony and archival texts.

While much has been learned since 2021, over 180 years of Canadian IRS operations cannot be addressed in less than 5 years. By 2024 Canada began stepping back from its commitments, with funding ending on March 31, 2026. What happens now? What about incomplete ground searches? What happens to information collected but not consolidated, analyzed, curated and archived? How do we face survivors and families who still don't know the children's fates?

"Very deep & full as an egg": The Wreck of HMS Terror

Harris, Ryan¹

¹ Parks Canada – Underwater Archaeology Team

Podium Session: "The Expedition excites the strongest interest": Recent Archaeology, Research and Public Presentation on Sir John Franklin's 1845 Northwest Passage Expedition

Between 2016 and 2024 Parks Canada's Underwater Archaeology Team (UAT) and its partners carried out four underwater archaeological field projects at the wreck of HMS Terror. Due to its greater depth versus HMS Erebus, Terror is not subject to a damaging hydrodynamic regime and has a far superior state of preservation than its shallower consort situated 70 km to the south. For this reason the UAT did not prioritize fieldwork at Terror and no excavation nor artefact recoveries have taken place to date. Nevertheless, 90 archaeological dives, photo and video recording, exterior and interior remotely operated vehicle dives, remote sensing surveys and environmental studies have been undertaken at this remarkably well-preserved shipwreck. This paper will give a summary of the fieldwork and research achievements on the wreck with an emphasis on baseline 3D structural and feature recording achieved, including a remarkable 2019 interior survey of the lower deck that showcases Terror's incredible archaeological potential.

Paths of Persistence: New Evidence of Ndee Lifeways at the Foot of the Southern Rockies

Hedlund, Jonathan¹; Espinosa, Marcus¹; and Velarde, Lisa²

¹ ERO Resources Corporation, Lakewood, Colorado, USA

² Independent Researcher

Podium Session: Deep in Time and Vast in Expanse: The Dene Language Family in Western North America

The Palmer Divide between the Arkansas River and Platte River basins in eastern Colorado, USA is often cited for its ecological characteristics and draw. Indigenous occupation on the landform has been persistent. This persistence remains true during the Middle to Late Ceramic periods (800 to 250 CE). Associated buried components, however, eluded archaeologists until recently. Since 2019, ERO Resources Corporation has completed excavations of six new sites containing well-constructed and lightweight Ndee Western Dismal River Gray Ware sherds. These ceramics occur in large numbers alongside well-made arrow points, large bifaces, hide-working tools, and patterned stone tools. Unanchored by complex hearth architecture and ground stone processing, the sum of the assemblages combined with the presence of obsidian, maize, and Northern Rio Grande valley ceramics points to a people who were technologically oriented around movement. This skill enabled Ndee people to thrive in places like Palmer Divide as well as ecozones typically avoided in the past. Cumulatively, these newly excavated assemblages provide insight into the lifeways of a people who traversed the Front Range of the Southern Rocky Mountains and influenced spheres on the High Plains and Northern Rio Grande River valley.

Yukon Heritage Publications - Then and Now

Heffner, Ty¹; Smith, Holly¹; Grooms, Michael¹; and MacMillan, Jodie¹

¹ Government of Yukon, Yukon, Canada

Podium Session: Publishing CRM and Academic Research in Canada: Where, How, and Why

The Yukon Archaeology Program began in 1989. Initially focused on community-based archaeology projects and public education, the program was prolific in publishing booklets and occasional papers and designing exhibits for local museums and cultural centres. These efforts were recognized with a number of CAA public education awards. Since that time, the culture and heritage landscape has changed significantly and the program's role has shifted more towards resource management and regulation. Traditional paper publications have all but ceased with public education and outreach occurring mainly via digital and online platforms or during community events. This presentation will highlight some of the major shifts that have occurred and explore current trends in the dissemination of heritage information from a Yukon government perspective.

Stone Stories of the Métis: Stone Tool Making and Use as a Relational Practice at Overwintering Settlements

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Podium Session: Historical Archaeology in Western Canadian Contexts: New and Emerging Perspectives

Hivernant Métis were semi-nomadic bison hunters who overwintered in temporary and semi-permanent settlements across the Canadian plains throughout the nineteenth century. Archaeological projects with at least partial excavation have occurred at six of these settlements, with stone tools and related production waste recovered at each site. To date, no systematic study has examined the organization, production strategies, or use of these technologies within Métis traditions. Early investigations documented these materials with limited analysis, emphasizing acculturation and hybridity while overlooking Indigenous ontologies; however, as a post-Contact Indigenous culture that emerged when metal tools were widely available and utilized, the presence of stone tool technologies represents a unique and underexplored phenomenon. Grounded in a framework that prioritizes relationality, this research undertakes a comparative analysis of the stone tool assemblages from two hivernant settlements. Through the examination of tool morphology, production methods, and activity patterns, it evaluates whether consistent and potentially diagnostic assemblage characteristics are present. This study aims to determine whether a distinct hivernant stone tool tradition emerged as an adaptive, culturally embedded response to shifting socio-economic and political conditions. In doing so, it challenges narratives of Métis alignment with European idealism, arguing instead for cultural innovation within relational knowledge systems.

Re-Evaluating the Taphonomy of Non-Marine Culinary Gastropods: A Case Study from Tenam Puente, Chiapas, Mexico

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Podium Session: Research Methods in Mesoamerican Archaeology

Mollusk consumption is widely practiced globally, with many species participating in longstanding cultural traditions; two examples discussed in this paper are *Helix pomatia* and *Pachychilus indiorum*, known colloquially as escargot and jute respectively. Across Mesoamerica, jute snails have contributed as food, in quicklime production, and in ritual deposits, with jute soup recipes continuing to be cherished to this day. The dietary and utilitarian importance of non-marine mollusks highlights the need for new experimental studies on their taphonomic characteristics. This paper will present the results of various experiments on escargot (*Helix pomatia*) shells, and preliminary results from ongoing experiments on jute (*Pachychilus indiorum*) shells. Experimental protocols developed to investigate the taphonomy of culinary gastropods include boiling, dry roasting, tumbling, and the preparation of a traditional soup recipe from central Chiapas. We apply insights from the experimental results to an archaeological sample of jute from the ancient Maya site of Tenam Puente in order to interpret the taphonomic factors affecting its assemblage.

Encountering the Ndee: Comparing the timing and economy Apachean settlement on the Central High Plains with other Plains Groups

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Podium Session (pre-recorded): Deep in Time and Vast in Expanse: The Dene Language Family in Western North America

The appearance of Promontory groups in the Great Basin and the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains in the early 13th century created opportunities for ancestral Ndee groups to move into the Central Great Plains. The Plains landscape was already occupied at this time, however. Various Native groups, including Caddoan (ancestral Pawnee and Wichita), Siouan (ancestral Ioway, Oto, and Ho-Chunk) speakers and others lived in the Central Plains before and after the appearance of the Ndee. We address two under-explored issues related to the appearance of the Plains Apache. First, where were different groups positioned in the Central Plains before and after the appearance of the Plains Apache? Second, did the Ndee bring a unique economic focus to their new home, or were their subsistence strategies similar to other Plains groups? We answer these questions through a Bayesian analysis of more than 900 radiocarbon dates to establish relative chronologies of the 13 different Central Plains cultural groups before or during the Plains Apache occupation. In addition, we draw from a dataset of more than 100 archaeological sites to better understand cultural and temporal variation in the zooarchaeological record of precontact and contact period groups in the Central Great Plains.

Fish ZooMS on the Pacific Northwest Coast: Preliminary results and potentials for a comprehensive ZooMS database of archaeologically significant fish species

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Podium Session: Biomolecular Archaeology in Conservation

Fish are the most frequently identified class of vertebrate across Pacific Northwest Coast (NWC) archaeological sites. Consequently, identifying archaeological fish elements to species can lend insight into both cultural aspects of past Indigenous communities and aid in reconstructing palaeoenvironmental conditions. There are more than a 100 fish species across numerous taxa that are variably identified at archaeological sites, but due to osteological similarities between closely-related taxa and fish bone's higher fragmentation rates creating undiagnostic elements, not all fish can be visually identified to the species level. ZooMS, a collagen peptide-based identification method, provides an avenue to address this issue. Here, we present preliminary ZooMS results for several modern fish taxa, including flatfish, rockfish, herring, sturgeon, and more. These results, and the ongoing work to construct a comprehensive NWC fish ZooMS reference database, will enable the reliable taxonomic identification of morphologically undiagnostic fish elements from NWC archaeological sites

using Zooms. Consequently, investigations into key palaeoecological and conservation questions will be possible, including determining the diversity of fish caught and the presence of rare taxa through time, species' pre-colonial biogeography, as well as lend insights into the intensity and sustainability of Indigenous fishing through time.

In it for the Long Game: Developing the Inuvialuit Living History Website 2.0

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Podium Session: The long and winding road of slow archaeology

The Inuvialuit Living History Project is a long-standing collaboration between the Inuvialuit Cultural Centre, Inuvialuit Communications Society, Western University, Ursus Heritage Consulting, Parks Canada and Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre. Since 2017, we have been working to develop a website that celebrates Inuvialuit culture and heritage within Inuvialuit Nunangat, the Inuvialuit homelands in what is now the western Canadian Arctic. As a community-based initiative, we have worked through multiple iterations of the site over the past nine years to formulate and realize our shared vision, with crucial guidance and input from knowledge and language holders and other community members at every stage. Here, we reflect on this journey as we prepare to launch the site in summer 2026, providing an overview of our process, the many learnings along the way, and the website in its current form. We have built the site to accommodate ever-expanding content, since Inuvialuit history is forever unfolding. Our journey together will continue beyond its launch.

Just Representation? Indigenous Representation in Newfoundland & Labrador Museums

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Podium Session: Multi-modal curation and knowledge mobilization with archaeological collections

The idea that there are no Indigenous Peoples in Newfoundland and Labrador is a widely held belief for some non-Indigenous residents in the province and beyond. Museums, provincial politics, and education curricula are central to the spread and maintenance of this myth. Museums in the province are slowly beginning to face their contentious relationships with Indigenous Peoples and their representation of Indigenous cultures in their exhibits. This presentation presents results from Newfoundland and Labrador's first qualitative analysis of Indigenous representation in non-Indigenous-led museums. Digital media analysis, exhibit analysis, and semi-structured interviews with museum professionals reveal that museum exhibits in the province require updating, and museum professionals express a desire to decolonize their exhibits. However, limited funding, lack of accessible education in Indigenous Studies, and unclear paths for working with, for, and by Indigenous communities hinder decolonizing work and the bettering of Indigenous representation in Newfoundland and Labrador museums. Recommendations for bettering Indigenous representation are provided.

A Mansion House Complex on the Avalon: An Historical and Archaeological Analysis of Ferryland's Principal Residence from the 17th to 21st Century

Hollahan, Jordan¹

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Podium Session: Heritage Landscapes: Rediscovered, remembered, and recreated

This presentation, based on my ongoing doctoral research, will investigate select artifacts, structural remains, and primary source documents related to the Mansion House Complex (hereon MHC) at the Ferryland site (CgAf-02) in Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada. Built in the 1620s and destroyed in 1696, the MHC consists of several outbuildings (i.e., the kitchen, a western house, the parlour, a stable and later a tavern) centred around the primary dwelling (the Mansion House). Despite French destruction, the subsequent reuse of elements of the MHC can be traced throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth

centuries. Although significant contributions have been made to understanding and interpreting the MHC, limited archaeological and historical research has primarily focused on select artifacts, faunal remains, and associated outbuildings, thereby eluding a comprehensive examination in a stand-alone study. This project aims to capture the entire trajectory of the MHC's significance as both a symbol of British authority in North America and a functional centre of colonial life in Ferryland over four centuries.

Bibliography, Podcasting, and Public Archaeology: New Extra-Governmental Approaches to Research Dissemination in New Brunswick

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Podium Session: Supplementing, Transcending, and Subverting Conventional Archaeological Regulation

Recent bibliometric research in New Brunswick suggests that following a peak in production in the mid-1980s, scholarly publication related to cultural resource management archaeology has declined. This is despite the increasing tempo and cost of both private sector and government-led CRM. Concurrently, many of the vehicles for public archaeology in the province, such as archaeological societies, have also floundered. As a result, rightsholders, stakeholders, and the public are confronted with an opaque repository of archaeological information. In this presentation, we report on two extra-governmental efforts to address this. The first, the New Brunswick Bibliography Project, seeks to inventory, and as a result render more useable, all of the published archaeological information about the province. The second, the New Brunswick Archaeology Podcast, provides accessible educational programming about the archaeology of the province. Absent robust government mandates for public archaeology, these initiatives help to increase transparency around archaeological research and indicate what sort of archaeological data may be available.

“We Take Care of Each Other”: Learning the Pace of Erosion Archaeology in the Lower Wolastoq

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Podium Session: The long and winding road of slow archaeology

The Lower Wolastoq Erosion Project (LWEP) was developed in response to community concerns surrounding climate-change driven erosion impacts to archaeology and the resultant destruction of millennial records of Wolastoqey and Wabanaki histories. The purpose of the LWEP is to assess, evaluate, and develop comprehensive mitigative strategies for these impacts. Beginning in 2024 as a collaboration with Wolastoqey Nation in New Brunswick, the LWEP has expanded to involve Wolastoqi archaeologists, students, Wolastoqi and Wabanaki community members, and university-based researchers. Framed around research questions that balance archaeological and community interests, the project has an explicit focus on training and capacity building, improving communication, and integrating conversation and ceremony with archaeology. In this paper, we describe the evolution of the project to date, and how we are working to integrate an understanding of continuities in place and technology in the late Pre-Contact and early post-Contact period, while developing a template for reciprocal and collaborative research relationships among institutions, archaeologists, and Wabanaki communities.

Ancient DNA Analysis of Deer Remains from Curaçao

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Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey *

Curaçao white-tailed deer are an endangered subspecies endemic to the Southern Caribbean island of Curaçao. Curaçao's deer are thought to have been introduced from Venezuela by the Arawakan-speaking people, known today as the Caquetío, prior to European contact. This study aims to recover and analyze DNA from historical deer remains in Christoffel National

Park to assess the feasibility of studying DNA from older archaeological materials. The Caribbean's hot and humid climate is typically unfavourable for DNA preservation, making ancient DNA analysis challenging in this region.

In this study, nine bone samples dating back over 30 years yielded DNA sufficient for species identification (mitochondrial DNA) and sex identification (nuclear DNA). Preliminary analysis of mitochondrial D-loop fragments, combined with comparisons to published mtDNA data, suggests a distinctive mtDNA pattern for this subspecies. These historic DNA data may provide a reference for comparison with older archaeological samples, helping to clarify the timeline and the geographic and genetic origins of this island population.

Future research on pre-contact deer remains will help track long-term population changes and assess whether interbreeding occurred before or after European contact, informing both natural history and conservation efforts.

Ghosts of the Grain Trade: Digitally Preserving Prairie Elevators

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Podium Session: From Capture to Care: Digital Heritage in Western Canada

Wooden grain elevators once dominated the skylines of prairie towns and were central to the agricultural expansion of Western Canada in the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. At their peak, more than 5,700 elevators stood across the Canadian plains, often lining railway corridors in small agricultural communities. Beyond their economic role, these structures became enduring landmarks that shaped the visual and cultural identity of the prairie landscape. Today, however, fewer than a hundred historic grain elevators remain, as many have been lost to development, structural deterioration, maintenance costs, and natural hazards.

This paper examines the use of digital heritage documentation to record these rapidly disappearing structures. Drawing on recent projects documenting the Markinch, Ogilvie, and Nanton grain elevators in Southern Alberta and Saskatchewan, we present case studies that employ terrestrial LiDAR scanning and photogrammetric recording to produce high-resolution three-dimensional datasets. These projects were undertaken in collaboration with local communities interested in preserving detailed records of historically significant buildings that may not survive long-term.

By reflecting on field methods, data integration, and practical challenges associated with recording large wooden industrial buildings, this paper highlights the role of digital documentation in preserving vulnerable heritage resources and supporting future research, interpretation, and education.

"Not for the Benefit of Humankind:" African Diaspora Archaeology Under Threat and How We Survive It

Ike, Nkem¹

¹ University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Podium Session: Hidden No More: Archaeology and the Living Legacy of Black Heritage

We are currently witnessing an acceleration in the intellectual siphoning of higher education in the United States. Decades of chronic defunding of education, the reallocation of resources, and the political reframing of historical events have come to a head under the current U.S. presidential administration. Actions such as these have a severe and detrimental impact not only on the histories we tell but also on our capacity to engage in enriching archaeological practices. This is especially the case for those most marginalized by historical and institutional violence; among this class are Black people, whose collective legacies continue to grapple with the material implications of this deeply uneven socio-political relationship. Therefore, this presentation illuminates how politics acutely shape archaeological pursuits concerning African diasporic history in the U.S., as well as what is remembered and how both work to reshape discourse. More aptly, it explores how archaeologists and community members challenge racial logics by drawing on material histories that are structurally obscured and deliberately made to disappear to understand what is hidden and what can be revealed.

Transformative Cultural Materiality: Archaeologies of Displacement, Persistent Lifeways, & Identity

Ike, Nkem¹

¹ University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Podium Session: Black-Racialized-Indigenous Archaeologists: Colonially bounded Practice

Geographic upheaval fosters a sense of cultural persistence, as people manipulate the material world in new environments, form new identities, preserve traditional lifeways, and resist colonial and racial logics. This process, which we term transformative cultural materiality, involves using inherited knowledge to maintain and reassert identities in old and new geographic contexts. Through memory and community, new material worlds are constructed, creating a sense of place that bridges the past and present, and fosters the capacity for freedom-building in the future.

Using Cherokee and Black South Carolina Coast baskets, this paper explores how the power structures that underpin displacement, relocation, and migration simultaneously reconstitute how communities use their material world to reassert their cultural identity. By taking a Black and Indigenous geographic lens, we demonstrate how inherited cultural knowledge sustains the creation of new material cultures in the wake of geographic upheaval and how transformative cultural materiality can be applied as a framework for understanding archaeological data that positions the past, present, and future in new ways.

The Socio-Demographic Implications of Toolstone use in the Postglacial Ice-Free Corridor

Ives, John¹

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Podium Session: Corridors, Coasts, and Connections: Human dispersal in North America

One might expect early Clovis or stemmed point populations moving northward into the deglaciating Corridor to create a lithic “founder effect” as toolkits made with high quality Idaho obsidians, Montana cherts and porcellanites, and North Dakota Knife River Flint entered the archaeological record. With one exception, a Montana chert assemblage from Ni’taitsskaa (DhPg-8, the Lone Fighters site, formerly known as Wally’s Beach), the opposite is true: fluted and stemmed points are overwhelmingly made of locally sourced, generally poorer quality toolstones in southern and central Alberta; tools were heavily maintained. In northwestern Alberta and northeastern British Columbia’s Peace Country, the pattern shifted to extravagant use of regionally available high-quality cherts and quartzites. Despite these patterns, there are isolated early period instances of Alaska, Idaho and Oregon obsidian occurring within Alberta. A contrary trend is apparent by Cody Complex times: Knife River Flint becomes a dominant raw material, even at distances of more than 1,000 km from the source area. Terminal Pleistocene populations entering the Corridor from the south seem quickly to have been relatively isolated in attractive new settings they inhabited permanently, although not without some extraordinary instances of long-distance obsidian transport. The Cody Complex era featured sustained, far-ranging social interactions.

Adoption of the Bow and Arrow Across the Dene Language Family Was Not a Simple Process

Ives, John W. (Jack)¹

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Podium Session: Deep in Time and Vast in Expanse: The Dene Language Family in Western North America

Ideas concerning adoption of the bow and arrow in North America have surfaced over the decades, occasionally with reference to the role ancestral Dene people had in its spread toward the American Southwest. The Kehoes suggested the Avonlea Phase represented Dene people emerging on the northern Plains from the Subarctic bearing complex bows. More recently, Garvey et al. (2026) indicated that Southwestern arrival of Arctic derived complex bows “almost certainly reflects the retention of the technology by Apacheans as they moved from the Sub-Arctic.” These proposals fail to address several evidentiary flaws, among them the facts that: 1) late period bow forms for the Yukon and Northwest Territories are known, were adopted late, and were self-bows; 2) Inner Asian derived complex bows arrived with the mid-Holocene Arctic Small Tool tradition, but subsequently disappeared; 3) complex bow technology only reappeared with the Thule spread, now known to have occurred in the AD 13th century; and 4) archaeological, linguistic and genetic evidence indicate that Apachean ancestors were far to the south by then. Dene language family geography actually created multiple vectors for the transmission of bow technology to and by ancestral Dene populations, involving the Northwest Coast, Plateau, and northern Plains.

Janet Blakey: A Life in Archaeology

Johannesson, Erik¹; and Roe, Jason¹

¹ Lifeways of Canada Limited, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey

Like this session, this poster honors Janet Blakey and her contributions to the field of archaeology, focusing on her time at, and impact on, Lifeways of Canada Limited, which was her vocational home for over 20 years. At Lifeways, Janet made key contributions to archaeological studies at several highly important archaeological sites in Alberta, such as the Junction Site, the Stampede Site, the Everblue Springs Site and the Spitzee Whiskey Post, to name but a few. She was also invaluable in managing the lab, specializing in faunal analysis, and over the years mentored much of the staff at Lifeways in artifact analysis and data processing. She contributed to several significant publications, including reports and articles on the impact of the 2013 Flood on historic resources, and she designed and co-authored numerous award-winning conference posters. Janet's passion for public archaeology is well known, and under her leadership the Archaeological Society of Alberta successfully sponsored and developed a range of speaker series, archaeological fieldwork projects, and other outreach programs. Janet's passion for archaeology was virtually boundless and her zest for life and keen intellect continues to be sorely missed, not just at Lifeways, but across the many networks and organizations she touched.

Stories Worth Telling: Some Challenges and Potential Solutions to Publishing Cultural Resource Management Research in Canada

Johannesson, Erik¹

¹ Lifeways of Canada Limited, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: Publishing CRM and Academic Research in Canada: Where, How, and Why

While the majority of archaeological investigations conducted in Canada occur in the context of Cultural Resource Management, the preponderance of reports pertaining to this work are not published and are often relegated to the "grey literature" and not disseminated widely. This paper examines some of the challenges of, and potential solutions to, publishing data collected via Cultural Resource Management projects. This includes the nature of technical reports, which in satisfying regulatory statutes often do not lend themselves readily for publication in venues directed at archaeological research or for dissemination to a popular audience. Another challenge is a lack of training in writing, publication, and presentation in archaeological consulting in general. I draw on comparative examples from Sweden to highlight how both archaeological consultants and government regulators can create novel avenues for disseminating archaeological data and foster an environment conducive to promoting heritage work. Finally, the paper calls attention to recent publications in Alberta to highlight that there are ample opportunities for disseminating archaeological research, both traditional and more unconventional, and that archaeological publications need not be confined to typical books and articles, but can include art, poetry, and the performance as well.

Weaving Knowledge Together: Bringing Alberta Archaeology to the Public

Judson, Sam¹

¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: Heritage Landscapes: Rediscovered, remembered, and recreated

Alberta is a province rich in many things. The province's natural resources, Rocky Mountains, expansive prairies and beautiful cities likely come to mind first, but most Albertans would not think to add 'archaeological sites' to this list. Very few Albertans are aware of the depth of Alberta's Indigenous past and how this is preserved in the archaeological record. Through fieldwork and literary research, the goal of this project was to learn more about what the public knows about archaeological sites in Calgary and the surrounding area, how they learnt this information, and how information about archaeology can be efficiently disseminated to the public in engaging ways. In the field, it quickly became clear many community members felt they knew about modern Indigenous culture, but were not as familiar with Precontact Indigenous culture or early settler communities in Alberta, or archaeology's role in sharing this past. By celebrating Alberta's vibrant and diverse past, and helping educate the broader public about this heritage, the goals of truth and reconciliation can also be furthered as we increase intercultural competency by spreading knowledge about Calgary and Southern Alberta's incredibly rich cultures of today and of the past.

Participating with the Past: A Report on the 2024 and 2025 University of Calgary's Public Archaeology Program

Judson, Sam¹; Cascadden-Jassal, Zoe¹; Amundsen-Meyer, Lindsay¹

¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey *

After a hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the University of Calgary's Public Archaeology Program returned in 2024. With support from the Archaeological Society of Alberta, the public archaeology program has been officially rebooted with great success. Running within the University of Calgary's Plains Archaeology Field School, the public program has been, and will continue to be, run by a graduate student under the supervision of Dr. Lindsay Amundsen-Meyer. This provides a key opportunity for a graduate student to get hands-on experience with a leadership role within a larger field project, as well as improve their communication, organizational and administration skills. Over the past two years, more than 60 members of the public have participated in the Public Archaeology Program, and early registration numbers for the 2026 iteration of the project indicate it will be another fully booked, busy and exciting year for the Public Archaeology Program. This poster will summarize the past two years of the University of Calgary's Public Archaeology Program, while also highlighting specific wins, areas in which the program can be improved, ideas to enhance the program, and preliminary predictions and data regarding the 2026 program.

Microanalyses As Means to An End

Kawei, Zebedee^{1,2}; and Surette, Clarence^{2,3}

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Podium Session: Corridors, Coasts, and Connections: Human dispersal in North America

In archaeology, it is often difficult to determine the precise uses and functions of artifacts. Tackling this challenge requires multiple lines of evidence and thus, the inevitable application of diverse analytical approaches. This study examines two contrasting artifacts: one identified as an obvious tool type, and the other considered more ambiguous in function. By applying targeted microanalytical techniques, this research highlights the methodological considerations and challenges associated with different artifact types, ultimately aiming to improve interpretations of function as well as contributions to a more nuanced understanding of past human behavior.

Niviuqtiit - Wrecks Guardian Program: Incorporating Inuit Traditional Knowledge and Lifeways into Operations at the Wrecks of HMS Erebus and HMS Terror NHS

Keanik, Jacob¹; and Dagneau, Charles²

¹ Nattilik Heritage Society, Gjoa Haven, King William Island, Nunavut, Canada

² Parks Canada – Underwater Archaeology Team

Podium Session: "The Expedition excites the strongest interest": Recent Archaeology, Research and Public Presentation on Sir John Franklin's 1845 Northwest Passage Expedition

Gjoa Haven community members, youth and Elders play an active part in the management and field operations in various ways at the Wrecks of HMS Erebus and HMS Terror National Historic Site. The Niviuqtiit or Wrecks Guardians program aims to protect and promote the Erebus and Terror sites. Each summer, guardians conduct their duties out of camps established near both wreck sites. Their activities contribute to integrating Inuit knowledge and lifeways into site operations. The Guardians worked closely with Parks Canada's Underwater Archaeology Team during archaeological field work between 2014 and 2024 and will continue to play a key role in site protection and interpretation, as well as archaeological monitoring of the wrecks.

3D Modeling Ancient Maya Monuments

Kelly, Mary Kate¹

¹ Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: Research Methods in Mesoamerican Archaeology

Advances in 3D data collection and utilization are inspiring multifaceted (pun intended) approaches to digital heritage. This paper considers the opportunities, benefits, challenges, and costs of creating 3D printed replicas of ancient Maya carved monuments. Maya stelae are large stones, generally between 1 and 3 metres in height which bear finely detailed carvings of imagery and hieroglyphic writing. Replication using 3D printers comes with limitations – specifically in overall size, and in resolution – which decrease the visibility of details on the 3D print in comparison to the original. In this paper, I compare different common 3D printer types with respect to cost, resolution, size, and accessibility of use, with the goal of increasing legibility. I also consider the impact that 3D prints can have for accessibility of scientific understanding by local, heritage, and steward communities. It is easier than ever now to collect 3D data – what we do with these data matters.

Reimagining the Archaeological Field School

Kelvin, Laura¹; and Lameg, Drenna¹

¹ University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Podium Session: Obsidian Ceiling - Ethnic Archaeologists Experiences in the CRM Field in Canada

Archaeological field schools remain an important component of undergraduate training. They are frequently a program requirement, and future employers prefer to hire graduates who have field school experience. However, they are often criticized for reproducing the colonial underpinnings of the discipline and not actually preparing students for the realities of a career in archaeology. After a six-year hiatus, the University of Manitoba's Anthropology Department offered a revised version of the archaeological field school. The redesigned model aimed to carefully balance ethical, relational approaches to archaeology and providing foundational field skills. Although students gained hands-on experience in survey and excavation, these activities were framed within a broader context, highlighting that excavation is only one part of what it means to practice archaeology. This presentation reflects on the design process, early successes, and key challenges of the first iteration of the redesigned field school.

Ten Thousand Years and Six Decades of Archaeology in the Crowsnest Pass

Kennedy, Margaret¹

¹ retired

Podium Session (ASA): Papers in Honour of Dr. Brian (Barney) Reeves

In 1958 Richard G. Forbis recorded the first site in the DjPp Borden Block in the Crowsnest Pass– the pictographs in the cave on Crowsnest Lake. He and his assistant from the Glenbow Foundation's newly established Department of Archaeology completed a few more site recordings elsewhere in the Pass but no further investigations took place at that time. That came about through the work of Dr. Brian (Barney) O.K. Reeves, to whom most of the credit for our understanding of the archaeology of the Pass is due. His work there began with a major three-year program of survey and site excavations in 1972, 1973 and 1974, and continued over following years through a mix of field schools, salvage work and graduate student research. Lifeways of Canada Ltd., established by Barney in 1972 and the first heritage consulting company in Alberta, conducted almost all CRM projects in the Pass for a number of years and I can bring a personal perspective to some of that work. I will reflect on Barney's contributions to Crowsnest Pass archaeology, review work done in recent years and revisit ideas of past human use of this intensively studied and important Rocky Mountain pass.

Tracing the Origins and Dietary Impact of Introduced Goats on Curaçao using Ancient DNA

King, Willem¹; Zhang, Hua¹; Yang, Dongya¹; and Giovas, Christina¹

¹ Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada

Podium Session: Biomolecular Archaeology in Conservation

Goats are among the most bioinvasive mammals, with their introduction to islands altering landscapes, contributing to deforestation, and threatening vulnerable floral species. The colonial introduction of goats to the Caribbean island of Curaçao likely caused similar effects historically. However, through traditional archaeological techniques, tracing their origins and contribution to landscape alteration can be difficult to directly assess.

This research addresses just that by applying ancient DNA (aDNA) techniques to compare modern goat feces from five locations across Curaçao with historical paleofeces from the oldest archaeological site on the island (C-1426). A classical PCR-based approach allows for the study of goat geographical origins over time, whereas metabarcoding of chloroplast markers reconstructs diet with validation from shotgun sequencing of a select few samples.

The analysis of goat feces and paleofeces in the Caribbean lays a foundation for aDNA analysis in tropical environments by refining techniques and providing genetic data in an area where it is scarce. Studying dietary preference informs our understanding of the historical impact of introduced species and guides current land management practices and floral restoration across the island and broader Caribbean.

Coastal Engineering Approaches to Understanding Environmental Impacts to Submerged Archaeological Sites - HMS Erebus and HMS Terror

Kipping, Darren¹

¹ Stantec Consulting Ltd., Canada

Podium Session: “The Expedition excites the strongest interest”: Recent Archaeology, Research and Public Presentation on Sir John Franklin’s 1845 Northwest Passage Expedition

In their submerged setting, Her Majesty’s Ship (HMS) Erebus and HMS Terror remain exposed to hydrodynamic forces generated by tides and wind-driven storms, posing risks to their structural stability and long-term preservation. These risks are expected to increase as climate change alters Arctic environmental conditions, including the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events.

To assess these threats, Nunami Stantec Limited was retained by the Parks Canada Underwater Archaeology Team to evaluate wind, wave, and water-level exposure at the wreck sites using numerical modeling of publicly available environmental data and anecdotal field observations for validation. A significant storm event from September 2015 was simulated to characterize storm-driven currents, wave orbital velocities, and near-bed forcing at wreck depth. Climate change scenarios incorporating projected relative sea level rise were also incorporated into the numerical modeling to assess potential impacts of future storm events which may increase hydrodynamic forcing. The findings improve understanding of hydrodynamic physical hazards affecting HMS Erebus and HMS Terror and assist informing ongoing scientific observations and investigations at both sites.

The Fletcher Site: Another Look at a Cody Period Bison Communal Hunting Site

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² Department of Anthropology, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada

Podium Session: Corridors, Coasts, and Connections: Human dispersal in North America

The Fletcher Site, a well-known Cody occupation in Southeastern Alberta, is one of the oldest bison communal hunting locations in the province. It has been subject to multiple phases of excavation over the decades, including the earliest headed by Richard Forbis in the 1960’s. Our study, and the topic of this presentation, revisits the materials recovered during excavations from 1963-1964 in which nearly 56,000 fragments of bone have been unassessed until now. Through zooarchaeological analysis, insights into Cody Period peoples’ reliance on bison are explored, including herd demographics, bone modification, and skeletal portion quantification. Additionally, we present an updated radiocarbon date for this site, directly on bone, establishing the Fletcher Site as one of the oldest among Cody Complex sites at 11,600-8,785 cal. BP.

These findings represent an important record in understanding Indigenous peoples' relationship to bison in the Early Holocene.

Pronghorn During Cultural Interactions at Promontory Cave 1, Utah

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Podium Session: Deep in Time and Vast in Expanse: The Dene Language Family in Western North America

Promontory Cave 1 (42BO1), overlooking the Great Salt Lake in northern Utah, has been recognized as an important setting for interactions between incoming Subarctic groups, possibly of ancestral Dene origin, and peoples of the Great Basin during the thirteenth century CE. Decades of archaeological work at the cave have produced a substantial assemblage of faunal remains representing a variety of species. In this presentation, we focus on pronghorn (*Antilocapra americana*), highlighting its significance in these cultural encounters. Using zooarchaeological methods, we assessed carcass processing practices, demographic composition, and the seasonality of pronghorn use at the site. The findings indicate that complete carcasses were likely transported to the cave, and that their heads were processed with notable care, as evidenced by traces of brain extraction and possible tongue removal. Demographic and seasonal analyses show that both male and female pronghorn from nearly all age categories, from fetal to old adult, were consumed at Promontory Cave 1 during fall, winter, and spring.

Jade exchange and Dene migration in western Canada

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Podium Session: Deep in Time and Vast in Expanse: The Dene Language Family in Western North America

Nephrite (jade) was used for over 3000 years in western North America to make ground stone celts. A small proportion of these labour-intensive tools were transported over a thousand kilometres east across mountains and linguistic boundaries to Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba. Nephrite celts are among the most widely dispersed artifacts in pre-contact Canada but lack clear utilitarian value in the regions to which they were traded; they may have been gifts or prestige items acquired by exchange. We link these artifacts to a chronological period that may overlap with Dene migration through the commercial production centres of nephrite celts in British Columbia. Detecting Dene migration has largely eluded northern archaeologists but jade celts may serve as a small and proxy indicator of a cultural and economic florescence stimulated by new Dene participants in the Plateau Interaction Sphere, one outcome of which was long-distance exchange of jade across the Dene world and beyond.

The Pre-contact Lithic Landscape of Alberta

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² University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey

Over 25,000 projectile points and 1.5 million lithic artifacts from archaeological sites in Alberta inform pre-contact toolstone preferences, mobility patterns, and social connections. Pre-contact people in the province relied heavily on local sedimentary and metamorphic rocks (quartzite, chert, siltstone, quartz, and petrified wood) that were of moderate knapping quality but produced durable tools with long use lives. This suited mobile populations with seasonally-restricted access to supplies and

infrequent encounters with people offering higher quality toolstones. While the sourcing potential of sedimentary and metamorphic rock is low, rare exotics (e.g., obsidian, Knife River Flint, Tertiary Hills Clinker, and jade) reveal social networks that connected hunter-gatherers across Alberta and North America. This poster offers an illustrated synthesis of Alberta's pre-contact lithic raw material use to inform future studies and site-specific evaluations of significance in cultural resource management (CRM).

Changing roles of the Archaeological Survey of Alberta's Occasional Paper Series

Kristensen, Todd¹

¹ Archaeological Survey of Alberta, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: Publishing CRM and Academic Research in Canada: Where, How, and Why

The Occasional Paper Series was first published in 1976 in Alberta to share archaeological information among professionals. The goals of the colloquially named "blue book" were to rapidly disseminate important work conducted in the province every year and drive positive change in cultural resource management (CRM). The series was discontinued in the 1990s and re-invigorated in 2016 with new mandates. The blue book occupies a niche in Alberta archaeology; we use it to inform principles and technologies employed in CRM, justify site protection and management strategies, spur research, and develop scholars. This talk showcases blue book successes and challenges along with future goals as the series evolves. In particular, I discuss a thematic volume designed to disseminate important content from theses and dissertations about archaeology in Alberta and surrounding provinces. This volume informs a larger debate: what role do jurisdictional publications play in knowledge production and how we can adapt to do that better?

Integrating Machine Learning Models with Aerial Remote Sensing for Enhanced Feature Detection: Automated Detection of Graves and Burial Features Associated with Indian Residential Schools

Kuncewicz, Nick¹

¹ ARCH Airworks Inc., Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Podium Session: Non-Invasive Archaeology and Truth and Reconciliation

Digital methods for site and feature identification are rapidly advancing archaeological practice, particularly through the integration of remote sensing technologies. However, many approaches remain difficult for archaeologists to interpret and implement, often requiring specialized expertise that is not widely accessible within the discipline. This is especially evident in investigations related to Indian Residential Schools in Canada, where transparent methodology and careful interpretation are critical, and where development and validation of findings must be grounded in quantifiable data.

Building on this foundation, this presentation outlines the development and application of machine learning models, pipelines, and workflows designed to detect and characterize burial features using multi-modal datasets. Integrating LiDAR-derived terrain models, RGB orthomosaics, and other remotely sensed data, supervised models are trained using a human-in-the-loop approach with annotated datasets. Current detection is driven primarily by image-based features, while patterns in grave morphology, geometry, and feature characterization are being documented for future integration with computer vision approaches.

Rather than relying on generalized "black box" workflows, this work emphasizes task-specific analytical strategies tailored to archaeological objectives. Results highlight both the potential and limitations of automated detection in complex environments, and underscore the importance of transparency, reproducibility, and careful interpretation in culturally sensitive investigations.

Zakagori Fortress as Part of a Regional Medieval Defensive System: Archaeological and Landscape Analysis

Kvakhadze, Levan¹

¹ The University of Georgia, Tbilisi, Georgia

Podium Session: Castles, Strongholds, and Fortifications of the Medieval Period in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus

Zakagori Fortress is a medieval fortified site and former village located in the Truso Valley of northern Georgia, situated on a high, hard-to-access mountain near the confluence of the Tergi and Suatisi rivers at approximately 2240 meters above sea

level. The strategic location of the site at the upper entrance to the gorge indicates its historical role in controlling movement through this northern boundary zone and defending communication routes in the Caucasus.

This paper presents results from recent archaeological surveys and landscape analysis of Zakagori's layout, architectural features, and spatial organization relative to the surrounding terrain. By integrating topographic assessment, architectural documentation, and material culture observations, the study reconstructs functional aspects of the fortress and its defensive strategy. Particular attention is paid to how natural topography and constructed fortifications combine to optimize visibility, control riverine corridors, and regulate access through the valley.

The findings suggest that Zakagori Fortress was not merely an isolated defensive point, but an integral component of a regional medieval defensive network. Placing Zakagori in the broader context of fortifications in the Caucasus enhances understanding of settlement organization, territorial control, and landscape use along key high-altitude routes.

Nothing to Read Here (apparently): Issues Disseminating Manitoba archaeology

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Podium Session: Publishing CRM and Academic Research in Canada: Where, How, and Why

If archaeological work is being conducted in Manitoba, why is so little of it being published? For decades, the Manitoba Archaeological Journal (MAJ) has provided a venue for archaeologists across the province to share research, disseminate findings from Cultural Resource Management (CRM) projects, and offer an accessible gateway for early-career scholars to enter publishing. In recent years, however, contributions have declined, particularly from professional and student researchers conducting local projects. At the same time, the structure of archaeological practice in Manitoba has shifted. Few academic positions are filled by archaeologists focused on Manitoba based research, the MAJ relies largely on volunteer labour, and the majority of archaeological fieldwork is conducted through CRM, where increasingly restrictive copyright practices make it difficult to access and publish findings. All these issues compound the challenges of sustaining regional dissemination of archaeological information. This presentation reflects on these pressures and opens a conversation about participation, knowledge sharing, and dissemination. Exploring these challenges highlights the urgent need to rethink how archaeological knowledge reaches the community and the broader public.

“This One Time, at Field School...” Student Perspectives on Archaeological Training

Lameg, Drenna¹

¹ University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Podium Session: “They didn’t teach us that in archaeology school” Career Skills for CRM

Archaeological field schools play a pivotal role in preparing students for professional practice, yet they remain inaccessible to many. Financial, structural, and cultural barriers reflect the discipline’s colonial, ableist, and exclusionary foundations, shaping who participates in archaeology and whose voices influence the knowledge it produces.

This presentation draws on interviews with University of Manitoba anthropology students who have either attended or expressed interest in field training programs. It explores their experiences and perspectives on fieldwork, highlighting how accessibility, structural constraints, and disciplinary expectations affect participation, learning outcomes, and pathways into archaeology.

Initial findings reveal how these barriers influence students’ engagement with field training, including their motivations, challenges, and perceptions of the value of field experiences. By centering student voices, this work highlights the factors that shape participation and learning in archaeology, offering insights that can inform future iterations of field training programs.

Four Years of Slow Archaeology in Dolores, Guatemala

Lamoureux-St-Hilaire, Maxime¹

¹ Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: The long and winding road of slow archaeology

Since 2022, Ruben Morales Forte and I have been conducting a slow archaeology program with the heritage community of Dolores, Guatemala. This project stems from co-working with Dolores grassroots archaeologists who invited us to their community. Three years of ethnography have allowed us to interview 52 community members about their rapport with archaeology and their hopes for their cultural heritage. Through this process, we have formed relationships with not only community members, but also with three local institutions: (1) the archaeology museum; (2) an archaeological survey program; and (3) the mayor's office.

Our slow approach and sustained rappings have been somewhat surprising for the community, but the resulting heart-centered relational web was well worth it. After four years, our Phase 1 is complete and we are ready for the archaeological Phase 2 of the program.

The unusual ethnoarchaeological nature of this program has represented a barrier for securing meaningful funding. Conversely, ethnographic work is fairly inexpensive. And while this research has been incredibly rewarding, it would be hard to conduct for either graduate students or scholars working at research-intensive universities.

Yet, we believe our slow approach is promising and has paved the way for a truly community-led excavation program.

The Research Methods of the Dolores Slow Archaeology Program

Lamoureux-St-Hilaire, Maxime¹

¹ Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: Research Methods in Mesoamerican Archaeology

This talk breaks down the methodology I co-developed with my colleague Ruben Morales Forte to lead the ethnographic Phase 1 of the Dolores Slow Archaeology Program. These can be summarized as follows: (1) Getting invited by the community; (2) Establishing a positive communal contact; (3) Designing ethnographic interviews and undergoing an ethics board certification; (3) Collaborating with the local museum to recruit interviewees; (4) Interviewing 52 grassroots archaeologists; (5) Visiting local archaeological sites; and (6) Cementing relationships with local institutions. This time-consuming 6-step methodology has successfully developed a meaningful community engagement and paved the way for a co-designed archaeological program.

This talk closes by addressing how this slow collaborative approach can productively be conceived of as a new form of ethical ethnoarchaeology.

Ascribing ethnicity to ceremonial stone feature landscapes: Reeves' Old Women's and Avonlea phase definitions, and the many potential homelands of the Gros Ventre/White Clay People

Landals, Alison¹

¹ Stantec Consulting Ltd., Canada

Podium Session (ASA): Papers in Honour of Dr. Brian (Barney) Reeves

Brian Reeves' 1970 definition of the Old Women's phase did not ascribe it to any ethnic affiliation, following the strict, established convention of those times. However, by placing it within his "Napikwan" tradition, it was clear that he conceived the Phase as ancestral to Algonkian speaking peoples. When his dissertation was eventually published in 1983, he clarified that he saw the Phase as ancestral to both the Blackfoot and Gros Ventre people. Over the succeeding decades multiple researchers have focused on more fully describing Old Women's material culture and phase indicators, its temporal/geographic extent and especially its ethnic affiliation; the sheer strength of the correlation of this phase with the ancestral Blackfoot went from "daring" to "dogma" in a generation. At the same time, any place for the Gros Ventre within the Old Women's phase has dwindled into irrelevance and invisibility. This paper will consider reasons for this situation and Reeves' more recent attempt to ascribe Gros Ventre affiliation to stone features within the Forks ceremonial landscape. Alternate phase associations for the Gros Ventre are also considered.

Living Heritage, Living Lands: Indigenous Youth, Cultural Stewardship and Wellness in Churchill

Larcombe, Linda¹

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Podium Session: Supplementing, Transcending, and Subverting Conventional Archaeological Regulation

The Connecting Land, Culture Heritage and Wellness (CLCHW) is a collaborative research project that is focused on Indigenous youth wellness and establishing Indigenous-led stewardship of archaeological sites in the Churchill, Manitoba. By engaging Inuit, Dene, and Cree youth with their ancestral lands, the program demonstrates how being on the Land, experiencing the cultural heritage at archaeological sites and strategizing for its preservation might serve as tools for youth and community health and identity. The project identifies a critical need for legislative reform in Manitoba to align with international Indigenous rights and prevent the loss of historical sites to erosion or development.

Researchers propose the creation of an Indigenous Cultural Heritage Trust to grant local communities' authority over their own history and artifacts. Ultimately, the initiative seeks to transition from colonial management styles toward a model where cultural belongings are treated as living connections to relatives rather than static objects of study. Through technological mapping and land-based ceremonies, the project builds a sustainable framework for sovereign heritage management and future tourism opportunities.

Investigating Sex-Selective Fishing of Chinook Salmon at Smokehouse Island through Ancient DNA Analysis of Archaeological Salmon Vertebrae

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Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey *

Located in the Upper Babine River of north-central British Columbia, Smokehouse Island is an archaeological fishery site used by the ancestral Nedu't'en (Lake Babine Nation) approximately 1,000 years ago. Previous ancient DNA (aDNA) research identified the sex-selective harvesting of male sockeye salmon—a practice linked to sustainable resource management. Conversely, a small sample of eight Chinook salmon remains showed a female bias, raising a critical question: was this a deliberate sex-selective strategy or simply a result of a limited sample size?

This research addresses the question by analyzing 30 additional Chinook salmon vertebrae from the site. Using a PCR-based approach to amplify fragments of the mitochondrial D-loop and nuclear genome, we identified the species and sex of each bone. Our data seem to confirm a higher harvest of female Chinook salmon, revealing a fishing strategy opposite to that used for sockeye and suggesting an egg-targeting fishery practice.

Our study highlights the efficacy of aDNA analysis for identifying archaeological remains. This genetic information enables precise reconstructions of traditional fishery practices and resource management strategies, enhancing archaeological understanding while contributing to conservation efforts.

Soil Spectroscopy in Burial Contexts: Parameters and Limitations

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¹ University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

² Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières, Trois-Rivières, Québec, Canada

Podium Session: Non-Invasive Archaeology and Truth and Reconciliation

Digital methods for site and feature identification are rapidly advancing archaeological practice, particularly through the integration of remote sensing technologies. However, many approaches remain difficult for archaeologists to interpret and implement, often requiring specialized expertise that is not widely accessible within the discipline. This is especially evident in investigations related to Indian Residential Schools in Canada, where transparent methodology and careful interpretation are critical, and where development and validation of findings must be grounded in quantifiable data.

Building on this foundation, this presentation outlines the development and application of machine learning models, pipelines, and workflows designed to detect and characterize burial features using multi-modal datasets. Integrating LiDAR-derived terrain models, RGB orthomosaics, and other remotely sensed data, supervised models are trained using a human-in-the-loop approach with annotated datasets. Current detection is driven primarily by image-based features, while patterns in grave morphology, geometry, and feature characterization are being documented for future integration with computer vision approaches.

Rather than relying on generalized “black box” workflows, this work emphasizes task-specific analytical strategies tailored to archaeological objectives. Results highlight both the potential and limitations of automated detection in complex environments, and underscore the importance of transparency, reproducibility, and careful interpretation in culturally sensitive investigations.

The Coast was Clear (but where were the people?): a review of the current state of late Pleistocene archaeological evidence on the Northwest Coast

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Podium Session: Corridors, Coasts, and Connections: Human dispersal in North America

The Northwest Coast has been recognized for decades as a key route into the American continents following the Last Glacial Maximum, as well as deep-time homeland to coastal First Nations living along the coast through to today.

Paleoenvironmental evidence indicates that the coast was navigable and hospitable to humans coming from Beringia perhaps several millennia before any overland route from north to south. Despite a widening rejection of the ‘Ice Free Corridor’ hypothesis for the earliest peopling of North America, and a generally more popular embrace of the ‘Pacific Coastal Route’ hypothesis, it remains that no archaeological site on the Northwest Coast has yet been identified with reliable dates to empirically ‘put the nail in the coffin’ of the debate. In this presentation we review current archaeological evidence for late Pleistocene occupation of the Northwest Coast and critically reflect on the strength of the different types of evidence. We discuss where we think archaeologists might productively turn to attempt to push the chronology of human occupation beyond the temporal boundaries required to settle the age-old debate.

A 9,000-Year-Old Landscape Beneath Lake Huron: Plant Macrofossils from Submerged Peat Deposits on the Alpena-Amberley Ridge

Lin, Mengxi¹; and Boyd, Matthew¹

¹ Lakehead University, Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey *

During early Holocene low-water phases, portions of the Lake Huron basin were exposed as terrestrial landscapes. The Alpena–Amberley Ridge is one such feature, now submerged beneath the modern lake. Plant macrofossils preserved in submerged peat deposits are used here to reconstruct local vegetation and environmental conditions of this ~9,000-year-old drowned landscape.

Peat samples were collected by divers and ROV from multiple sites across the ridge and processed using standard plant macrofossil recovery and identification methods. Identifiable remains were classified by functional group and analyzed at the site level to assess spatial patterns in vegetation and hydrological conditions.

Macrofossil assemblages are dominated by aquatic and wetland herb taxa, indicating the development of peat-forming wetlands before the lake-level rise. Assemblage composition varies among sites, suggesting spatially heterogeneous vegetation patterns likely influenced by local hydrology and microtopography. Woody taxa are rare or absent across the sampled sites.

These results provide direct, in situ paleoenvironmental evidence for the submerged paleolandscape and contribute to the environmental context for ongoing archaeological research on early Holocene Caribou movement corridors in the Lake Huron basin.

Beyond Function: Perceptions and Realities of Pottery Use by Northern Great Plains Communities

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² Peguis First Nation

Podium Session: Multi-modal curation and knowledge mobilization with archaeological collections

Pottery on the Northern Great Plains has been viewed as a technology that was rapidly replaced by European metal wares, lacked durability, and did not fit a mobile lifeway. In contrast, our recent archaeological research, analysis of ethnographic accounts, and experiments with replica vessels have provided insight on the adoption and abandonment of pottery in this region. Our findings suggest that the first pottery vessels were incorporated into ceremonial contexts, indicating broader social and cultural significance as a plastic medium for indirectly communicating with other communities. Once adopted, pottery remained a part of cuisine in this region until the arrival of Europeans which brought about many changes that impacted pottery production. The loss of access to traditional clay sources following European contact, coupled with a shift toward fur production, contributed to the decline of pottery production among communities. Experimental evidence further demonstrates that, with repeated use, these vessels increase in strength, can be used year-round, help prevent the burning of foods, and effectively retain flavour. Vessel performance alone does not fully explain the transition away from pottery in favour of metal wares.

Materializing Complexity and Continuity: A Construction History of the Central E Group at Yaxnohcah, Campeche, Mexico

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Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey *

Ancient Maya E Groups – as loci of socio-political continuity, socio-cultural change, and social memory – anchored the growth and development of lowland Maya cities across millennia of urban development, ca. 1000 BCE – 900 CE. Often centrally located, they represent the earliest and longest-lasting formalized lowland architectural arrangements. These solar-oriented plaza-pyramid complexes each had unique developmental histories, but shared similar layouts, with a western pyramid facing across an open plaza towards a long platform surmounted by a smaller eastern pyramid(s). Recent archaeological investigations of the central Brisa E Group at Yaxnohcah documented a two-millennia-plus (1000 BCE- 1250 CE) construction and occupation chronology, with architectural renovations and/or ritual events witnessed in nearly every major period. This demonstrates that the construction, maintenance, and elaboration of its central E Group-style plaza-pyramid complex was integral to the multimillennial development of sociopolitical complexity and urbanism at Yaxnohcah. This poster presents the documented sequence from the central E Group of Yaxnohcah, to identify important moments of material and sociopolitical transformation and continuity.

Socializing Space and Cosmological Centering: Socio-Spatial Analysis of the Central 'E Group' Architecture at Yaxnohcah, Campeche, Mexico

Lockett-Harris, Joshua¹; Reese-Taylor, Kathryn¹; Kupprat, Felix²; Anaya Hernandez, Armando³; Walker, Debra⁴; Montgomery, Shane¹; Gutierrez Rodriguez, Sophia²; and Montserrat Sauza Nunez, Valeria²

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Podium Session: Research Methods in Mesoamerican Archaeology

As revolutionary technologies open new research frontiers in Maya archaeology – specifically LiDAR mapping of heavily forested lowland Maya cities – we must ground this novel knowledge production in socio-spatial approaches and emic Maya perspectives. Archaeological investigation at the ancient Maya site of Yaxnohcah, located in the Bajo El Laberinto region of the Maya lowlands, have demonstrated that its central ‘E Group-style’ plaza-pyramid complex was integral to the multimillennial development of sociopolitical complexity and urbanism at Yaxnohcah. The built environments of ‘E Groups’ were generationally altered to meet the demands of increasingly complex lowland societies from the beginning of the Middle Preclassic, ca. 1000 BCE, through to the political and demographic disintegration of southern Classical lowland society, ca. 830. In this paper, we present a socio-spatial analysis of the changing architecture of the central E Group at Yaxnohcah, as we discuss its relationship to larger processes of urbanism and sociopolitical development over time. We argue the social ‘space’ which emerged from the use and ritualization of the built environment of the central E Group was integral to the generational development of community and society at Yaxnohcah, as was its ideological significance as the centre of a landscape sized urban cosmogram.

Examining Site Changes at the Wreck of HMS Erebus via 3D Digital Comparative Analysis

Lockhart, Brandy¹

¹ Parks Canada – Underwater Archaeology Team

Podium Session: “The Expedition excites the strongest interest”: Recent Archaeology, Research and Public Presentation on Sir John Franklin’s 1845 Northwest Passage Expedition

This paper discusses structural changes seen on the wreck of HMS Erebus between 2014 and 2024 as determined through the comparative analysis of digital data collected via photogrammetry and multi-beam echosounder. Comparative analysis was completed using Cloud Compare and Bentley Open Cities Map Ultimate software which allowed for overall change detection analysis of multiple point cloud models of the wreck from different years, as well as the comparison of thin sections of different models through multiple planes, providing quantitative data on variation between years. This analysis allowed for a better understanding of both overall and subtle changes in the site due to environmental factors and archaeological excavation.

Reframing Archaeological Practice in Nunavik: Forty Years of Community-Driven Research

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¹Avataq Cultural Institute, Quebec, Canada

Podium Session: The long and winding road of slow archaeology

Avataq Cultural Institute was established in 1980 to protect and promote the cultural heritage of Nunavik Inuit. Inuk archaeologist Daniel Weetaluktuk played a foundational role in documenting Nunavik archaeology and advocating for the active involvement of Nunavimmiut in research. Following his passing in 1981, Nunavik Elders mandated Avataq to develop an archaeology program to protect and preserve archaeological heritage for Nunavik Inuit. The department was created in 1985, marking 40 years of activity in 2025.

Over this period, Nunavik has undergone significant local and regional changes, including expanding infrastructure and increased autonomy of regional organizations. Earlier research collaborations involved communities and academic institutions, with Avataq acting as a bridge and logistical support. While this brought research funding, it sometimes brought conflicting priorities. Today, Avataq’s role is to provide archaeological services according to community and regional needs and wishes. Regional funding opportunities have allowed Avataq to build independent community-driven research initiatives; one such project currently underway builds upon work started by Weetaluktuk more than 45 years ago.

By maintaining control over research quality and data stewardship, Avataq ensures that archaeological and historical knowledge production contributes to the broader objective of reconstructing Nunavik’s past, with results disseminated at regional and local scales.

The role of archaeology in the cumulative effects space with a case study from ḡíćǎy̓ (Katzie) territory, Fraser Delta, British Columbia

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Podium Session: Supplementing, Transcending, and Subverting Conventional Archaeological Regulation

Cumulative effects assessments (CEAs) evaluate the past, present and foreseeable future impacts of human and natural processes in proposed development areas, such as environmental stresses, loss of habitat and/or harvesting ranges. Many Indigenous communities are faced with multiple and intersecting claims to different resources and other forms of wealth within their territories, and are utilizing CEAs to assess impacts and inform decision-making about land use, rights and stewardship. In this paper, we consider the role that archaeology is playing in such assessments and how it connects to the growth of a service-oriented approach to compliance archaeology in British Columbia. We discuss the longstanding partnership between ḡíćǎy̓ (Katzie First Nation), whose territory occupies the Fraser Delta of British Columbia, and Ursus Heritage Consulting, a BC-based CRM company. We illustrate with a case study from the sánəsaʔł (Alouette) watershed that shows Ursus's role in compiling, analysing, mapping, and presenting cultural records and knowledge—including more than 175,000 belongings and 140 kilometres of paleo slough channels—in culturally-directed ways that demonstrate a cumulative picture of presence and flourishing at the site and landscape level. We discuss how this work was conceived and conducted to provide the groundwork to grow these analyses throughout the territory.

Handheld Landscapes: How 3D Printing Helps Preserve Heritage Homes

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Podium Session (pre-recorded): Heritage Landscapes: Rediscovered, remembered, and recreated

The ability to create digital 3D models of heritage sites and landscapes has been a great benefit to the field of archaeology. Processes like LiDAR and photogrammetry can be used to bring these places into the digital world. 3D printing offers another way to preserve and recreate these heritage landscapes. By taking the digital 3D models and printing them, the digitized landscape is transformed back into a physical object — a tangible scale model that can be easily interacted with. 3D prints are cost-effective, make hard-to-access locations accessible, serve as a tool for hands on education, and a way to provide a tangible output to a community. However, printing a 3D model is not as simple as uploading a digital model and hitting the print button. In this paper we discuss the printing process of taking the digital models of two heritage homes — currently standing in ruins in Quihi, Texas — and transforming them into 3D print-quality models. Finally, we reflect on the decisions we made regarding printing time and printed versus hand-painted colouring to balance accuracy and technological limitations.

Field of (CRM) Dreams: if you build it, will they come?

MacKay, Jode¹

¹ Circle CRM Group, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: Publishing CRM and Academic Research in Canada: Where, How, and Why

The CAA website lists a series of Professional Responsibilities and Ethical Conduct; two of these principles, outline an obligation to 'present the results of archaeological investigation in a timely and accessible manner'; and 'to recognize that documentation of any archaeological investigation should, within a reasonable period of time, become available to others with legitimate research interests.' Anecdotally, any argument that the CRM Industry is adequately fulfilling either of these obligations is limited. In an effort to navigate the above, Circle is developing a project to disseminate important research related results. Currently, this effort is focused on creating an 'in-house journal', to establish a setting for a variety of professionally written articles; incorporating long form pieces, shorter detailed field reports and even including current book reviews. The key goal of this project is to ultimately transition into a periodical that is more widely disseminated, while concurrently providing research and writing opportunities (within a tailored 'academic' environment) to all staff members. Work for this project launched officially in January 2026, outlining a mandate, goals, format, structure, etc., and has progressed to developing and assigning to staff a series of long form articles, looking towards a print version by December 2026.

Comparative Analysis of Large Lithic Assemblages from Limestone Mountain

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Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey *

The Limestone Mountain region in Alberta's Rocky Mountains has yielded a substantial quantity of lithic debris from pre-colonial archaeological sites. This paper compares three sites—EIPu-1, EIPu-3, and EIPu-6—to determine their function and, more broadly, to understand ancient flintknapping techniques. Large assemblages, containing tens of thousands of lithic debris, complicate processing and data collection. Separating complete and incomplete flakes, washing and sorting in an assembly-line system, and then measuring platform metrics was implemented to overcome this challenge. This approach noticeably optimized productivity. Analysis revealed that platform dimensions provide more meaningful data for comparison and statistical testing than traditional approaches to studying lithics, such as size classes and cortex amount. The consistent presence of small tertiary flakes across sites indicates that they all functioned as late-stage stone-tool manufacturing locations. Additionally, while the amount of dorsal cortex does not reliably reflect lithic reduction techniques, platform metrics show greater promise in revealing differences in reduction strategies between sites.

Possible Mesa and Sluiceway Projectile Points in Northern British Columbia

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Podium Session: Corridors, Coasts, and Connections: Human dispersal in North America

The Tlingit Homeland Energy Limited Partnership is building the Atlin Hydro Expansion Project in northwestern British Columbia to supply the Yukon energy grid. Ecofor Consulting BC Ltd. has undertaken archaeological impact assessment and mitigation studies within the Surprise Lake - Pine Creek project corridor since 2021, recording 59 new sites, revisiting 8 previously recorded sites, and undertaking mitigative excavations at 32 of these. The assemblages include several with well represented microblade technology, others with Northern Archaic material, and a few with intriguing lanceolate points strongly comparing to Mesa and possibly Sluiceway complexes from Alaska. These complexes are thought to represent a Late Pleistocene/ Early Holocene "Paleoindian" tradition that dates 12,900 to 11,200 years Cal BP. This paper offers morphological and metric data for the THELP project Mesa/Sluiceway projectile points and discusses implications of a possible focus of these complexes in this region.

Relationality as framework: Archaeology at Chimney Coulee (DjOe-6), Saskatchewan

Mallet Gauthier, Solène¹

¹ University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: Supplementing, Transcending, and Subverting Conventional Archaeological Regulation

I examine here the idea of academic archaeology as service through my experience at Chimney Coulee (DjOe-6) during my time as a PhD candidate. As an archaeological site with precontact and historic components located in a provincial park, the research undertaken there was subjected to both Saskatchewan parks and archaeology regulations. As part of a broader research project (EMITA project, lead by Dr. Kisha Supernant, University of Alberta), this work was also aligned with principles of Indigenous and heart-centered archaeology. A central theme emerged as a way to go beyond the basic requirements of regulatory frameworks: to embrace the fundamentally relational nature of archaeological work. I discuss the ways in which applying relationality as a framework allowed me to supplement conventional archaeological practice in the study of a late 19th century Métis overwintering site.

Photogrammetry in Three Acts

Markert, Patricia¹

¹ The University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, Canada

Podium Session (pre-recorded): The long and winding road of slow archaeology

In this paper, a reflective narrative in three acts, I consider the process of photogrammetry in the context of community-based research. As a method for recording ruins on the landscape, close-range photogrammetry became an integral method of the Old D'Hanis Archaeological Mapping Project, which I started with community members in Medina County, TX in 2018. In contrast to notions of a slow archaeology, there is an immediacy to 3D models. We can zoom in to observe features or take a birds-eye view, all with the instancy afforded by a screen. But of course, virtual models do not appear out of thin air, so here, I shift the focus to the material and personal engagements that brought them about over the long course of the project – the slow work of building something together, from ruins and memories on the landscape. This is a process that started when I was a graduate student and threaded through several life changes, from motherhood to starting a faculty position at Western University. It continues as we grieve losses, address new challenges, forge and maintain relationships, and imagine futures for the project.

Resowing the Seeds that Grew Early Windsor, Essex County: Community-centred Approaches to Black Farmstead Archaeology

Martelle, Holly¹; and Harding-Davis, Elise²

¹ TMHC Inc., London, Ontario, Canada

² African-Canadian Heritage Consultant

Podium Session: Hidden No More: Archaeology and the Living Legacy of Black Heritage

A recent TMHC Inc. archaeological excavation of a highly significant freedom-seeker farm near Windsor, Ontario has created opportunities for rekindling public memory about the rural community's Black roots tracing back to the settlement schemes of the Colored Industrial Society and Refugee Home Society. Despite a Black presence in Essex County since the mid-to-late 1700s and a general appreciation of Windsor's borderland Underground Railroad history alongside its urban Black settlement centres, memory of the early Black farming community has been nearly erased. In an area where multi-generational Scottish and Irish century farms are well-celebrated and archivally-documented, archaeologists rarely apply a Black lens to the identification of rural farmsteads and assignment of cultural heritage value. Early Black archaeological sites are eminently threatened as rural Windsor experiences rapid development stemming from the building of a new electric vehicle battery plant and hospital, alongside expansive supporting infrastructure. This paper discusses TMHC's community-centric approach to rebuilding memory within the local and archaeological communities to both celebrate and protect Black heritage.

Activating a Place for Black Heritage in Archaeological Consulting

Martelle, Holly¹; Beaudoin, Matthew¹; Dent, Joshua¹; and Moody, John¹

¹ TMHC Inc., London, Ontario, Canada

Podium Session: Hidden No More: Archaeology and the Living Legacy of Black Heritage

It is a disciplinary myth that archaeological consulting contributes little to archaeological praxis and transformative change. In actual fact, the "space" of archaeological consulting offers the greatest of opportunities for evoking reflection and collaboration, creating both resistance and change to the status quo. This paper provides examples of how the archaeological consulting and heritage firm of TMHC Inc., is activating a place for Black heritage within its day-to-day activities, from heritage commemoration to public presentations, database management, municipal planning, and archaeological reporting.

Archaeological Textile Fibre Identification; Past, Present and Future

Martens, Tracy¹

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Podium Session: Fibre and Perishable Artifact Analysis, Conservation and Interpretation

Archaeological textile fibres include plant, animal, and mineral materials. Microscopy is the most common approach for identifying fibre types when diagnostic features are well documented and archaeological samples are well preserved. This approach is entirely reliant on the skill of individual researchers, and recent work has shown that this subjective method of plant fibre identification is not as reliable as previously suggested, with poor interlaboratory reproducibility. Additionally, common plant fibre species are not sufficiently characterized, and previously established diagnostic features have been shown not to be diagnostic. While this approach is still used in some disciplines, new methods focused on elemental composition and microcrystalline structure are being developed. This paper explores past and present methods and challenges, and outlines a current research project using synchrotron radiation to identify archaeological plant fibres.

A Revised Interpretive Method for Identifying Burials with Ground-Penetrating Radar

Martindale, Andrew¹

¹ University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia

Podium Session: Non-Invasive Archaeology and Truth and Reconciliation

A core challenge in the application of geophysics to archaeology is the identification of subsurface patterns. Popular perception and common archaeological practice expect that specific subsurface features have relatively straightforward and unambiguous correlates in data visualizations derived from ground-penetrating radar (GPR) surveys. A more logical interpretive approach defines correlations between specific subsurface elements and their effects on reflected radar waves to define features as spatial arrangements of related traits. In this presentation, I outline the work of a global team to develop both a taxonomic assessment of human burial features, their associated reflective patterns in GPR visualizations, and the geophysical principles that constrain and produce these signal correlations. Such a template should have value in Indian Residential School landscapes and beyond.

Teasing Apart Time in Mixed Stratigraphy

McDonald, Wyatt¹

¹ Lifeways of Canada Limited, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey

Archaeological investigations at Site 550x in Tulita, Northwest Territories, were conducted in advance of construction of a new Parks Canada facility. Excavations revealed heavily mixed deposits containing artifacts from multiple time periods, with limited intact stratigraphy.

To address this, all temporally diagnostic historic artifacts were systematically analyzed to establish production ranges. Diagnostic attributes such as maker's marks, manufacturing techniques, and material characteristics, were identified across artifact classes such as glass, ceramics, metals, and ammunition.

The accumulated data from the assemblage was used to construct a timeline of artifact production, allowing materials to be grouped based on overlapping date ranges. This approach resulted in the identification of three broad components: a Precontact occupation represented by lithic materials, an early 20th-century occupation associated with the Northern Traders Post, and a later 20th-century occupation reflecting continued community use.

These results demonstrate that even in mixed contexts, production ranges of diagnostic artifacts can provide a framework for separating occupations and reconstructing long-term land use.

Emergent Networks in Iron Age Southern Jordan: Insights from the Busayra Cultural Heritage Project

McGeough, Kevin¹; Bubel, Shawn¹; Porter, Benjamin²; and Weitzel, Jordan²

¹ University of Lethbridge; Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada

² University of California, Berkeley, California, USA

Podium Session: Castles, Strongholds, and Fortifications of the Medieval Period in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus

During the first millennium BCE, a series of dendritic long-distance exchange routes extended across the arid zones of the Southern Levant connecting the Arabian Peninsula with the Red and Mediterranean Seas. A central node in this cosmopolitan commercial network was ancient Bozrah, modern Busayra in southern Jordan. The aim of the Busayra Cultural Heritage Project is to investigate how the settlement mediated regional and trans-regional networks during its height between the eighth and sixth centuries BCE. This paper integrates the evidence from research carried out in the 1970s with that recovered in the past decade. Emphasis is placed on excavations carried out in 2025 that focused on the Area A monumental building that has been interpreted as a temple. Evidence from this building provides insights into the ritual practices that promoted Busayra's symbolic and ideological roles in long-distance networks.

Late glacial paleontology and archaeology at Gah-ahs-galx-hahx Cave, northern Vancouver Island, Canada

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Podium Session: Corridors, Coasts, and Connections: Human dispersal in North America

Gah-ahs-galx-hahx is a limestone cave on northern Vancouver Island where we undertook controlled excavations to investigate late Pleistocene faunal remains found there during initial testing. Pollen and spore assemblages, fauna, lithics, and 41 radiocarbon ages reveal it preserves remains that date to the late Pleistocene and early Holocene. Six stratigraphic units are present with deposition beginning at the following median ages: I) 10,010 cal BP; II) 10,900 cal BP; II/III) 11,520 cal BP; III) 13,880 cal BP; IV) 14,340 cal BP; and V) 14,480 cal BP. The oldest stratum includes the remains of black bear, brown bear, marmot, and salmon. Mountain goat and red fox, no longer present on Vancouver Island, appear soon after. Cultural material first appears in Stratum IV. A bear humerus directly dated to 14,020-13,612 cal BP exhibits clear cut marks and further indicates a late Pleistocene human presence at the cave, a time characterized by a tundra-like wooded environment. This environment is shown to have supported large land mammals and salmon as early as 14,800 years ago with people arriving shortly thereafter.

Ancient environmental DNA from a 6000-year-old moccasin preserved in alpine ice reveals biogeographic reflections of the distribution of Mount Edziza obsidian

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Podium Session: Deep in Time and Vast in Expanse: The Dene Language Family in Western North America

Alpine ice patches create conditions of exceptional preservation for organic artifacts and other remains that are otherwise rarely found. We report on an ancient environmental DNA analysis of a ~6000-year-old moccasin from the Kitsu Plateau in

Tahltan Territory—a major archaeological obsidian quarry. Microscopy and shotgun sequencing of four components of the moccasin—the bottom and top hides, fur, and sinew—revealed a multi-species construction: top hide and fur from coastal hoary marmots (*Marmota caligata*), the thick sole hide from an ABC-clade brown bear (*Ursus arctos*), and sinew from northwest interior BEL caribou (*Rangifer tarandus*). Mitochondrial genomes were reassembled from all tissues, allowing for phylogenetic investigations of population origins, and various species of plant DNA were found reflecting alpine and boreal environmental DNA. Microbial DNA is consistent with communities found on leather and clothing, along with alpine environments. This composite biomolecular record reflects the use of animals from diverse ecogeographic zones, echoing the broad spatial distribution of Edziza obsidian across northwestern North America. This moccasin offers a rare, direct line of evidence into Middle Holocene human mobility, material procurement, and high-elevation land use, illuminating the intersection of biological and lithic networks in the subarctic Cordillera.

Digging It Up, Again: Excavating Context from a Fort Calgary Collection

McNab, Jade¹; Beatch, Haylie¹; and Holyoke, Kenneth¹

¹ University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey

Located at the confluence of the Bow and Elbow rivers, the historical role of Fort Calgary (EgPm-5) as it relates to colonial expansion on the Plains is well known. Despite this, the archaeology work undertaken at the site exploring these histories is poorly understood. At least 11 CRM-related projects have taken place on the site of the former fort, as well as a field school that ran in the 1990s and early 2000s. Among these projects was a large excavation undertaken in 2000 that resulted in the recovery of thousands of artifacts. A portion of this collection is now being used as a teaching and research tool at the University of Lethbridge, where undergraduate and graduate students are working to catalogue, analyze, and contextualize its finds. This process has provided students with practical experience in Historic-period artifact analysis while also generating preliminary insights into foodways, site activities, and the complicated depositional history of the Confluence. Our poster outlines preliminary findings from the 2025-26 academic year, and our continued efforts to reconstruct the context of the assemblage through historical records, CRM reports, and the artifacts themselves demonstrating both the research value of legacy collections and the challenges that they present.

Illuminated Rocks: Sourcing and Paleoindian Use of Quartz Crystals in the Western U.S.

Meatte, Daniel¹

¹ Washington State Parks (Retired), Washington, USA

Podium Session (ASA): Papers in Honour of Dr. Brian (Barney) Reeves

A well-established hallmark of Clovis people's stone tool use in the western U. S. is their preference for high quality exotic cherts procured from distant stone quarries. There are numerous examples of stone being transported hundreds of kilometers from quarries to their point of use. Other materials such as chalcedony, obsidian and even quartz crystal also fit this pattern. One rare material, quartz crystal, is examined here to determine where it is sourced from, how it is procured and the size ranges available for use. Findings show that large quartz crystals are limited to pegmatite deposits found in exposed granitic batholiths in parts of California and the northern Rocky Mountains in central Idaho and southwestern Montana. Large crystals in excess of 30cm in diameter are reported. Unique mineral characteristics such as triboluminescence and light refraction suggest, that when coupled with the broader interest in exotic lithics, it is the mineral properties themselves that are selected for. Color, texture, chatoyancy, patterning, smoothness, and optical properties. The choice to use exotic lithics to manufacture select Clovis tools may involve more than functional attributes of durability and sharp edges. It also involves thoughtful incorporation and displays of specific mineral properties.

Meanings of Moose: Lessons for Slow Archaeology from Tsattine Territory

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² Tsattine Land

Podium Session: The long and winding road of slow archaeology

In 'The Slow Professor,' Berg and Seeber argue that embracing Slow can help reduce stress, improve research and teaching, and aid in resisting university corporatization. But Slow principles are difficult to put into practice. In this paper we reflect on encounters with animals that serve as embodied metaphors for business-as-usual versus Slow approaches to research and collaboration. In particular, we discuss what we felt and learned from a female moose and her calf, who presented themselves outside the museum windows as we hosted a workshop for Tsattine women and girls. The moose reminded us that adopting Slow principles is not only a matter of individual intentions, but also requires holistic support from the beings around us. For Victoria, the hadaa (moose) created a sense of trust and peace, affirming that we had brought the women and girls together to learn from each other in a good way. The experience was sacred, and reminded her that the workshop was also ceremony. Jessica experienced a profound sense of connection that is difficult to describe. The moose inspired her to reflect on emotionality, spirituality, presence, pace, the need for ceremony, and how archaeological methods and interpretations might change if we acknowledge animal persons.

Excavating data sources to understand the health of the Franklin expedition, 1845 to 1848

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² University of Glasgow School of Mathematics & Statistics, Glasgow, Scotland

Podium Session: "The Expedition excites the strongest interest": Recent Archaeology, Research and Public Presentation on Sir John Franklin's 1845 Northwest Passage Expedition

Health factors have long been suspected in the loss of the Franklin expedition but documentary evidence from the expedition is scant. A sole informative record described the expedition as "All Well" in May 1847, although ice-bound since September 1846. But by the time the ships were deserted in April 1848, unexplained mortality had occurred which disproportionately affected officers. Now, Inuit testimony and data from the crews' remains and medical logs of other expeditions allow historical, forensic and statistical investigations of the cause and timeline of morbidity from departure in May 1845 to spring 1848. A current focus is nutritional deficiencies which gradually affected Naval provisions to cause scurvy and cardiomyopathy whose debilitating effects worsened when rations lacked sufficient calories to sustain hard physical exertion. Other Arctic expeditions could mitigate the risk by hunting fresh game, but the Franklin crews' ice-bound isolation impeded hunting so that debility and mortality increased over winter 1847/48, and after deserting the ships. Other theories including lead poisoning, botulism and trichinosis are not supported by evidence including X-ray imaging of remains, statistical modelling and contemporary records. Nutritional deficiencies plausibly explain the loss of the Franklin expedition, but the disproportionate deaths of officers remain unexplained.

Underwater Archaeology in Esquimalt Harbour, BC: Supporting 15 Years of Seabed Remediation

Moore, Charles¹

¹ WSP Canada

Podium Session: Historical Archaeology in Western Canadian Contexts: New and Emerging Perspectives

Extensive seabed remediation work undertaken by DND and PSPC has provided an opportunity for some exciting archaeological discoveries in Esquimalt Harbour, BC. Archaeologists with WSP (formerly Golder Associates) have provided heritage support for this on-going work since the initial heritage resource overview assessments. Field work supported by members of the Esquimalt Nation and Songhees Nation in several locations around the harbour has included underwater testing for submerged precontact sites, shipwreck documentation, oversight of dredgeate screening for archaeological materials, and a post-impact assessment. Analysis of several artifact collections with both historical and precontact artifacts recovered from underwater has also been conducted. The archaeological screening of the dredgeate has provided a rare opportunity for complete examination of sediments removed from specific areas. This insight has led to a reconsideration of artifact dispersal rates due to natural wave and wash action within the historical harbour, as well as for submerged sites that have been subject to inundation. This understanding has further allowed for some revisiting of predictive models for

submerged precontact archaeological sites and testing methodologies. We have also had the opportunity to review the relationship between the historical record of shipwrecking events and the actual presence of wrecks in the seabed.

Ten Years of Underwater Archaeology at the Wreck of HMS Erebus

Moore, Jonathan¹

¹ Parks Canada – Underwater Archaeology Team

Podium Session: “The Expedition excites the strongest interest”: Recent Archaeology, Research and Public Presentation on Sir John Franklin’s 1845 Northwest Passage Expedition

Between 2014 and 2024 Parks Canada’s Underwater Archaeology Team and its partners completed ten underwater archaeological field projects at the wreck of HMS Erebus. Collectively this comprised both open-water and through-ice operations, almost 700 dives, detailed 3D site recording, excavation, material culture research and site environment studies among other efforts. This paper will give a summary of the fieldwork and research completed on this iconic wreck and the progression of logistics, methods and multi-disciplinary work over ten years of study. It will also discuss the main research questions that guided the project and summarize what was learned through this archaeological investigation. Further, it will set-up other papers within this session, point to technical innovations, and outline our longstanding collaboration with Inuit partners.

Public Archaeology: To Alberta and Beyond!

Moore, Tamara¹

¹ The Bodo Archaeological Society, Bodo, Alberta, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey

A look at public archaeology, what it is, and what it offers. Specifically, this poster will be examining public archaeology in Alberta, emphasizing the role that the Bodo Archaeological Site & Centre has played in public archaeology in Western Canada.

A Cross-Canadian Connection: An Overview of Material Culture Recovered from the Berens River Bridge Project Excavations.

Moorey, Paige¹; and Teesdale, Shane¹

¹ Woodland Heritage Northwest, Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey

Through archaeological investigations occurring for six consecutive field seasons, four sites were revealed at the confluence of Berens Lake and the Berens River in Northwestern Ontario. Extensive excavations starting in 2021 identified two of which as large, multicomponent sites with the earliest AMS date going as far back as 6,840 +/- 30 BP. With the recovery of over a hundred thousand artifacts from one site alone, the archaeological density of the study area, as well as its significance, is well established. While lithic debitage and calcined bone account for most of the artifacts recovered, diagnostic tools have also been discovered in abundance. Connections to material cultures of Eastern and Western regions of Canada, more specifically the Canadian Plains and the Upper Great Lakes, have been drawn and continue to add to the ever-increasing curiosity of this project. Our poster aims to provide a deeper dive into the material culture of these sites, displaying broader connections through the examination of projectile points and copper artifacts recovered. We hope the ongoing excavation of this project will help further the understanding of regional trade in the archaeological past within Central Canada and the Northern Boreal forest.

The Old Bezanson Townsite: Historical Archaeology as an Entry Point to Heritage Education and Appreciation

Morton, Shawn¹; Peuramaki-Brown, Meaghan²; and Steidel, Reily³

¹ Northwestern Polytechnic, Grande Prairie, Alberta, Canada

² Athabasca University, Athabasca, Alberta, Canada

³ University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: Historical Archaeology in Western Canadian Contexts: New and Emerging Perspectives

At the Old Bezanson Townsite (OBT), in the Peace Country of Treaty 8 Alberta, history feels remarkably close. Although abandoned just over a century ago, the original townsite continues to thrive in the memories shared by local residents and history buffs, and as a gathering place for the community. Since 2021, it has also served as the focal point for an ongoing, public-oriented archaeological research project. In this paper, we explore the unique opportunities that a site like the OBT offers for public engagement in archaeology and heritage activities, as well as its value as a training ground for future archaeologists. We also provide an overview of our first three seasons of survey and excavation at the site.

Dynamics and Challenges in Canadian CRM Archaeology

Munro, Matthew^{1,2}; Holyoke, Kenneth³; and Amundsen-Meyer, Lindsay²

¹ Stantec Consulting Ltd., Canada

² The University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

³ University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: CCRA CRM Archaeology Showcase

Following our first national survey of employees and employers over 2024, this presentation highlights the dynamics and challenges of working in contemporary Canadian CRM. Our survey suggests that the Canadian CRM industry is facing challenges related to employee satisfaction and educational preparedness, while employers report difficulty in finding suitable candidates to handle increased workloads and to help their companies grow. We suggest that more advocacy for CRM within our industry, in universities, and in government, may begin to address these broader issues. This presentation concludes with a preview of the results from our second national survey and outlines the next steps for our project.

Fortress of Triple Walls: Archaeological Insights into Nokalakevi-Archaeopolis and the Byzantine-Sasanian Frontier

Murgulia, Nikoloz¹

¹ Georgian National Museum

Podium Session (pre-recorded): Castles, Strongholds, and Fortifications of the Medieval Period in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus

Nokalakevi, known as Archaeopolis in Byzantine sources, is located in Samegrelo (western Georgia, South Caucasus). The site played a pivotal role in the sixth-century conflicts between the Byzantine and Sasanian Empires. As one of the principal fortresses of Lazika (modern western Georgia), Nokalakevi–Archaeopolis formed part of a defensive network of forts and towers along the northeastern frontier of the Byzantine Empire, protecting the region from Sasanian Persian and Iberian (eastern Georgian) incursions. During the Lazic War (AD 540–562), the failure of Sasanian forces to capture the fortress from the Byzantines and their allies proved decisive, ultimately leading to the loss of Persian control over Lazika. The earliest surviving fortifications at the site date to the fourth century AD, with substantial strengthening in the fifth and major expansions in the sixth century, including the reconstruction of defenses around the eastern gate. These successive phases earned the site the designation “Fortress of Triple Walls” in Georgian chronicles. Archaeological investigations have revealed extensive remains, including 3 km of fortifications, 17 towers, six churches, two palaces, bathhouses, a military headquarters, a tunnel, and a water reservoir. This paper presents the site’s principal architectural features and recent archaeological findings.

Micro-Excavation of Three Birch Bark Objects

Neis, Cindy¹

¹ Royal Saskatchewan Museum, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada

Podium Session (pre-recorded): Fibre and Perishable Artifact Analysis, Conservation and Interpretation

Micro-Excavation of Three Birch Bark Objects The utilization of birch bark by Indigenous people is evident in many if not most circumpolar regions, yet it is not always visible in the archaeological records or emphasized in research. Across Canada, the archaeological community has increasingly turned its attention to the analysis of plant fibers and has begun to examine Indigenous use of birch bark in Canada. My research builds on this work through the analysis of three birch bark objects recovered from a midden at the Hudson Bay Co. Fort Carlton trade post. This historic trade post is located on the Carlton trail which connected the Red River Settlement to the Cypress Hills. This location was significant to First Nations, Inuit, and Metis peoples as well as European traders and settlers. This study explores the use of birch by Indigenous women in Saskatchewan and examines what micro-excavation and radiocarbon dating reveal about the temporal and cultural context of these birch bark objects.

Integrating Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Digital Technologies in Collaborative Heritage Work

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² amiskwaciy Academy, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

³ IPIA, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: Multi-modal curation and knowledge mobilization with archaeological collections

This paper reflects on a recent Indigenous youth engagement project as an instance of multi-modal curation, in which material, embodied, oral, and digital modes of knowledge-making are brought into dialogue. The 3D Ancestor Artefact Project is a collaborative initiative between the Bryan/Gruhn Archaeology Collection and the Institute of Prairie and Indigenous Archaeology (IPIA) at the University of Alberta and amiskwaciy Academy, an Edmonton Public School primarily serving First Nations, Métis, and Inuit students. We engaged Grade 10 students in experiential learning through direct encounters with archaeological belongings from their own heritage and others, integrating Indigenous knowledge systems, intergenerational knowledge exchange, and digital technologies. Students handled, analyzed, and documented ancestral belongings from the collection, participated in knowledge sharing circles and workshops with Elders and Knowledge Keepers, while learning archaeological methods through Indigenous and multi-disciplinary lenses. Students produced a digital database of 3D scans, printable models, and heritage resources that can be shared with schools across Alberta and Canada. We consider how centering Indigenous youth, community knowledge holders, and relationships with ancestral belongings can transform curatorial and youth engagement practices, repositioning university collections as sites of cultural resilience, intergenerational learning, and community-led heritage stewardship.

Recovering Archaeological Insights from Decontextualized Faunal Remains

Norn, Cadence G.¹; and Boileau, Arianne¹

¹ Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey *

Zooarchaeological remains are critical for understanding past human-animal relationships and broader cultural practices. Yet, their interpretive value often depends on their archaeological context. In legacy collections, this information is frequently absent, leading to their dismissal as having limited research potential.

This study challenges that assumption by analyzing a decontextualized faunal collection housed at Mount Royal University. Although small, the assemblage yields meaningful information about human activities associated with its deposition. Zooarchaeological analysis reveals a hunting practice focused on caribou. Evidence of burning, chop marks, and cut marks indicates intensive carcass processing related to meat preparation, with green-bone fractures suggesting marrow cracking. Skeletal element representation is dominated by appendicular elements, indicating selective transport of high-utility portions and deposition within a primary living space. The presence of additional taxa, including bison, narrows the assemblage's geographic origins to areas of species overlap, likely within the Arctic.

Despite the absence of contextual data, patterns of taxonomic abundance and anthropogenic modification remain interpretable. By systematically applying standard zooarchaeological methods, this study demonstrates that legacy collections provide substantive insights into past subsistence practices. More broadly, it highlights the research potential of decontextualized collections that are often overlooked in archaeological repositories.

Beyond Compliance: Indigenous Engagement and the Changing Practice of Archaeology in Northern Ontario

Norris, David¹

¹ Woodland Heritage Northwest, Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada

Podium Session: Supplementing, Transcending, and Subverting Conventional Archaeological Regulation

Duty to consult in Ontario has evolved through constitutional law rather than a single policy decision. Rooted in Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 and the principle of the Honour of the Crown, this obligation was clarified through landmark Supreme Court decisions such as *R. v. Sparrow* (1990) and *Haida Nation v. British Columbia* (2004), which established that governments must engage Indigenous peoples when actions may impact their rights. Archaeology and heritage management are closely tied to this framework, as they involve the protection and interpretation of Indigenous cultural landscapes, ancestral sites, and knowledge systems.

In 2011, Ontario introduced Standards and Guidelines to regulate archaeological assessments conducted under the Ontario Heritage Act. While these standards define field and reporting methods, they provide limited direction regarding meaningful engagement with First Nation communities. As expectations surrounding Indigenous rights, reconciliation, and the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples continue to evolve, the regulatory framework has struggled.

This presentation examines two major Hydro One infrastructure projects in northern Ontario—the Waasigan Transmission Line and Northeast Power Line—demonstrating how proactive, collaborative engagement with Indigenous communities is reshaping archaeological practice and establishing emerging best practices across the region

Detecting Change in the Far North: UAV Photogrammetry and Arctic Heritage at Risk

O'Keefe, Katelyn¹

¹ AECOM Canada

Podium Session: From Capture to Care: Digital Heritage in Western Canada

Arctic heritage sites are increasingly threatened by climate change and traditional approaches to documentation and monitoring are often time-consuming and resource intensive. UAV (drone) photogrammetry has emerged as an effective tool for visualizing heritage resources and when combined with change detection analysis, can be used to detect and document change to threatened heritage sites. Results of such analyses are informative for developing both short-term and long-term heritage monitoring strategies.

This presentation focuses on the analysis of multi-year UAV imagery collected at Simpson Point (NjVi-3), an archaeological site with approximately 800 years of continuous occupation by the Inuvialuit, their ancestors, and Euro-North Americans. Simpson Point is located on Qikiqtaruk (Herschel Island), off the Yukon North Slope. The presentation will highlight the results of change detection analyses that have revealed evidence of landscape and site change, including impacts from climate change induced flooding and coastal erosion, as well as effects associated with tourism and heritage restoration efforts. Ongoing monitoring initiatives at Simpson Point and within Herschel Island–Qikiqtaruk Territorial Park are also discussed.

Counter-mapping the Blackfoot Landscape

Oetelaar, Gerald¹; and Oetelaar, D. Joy

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Podium Session (ASA): Papers in Honour of Dr. Brian (Barney) Reeves

Recently, we have adopted counter-mapping as an alternative approach to interpret the archaeological record of the Northwestern Plains as an imprint of Blackfoot oral traditions. Counter-mapping involves the production of maps of culturally

inscribed landscapes of particular groups as a counter to western maps that misrepresent these landscapes. Based on the Cartesian grid, western maps display the geology, topography, hydrology, flora, and fauna as defined by disciplinary specialists. Archaeologists use these data to create the stage and model human behaviour according to a western understanding of the world. To counter map this landscape, researchers must begin by accepting the Blackfoot understanding of the world and thus creating a stage that establishes connections between oral traditions, maps, toponyms and archaeological sites. Using this approach, the homeland of the Blackfoot becomes a managed landscape serving as an archive of Blackfoot oral traditions. Once restricted to reservations, the Blackfoot could no longer visit the places, remember the names, tell the stories, sing the songs, perform the ceremonies, and transmit this information to subsequent generations. Colonization was therefore so much more than the extermination of bison and the appropriation of the homeland.

Participating in the K.A.R.P. 2025 Field School

Ohirko, Finn¹

¹ Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey *

I would like to present a poster on my recent field school experience as an undergraduate participant in the K.A.R.P. 2025 field season. I had four weeks of experience excavating a 70 metre range structure at the Ancient Maya site of Ka'kabish. Additionally, the advantage of living at Indian Church Village meant I was able to visit the site of Lamanai which I also touch on in my poster. I explain the importance of Ka'kabish and Lamanai and where they are located as well as exploring what I learned from my field experience. More specifically, I would like to focus on how Lamanai and Ka'kabish continued occupation during the Post-Classic period after what is commonly mis-identified as the "collapse of the Maya". Finally, I mention Indian Church Village for their hospitality and their significance in the field work that has been done through K.A.R.P.

Indigeneity Beyond Borders: Validating Transnational Indigenous Identity

Onah, UJu Rita¹

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Podium Session: Black–Racialized–Indigenous Archaeologists: Colonially bounded Practice

Narratives of colonization often emphasize loss, erasure, and cultural disruption, frequently overlooking the resilience and adaptive strategies of Indigenous communities. This paper examines how geographically distant Indigenous groups have developed parallel strategies for cultural continuity and political assertion in the aftermath of colonial domination. Through a cross-comparative analysis of the Igbo people of Nigeria, the Inuit and Métis of Canada, and the Māori of New Zealand, the paper explores how distinct Indigenous societies confronted comparable colonial strategies of territorial dispossession, cultural suppression, and administrative control over identity. Despite their geographic separation, these communities have developed related modes of cultural resilience and political mobilization to assert autonomy and reclaim authority over heritage and identity.

However, this analysis critiques how archaeological practice in Canada often remains embedded within nation-state frameworks. Such frameworks can reproduce colonial logics by marginalizing Indigenous peoples whose identities, histories, and experiences extend across national boundaries. Drawing on decolonial and Indigenous theoretical approaches, this study argues that Indigeneity should be understood as relational, mobile, and transnational rather than territorially static. By centring diasporic Indigenous perspectives, archaeology can move beyond colonial recognition toward more inclusive and ethically grounded practices that better reflect the lived realities of Indigenous peoples globally.

A Return from the Vatican: Interpretative crisis in the Reparation of Displaced Indigenous Cultural Belongings

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Podium Session: Multi-modal curation and knowledge mobilization with archaeological collections

Recent global repatriation efforts have reignited critical questions about the historical removal and continued possession of Indigenous cultural objects. Indigenous communities and the broader public increasingly ask: How were these objects taken?

In many instances, their displacement occurred through formal mechanisms such as loans, donations, or other legally sanctioned transfers. However, existing legal provisions governing such exchanges remain largely silent on the standards and methods of curation, creating a significant gap in cultural heritage law. This omission raises urgent concerns about the absence of recall mechanisms when source communities are dissatisfied with the care, interpretation, or use of their cultural objects.

This paper examines the challenges facing Indigenous communities in relation to sacred cultural objects, including weak heritage protection frameworks, object displacement, inappropriate interpretation, and contested preservation practices. It critically analyzes the indirect and unauthorized conservation of Indigenous cultural materials carried out without custodial consent, demonstrating how such practices result in both tangible and intangible heritage loss and disrupt intergenerational cultural transmission. The paper ultimately argues for the amendment and development of culturally responsive legal frameworks that recognize Indigenous authority, embed consent-based stewardship, and provide clear pathways for restitution, recall, and ethical curation.

The Sturgeon Landing Residential School Project: Research Activities Beyond Burial Investigations

Panas, Timothy; and Peter Ballantyne Group of Companies

Podium Session: Non-Invasive Archaeology and Truth and Reconciliation

The Sturgeon Landing Residential School operated on the Sturgeon Weir Reservation in east-central Saskatchewan from 1926 until it was destroyed by fire in 1952. During this period, it affected children from sixteen communities across Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

Guided by the knowledge and advice of Survivors, and operated by the Peter Ballantyne Group of Companies, the Sturgeon Landing Residential School Project aims to research and commemorate the students, site, and history of the school. While a key component of this work is the identification of potential unmarked graves on the school grounds, the project also encompasses additional lines of inquiry identified by the community as essential to healing. Many of these approaches draw on holistic archaeological and anthropological methods.

This paper examines the Project's current activities beyond the search for unmarked graves, highlighting how they contribute both to a fuller interpretation of the site and to the well-being of Indigenous communities across the two provinces.

Visualizing Archaeological Materials: Methodological Opportunities and Challenges in Applied CT and μ -CT

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Podium Session: Research Methods in Mesoamerican Archaeology

In pursuit of a deeper understanding of the ancient past, archaeological science must often weigh numerous ethical and logistical considerations in its methods. X-ray Computed Tomography (XCT) and Micro-Computed Tomography (μ -CT) analytical techniques are rapidly gaining ground across non-medical disciplines on account of their ability to provide highly detailed, valuable anatomical and structural information, and three-dimensional (3D) reconstructions. These techniques may be desirable for several reasons, from their potential to capture highly detailed images and parsable metadata to the preferences of governments and/or community stakeholders for non-destructive analyses of irreplaceable cultural heritage. It is equally important to highlight the challenges and limitations of these techniques, including geometric constraints in scanning, calibration of material densities, interpretive challenges, cost/accessibility, and data storage requirements. We highlight these opportunities and challenges based on our experiences with CT in our archaeological applications of the technique, including the scanning of metallurgical ceramics from the Postclassic period site of Mayapan, and μ -CT scanning of human and faunal osteological remains from Classic and Early Postclassic period sites in highland Chiapas.

The last days of the Franklin expedition: is the absence of evidence finally becoming evidence of absence?

Park, Robert¹

¹ University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada

Podium Session: “The Expedition excites the strongest interest”: Recent Archaeology, Research and Public Presentation on Sir John Franklin’s 1845 Northwest Passage Expedition

On April 25, 1848, at a bleak spot on the northwest coast of King William Island, Captain Francis Crozier penned just eight words outlining his plan for the 105 sailors he commanded who, three days before, had deserted their ships: “start on tomorrow 26th for Backs Fish River”. Almost everything known about what the 105 actually did immediately before and after he wrote those words comes from archaeological evidence: material remains deposited or created by those sailors, including their own bodies, complemented only by some vital Inuit observations deriving from brief encounters with some of the survivors on the south coast of the island. Over the past 17 decades archaeological evidence has slowly been documented by many Inuit, by a long series of Euro-American searchers who travelled to this region, and by a very few professional archaeologists. Over those decades a much larger body of interpretations and hypotheses has also accumulated, at a pace far faster than the accumulation of actual archaeological evidence. This paper will seek to review on a broad scale some of the interpretations and hypotheses that have been proposed in light of what that accumulated archaeological evidence shows, and especially what it does not show.

Norse Homes and Pictish Hearths - The Norse Settlement of the Orkney Islands from the 9th to 11th centuries

Paron, Tristan

Podium Session: Heritage Landscapes: Rediscovered, remembered, and recreated

The Norse arrival in Orkney began as a base for raiding Britain. Yet by the 9th century, a shift began, and the Norse started to settle the islands, connecting themselves to the landscape through the continuation of Norse traditions and lifeways from Norway, but now in Orkney. These methods related to the adaptation of Pictish, Neolithic, and Iron Age sites to Norse perspectives and lifeways—not only to claim the islands, but also for the Norse diaspora in Orkney to maintain their traditions in this new homeland.

This paper will explore the Norse settlement of the Orkney Islands and its adaptation to Norse lifeways from the 9th to the 11th century. It will examine how the Norse settled a preoccupied landscape and used it to better claim and legitimize their connection to Orkney. Much of this research focuses on Buckquoy and Deerness, as these sites provide clear insight into the adaptation of the Pictish landscape in the wake of Norse settlement from the 9th to the 11th centuries. This research primarily uses archaeological data, with some reference to the Icelandic sagas, to gain insight into Norse cultural perspectives.

“Our Mountains are our Pillows”: Towards a Piikáni Sacred Ecology

Peacock, Sandra¹

¹ University of British Columbia - Okanagan, Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada

Podium Session (ASA): Papers in Honour of Dr. Brian (Barney) Reeves

“Our Mountains are our Pillows” is the title of an ethnographic overview Barney (Brian) Reeves and I worked on over 30 years ago for the US National Parks Service to document the traditional activities of the Piikáni peoples, and others, within the boundaries of Glacier National Park (Reeves & Peacock 2001). This paper highlights aspects of our multi-year collaboration with Piikáni elders and spiritual leaders in Alberta and Montana, including our extensive ethnobotanical and ethnohistorical fieldwork and the unique perspectives Barney brought to the research. It concludes by suggesting this work moves beyond a utilitarian management perspective to describe a sacred ecology of the Piikáni peoples, an integration of their traditional beliefs, practices and ecological stewardship centered along Mistakis – the “backbone” – the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains.

Snakes in the Grass: Eighteenth-Century 'Plains' Shoshone on the Northwestern Plains

Peck, Trevor¹

¹ Synergy Land and Environmental Services, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session (ASA): Papers in Honour of Dr. Brian (Barney) Reeves

Authorities generally agree that eighteenth-century historical documents support the position that the 'Snake' were on the northwestern plains prior to, and during the fur trade. The use of references to the Snake on the Canadian portion of the northwestern plains at this time, however, are often limited to a few well-known citations such as the recounting of Saukamappee's saga by David Thompson. These citations have been used to argue for an early eighteen-century presence of the Shoshone in southern Alberta followed by a retreat, owing to the smallpox epidemic and inferior access to fur trade guns. While not disputing this general scenario, this paper provides a more comprehensive review of oral tradition and historical documents that record the 'Snake' on the plains of Canada. Evidence is provided to reaffirm the Snake-Shoshone connection as well as to establish clarity regarding the extent and nature of their presence on the northwestern Plains.

Bridging the Divide: Toward a trans-Rocky Mountains Athapaskan archaeology in southern Wyoming

Pelton, Spencer¹; and Page, Michael

¹ Office of the Wyoming State Archaeologist, Wyoming, USA

Podium Session (pre-recorded): Deep in Time and Vast in Expanse: The Dene Language Family in Western North America

The Wyoming Rocky Mountains lie between two widely recognized ancestral Athapaskan archaeological cultures. Sites of the "Promontory phenomenon" largely lie to the west in northeast Utah and sites of the "Dismal River Complex" lie to the east on the western Plains of Colorado, Nebraska, and Kansas. Many Wyoming sites have yielded Athapaskan pottery, but these data have yet to be incorporated within this larger body of research. Here, we describe variation in ancestral Athapaskan archaeology in Wyoming and present our current understanding of its age and location relative to more widely recognized traditions to the east and west. We then focus on the Willow Springs site, a recently investigated archaeological site in southeast Wyoming with a rich record of Athapaskan pottery and associated artifacts and features. We argue that sites of the Western Dismal River complex in the interior of the Rocky Mountains are key to understanding spatiotemporal relationships between the Promontory and Dismal River phenomena.

Looking Down, Looking Back: Drone-based Data Capture Revealing Insights into High Alpine Heritage

Pennanen, Kelsey¹

¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: From Capture to Care: Digital Heritage in Western Canada

In the southwestern region of the Yukon, vast mountains ranges watch over busy people and animals as they traverse up from the lakes and valleys below. High on these mountaintops patches of snow and ice remain year-round, a draw for sheep, caribou, and hunters for generations. These interactions are evidenced by the construction of dozens of built stone structures. Precisely placed along corridors and margins of once-invisible trails, these structures reveal to us immense knowledge of animal and human behavior and activity stretching back thousands of years.

The intersection of digital documentation using drone photogrammetry allows us to explore the placement of these structures in new ways. Based on testimonies of participants, the process of data collection allowed for renewed connection to the landscape and exploration into the relationship between animals and the citizens and guardians of these places. With a moratorium on caribou hunting and the uncertainty these places face with warming temperatures, these stone hunting features provide a legacy from past generations, leaving knowledge embedded into the landscape and allowing descendants to have experiences and gain insights otherwise inaccessible. These features reveal to us knowledge of animal relationships, teachings, and practices left as a gift to future generations.

Ancient Maya Fishing Nets and Inland Subsistence Practices in East-Central Belize

Peuramaki-Brown, Meaghan¹; Blaine, Dave¹; Jensen, Isabelle¹; Morton, Shawn²; Jordan, Jillian³; Teul, Sonieda⁴; Saqui, Aurora⁵

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⁵ Ich-Komonil Organization, Belize

Podium Session: Research Methods in Mesoamerican Archaeology

During the 2022 and 2023 field seasons of the Stann Creek Regional Archaeology Project, excavation teams at the ALA-002C settlement mound of the Classic Period (ca. 650-900) Alabama Townsite in East-Central Belize uncovered 58 notched ceramic ovoids in the uppermost layers atop what is likely an ancillary domestic structure. Using traditional excavation methods combined with results from Bayesian statistical analyses of 14C dating, macro- and microscopic assessments, petrographic thin-section analysis, experimental ceramic studies, archaeological and ethnographic literature review, and consideration of local and traditional Mopan Maya fishing practices, we suggest that these items are all that remains of an ancient Maya fishing net used by temporary hunters and fishers who reoccupied portions of the townsite during the Postclassic. This study assembles colleagues from Canada, Belize, and the US, including a household archaeologist, material scientist, traditional ecological knowledge researcher, ceramic artist, photographer, illustrator, and young research assistant, who are working collaboratively to address long-standing questions about inland subsistence practices along the eastern frontier of the Maya World while also confronting the ongoing challenges of studying the tropical archaeological record.

Local and Exotic Lithics in the Rocky Mountain

Platzer, Jayne¹

¹ University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey *

This poster will examine the lithic raw materials of debris and projectile points from archaeological sites near Limestone Mountain, Alberta. While the projectile point assemblage is made from mostly locally and regionally available materials, the debitage assemblages are dominated by a locally available material (siltstone), with very few pieces of exotic materials, such as Obsidian, Knife River Flint and Avon Chert. Portable X-Ray Fluorescence analysis (pXRF) of the obsidian indicates it was collected from Obsidian Cliff, Wyoming. The presence of debitage made from exotic materials suggests that the pre-colonial inhabitants of Limestone Mountain had access to these materials, yet no projectile points or tools were left behind made from them. I will examine why this might be and how that may be a reflection of mobility and resource choices in the Rocky Mountains.

Applying Decolonial Frameworks in Nationalist Settings: Community-Collaborative Archaeology in Tlaxcala Mexico

Plummer, Sabine¹

¹ McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Podium Session: Black–Racialized–Indigenous Archaeologists: Colonially bounded Practice

Looking to the community-collaborative archaeology project in Tlaxcala, Mexico, as a case study, this paper addresses the application of decolonial theory to archaeological contexts outside the defined scope of projects in partnerships with indigenous stakeholders. Specifically, this paper asks how the nationalist associations of descendant communities in Tlaxcala influences the reconstruction of the historical identity of their indigenous ancestors. Considering how identity eludes definition, defies stasis, and evolves over time in multi-scalar and continuous fashion, this paper looks to how ancestral identities are both affected by and affect the contemporary interpretations of descendant communities, and how this conceptualization can be married to the ethical duty of archaeology to decolonize its methods.

This paper will interrogate the tri-partite roster of stakeholders: the archaeologists, the descendant community, and the ancestors, and consider how each interacts with decolonial frameworks of archaeology. Specific attention will be brought to how applicable methods of indigenous archaeology are to other-than-indigenous contexts, and where alternate frameworks

can supplement these, namely Communities of Practice. Overall, this paper considers how differing views of indigeneity and relations to a colonial past can complexify the application community-collaborative methods in projects concerning descendant communities.

More than a Fort: Métis Archaeology at pehonanik (FfNp-1)

Pocha-Tait, Sarah¹

¹ University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada

Podium Session: Historical Archaeology in Western Canadian Contexts: New and Emerging Perspectives

Fort Carlton was a fur trade post which operated from 1810-1885. The fort was located approximately 100km north of Saskatoon along the North Saskatchewan River in an area known by its Cree name pehonanik, meaning “the waiting place”. From 2021-2023 the University of Saskatchewan and the Saskatchewan Archaeological Society field school found over 50,000 belongings and faunal remains. My research focuses on the belongings recovered from these excavations and how Métis occupation can be seen at the fort. In addition to the belongings, I used journals, Hudson’s Bay Company records, and my own family history to prove that Fort Carlton is a Métis site and much more than just a fort.

ASA Calgary: Continuing Janet’s Legacy

Poletto, Christina¹; ASA Executive¹

¹ Archaeological Society of Alberta - Calgary Centre, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey

Janet’s enduring commitment to public education in archaeology continues to shape the values and activities of the Archaeological Society of Alberta, Calgary Centre. A dynamic leader who served in multiple executive roles—including six years as President—Janet championed accessible, community-focused archaeology and inspired a culture of curiosity, stewardship, and volunteerism. Today, ASA Calgary continues to honor her legacy through a wide range of engagement initiatives designed to connect the public with Alberta’s archaeological heritage. These efforts include hands-on educational programming, public lectures, field opportunities, and collaborative outreach with schools and community groups. In addition, the Centre supports emerging researchers and community projects through grants and funding streams that reflect Janet’s belief in empowering others to contribute to archaeological knowledge. Through these ongoing programs, ASA Calgary continues to embody Janet’s vision of an informed and engaged public, ensuring that her passion for archaeology and community education remains a guiding force for future generations.

Interdunal peatlands as archaeological contexts and paleoenvironmental archives: A case study from the Smoky River dune field, northern Alberta.

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¹ University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

² MacEwan University, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

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⁴ Royal Alberta Museum, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: Climate change archaeology: Where are we and where do we go?

Thousands of archaeological sites in the boreal forest ecoregion of Canada are located on the ridges of late-Pleistocene aeolian dunes, which formed during ice sheet retreat and stabilized following the establishment of post-glacial forests. Despite an abundance of sites, interpretation is limited as acidic forest regosols often degrade organic material, lack stratigraphic layers, and leave artifacts shallowly buried, hindering radiocarbon dating and stratigraphic analysis. These factors leave sites vulnerable to development, recreational use, and climate change. Unlike ridge-top conditions, low-lying interdunal peatlands contain stratified accumulations of organic matter suitable for dating and preserve stone and organic archaeological material. Peatlands also serve as valuable paleoenvironmental archives. However, these peatlands are increasingly under threat from anthropogenic climate change, particularly through drought and development. This study assesses the archaeological potential of an interdunal peatland in Smoky River dune field, Grande Prairie, Alberta. Using ground-penetrating radar (GPR), C14 dating, luminescence dating, macrofossil analysis, and sediment sampling, we present a model for peatland initiation and lateral expansion. Results indicate peat formation began ~6500cal BP and GPR reveals a

buried landscape suitable for archaeological occupation. This research highlights the potential for well-preserved sites in interdunal zones and the urgency of protecting them from future climate-based threats.

The Aasivissuit - Nipisat Interactive Heritage Map: slowing down for genuine partnership

Porter, M. Cecilia¹

¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: The long and winding road of slow archaeology

Once the A-N area in West Greenland was inscribed as a cultural world heritage site, a means was needed to communicate the cultural significance of the area, past and present. This need formed the foundation for the slow ethnoarchaeological project in which I have partnered with the A-N team since 2022. As part of my PhD research, and through long-term partnership with collaborators in Greenland, I have built an interactive heritage map which aims to communicate the archaeological research in the region as well as the vibrant present day living culture to a broad audience, from Greenlandic youth to international tourists. During this presentation I will share the slow makings of the interactive map, anchored in archaeological science as well as living Greenlandic knowledge, and how my decision to prioritize time living in community shifted my focus to local priorities, slow, relational approaches, and genuine partnership. I will share lessons learned through this journey, and how this relational focus, and choosing to slow down and spend more time in community, influenced the outcome and local reception of my project. I also consider the evolving context of heightened geopolitical attention on Greenlandic sovereignty.

The interactive map is live at www.inuitheritage.gl

Documenting migrant life in new landscapes, pXRF obsidian and pottery analysis in Late Postclassic Guiengola, Oaxaca

Ramón Celis, Pedro Guillermo¹

¹ McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Podium Session: Research Methods in Mesoamerican Archaeology

This paper shares the use of portable X-ray fluorescence (pXRF) analysis to investigate how non-elite households at the fortified Zapotec city of Guiengola engaged with their new environment during their conquest and colonization to the Pacific Coastal Plains of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec from the Central Valleys of Oaxaca during the Late Postclassic Period (1350 - 1521 CE). Although historical sources outline the political motivations behind this expansion, the lived experiences of the migrant communities remain less understood.

By applying pXRF to pottery and obsidian from a commoner neighborhood, we assess patterns of raw material procurement, production, and exchange. These compositional data allow us to evaluate how migrant families adapted to unfamiliar ecological conditions and reconfigured resource networks within a landscape markedly different from their homeland. Through this method-centered approach, the study demonstrates the value of geochemical analyses for reconstructing social negotiation and economic decision-making in migrant settings.

“We have caused a great variety of valuable instruments to be put on board the ships”: Science on the 1845 Franklin Expedition

Ratcliffe, John¹

¹ Parks Canada – Underwater Archaeology Team

Podium Session: “The Expedition excites the strongest interest”: Recent Archaeology, Research and Public Presentation on Sir John Franklin’s 1845 Northwest Passage Expedition

The focus of the 1845 Franklin expedition is often remembered as primarily geographic, to complete the last link in a Northwest Passage, but the Admiralty’s instructions to Franklin emphasized the importance of the expedition’s scientific mandate and noted that “We have caused a great variety of valuable instruments to be put on board the ships.” This scientific focus is reflected in the archaeology and material culture of Erebus and Terror, where artifacts related to terrestrial magnetism, natural history, meteorology, navigation and cartography, and photography have been observed and recovered since the wrecks were located in 2014 and 2016. Many of these “valuable instruments” defy easy identification as they are

incomplete or found in secondary contexts, a challenge compounded by the sheer number and diversity of instruments known or presumed to have been carried aboard the vessels. Archaeological and historical research has resulted in the identification of several previously unidentified objects, however, illustrating the expedition's wide scope of scientific inquiry, and hinting at further stories which remain obscure.

Phantom Hearths and Spilled Toolkits: Reading the Spatial Record at Eaglenest Portage (HkPa-4)

Rawluk, Matthew¹

¹ Stantec Consulting Ltd.

Podium Session: Deep in Time and Vast in Expanse: The Dene Language Family in Western North America

Archaeological deposits in the boreal forest are often treated as diffuse and difficult to interpret. Shallow stratigraphy, acidic soils, poor organic preservation, and excavation methods that reduce spatial resolution all contribute to this perception. This paper argues that part of this interpretive difficulty reflects methodological resolution rather than occupational intensity, and that structured activity areas may remain unreadable when provenience is recorded at coarse scales. This problem is especially important in northern contexts, including discussions of Dene ancestral landscapes, where repeated occupations and shallow deposits can obscure patterned behaviour. The Eaglenest Portage site (HkPa-4), in the Birch Mountains of northeastern Alberta, provides a rare opportunity to examine this issue. Original excavations recorded artifacts in three dimensions, preserving spatial relationships routinely collapsed in standard mitigation contexts. Reanalysis using GIS-based spatial methods identified two patterned deposits within shallow, mixed sediments: a phantom hearth in Block C and a tightly bounded curated cluster in Block D, likely representing the contents of a container or bundle. Both patterns would be archaeologically unreadable under typical CRM recording resolution. High-resolution provenience can reveal structured activity areas that would otherwise remain archaeologically invisible.

The Last Five Years: A Multi-Disciplinary Approach to Archaeology in the Springbank Area

Read, Joshua¹

¹ Stantec Consulting Ltd., Canada

Podium Session: CCRA CRM Archaeology Showcase

Five years of archaeological assessments in the Springbank area, including systematic shovel testing, deep backhoe testing, and staged mitigative excavations, have resulted in the identification and recording of several important archaeological sites that have benefited from multi-disciplinary partnerships allowing for new and innovative approaches to data analysis and site interpretations. This presentation will highlight the archaeological work conducted at sites EgPo-149 (Moose Hill Ranch) and EgPo-161, a large multi-component precontact campsite situated near the Elbow River, specifically focusing on the partnerships with the University of Calgary and other researchers that have allowed for new analyses of cultural materials and taphonomic processes in the Springbank area. Technologies including 3D scanning, GNSS systems used in tandem with XRF technology, as well as the results of obsidian sourcing and phytolith/starch grain analyses, will be highlighted.

Applying the Concept of “Ceremonial Landscapes” In North-Central Montana

Rennie, Patrick¹

¹ Montana DNRC (State of Montana), USA

Podium Session (ASA): Papers in Honour of Dr. Brian (Barney) Reeves

An opportunity arose in north-central Montana to apply and test Reeves and Kennedy's (2017) concept of “Ceremonial Landscapes”. Firstly, this opportunity resulted from two different types of medicine wheels being situated within two distinct 2,500-acre blocks of State land. Secondly, the opportunity arose because the State of Montana began purchasing drones for a variety of field applications in 2018. Drone photography and advances in GIS technology allow efficient and accurate documentation of large-scale areas that contain hundreds of stone features. The two subject Montana Ceremonial Landscapes are 70 miles/113 km apart and approximately 180 miles/290 km from the general area investigated by Reeves and Kennedy (2017) in southeastern Alberta/southwestern Saskatchewan. A seven-year study of the two Montana localities demonstrates many similarities with the Reeves and Kennedy (2017) study, thereby validating the importance of inventorying large scale areas around medicine wheels and documenting ancillary features.

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Reeves, Brain O.K., and Margaret A. Kennedy

2017 Stone Feature Types at Ceremonial Site Complexes on the Lower Red Deer and the Forks of the Red Deer and South Saskatchewan Rivers with Ethnohistorical Discussion. *Archaeology in Montana* 58(1):1-44.

Archaeology, Climate Change and You: Sites, Stewardship and Identifying Climate Threats in Nova Scotia

Richardson, Andrea¹

¹ Cape Sable Historical Society, Nova Scotia, Canada

Podium Session: Climate change archaeology: Where are we and where do we go?

Climate change poses a serious and ongoing threat to archaeology and heritage across Nova Scotia. The province has witnessed the direct impacts of sea level rise, more frequent and intense storms, flooding, erosion, drought, and wildfires, all of which have negatively impacted archaeological sites. In response to these challenges, the archaeology sector in Nova Scotia has come together to develop and implement a climate adaptation strategy. As the strategy implementation enters its final year, the primary focus is the establishment of an archaeological site stewardship program.

A team of dedicated volunteers has created a community workshop designed to collaborate with interested community members. These workshops support individuals and groups in monitoring archaeological and cultural sites and the surrounding landscapes. The workshops aim to strengthen connections between professional archaeologists and communities, and to foster collaboration among communities. By building these relationships, the stewardship program strives to empower communities across Nova Scotia, enabling them to make decisions about the future of their cultural heritage.

Community Stewardship, Climate Adaptation and Archaeology in Nova Scotia

Richardson, Andrea¹

¹ Cape Sable Historical Society, Nova Scotia, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey

Climate change is a significant threat to the places and stories that we can tell about our heritage and archaeological sites in Nova Scotia. We see the direct impacts of sea level rise, loss of sea ice, more intense storms, flooding, erosion, drought and wildfires on archaeological sites and resources. As these effects intensify, more and more culturally significant places - and the stories they hold - may be damaged or lost. We can find hope in collaboration and action. Between 2019 and 2022, the archaeology sector in Nova Scotia worked together to create a climate adaptation strategy for the sector. Archaeologists are working with communities, activists and other disciplines to respond to the impacts of climate change on communities and their stories, so that communities are empowered to make decisions on the future of their cultural heritage. We can find hope in this collaborative action, while also acknowledging to communities that significant barriers to action still exist.

Putting Words to Paper/PDF: A Look at Past SAS Publishing Practices & Considerations for the Future

Riehl-Fitzsimmons, Belinda¹

¹ Saskatchewan Archaeological Society, Saskatchewan, Canada

Podium Session: Publishing CRM and Academic Research in Canada: Where, How, and Why

The Saskatchewan Archaeological Society (SAS) has played a central role in disseminating archaeological knowledge through several publication formats, including a quarterly (and for a few years, bi-monthly) newsletter, journals, an Occasional Papers in Archaeology series, and standalone books. The sharing of archaeological information has been foundational to the Society's mandate, sustained for over six decades through the combined efforts of academic and avocational archaeologists. This paper provides an overview of the SAS publishing program, outlining its processes, motivations, and evolution over time. It highlights the Society's successes in maintaining a consistent publication record, while also addressing ongoing challenges such as resource constraints, shifting readership expectations, and the integration of Cultural Resource Management (CRM) data into accessible formats. Ultimately, the SAS model demonstrates the value of sustained, community-supported

publishing initiatives in “spreading the news” of Saskatchewan and Northern Plains archaeology, and offers insights into future directions for inclusive and impactful knowledge sharing.

Pseudo-archaeology as a disinformation gateway? Observational data from Québec youth

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² Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Podium Session: Combating Anti-Intellectualism and Pseudoarchaeology through Public Engagement

Pseudo-archaeology has often been characterized as a kind of ‘gateway belief system’ to draw young audiences into other, arguably more problematic contrarian belief systems (e.g., climate change denialism, gender essentialism, far-right politics). However, much data used to support these claims remain largely anecdotal and/or drawn from observations from non-Canadian contexts, making it hard to extrapolate the severity of this issue to Canadian contexts. This paper presents an overview of pseudo-archaeological beliefs in Québec to show that these beliefs are present in this province and broadly comparable to those found in the US and in France. It then presents an ongoing multidisciplinary project drawing from education science, criminology, geography and anthropology that seeks to document informational practices among several groups of Québec youth (16-19 years of age). This project uses an original ‘vignette’-based approach to evaluate how young Québécois in high school and cégep context seek out and evaluate the credibility of information in different scenarios pertaining to climate change, gender identity and pre-contact population history. We present preliminary results that provide a first series of empirical observations derived from controlled settings that allow us to address empirically whether pseudo-archaeology can be seen as a ‘gateway’ to other problematic beliefs.

The Big Rock (Okotoks Erratic) Digital Conservation Management Plan

Robinson, Christina¹; Dawson, Peter²; Berry, Meg³; Chan, Mavis²; and Rubalcava, Elisa¹

¹ Historic Resources Management Branch, Government of Alberta, Alberta, Canada

² Department of Anthropology and Archaeology, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

³ Seed Cultural and Environmental Heritage Ltd., Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: From Capture to Care: Digital Heritage in Western Canada

The Okotoks Erratic, a Provincial Historic Resource of Alberta, is an interpretive site open to the public 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The erratic is the largest erratic in the Foothills Erratic Train and is culturally significant to the Blackfoot with multiple ochre pictographs. The conservation management plan at the erratic has evolved since its designation in 1978, and technological advancements in digital heritage have played a vital role. The Government of Alberta’s Historic Resources Management Branch has employed a variety of digital capture techniques, from digital photography to 3D laser scanning, to address a variety of issues and concerns at the erratic as part of an evolving conservation management plan. This presentation will outline the digital data capture technologies and methodologies employed at the erratic, the role of each of the technologies, and the future plans for the digital heritage conservation management plan at the Okotoks Erratic.

Cody Knives in Alberta

Roe, Jason¹

¹ Lifeways of Canada, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: CCRA CRM Archaeology Showcase

In the summer of 2025 while conducting an HRIA for Hinton Lumber, we were fortunate enough to recover a Cody Knife. Cody Complex materials are not uncommon along the Eastern Slopes. This presentation will be a synopsis of how many Cody Knives have been recovered from Alberta. What toolstones are these Cody Knives made from and is this diagnostic. Is there a specific technological behaviour in the manufacturing process of Cody Knives that is unique. Lastly, what are some of the morphological characteristics of the Cody Knife we recovered and the other Cody Knives found in Alberta that separate them from other Cody Complex artifacts.

Building a Bridge to the Past: Excavations at the Frank Channel Site (Deh K'è, K'òòta Nijlìjì) (KePI-

Roe, Jason¹; Lepka, Cheyanne¹; and McDonald, Wyatt¹

¹ Lifeways of Canada Limited, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: CCRA CRM Archaeology Showcase

In 2025 Lifeways had the opportunity to conduct an HRIA for the replacement of Frank Channel Bridge in the Northwest Territories. The work started as an AIA of the bridge replacement and ultimately culminated in a full-scale excavation of KePI-1—a large campsite of high regional significance that was first recorded by William Noble in 1966. In 1967, Noble returned to the site to complete partial excavations. In 1993 Thomas Andrews revisited the site. Our investigations focused on the AIA of the bridge replacement, successfully relocating KePI-1, as well as identifying nine additional sites in the area. The second phase of our work included partial mitigation of KePI-1, resulting in the identification of three hearth features, numerous projectile points and bone tools. This presentation will showcase the work undertaken and shed additional light on the importance of KePI-1, further contributing to our understanding of the people who lived along the Frank Channel at the Northwest end of the Great Slave Lake in the Northwest Territories.

Ethnoarchaeology, Memory and a Path Forward: Research Assistants Transcribe Interviews of Grassroots Archaeologists in Dolores, Guatemala.

Rosero, Dominique¹; Bond, Cerena¹; Tamez Rodriguez, Victor¹; and Lamoureux-St-Hilaire, Maxime¹

¹ Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey *

The Dolores Slow Archaeology Program conducts collaborative fieldwork in Dolores, Petén, Guatemala to enhance and further archaeological research of the Maya civilization. Guided by the practices and values of Slow Archaeology, ethnographic interviews are a key component of this project. Under the mentorship of Dr. Maxime Lamoureux-St-Hilaire, undergraduate research assistants are tasked with transcribing Spanish-spoken interviews centering heritage community members, including local grassroots archaeologists in Dolores. The purpose of these interviews is to gain insight into their multi-generational pursuit in archaeology and how present participants view themselves and their work. Dialogue explores memory, labour, knowledge and a path forward to create more collaborative and inclusive spaces for people in the present to illuminate the past. Audio files are automatically transcribed using open-access software called Vibe, and RAs work to ensure clarity and accuracy in the final transcription. They also work to interpret vocabulary such as site names, prominent researchers in the field, methodologies and techniques, as well as native flora and fauna. Because the employment of ethnoarchaeology is a relatively new technique, RAs are tasked with developing a protocol for transcribing spoken language in the Doloreño community. Aspects of this protocol include preserving their dialect and directly translating what is spoken.

Reconnecting with the Memories of Museums

Rudden, Séamus¹

¹ University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: Multi-modal curation and knowledge mobilization with archaeological collections

Have you ever been in a museum and thought “what would this item say if it could speak”? Or, “who collected this item, and how did it end up in a museum collection”? Unfortunately, due to the historical processes through which many items have entered into museum collections, we lack the information that even the collector may have known. As time passes, the memories and stories shared by those who have cared for the items are often forgotten or lost. My work explores how oral histories and narrative storytelling interviews with curators and donors to the Bryan/Gruhn Archaeology and Ethnographic Collections at the University of Alberta can be used to document and better understand tangible and intangible aspects of items’ life histories. In these interviews, we discuss how the items came into the Collections and any interesting stories or memories they had to share. By employing a multi-modal approach, my work reinvigorates the connections that have lay dormant, illuminating relationships between the items and their carers and reframing the items as active participants in their life histories. Through this work, I aim to enhance the preservation and ethical stewardship of the items both individually and as a collective assemblage.

Valuable Sites on Vulnerable Shores: The Camp Rayner Site (EgNr-2) Case Study

Rychlo, Jennifer¹

¹ Stantec, Canada

Podium Session: Climate change archaeology: Where are we and where do we go?

The Lake Diefenbaker region of south-central Saskatchewan is an archaeologically significant area of the Northern Plains, containing over 500 recorded archaeological sites spanning the entirety of the Plains cultural chronology. One such site, the Camp Rayner Site (EgNr-2), is located on the lake's northern shores and contains archaeological evidence ranging from the Early Precontact to the Post-Contact periods, with ethnohistorical evidence indicating continued use by Indigenous groups into the early to mid-20th century. The scientific and cultural importance of the Camp Rayner site cannot be understated; however, continued erosion of Lake Diefenbaker's shoreline threatens its existence. This presentation will explore the history of research at Camp Rayner, the site's value to archaeological research on the Northern Plains and discuss strategies to mitigate further damage to this valuable cultural resource.

An interdisciplinary approach to experimental archaeology of Indigenous material culture

Saulnier, Autumn¹

¹ University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey *

A key aim of experimental archaeology is to 'recreate' past phenomena through controlled and objective testing of hypotheses, fostering a product-focused approach that commonly dismisses the subjective and relational experiences of the crafts being studied. Yet, this experience is an integral aspect of how many North American Indigenous cultures understand and perceive their relationships to objects. Our innate uncertainty about the past further limits the possibility of recreating it, making artefact 'replications', however morphologically correct, a shell of humanity. There are also inherent circumstantial differences between past lifeways and present academia that limit the possibility of replication; for example, deadlines, outcome biases, and a lack of habitus.

This research proposes a multivocal approach to experimental archaeology that promotes Indigenous science, experience, and relationality. The main focus will be on building a process-oriented experience of ceramic production centred on community, relationality, reciprocity, and sensorial experience. The aim will be to experiment with the process of creating ceramics that mirror pre-contact pottery vessels found in Alberta. This experience will include hands-on material sourcing from non-urban areas, manufacturing and pit-firing of ceramic wares, and documenting project and personal successes and/or failures.

X Marks the Spot: How Reeves' Forgotten Excavation Unit Rewrites the Chronology of Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump

Sawchuk, Matthew

Podium Session (ASA): Papers in Honour of Dr. Brian (Barney) Reeves

Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump is the longest used and oldest confirmed bison jump. The results of excavations in the kill site by Reeves led him to propose that there was a hiatus in the use of the site between 3 100 and 900 BCE. In an effort to better understand this hiatus, a stratigraphic column of Reeves' excavations was constructed based on his field notes and boxes of faunal remains curated by the Royal Alberta Museum. His hypothesis is principally based upon the large sterile levels in Units A and Z. Intriguingly, the corresponding levels of Unit X contain lots of butchered bone but no artifacts. New C14 dates were obtained from the bones in Unit X and his north excavation area to investigate these levels and early uses of HISBJ. By combining Reeves' original work with the results of the subsequent half-century of new research at HSIBJ, we conclude that the site saw continuous use from 6 600 BP until the 1800s. The makers of Oxbow points are the most likely group to have used the site during the previously proposed Gap. This discovery expands our knowledge of Great Plains bison hunting traditions during the Middle Precontact Period.

"Valley of 60 Towers": Khada gorge defensive towers as representative of Caucasus regional continuity for 5000 yearsSiebert, Andrew¹¹ Alberta Classical Academy, Calgary, Alberta, Canada*Podium Session: Castles, Strongholds, and Fortifications of the Medieval Period in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus*

The "Valley of 60 Towers", or Khada Gorge, is situated just below the first major mountain pass leading north to Dariali pass - the iconic gates of the Alans separating north and south Caucasus. Adjacent to the Georgian Military highway described in literature by Tolstoy, Pushkin, and Lermontov, Khada gorge served as an important place of refuge for nobility during frequent nomadic incursions by Scythians, Huns, and Mongols. The remains of tower bases, with artifacts from recent survey trenches dated to Eneolithic, Early Bronze and late Kura-Araxes culture, also highlight contact between north and south Caucasus as a frequented waypoint for transhumance and cultural exchange. By sharing the material culture of lower Shida-Kartli plains fortresses at the beginning of kurgan culture, along with the dry stone masonry building techniques of the Javakheti plateau during the bronze age collapse, the valley of 60 towers is representative of Georgia's mythic spirit of survival as a crossroads among competing empires.

This presentation will survey recent Khada gorge trench and isotope studies by Herrscher (2021), Georgian cultural heritage assessment and rescue archaeology, broader assessment of the Darial corridor as locus of cultural exchange by Sagona (2017) in light of genetic sequencing by Skourtanioti (2025).

"We Were Here, We Were Always Here": A Holistic Approach to the Pictographs of Ikw'emin (Jervis Inlet)Sielsky, Kali¹¹ University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada*Podium Session: Coastal Visions: Archaeology, Landscapes, and Living Knowledge in shíshálh swiya*

Rock-art serves as a cultural memory, providing valuable insights into the perceptions and connections that ancestral peoples held with their surrounding environment. On the Northwest Coast of North America, over six hundred rock-art sites have been identified, with a high concentration in the Coast Salish region. Within the swiya (world, birthplace, lands, waters) of the shíshálh Nation, forty-nine such sites exist, with fifteen of these sites along the shores of Ikw'emin (Jervis Inlet). This thesis research focuses on these fifteen sites, aiming to examine the utilisation, creation, dissemination, and significance of the pictograph sites within Ikw'emin. Guided by questions on rock-art utilisation, landscape insights, and shíshálh worldviews, this study employs a holistic approach combining field documentation, community-guided interpretations, and archival research to express the intricate ways in which the shíshálh have utilised rock-art to communicate, navigate, and reinforce their relationship with the land and their cultural heritage.

Hidden No More in the Caribbean: The 8th of March Project and the Archaeology of Black Heritage in AntiguaSimpson, Rachel¹; Gardner, Desley²; Varney, Tamara³; Murphy, Reg²; Swanston, Treena¹; Ross, Jade⁴; Johnstone, Brenna³; and Waters, Christopher⁵¹ MacEwan University, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada² Antigua and Barbuda National Parks, Antigua and Barbuda³ Lakehead University, Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada⁴ Woodland Heritage, Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada⁵ The University of the West Indies*Podium Session: Hidden No More: Archaeology and the Living Legacy of Black Heritage*

On March 8, 1744, an explosion in English Harbour, Antigua killed eight enslaved men. Their names, represent the earliest documented personal identification of enslaved Africans in the Naval Dockyard. This archival kernel spawned the 8th of March Project, an interdisciplinary initiative aimed at using archival, archaeological, and oral records to uncover the silenced identities and lives of enslaved and free Africans in the Dockyard. Developed by the Heritage Department at the Antigua and Barbuda National Parks, this project brings in multiple strands of current research: naval and church archives providing demographic insights, excavations at the Middle Ground barracks revealing intersections between African traditions and British colonialism, and bioarchaeological analysis of the Royal Navy Hospital Cemetery detailing the provenance, diet, and health of the enslaved. Answering the call of the 8th of March Project, this work collectively documents an African presence that fundamentally shaped the Dockyard and Antigua's continuous cultural landscape. While situated in the Caribbean, this

work aligns with the "Hidden No More" symposium by demonstrating how (bio)archaeology and heritage management can dismantle historical erasure and uncover these "hidden" identities to deepen our understanding of the living legacy of the African Diaspora.

Illuminating the Lives of Roman Civilians: Examining Status through Grave Construction in Carnuntum, Austria

Sinani, Iris¹; Joffe, Talia¹; Igl, Roman²; Pollhammer, Eduard³; Gilmour, Rebecca J.¹

¹ Department of Sociology & Anthropology, Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

² ARDIG - Archäologischer Dienst GesmbH, St. Pölten, Austria

³ Office of the Lower Austrian Provincial Government, Department of Art and Culture, Archaeological Park Carnuntum, Bad Deutsch-Altenburg, Austria

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey *

Carnuntum, a Roman capital (1st–4th centuries AD) in present-day Austria, consisted of two interconnected settlements: a civilian and a military city. When Carnuntum residents died, they were buried in cemeteries surrounding these settlements. Roman grave construction is believed to reflect an individual's socio-economic status during life, with people of lower status buried in simple pit graves, while higher status individuals received more elaborate stone/tile cists or sarcophagi. This study applies this premise to grave constructions in the Carnuntum southern civilian cemetery, located along the modern Bernsteinstrasse. Photographs of 390 features were observed and categorized as Sarcophagus, Stone/Tile Cist, Pit/Wood or Cremation grave types. The prevalence of each grave type was compared and their spatial distributions were visually examined. Most graves were simple pit constructions (85.5%); 12.9% were tile/stone cist or sarcophagus type burials. These preliminary results suggest that while this region of the southern civilian cemetery was predominantly used by people of lower socio-economic status, some higher status individuals were also buried in this area. This research represents a first step in illuminating the lives of Roman civilians who are often under-represented and overlooked in historical accounts.

The Impacts of Choice & Subjectivity: A Case Study on Consequences in Archaeological Research

Sinclair, Jacinda¹

¹ Memorial University of Newfoundland, Newfoundland, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey

Public imagination often views the archaeological site as something far away, isolated, and confined to a discrete point in the past. Similarly, archaeologists are routinely thought of as impartial, inherently scientific, and comprehensively thorough. However, for anyone who has been in the field, it is immediately clear that reality is far more complicated. Decisions about data collection, interpretation, and subsequent conclusions, are complicated products of logistical, methodological, and even ethical concerns. At any point in the research process, a single choice may have lasting outcomes potentially affecting not only future research possibilities, but also all present and future stakeholders. How archaeologists have navigated these issues has evolved throughout the discipline's existence and will continue to do so. This poster explores these ideas and their implications using the Labrador Inuit site of Avertok, excavated in 1934 and 2017-2018, as a case study. While definitive answers are beyond this poster's scope, it aims to encourage continued questioning of the processes behind how archaeological knowledge is collected, created, and shared.

Digging for a Promised Land? The Blackburns and the Archaeology of the Underground Railroad

Smardz Frost, Karolyn¹

¹ Affiliated Research Scholar, University of Buffalo (SUNY); Adjunct at Acadia and Dalhousie Universities

Podium Session (pre-recorded): Hidden No More: Archaeology and the Living Legacy of Black Heritage

In 1985, the former home of Kentucky freedom seekers Thornton and Lucie Blackburn became the first Underground Railroad site excavated in Canada. Located in a downtown Toronto schoolyard, the excavation was the pilot project of the Toronto school board's new Archaeological Resource Centre. This was an early – and highly successful – example of community-based public archaeology and was conducted in collaboration with the Ontario Black History Society. More than 10,000 visitors toured the site and 3,000 schoolchildren participated in the dig. Intrigued by the Blackburns' remarkable story, Karolyn Smardz Frost spent more than 20 years piecing together clues to their experiences in slavery and freedom. Her 2007 volume entitled *I've Got a Home in Glory Land; A Lost Tale of the Underground Railroad* was the first book on African

Canadian history to win the Governor General's Literary Award for Non-Fiction. Interest in the Blackburns' courage, ingenuity and many achievements has never waned, and they are commemorated in multiple ways in Canada, Kentucky and Michigan. This paper discusses the ambitious public education initiative launched at the Blackburn dig more than four decades ago, and the long-term impact of the site's discovery.

Pipes and Puberty in Dene Languages

Snoek, Conor¹

¹ University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: Deep in Time and Vast in Expanse: The Dene Language Family in Western North America

This paper examines the semantic structure, etymology, and distribution of Dene words in two cultural domains with the aim of outlining their relevance for the study of Dene culture history. The Dene languages form a large family spread over a wide, discontinuous territory in western North America. The regional distribution of these languages has motivated grouping the Dene languages along geographic lines (Jaker et al. 2019). Supporting these groupings on linguistic grounds has proved difficult, both because of dialectological admixture affecting the clarity of the historical signal, as well as a paucity of data. However, recent improvements in the availability of data as well as in computer-aided classification techniques have produced better models of the phylogenetic structure of the language family (Snoek et al. 2022). The phylogenetic models still contain uncertainties providing difficulties for accurate interpretation. This study aims to overcome these difficulties by analysing the vocabulary for puberty and pipes from the perspective of Cultural Models Theory (Bennardo and de Munck 2020) and Cognitive Linguistics (Croft & Cruse 2004, Langacker 2008). The paper argues that the distribution of semantic patterns can reveal relationships between the Dene languages that are relevant to the study of history of these Peoples.

Round Table Discussion: Somogyi-Csizmazia

Somogyi-Csizmazia, John

Podium Session: Obsidian Ceiling - Ethnic Archaeologists Experiences in the CRM Field in Canada

During the 2024 Canadian Archaeological Association (CAA) conference in Saskatoon, a session brought together visible ethnic minorities to discuss their experiences within the Cultural Resource Management (CRM) profession, with a particular focus on archaeology. This presentation builds on that discussion by revisiting key themes and topics explored during the panel. Drawing on over 30 years of experience in international, national, and local CRM projects, I reflect on the realities faced by ethnic minorities in consulting archaeology. These include microaggressions, systemic discrimination, and workplace bullying.

During the 2024 Canadian Archaeological Association (CAA) conference in Saskatoon, a session brought together visible ethnic minorities to discuss their experiences within the Cultural Resource Management (CRM) profession, with a particular focus on archaeology. This presentation builds on that discussion by revisiting key themes and topics explored during the panel.

Drawing from the Past: Connecting Pictograph Sites to Canmore's Coal History

Spear, Lauren

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey

Within the Canmore, Alberta area, there are many locations in which pictographs appear, though their history has largely been neglected. Since 1880 Canmore has had a rich coal mining history and the town blossomed around its extraction. Over twenty-five historical sites dating back to 1883 are still the main focus of historical understanding in town. As such, this project focuses on the pictographs of Grotto Canyon (EgPt-1), Rats Nest Cave (EgPt-33), Spray Lakes (EgPu-4), and the Grassi Lake Rock Shelters (EgPu-5) surrounding Canmore. This study takes on a reflexive approach, as it encompasses both a strong tie to the Canmore community, and to myself, as an archaeologist who had lived in the Bow Valley for over twenty-four years. From knowing about these sites as a child, to developing a curiosity about them, and ultimately, to researching them as an archaeologist, my interest in this project stems from my own dynamic, and ever-changing, relationship with these sites. Drawing from conversations and interactions with Indigenous communities, the Canmore Museum and Geoscience Centre, and the Canmore Caving Company, the goal of this project is to examine the relationship between these pictograph sites and the coal mining history that Canmore is known for.

Terrestrial Investigations of the 1845 Franklin Expedition on King William Island and Adelaide Peninsula - New Insights and Unresolved Questions

Stenton, Doug¹

¹ University of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada

Podium Session: “The Expedition excites the strongest interest”: Recent Archaeology, Research and Public Presentation on Sir John Franklin’s 1845 Northwest Passage Expedition

The opportunity to collaborate with Parks Canada in its efforts to locate the HMS Erebus and HMS Terror shipwrecks was instrumental in advancing research on the terrestrial archaeological record of the 1845 Franklin Northwest Passage expedition. Between 2008 and 2023, field investigations were conducted on King William Island and Adelaide Peninsula including site survey and documentation, and recovery of artifacts and human remains for analyses. These efforts played a pivotal role in the 2014 discovery of HMS Erebus, contributed to knowledge of the material heritage linked to the Franklin expedition, and enabled identification of the remains of several expedition personnel through genealogical research and genetic analyses. This paper presents an overview of the terrestrial investigations, highlighting their contributions to the evolving understanding of the expedition’s outcome and their importance in informing current interpretations of its fate.

The Care and Keeping of a Cold Case: The Conservation of Marine Archaeological Artifacts from HMS Erebus

Stockstill, Kristen¹

¹ Parks Canada

Podium Session: “The Expedition excites the strongest interest”: Recent Archaeology, Research and Public Presentation on Sir John Franklin’s 1845 Northwest Passage Expedition

Since 2015, the Parks Canada Archaeological Conservation team has undertaken the complex task of preserving approximately 1500 artifacts recovered from HMS Erebus from Sir John Franklin’s ill-fated 1845–1848 Arctic expedition.

Marine archaeological objects have unique preservation challenges and, in turn, require unique stabilization methods compared to artifacts excavated from dry, terrestrial environments. The sheer variety of material-type, size and degradation states of these objects ensure that never a dull moment is had in the Conservation lab.

This presentation examines the conservation processes and reasoning employed by Parks Canada artifact conservators through a series of representative artifact case studies. It highlights the scientific, ethical, and practical considerations guiding treatment choices, and examines the broader role that artifact conservators play in the long-term stewardship, interpretation, and accessibility of historic artifacts recovered from HMS Erebus.

Insight into Neanderthals’ Fire Making: Preliminary Micromorphological Study of Combustion Features from Stratigraphic Unit 13 at The Oscurusciuto Rock Shelter, Apulia.

Strath, Mckenzie¹; Boscato, Paolo²; Boschini, Francesco²; Berna, Francesco^{1,2}

¹ Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada

² University of Siena, Siena, Tuscany, Italy

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey *

The Oscurusciuto (OSC) Rock Shelter in Apulia, Italy, contains numerous well-preserved hearths. These hearths date to around 55,000–43,000 years ago and are associated with the Mousterian lithic industry in stratified deposits. OSC thus offers an ideal context for investigating fire-related cognitive skills of the last Neanderthal groups of southern Europe. This preliminary study examines eight hearth deposits from stratigraphic unit (SU) 13, using micromorphology to identify well-preserved microlayers of wood ash. It will also be used to detect the presence of pyrite and chert residues, as well as ashed plant pseudomorphs, phytoliths, microcharcoal, bone fragments, and heat-transformed lithics. Fourier-transform infrared microscopy (mFTIR) is also used to assess the temperature reached by clay minerals and bone fragments included in the fire ashes. Our preliminary results allow us to shed light on important aspects of Neanderthal fire-making behaviour, such as fuel selection, combustion conditions (temperature, duration, oxidation levels), and possibly the identification of fire-starting techniques, such as the use of pyrite and flint.

sEARCHing for Seeds: The Root of Plant Production in the swiya

Stuart, Glenn¹; Dube, Emerson¹; Fender, Christie¹; Greenfield, Tina²; and Clark, Terence¹

¹ Department of Anthropology, University of Saskatchewan

² Department of Anthropology, University of Winnipeg

Podium Session: Coastal Visions: Archaeology, Landscapes, and Living Knowledge in shishálh swiya

A moderate but steadily growing volume of palaeoethnobotanical (archaeobotanical) research has been conducted on the coast of British Columbia, but it remains uneven in geographic coverage and intensity. One area that has witnessed very little palaeoethnobotanical research is the swiya, the home of the shishálh Nation. Our research through sARP and especially sEARCH has begun to fill this void, with some of our initial results presented at the 2025 CAA conference. In this presentation we update and elaborate on those results, paying particular attention to the unusual discovery of seeds tentatively identified as *Trifolium* (clover) species, and why the potential presence of the seeds of a plant which has often been seen as being of secondary importance matters.

Mapping and Documenting St. Dominic's Cemetery with and for the Community

Succee, Rory¹

¹ Western University, London, Ontario, Canada

Podium Session: Heritage Landscapes: Rediscovered, remembered, and recreated

This paper presents findings from my master's research, which explores how the community of D'Hanis, Texas used headstones as a form of identity negotiation. Part of this research included June 2025 fieldwork where headstones were photographed and 3D modeled through photogrammetry, virtually preserving the cultural heritage landscape for future generations. Further, this project was supported by the community who provided cemetery records and maps. This paper discusses the ways that community involvement, combined with archives, in a cemetery study allows for deeper analysis of communal histories that are depicted on the heritage landscape. Further, this paper explores the possibility for digital headstone models to allow the community to engage with their ancestors and create new or recall old memories as well as advantages or disadvantages of using digitization. To close, I will discuss the ways in which descendants have continued to revisit the cemetery by replacing, updating, and relocating headstones and the heritage landscape. Overall, this project highlights how past and present community members continued to engage with D'Hanis' heritage landscape and how 3D models potentially offer new forms of engagement with memories.

The IPIA Guide to Good Relations: Putting Principles into Practice

Supernant, Kisha¹; and Chaput, Talisha¹

¹ University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: Supplementing, Transcending, and Subverting Conventional Archaeological Regulation

Collaborative and community-based archaeological practice is situated in a network of relationships between governmental bodies, educational institutes, private-sector companies, and the communities we serve. Each group in this network has complex priorities which often contradict the priorities of others involved in the regulation of archaeological practice and heritage management. In response to this, archaeologists are establishing protocols and practices that aim to creatively navigate these tensions and conflicts, working towards an ethical and informed practice that continues to advocate for the transformation of heritage practice. The Institute of Prairie and Indigenous Archaeology, based out of the University of Alberta, has recently developed a Guide to Good Relations; a living document that aims to provide an outline and overview of the principles of our work, and the concrete ways we enact those principles. Emerging from reflexive discussions around structural and theoretical issues within the practice of archaeology and how these pervade our academic spaces, the guide is an exercise in collaborative community-building and accountability. We are proud to share the development process and the public version of the IPIA's Guide to Good Relations with our extended community, in the hopes that this encourages the development of similar documents in other institutions.

Inconsistencies between in Cemetery Records, Grave Markers and GPR in Early 20th Century Cemeteries in Windsor, Ontario

Sussens, Nicole¹

¹ University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey *

Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) is a minimally invasive geophysical equipment commonly used to identify subsurface features. It is used in archaeological contexts because it allows us to visualize the size, shape and material properties of subterranean objects features like graves. This study presents unexpected results of two small-scale GPR surveys conducted in cemeteries within Windsor, Ontario, each of which unveiled surprising results when compared with available data (headstones). In the first case, a plot with two visible headstones was examined in the “pauper’s area” of Windsor Grove Cemetery, and the map view showed a single anomaly. However, examination of the depth slices identified three burials, one of which consisted of a double burial (one person buried atop the other). Archival evidence provided by the cemetery confirmed the double burial. In the second case study at St. John’s Anglican Church, the headstone indicated the burial of a two-year-old. The resultant anomaly was larger than expected, and consistent with surveys of adult burials. In both cases, data from headstones was not consistent with GPR. These cases illustrate the continued importance for archaeologists to use all available data sources when mapping historic cemeteries, and stress the need to focus analysis on depth splices.

Isotope Mapping of British Columbia for Archaeological Research

Tarrant, Damon¹; and Richards, Michael¹

¹ Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey

Isotope measurements of archaeological tissues and materials can be used to study past diets, mobility, and climates. Our research focuses on the use of these measurements to explore past human and animal mobility. However, to understand the isotope values of archaeological samples we need to compare them to high-resolution baseline isotope maps across regions and landscapes of interest. Until recently, no baseline isotope maps of British Columbia were available, so a main focus of our recent research has been producing these large-scale maps by measuring the sulfur and strontium isotope ratios of modern plants collected from across British Columbia. Our preliminary results examine the major environmental factors that influence the isotopic ratios from the southern coast of British Columbia to the Rocky Mountains, and how these ratios can be used as a baseline for mobility and migration studies. Further, we discuss our ongoing research developing province wide isoscapes for larger scale studies of trade, mobility, migration, and environmental reconstructions across the province.

The Six Seasons of the Asiniskaw Īthiniwak Project in Northern Manitoba: Archaeology Supporting Ongoing Rocky Cree Cultural Reclamations

Taylor-Hollings, Jill^{1,2}

¹ Dept. of Anthropology, Lakehead University, Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada

² Ontario Archaeological Society, Ontario, Canada

Podium Session: Heritage Landscapes: Rediscovered, remembered, and recreated

The main goal of this SSHRC Partnership project is to support ongoing work of reclaiming language, histories, and knowledges amongst the Asiniskaw Īthiniwak (Rocky Cree). Knowledge Keepers, academics and other research partners are developing historical picture books and related outputs that depict life during the early 1600s in Northern Manitoba, to accurately reconstruct ancient cultural landscapes before hydro-electric damming forever altered the area. Authored by Elder William Dumas, each traditional story is set during one of six seasons and centres on children finding their miskanaw (life purpose). These detailed books form part of classroom educational packages also including Teacher’s Guides and digital apps with Rocky Cree language/games.

The University of Winnipeg is the academic project home but the unique archaeological research is being completed at Lakehead University, contributing to educational outputs but also 3D modelling and printing of ancient belongings from the area on loan from the Manitoba Museum. With a new book and related items forthcoming this fall, the archaeological contributions will be discussed such as supporting the book narrative with sidebar texts, working with illustrators to create scenes of actual boreal forest locations, studying the ancient belongings, and replicating lost fibre weaving technologies.

Headaches, Strategies, and a Frozen Swamp: Navigating Logistical Challenges in Consulting Archaeology

Teesdale, Shane¹

¹ Woodland Heritage Northwest, Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada

Podium Session: “They didn’t teach us that in archaeology school” Career Skills for CRM

Time-sensitive and project-specific circumstances in the consulting industry can lead to excavations in suboptimal conditions, occasionally requiring unorthodox problem-solving to complete in a timely and professionally acceptable manner. At the heart of project planning in these less-than-ideal excavation conditions is the need to think creatively, react to changing situations on the ground, and have access to the technical know-how to improve ground conditions enough to retain site context and information. This presentation will primarily use a case study from a 2026 excavation in Northwest Ontario to highlight how reflexive strategy must sometimes be employed in consulting archaeology to prevent site conditions from deteriorating, while maintaining project timelines and proposed budgets. Technical know-how and “jack-of-all-trades” skills are frequently considered assets in the field but are rarely touched on in academic settings. While they can be learned on the job, they can also be incorporated into a company by hiring from a diverse set of backgrounds. This presentation aims to introduce young professionals to concepts of managing logistical challenges, as well as providing considerations for senior management when building archaeological teams.

Mammoths in the Late Pleistocene of British Columbia

Termes, Laura¹; and Richards, Michael¹

¹ Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada

Podium Session: Corridors, Coasts, and Connections: Human dispersal in North America

The BC Megafauna Project presents a synthesis of the temporal and geographic distribution of mammoth (*Mammuthus* sp.) remains in the Late Pleistocene of British Columbia. Through a systematic survey of existing specimens and identification of new remains, 40 individuals were radiocarbon dated, producing a six-fold increase in the known chronological range of mammoths in BC. New genomic data further illuminate the interconnectivity of mammoths across the central and southern interior regions, highlighting a potentially rich faunal corridor west of the Rockies.

The Effects of Climate Change and Coastal Erosion on Prince Edward Island’s Archaeological Heritage

Thériault, Christian¹

¹ Government of PEI, Prince Edward Island, Canada

Podium Session: Climate change archaeology: Where are we and where do we go?

Since the 1970s, archaeologists conducting fieldwork and research in Atlantic Canada have been working effortlessly to define means to better understand and manage the effects of climate change and sea-level rise on the archaeological record. The impact of such changes and large impact events such as Fiona alters both our natural and cultural heritage as well as our relationships with these landscapes. The province of Prince Edward Island is actively working on monitoring climate hazards and risks that would affect various sectors of our economy and cultural heritage. The coastlines of the island are being monitored and surveyed yearly to determine the short- and long-term impacts of coastal erosion on coastal archaeological sites. These visits allow us to collect data to better understand how the effects of sea-level rise alter past cultural and environmental landscapes. As most sites appear to be significantly altered by our dynamic coastlines, some appear to be protected by natural factors such as receding dunes covering previously exposed landscapes. This research will look more closely at a few archaeological sites/landscapes affected by these processes.

The Social History of Canada's First Protected Archaeological Resource

Thomas, Louis¹; and Poole, Peter²

¹ Secwepemc, Elder

² Bowstrings Heritage Foundation, Banff, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: Heritage Landscapes: Rediscovered, remembered, and recreated

We examine the social history of Canada's first protected archaeological resource: a winter village of Secwepemc peoples, protected in 1913 by Dominion Archaeologist Harlan Smith in Canada's first national park, Banff. This history has three parts: (a) the first couple of decades during which there were mixed understandings of the site; (b) the much deeper history held in Secwepemc family stories; and (c) more recent efforts to honour the site's architectural significance.

These winter homes are the most enduring form of Canadian architecture. Called c7istken' ("k'yeest'kn" in Secwepemctsin) or kekuli (Chinook Jargon), these permanent structures are semi-subterranean homes, built with preserved logs and vegetated roofs. Their presence in Banff indicates relationships which were formed in this valley among many cultures, relationships which families continue to maintain to this day.

This presentation is by Elder Louis Thomas who assisted his mother Mary Thomas to build a pit-house on the Mall in Washington, D.C. in 1978 for the Smithsonian; and by Peter Poole who has worked with Elders and explored the sites in the mountains for three decades. By presenting archival documents, contrasting narratives, and enduring research questions, they reveal the opportunities for cultural resource managers and First Nations knowledge-sharers to collaborate.

Implications of lipid extraction protocols for stable isotope analysis of faunal remains

Thompson, Amy¹; Meyer, Caroline¹; Buchanan, Ash¹; Dolan, Katherine¹; and Szpak, Paul¹

¹ Department of Anthropology, Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey *

Stable isotope analysis (SIA) of archaeological bone collagen is often used to identify dietary characteristics and mobility patterns of ancient humans and animals. Stable carbon isotope compositions ($\delta^{13}C$) of bone collagen are commonly used to identify the abundance and variety of plant contributions to diet. Different plant photosynthetic pathways, particularly C3 and C4, have distinct $\delta^{13}C$ ranges. ^{13}C -depleted lipids, abundant in some bone tissue, can skew $\delta^{13}C$ values downward, obscuring true collagen $\delta^{13}C$ and creating inaccurate interpretations. Lipids can be preserved in archaeological specimens, presenting challenges for accurate SIA. Currently, there are no systematic studies of the efficacy of different chemical treatments for removing lipid contaminants from bone. Our multi-factorial analysis fills this research gap by comparing the efficacy of two chemical treatments (chloroform-methanol and dichloromethane-methanol) over five different time intervals and on two different size fractions of bone. Each of the 22 treatments was performed on 40 unique bones from marine and terrestrial animals. We outline the relative merits of different approaches to lipid extraction and make recommendations for researchers to implement in their collagen pretreatment protocols.

ZooMS-ing In: Identifying Fragmentary Remains With Mass Spectrometry

Thornitt, Allison¹

¹ Ember Archaeology, Sherwood Park, Alberta, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey

Zooarchaeological remains from archaeological sites are often poorly preserved and fragmentary when collected in CRM (Cultural Resource Management) settings. Morphologically diagnostic features are rarely retained, making it difficult to identify faunal remains below the class level and contributing to misinterpretations of those remains, which in turn can affect understanding of a particular site. Several sites containing zooarchaeological remains were identified in the Limestone Mountain area of Alberta. Two sites were initially identified and excavated in the 1970s, but an in-depth analysis of the recovered faunal remains had not been completed until now, where both traditional morphometric identification and ZooMS analysis sheds light on the occupations of the sites. ZooMS (Zooarchaeology by Mass Spectrometry) is a relatively recent tool developed to aid in accurate taxonomic identification and a common application of PMF (peptide mass fingerprinting), in archaeological research. This poster will discuss the how the ZooMS analysis was completed on the Limestone faunal remains and its results, alongside a more traditional zooarchaeological analysis of the three sites remains. A broader overview of ZooMS analysis will also be presented; its development, use cases, methods, and limitations.

The Monochrome Mosaic: The Representation of Black Colonial Period (1501-1867 C.E) History in Atlantic Canada's Monumental Landscape

Tough, Heather¹

¹ Memorial University of Newfoundland, Newfoundland, Canada

Podium Session: Hidden No More: Archaeology and the Living Legacy of Black Heritage

European and descendant settler history dominates Canada's historic landscapes, accounting for 79.4% of National Historic Sites, while the representation of other identities are 18.3% Indigenous, 1.2% Asian, and 1.1% African/Black. For a country that markets itself as a multicultural mosaic, there is a lack of acknowledgement of the groups that, through their exploited labour, were essential to the development of Canada. This research explores how Black history is represented in Canada and which stories are or are not being told. Done through a multiscale analysis of Canada's national historic sites and Atlantic Canada's regional historic sites, drawing on federal, provincial, and municipal historic designation databases. The results are detailed on a map of 36 historic sites and monuments with Black representation from the colonial period, designated by a governmental authority in Atlantic Canada. Of these sites, 86.1% are in Halifax, and the majority (68.6%) focus on the Freed Black Loyalists and the War of 1812 Refugees, painting Canada as a safe haven in direct contrast to the United States. Current movements for the inclusion and protection of Black Heritage sites highlight the importance of these landscapes and how they become spaces of power.

From Outcrop to Artifact: Methods for Sourcing Chert Artifacts

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¹ Ecofor Consulting Ltd., Canada

² Vancouver Island University, Nanaimo, British Columbia, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey *

Chert is a commonly used lithic material in archaeological assemblages. Sourcing chert back to specific geological outcrops can provide insight into past mobility, trade, and land-use patterns. This study compares chert artifacts from sites around Surprise Lake, BC to material from known chert outcrops and quarries in the surrounding region, with the aim of assessing the feasibility of chert sourcing strategies. A range of analytical techniques are considered, including macroscopic visual identification, thin-section analysis, and geochemical approaches such as X-ray fluorescence. Each method is assessed in terms of its applicability to the study region, as well as its strengths, limitations, cost, and level of precision. This study identifies appropriate sourcing techniques for this region of Northern BC/Southern Yukon and supports a multi-method approach to chert sourcing for future studies.

Turtles as storytellers: Utilizing ancient DNA analysis to draw inferences on Maya culture, life, and traditions

Toyber, Yael¹; Boileau, Arianne²; Zhang, Grace Hua¹; and Yang, Dongya¹

¹ Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada

² Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey *

The Central American river turtle (*Dermatemys mawii*) was a culturally and ecologically significant species for Mesoamerican cultures, such as the ancient Maya. Archaeological evidence from Mexico, Guatemala, and Belize highlights its importance in subsistence, status display, and ritual practices. We propose that ancient DNA, if recovered, can provide insights into long-term human–environment interactions.

In this study, six *D. mawii* skeletal samples from three archaeological sites in Guatemala and Belize were analyzed, spanning ~1,200 years from the peak of the Classic Maya civilization to the Spanish conquest. Mitochondrial ND4 fragments were successfully amplified from all samples, confirming species identity and revealing a unique haplotype and distinct maternal lineage.

These results demonstrate the feasibility of recovering ancient DNA from tropical contexts and highlight the value of archaeological datasets for reconstructing past population diversity. With expanded sampling and analysis of more informative D-loop fragments in the future, we can track temporal and spatial changes in *D. mawii* populations. This work contributes to biomolecular conservation and could provide insight into the sustainable management and recovery of this critically endangered species.

Updated Occupation: Re-Dating Sites in the Limestone Mountain Area Using Faunal Remains

Tsounis, Yiorgos¹; MacLennan, Ranger²; and Allan, Timothy¹

¹ Ember Archaeology, Sherwood Park, Alberta, Canada

² University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey

The area of Limestone Mountain near Sundre, Alberta, has two archaeological sites (EkPt-3 and EIPu-8) which were excavated by Reeves and Head in 1979. Before a time where radiocarbon dating was common-practice, these sites were dated based on projectile point typologies. The research showcased on this poster focuses on the re-dating of faunal material from both sites. The initial conclusions of the researcher who identified the sites, determined that the age of the sites was from the Middle Precontact Period (EIPu-8) and the Late Precontact Period (EkPt-3). However, the radiocarbon dates from this study shed new light on the occupation of these sites. This study will showcase the results of six radiocarbon dates from EIPu-8 and EkPt-3, and place the sites in the context of the Limestone Mountain chronology. The Suess Effect complicates dating material likely deposited after 1700 AD, and because many of the results indicate that site occupations were from this time period, complications arise about the initial conclusions about site use.

Shield Bearers on the Edge: Northern Distribution of SBW motif as Evidence of Cultural Transmission and Continuity.

Turney, Michael¹

¹ Lifeways of Canada Limited, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: Living Landscapes: Story, Practice, and Stewardship Across Time

With a distribution spanning much of the Great Plains, from north of Calgary Alberta to as far south as Utah and Colorado, the Shield Bearing Warrior (SBW) motif is one of the most geographical expansive rock art motifs in North America. Likewise, the SBW motif is one of the best-known elements of Northwestern Plains rock art traditions, present in both the Ceremonial and Biographic traditions of the Late Precontact Period. Utilizing a dataset of both previously reported and newly identified rock art sites from the northern limit of Northwestern Plains rock art distribution, the author attempts to illustrate the numerous examples that are included under this wide-ranging classification, and thus provide a better definition for this cultural phenomenon. By an examination of a selection of these motifs, and by a deconstruction of the SBW images into their respective elements, the author hopes to provide evidence of cultural transmission and continuity over a vast geographic area and time depth.

Fortification and Power in Medieval Georgia: The Case of Kvetera Fortress

Tvaladze, Shota¹

¹ The University of Georgia, Tbilisi, Georgia

Podium Session (pre-recorded): Castles, Strongholds, and Fortifications of the Medieval Period in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus

The medieval period in Georgia (South Caucasus) was marked by sustained military conflict, largely driven by processes of territorial expansion. This persistent instability fostered the development of fortified architectural complexes intended to provide effective defense and long-term protection. Such structures were typically situated in strategically advantageous locations, allowing for the maximal of both defensive capacity and military control. Among these, Kvetera Fortress, dating to the 11th century and located in the historical region of Kakheti in eastern Georgia, overlooking the Ilto River, represents a significant example of medieval defensive architecture. The complex comprises two main components: an upper and a lower fortress. The upper fortress, covering approximately 3,500 m², formed the most secure and strategically critical part of the site. The lower fortress, extending over approximately 25,000 m², occupies the southern, southwestern, and northern slopes and is enclosed by robust defensive walls. Within the lower fortress are both ecclesiastical and secular buildings, as well as elements of a hydrological system, indicating the capacity of the complex to sustain a stability during prolonged sieges. These architectural features, together with the findings of archaeological and historical investigations, will be examined in the presentation within the broader context of medieval Georgia.

The Leavings: Monitoring Heritage at Risk

Van Vugt, Erica Maria Antoinette¹; Daswon, Peter¹; and Hvidberg, Madisen¹

¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: From Capture to Care: Digital Heritage in Western Canada

Many historic buildings in Alberta are documented using survey forms, photographs, and written condition descriptions. As a result, damage or collapse is often only noticed after it has already happened. Digital recording methods such as terrestrial laser scanning (TLS) enable the creation of 3D records of buildings and more precise measurement of structural changes. This paper explores how repeated TLS surveys can be used to track structural change at The Leavings (EaPk-171), a provincially designated historic site in Alberta. The site is layered, with Blackfoot, Métis, ranching, and North West Mounted Police presence. The study focuses on a sandstone/concrete/timber barn built in the 1880s by the NWMP, which is currently collapsing.

Between 2024 and 2025, the barn was recorded during several visits using a mobile (GeoSLAM ZEB Horizon) and a stationary (Zoller +Frohlich 5010x) scanner. The resulting 3D point clouds were aligned and compared to identify areas where parts of the structure had moved, shifted or been lost.

The results show that TLS can reveal patterns of structural change that are difficult to see during normal visual inspections. This project demonstrates how repeatable 3D recording can help document and monitor structural change in vulnerable heritage buildings.

Contributed Personal Reminiscences of Barney Reeves

Various Contributors

Podium Session (ASA): Papers in Honour of Dr. Brian (Barney) Reeves

Some of Barney's former friends and students (Laurie Milne, Ann Johnson and Philip Duke) were unable to attend the conference but still wanted to relay their personal memories and comments about Barney and have provided written submissions on these recollections for this session. These short poignant, telling and sometimes humorous reminiscences will be read aloud by the co-chairs and well worth your time to listen to.

The Right Ways - Lifeways' 54 Years (and counting) in Consulting Archaeology

Vivian, Brian¹; and Bourges, Claire¹

¹ Lifeways of Canada Limited, Calgary, Canada

Podium Session (ASA): Papers in Honour of Dr. Brian (Barney) Reeves

In partnership with two other colleagues, Barney Reeves founded Lifeways of Canada in 1972. Lifeways was the first Historical Resource Consulting firm in Western Canada. Over its fifty-four years of operation, Lifeways has remained steadfast in undertaking Historical Resource Assessments, implementing major surveys, and completing large-scale excavations that have contributed significantly to the archaeology of the regions the company has worked in. In this paper we focus on Barney Reeves, examine the directions he set for Lifeways, and review the impact Barney's tutelage has had on the development of consulting archaeology in Western Canada.

“The Science of Ware”: The application of geospatial and non-invasive archaeology to Black History in the Canadian Prairies

Wadsworth, William T. D.¹; Dagg, Lyndsay²; and Amundsen-Meyer, Lindsay³

¹ University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

² University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

³ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: Hidden No More: Archaeology and the Living Legacy of Black Heritage

This paper introduces the potential application of geospatial and large-scale archaeological prospection technologies in the search of early Black settlers in Alberta. We also discuss the challenges we faced employing these technologies in this

unique cultural context. To illustrate this discussion, we provide a case study of surveys at the first homestead of John Ware (one of Alberta's first Black settlers). In 2025, a collaboration between the University of Calgary and University of Alberta's Institute of Prairie and Indigenous Archaeology led to the deployment of multi-channel ground-penetrating radar, multi-sensor magnetic gradiometry, and multiple drone-based sensors (LiDAR and multi-spectral) at the site. These surveys focused our archaeological testing to suspected key archaeological features, and allowed for community visitors to engage with our evolving understanding of the site as the project proceeded. This case study is also significant as it highlights new opportunities and challenges for an expanding minimally-invasive Canadian archaeology.

Ceramic Diversity During the Terminal Precontact Period of the Canadian Plains: Implications and Challenges

Walde, Dale

Podium Session (ASA): Papers in Honour of Dr. Brian (Barney) Reeves

This paper summarizes progress on an ongoing Canadian Plains ceramic distribution and typology project. For this summary some of the diversity of the many types of pottery present on the Canadian Plains during the Terminal Precontact period (ca 1100 rcybp to Contact). The spatial and temporal distributions of these types are discussed. A discussion of the implications of the diversity of the detailed and well-preserved archaeological record available to Canadian Plains archaeologists is initiated and a few thoughts as to the relationships of that diversity to, among other things, present-day land claims and ethnohistory.

Slow Science in Fast Times: Catching Up with Archaeology's Platform in a Changing Arctic

Walls, Matthew¹; Kleist, Mari²; and Knudsen, Pauline²

¹ University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

² Ilisimatusarfik (University of Greenland), Nuuk, Greenland

Podium Session: The long and winding road of slow archaeology

Indigenous-partnered research has been a central emphasis in Arctic archaeology over the past decades, reflected in long-term projects, community-directed research objectives, and innovations in knowledge co-production. As a slow science, Arctic archaeology has produced more ethical research practices and more; it has built the relational, epistemic, and collaborative infrastructure that now positions archaeology to lead transdisciplinary responses to urgent environmental and political challenges. In this paper, we reflect on Inughuit-partnered research at Pikialasorsuaq—an environment long cast by Arctic sciences as a self-balancing system requiring external intervention and regulation. Amid fast times in Kalaallit Nunaat (Greenland) and Nunavut, we find archaeology increasingly called forward as a catalyst discipline capable of reorganizing the nature–culture divide that has sustained the notion of the Arctic as a “global commons”. In this capacity, archaeology offers a platform to lead other sciences, reframing Arctic environments as creative social–ecological systems where future trajectories remain inseparable from Indigenous sovereignty.

Mountie Memories of Metis: Using NWMP memoirs to identify and interpret Metis archaeological sites

Wambold, Dawn¹

¹ Institute of Prairie and Indigenous Archaeology, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: Historical Archaeology in Western Canadian Contexts: New and Emerging Perspectives

When the North-West Mounted Police (NWMP) arrived in the region now known as Alberta in 1874, they employed several Métis individuals as guides, scouts, and interpreters. This close working relationship resulted in NWMP journals and other official records offering a rare and valuable perspective on Métis life; one that differs significantly from earlier accounts written primarily by missionaries and fur traders. While these sources must be critically examined for their biases and limitations, they nonetheless provide valuable insights into Métis experiences during a period of extreme change in the late 19th century.

In this presentation, I will use two well-documented Métis archaeological sites, Buffalo Lake and the Kajewski Cabins, as case studies to demonstrate how NWMP journals and memoirs have contributed to the interpretation and understanding of these locations. I will also explore how I have drawn on these same historical sources to help identify previously unrecognized archaeological sites associated with the Métis. By integrating documentary evidence with archaeological investigation, this research highlights the potential of NWMP records to enrich our understanding of Métis history and material culture during the 1870s

Hide and Seek: Tabular Bifaces of the Okanagan Valley, Canada

Werner, Joseph Jeffrey¹; and Surette, Flannery¹

¹ Okanagan College, Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada

Podium Session: Deep in Time and Vast in Expanse: The Dene Language Family in Western North America

In this presentation, we report on a collection of artifacts from Penticton, British Columbia identified as hide softening tools, closely resembling “chitho” or tabular bifaces. These tools are typically made from coarse durable stones such as schist, gneiss, and quartzite, and were formed into thin minimally shaped circles, ovoids, or D-shapes. Tabular bifaces may have been used in the hand but were more often hafted to a thick wooden handle and pushed and dragged across the hide. Analysis of the tools is contextualized within a review of the ethnographic literature for interior British Columbia and the northwestern United States. What emerges is a broad pattern of continuity in hide softening technology across the region around the time of European contact and at least shortly before. As tabular bifaces are commonly associated with Athabaskan (Dene) populations of the subarctic, this assemblage invites discussion of how Athabaskan speakers might have influenced the hide working techniques of nearby Salishan groups. It also raises the possibility that the association between tabular bifaces and the subarctic is complicated and that the technology was more widely spread than is currently documented.

Inconcrete: The archaeological seeps, drips and flows of calthemite

Whitridge, Peter¹

¹ Memorial University of Newfoundland, Newfoundland, Canada

Podium Session: Heritage Landscapes: Rediscovered, remembered, and recreated

Concrete is by far the most common modern building material, giving heft, form and texture to our surroundings and spawning a distinct regime of formation processes related to its breakdown and (re)deposition. Besides mechanical wear and stresses, concrete formulations are liable to degrade chemically on a relatively short time scale, to substantial archaeological effect. Moisture leaching through the matrix brings calcium hydroxide into contact with the atmosphere, precipitating calthemite (calcium carbonate) as a scaly white efflorescence. Calthemite superficially resembles speleothems, though the underlying chemistry is different, and while speleothems accrete by at most a few mm per year, calthemite straws can grow at up to 2 mm per day. It develops over a substructure of fungal mycelia, so like the algal and bacterial biofilms that coat many built surfaces can be considered the hybrid exudate of chemical processes and biological communities consuming humanly constructed materials. Calthemite gives rise to intricate pseudokarst landscapes that are thoroughly entangled with archaeological residues; at mid-20th century ruins in the St. John’s region it both overlies and underlies contemporary graffiti. The present paper reveals the contemporary archaeological record to be substantively shaped by calthemitic deterioration and deposition, and concrete to be anything but.

The Role of Traditional Conservation Practices in Modern Pacific Salmon Management

Wick, Genevieve¹; and Reimer, Rudy¹

¹ Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada

Podium Session: Biomolecular Archaeology in Conservation

Pacific salmon are an irreplaceable cultural and ecological keystone species in the Pacific Northwest, with economic importance. They are integral to the identities and ways of life of Indigenous Communities. Ecologically, they play a vital role in returning marine nutrients inland and as a food source for a diverse array of species. Recreational salmon fishing contributes significantly to tourism in British Columbia (BC), and commercial fishery is a multi-million-dollar industry. Prior to colonization, Coast Salish Peoples sustainably managed the salmon population for thousands of years. Since the introduction of commercial fishery in the region ~150 years ago, the salmon population has been decimated. Therefore, the sustainable management of Pacific salmon is vital to the cultural, ecological, and economic future of Canada’s Pacific Northwest.

When informed by traditional knowledge, tools such as ancient DNA (aDNA) analysis can be leveraged to further understand these practices from a deep-time perspective. For example, aDNA can identify the species and sex of harvested salmon and reveal changes in genetic diversity and population structure over time. These sustainable practices can be used by policy makers inform or advocate for changes to modern salmon management practice, ensuring a sustainable future for salmon and, the Pacific Northwest region.

Insights into post-glacial succession and environmental change in Alberta from stable carbon, nitrogen, and sulfur isotope analyses of Pleistocene and Holocene Bison

Woolsey, Nicholas¹; and Metcalfe, Jessica¹

¹ Lakehead University, Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada

Podium Session: Corridors, Coasts, and Connections: Human dispersal in North America

Stable isotope analyses of ancient animal remains provide insights into how animals utilized changing habitats over time. In Alberta, tracking environmental change within the ‘corridor’ between the receding Laurentide and Cordilleran ice sheets is important for understanding subsequent interactions of flora, fauna, and people. In this study, we use Pleistocene and Holocene bison (*Bison* spp) bones to characterize isotopic differences between grassland, parkland, and boreal forest regions of northern and central Alberta. So far, our results suggest predictable decreases in $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ and $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values for C3-dominated habitats at sequentially higher latitudes, potentially due to increased canopy cover. Meanwhile, $\delta^{34}\text{S}$ values do not show predictable variation across the locations we have studied. Using these habitat-related variations and modern north-central Alberta bison as a baseline, we can interpret temporal changes in bison diets and habitats in particular geographic areas. Our future work will focus on the Peace region of northwestern Alberta because of its central importance as one of the first areas to be deglaciated, and because it is the traditional territory of our community partners.

Answering the calls: Climate change archaeology practice in Canada

Woywitka, Robin¹; Pelley, Damon¹; Cedron, Zabarrah¹; and Brendan, Boyd¹

¹ MacEwan University, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: Climate change archaeology: Where are we and where do we go?

The CAA has issued five climate change calls to action. This paper assesses the current practice of climate change archaeology in Canada relative to these calls. We find that there are several initiatives that are making (or are poised to make) significant contributions to managing climate-related losses of the archaeological record. Most existing initiatives operate at site or local scales and are concentrated in coastal areas. Funds for this work are limited and accessed through disparate organizations. Awareness of funds is also limited in many academic, professional, and local communities. We conclude that more can be done to address the calls to action. We make the case for more coordinated research design and funding for climate change archaeology at regional and National scales.

Timing of human occupation in the ice-free corridor

Woywitka, Robin¹

¹ MacEwan University, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Podium Session: Corridors, Coasts, and Connections: Human dispersal in North America

The role of the ice-free corridor in the study of the peopling of the Americas fluctuates. The corridor was a central component of the “Clovis-first” model that lost support around the turn of the 21st century in favour of late glacial dispersals following the west coast. More recent work has focused on determining the timing of the viability of the corridor, the spread of lithic technology into the region, and the potential for pre-LGM dispersals. There are also researchers that still support the corridor as the initial route into the Americas ca. 13,000 years ago. Despite its prominence in models of human dispersal, the age of human occupation in the corridor is constrained by ages from very few radiometrically dated sites. This paper presents age modeling of published ages associated with these sites to better constrain the interval within which humans are known to have inhabited the corridor. The results are discussed in the broader context of peopling of the Americas studies and used to develop survey designs geared to finding additional Late-Pleistocene sites in the region.

A Preliminary Typology of Groundstone Hand Tools of the Northwest

Yano, Wrenn¹; Dvorkin, Michelle; and Werner, J. Jeffrey²; and Surette, Flannery²

¹ University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

² Okanagan College, Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey

Groundstone tools have been understudied despite being used as markers of significant cultural change across coastal and interior British Columbia. As some of these objects are linked to networks of trade and exchange, increased sedentism, the prestige economy, and the emergence of social complexity, more work is needed to establish basic terms and categories. Based on online museum collections with objects from Alaska, British Columbia, Washington, Oregon and Northern California and artefacts held by the Penticton Museum and Archives and Peachland Museum (Interior British Columbia), this review attempts to define different categories of hand tools commonly referred to, often interchangeably, as hand mauls, mauls, pestles, hand hammers, and pounders in the literature. Past definitions often relied on perceived function even though these tools encompass activities as diverse as plant and animal processing, pigment production, and wood-working. This poster presents the preliminary results of a typology of groundstone tools in this region, employing a systematic approach that draws on ethnographic accounts, provenance, design, physical characteristics, material, and patterns of wear and damage to define types.

Examining Variation in Chindadn Point Shape Using Elliptical Fourier analysis

Younie, Angela¹; Combs, Evelyn²; Smith, Heather³; Chu, Elaine³; Goebel, Ted⁴; and Graf, Kelly⁴

¹ Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc., Davis, California, USA

² Healy Lake Tribal Council

³ Texas State University, San Marcos, Texas, USA

⁴ University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, USA

Podium Session: Corridors, Coasts, and Connections: Human dispersal in North America

Chindadn bifaces have long been seen as a mystery in terms of their shape, use, and relationship to archaeological patterns throughout Beringia. We conducted analysis using geometric morphometrics (GM), which statistically explores significant patterns in the shape of projectile points, but found the simple Chindadn shape makes it a poor candidate for traditional landmark approaches. Here we present an analysis of Chindadn point shape using Elliptical Fourier analysis as an alternative to landmark GM and test if chronological, geographical, and technological factors influence variation in an assemblage including points from the Tanana and Nenana River valleys. We also discuss how future research for this project has been designed to incorporate community learning and heritage management at Healy Lake Village, where Chindadn was originally defined. Finally, we will discuss research by coauthor Evelyn Combs on the inclusion, and exclusion, of indigenous perspectives in official anthropological narratives, and how the story of Healy Lake reflects these issues.

Overcoming Tropical Degradation: Ancient DNA Species Barcoding for Avian Remains from the Caribbean

Zhang, Jiawei¹; King, Willem¹; Zhang, Hua¹; Giovas, Christina¹; and Yang, Dongya¹

¹ Department of Archaeology, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada

Poster Session: Presenting Archaeology: A Poster Session Honouring Janet Blakey *

Ancient DNA (aDNA) offers significant opportunities to identify bird species from archaeological remains, yet tropical environments pose significant technical challenges: low bone density reduces DNA preservation, and hot, humid climates accelerate degradation. In Caribbean archaeological contexts, approximately 75% of avian remains are unidentified using morphological methods alone, limiting our understanding of bird diversity and Indigenous exploitation prior to European arrival. This research investigates aDNA approaches for Caribbean archaeological bird species identification.

Eleven avian bone samples from Santa Barbara, Curaçao, were selected for DNA extraction. Initial testing using universal COI barcoding primers (175bp) failed to amplify. A shorter 12S rDNA fragment (140bp) with enhanced PCR conditions achieved a 50% success rate (3/6 samples). Building on these results, a custom COI primer (133bp) specifically targeting Caribbean avifauna achieved a 6/6 amplification success rate.

Compared with ancient avian DNA from other regions, our Caribbean samples show severe degradation, underscoring the value of region-specific primer design. These results demonstrate that taxon-specific, shortened primers are key to improving aDNA recovery from degraded Caribbean archaeological faunal material.

This study provides methodological insights for aDNA research in challenging tropical contexts, with direct applications to understanding indigenous subsistence practices and paleoenvironmental reconstruction in Curaçao and across the Caribbean.

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MY CONFERENCE PLAN

TIME	THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
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"Spring Lake, Canmore, Alberta.", [ca. 1920s], (CU1197422) by Carroll, Daisy E.. Courtesy of Glenbow Library and Archives, Glenbow Archives Collection, Libraries and Cultural Resources Digital Collections, University of Calgary.

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