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For Immediate Release

BATS, CREATURES of the NIGHT
An illustrated presentation revealing the fascinating facts about British Columbia’s bats.

Dave Nagorsen, RBCM curator of mammals for 20 years and co-author of Bats of British Columbia, will talk about the 16 species of bats in BC, and other tropical species, Oct. 30, 7-9 p.m. The illustrated lecture is suitable for all ages and will include discussion on Vampire Bats and fruit-eating Flying Foxes.

Few mammals are as shrouded in fear and superstition as bats. In western culture, they are associated with tales of horror and darkness. Much of our fear of bats stems from our unfamiliarity with them. In fact, bats are fascinating animals: they are the only mammals capable of sustained flight; they also have a unique ability to navigate and locate airborne prey in total darkness.

Nocturnal flying insects are by far the most important food source. Bats can eat up to 1 pound of mosquitoes per night.

British Columbia is home to more bat species than any other Canadian province: 16 in all. This presentation summarizes what we know about the bats in this province, with an emphasis on identification, distribution, natural history, and conservation.

Admission is $5 (public) and $4 for Friends members. For details, call 356-7226 (press 1, 3) or visit www.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca.

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