

March 29, 2016

Royal BC Museum April events include both foolish games and serious discussions

VICTORIA, BC – Royal BC Museum staff are preparing to slip weird and wacky items into the permanent galleries, gleefully confirming that April is indeed the cruellest month for **those who can't take a historical joke**.

It's all in good – and popular – fun, of course: during the week-long **April Fool's event**, from April 1-7, visitors are challenged to roam our galleries and spot anachronistic artifacts, oddball animals and materials that just **don't belong**. The pranks are geared for kids and adults alike, and visitors can pick up a game sheet in our lobby before they head upstairs.

On Wednesday April 6 at 12:00 p.m., join Sarah Cox and Royal BC Museum Natural History Curatorial and Collections staff for a free Live @ Lunch presentation on the *Peace River Valley: Biodiversity and Conservation Initiatives*. Biologists and other experts from BC take on a bio blitz to document the flora and fauna of the Peace River region.

Hard on the bloody heels of last month's **popular** *Surviving the Zombie Apocalypse* session on tool-making comes session two, on Wednesday April 13 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., focusing on clothing. Learn how to mend, re-purpose and reuse your old cherished clothing at this workshop. These are skills that any survivor of a zombie attack will need to know – or, for that matter, anyone with an interest in developing or honing real-life, practical, hands-on skills.

On Sunday April 17 from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m., the Friends of the BC Archives invite historian Jean Barman to Newcombe Conference Hall for a lecture on “Returning French **Canadians to Victoria's and BC's History**.” The illustrated talk will highlight French **Canadians' contributions to Fort Victoria, explain their relationships with indigenous women**, and argue for their critical role in the establishment of British Columbia.

Earth Weekend is always a big deal for the Royal BC Museum. **This year we're teaming up** with local non-profit Creatively United for the Planet to celebrate community and a commitment to sustainability with a whole series of engaging public events.

On Friday April 22, join us for *What Can One Person Do When 7.3 Billion are Frying the Planet?* with international artist Franke James, plus the premiere Victoria screening of *Sea Blind*, a 60-minute documentary about the cost of international shipping with local filmmaker Sarah Robertson. The events will take place in Clifford Carl Hall from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.

On Saturday April 23, Earth Weekend celebrations continue in Clifford Carl Hall with art-making, a Green Conscience workshop and a music, dance and word workshop on Aloha Culture and Earth Wisdom. Events take place from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.



Also on Saturday April 23, we bring you another instalment of the *Have We Got a Story to Tell* series: this time the theme is “Into the Wild”. Inspired by The Moth Radio Hour, the event features absolutely true and daring tales of folks adventuring into the field to push boundaries. Victoria-area storytellers – including Royal BC Museum staff members – will **get the ball rolling with their stories. Then it’s your turn to step up to the mic.**

For more information on these and other events, along with tickets, visit royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/events/calendar/.

About the Royal BC Museum

The Royal BC Museum explores the province’s human history and natural history, advances new knowledge and understanding of BC, and provides a dynamic forum for discussion and a place for reflection. The museum and archives celebrate culture and history, telling the stories of BC in ways that enlighten, stimulate and inspire. Looking to the future, the Royal BC Museum will be a refreshed, modern museum, extending its reach far beyond Victoria as a world-class cultural venue and repository of digital treasures.

- 30 -

Media contact:

Royal BC Museum Media Inquiries
250-387-5051

news@royalbcmuseum.bc.ca

 [@RoyalBCMuseum](https://twitter.com/RoyalBCMuseum)