

September 27, 2013

## Royal BC Museum Spider Seekers Return from the Rockies

Victoria, BC – Recently, three spider experts from the Royal BC Museum went on a two-week research expedition to the Rockies to learn about spiders in the area. Find out why researchers are fascinated by these creatures and how much more we still have to learn about them at

*The Spider Seekers* a free event on Wednesday October 16 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Newcombe Hall, Royal BC Museum.



Those attending the free talk are invited to “bring along a spider” – alive, dead or photographed – to have it identified.

The three researchers on the Spider Seekers museum team include Dr. Robb Bennett, a trained spider systematist and B.C.’s foremost spider expert; Darren Copley, a dedicated volunteer with the Royal BC Museum and an avid spider collector with impressive identification skills in the lab; and Claudia Copley, the Royal BC Museum’s collection manager. Claudia is responsible for maintaining the Museum’s entomology collection, which includes over half a million specimens of insects, arachnids, and myriapods.

*The Spider Seekers* will provide a better understanding of spider biology, talk about what it takes to do spider fieldwork, and share some of the interesting discoveries that they have made through this research.

To RSVP for this free event please email: [mgolinski@royalbcmuseum.bc.ca](mailto:mgolinski@royalbcmuseum.bc.ca)

Field work supported by Teck, Lead Partner in Biodiversity.

For more information visit [www.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca](http://www.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca) or call 1-888-447-7977.

*Photo: Claudia Copley puffing on a pooter, used to collect spider specimens. Photo by Andrew Bennett.*

### About the Royal BC Museum

As the provincial museum and archives, 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. Through collections, research, presentations and partnerships, the museum and archives tell the stories of BC in ways that

enlighten, stimulate and inspire. Its two-hectare cultural precinct in Victoria includes a number of historically significant buildings and First Nations sites.

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**Media contact:**

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**Other events at the Royal BC Museum:**

**Wonder Sunday – Unearthed**

Sunday, September 29, 2013

1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Did you ever wonder what you could find with a trowel and a shovel? Learn about archaeology while you collect data and investigate the past.

Wonder Sunday is an interactive, learning-based special event that happens from 1-3 p.m. on the last Sunday of every month (excluding December). A theme, based on ideas from current exhibitions, is offered through activities and lively presentations for families.

Included with Museum admission or membership.

**Quest Lecture: Jana Stefan**

Thursday, October 3, 2013

7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Stefan has lived and worked in Antarctica for two seasons, enduring extreme living conditions in order to preserve the world's most remote historic site, R.F. Scott's Expedition Hut.

**Race to the End of the Earth**

**Exhibition Ending:** Monday, October 14, 2013

Time is running out to experience one of the world's most stirring tales of exploration, the contest to reach the South Pole. This exhibition focuses on the challenges that Norwegian and British leaders faced as they undertook their separate 2900 km journeys from the edge of the Ross Ice Shelf to the South Pole and back.