

May 10, 2022

Going batty this May at the Royal BC Museum and IMAX® Victoria

VICTORIA, BC — In support of the recent re-release of *Bats of British Columbia* by Cori Lausen, David Nagorsen, Mark Brigham and Jared Hobbs, the Royal BC Museum is proud to share with you a host of bat-centric activities throughout the month of May.

Did you know there are close to 1,300 different species of bats in the world, 18 of which can be found right here in Canada? How about the fact that some can weigh as little as a penny, while others can weigh over a kilogram and have a wingspan similar to the embrace of an adult human? Stop by *BATS: Out of the Darkness* in Clifford Carl Hall, on the main floor of the museum, to learn even more about the world's only flying mammal. *BATS: Out of the Darkness* is visiting us from Kelowna Museums now through the summer, and is free to visit.

On May 12, join us for a new all-ages series that welcomes you to the museum after hours. From 7 to 8:30 pm, *Museum After Hours: Going Batty* opens the doors for you to wander through the Natural History gallery, meet local bat enthusiasts, talk with a CRD Parks naturalist about where to look for bats locally, learn about HAT (Habitat Acquisition Trust) and what they're doing to support bats and their habitats, and hear from *Bats of British Columbia* co-author Dave Nagorsen. Tickets are \$10 and available online and at the door until 7:30 pm.

If you aren't able to join us in person, fear not, we'll bring the bats to you through our <u>Follow Me IG: Going Batty</u> Instagram Live event at 7:30 pm.

Ahead of International Day for Biodiversity on May 22, <u>Exploring by the Seat of Your Pants</u> is celebrating their annual #BackyardBio campaign featuring *Bat of British Columbia* co-author Cori Lausen. Learn more about the diversity of bats in BC, how they communicate and how they navigate the world through echolocation. <u>The presentation is happening online</u> on May 19 at 10 am.

If you're interested in checking out the museum's *Bats of British Columbia* handbook, the second edition is a full-colour, fully updated field guide to identifying British Columbia's bats, with new material on acoustic identification. *Bats of British Columbia* is available through local bookshops, the Royal Museum Shop and online at rbcm.ca/books.

To complete the sensational line-up, IMAX® Victoria is thrilled to see the return of Hollywood feature films this Friday, May 13, with a limited-edition run of *The Batman*. For more information on dates and showtimes, visit <u>imaxvictoria.com</u>.

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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. Located in Victoria on the traditional territory of the Lekwungen (Songhees and Xwsepsum Nations), we are a hub of community connections in BC — onsite, offsite, and online — taking pride in our collective histories.

For tickets to IMAX® Victoria and the Royal BC Museum, including combo tickets for both attractions, visit: Tickets

For information about visiting the Royal BC Museum and current COVID-19 protocols, visit: Plan Your Visit About the Royal BC Museum

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