

December 17, 2018

Cozy up to the Royal BC Museum this January

VICTORIA, BC—Resolve to fight the January blahs with a stimulating new year's visit to the **Royal BC Museum**.

- Hate to say goodbye to the holidays? Linger a little longer in the season of smiles with a stroll through [Christmas in Old Town](#), open daily from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm **until Jan. 9, 2019**. Included with museum admission or membership. Or step back in time at [Helmcken House](#)—the oldest house in British Columbia still on its original site—for a living history tribute to the Christmas celebrations of a bygone century. Open 12:00-4:00 pm **until Jan. 5**. Included with museum admission or membership, or by donation.
- **With Valentine's Day just around the corner, it's** an ideal time to settle in for a quiet session at our popular [letter-writing station](#). From **Jan. 2 to Jan. 8, between 11 am and 2 pm, we'll** provide you with paper, pens, envelopes and even stamps—the poetry is up to you! Included with museum admission or membership.
- Join invertebrate collection manager Heidi Gartner and fellow researchers on **Jan. 16** between 12:00 and 1:00 pm for [Live at Lunch: Exploring the Deep](#). The focus is seamounts: underwater mountains that rise more than 1,000 metres (3,280 feet) from the seafloor and are hotspots of offshore biodiversity. Last summer, researchers from Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the Haida Nation, Oceana Canada and Ocean Networks set out to learn more about these ecologically significant areas along the BC coast. Find out what they discovered, and how the Royal BC Museum safeguards these specimens. By donation.
- Resolved to learn **something new this year? Can you name Canada's** rarest environment? If not, check out the Endeavour Hydrothermal Vents display opening **Jan. 24** (until Feb. 22) in Clifford Carl Hall. See a replica hydrothermal vent, produced by the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans in collaboration with Ocean Networks Canada. Located in the deep sea, these iconic marine environments host strange and unique fauna, and may hold clues to the origin of life on earth. The Endeavour Hydrothermal Vents, located off the coast of BC, were among the first hydrothermal vents discovered globally and have been the focus of intensive research for 30+ years. In recognition of their value and distinctiveness, they were named **Canada's** first Marine



Protected Area in 2003. The display includes select research specimens—**part of the museum’s** Invertebrate Collection. Free.

- And speaking of learning: check out the Learning Everywhere exhibit in the [Pocket Gallery](#) on the main level celebrating the evolution of teaching and learning practices at the museum and archives. Opens Jan. 8; free.
- When the weather outside is frightful, gather the family for some fun indoor learning during Wonder Sundays, **Jan. 6, 13, 20 and 27**, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. Dig deep into [Dinosaurs and Fossils](#) with exciting activities that encourage kids (and grown-ups!) to learn more about the prehistoric world and its profound impact on the earth. Included with admission or membership; meet on the second floor.
- **January’s a quieter month at the museum**—the perfect time to join an intimate Behind the Scenes tour, deemed “**once-in-a-lifetime travel experiences**” by Destination Canada. Limited to 10 people; sign-up begins at the information desk one hour before the tour time. On **Jan. 9 and 23** from 11:00 to 11:45 am, [Mammal Matters](#) will focus on the mammal collection; from 12:00 to 12:45, [Butterflies and More](#) will reveal the entomology collection. Included with admission or membership.

Note: The Royal BC Museum and Victoria IMAX are [closed](#) Dec. 25, 2018 and Jan. 1, 2019. For more event information, visit our [online 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. 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.

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