

March 14, 2018

Research takes centre stage at the Royal BC Museum

VICTORIA, BC—On Thursday, March 15, researchers from the Royal BC Museum’s **curatorial and archival teams will** share their recent research accomplishments and findings with the public.

Thirteen different “**Research Day**” presentations, broken up by three panel discussions on general themes, will take place in Newcombe Conference Hall at the Royal BC Museum, starting at 10:00 am and concluding at 4:00 pm.

“Research underpins all the work of the Museum. Without a deep understanding of our collections, their value and our value significantly **diminishes,**” said **Prof. Jack Lohman, CEO of the Royal BC Museum.** “As we update all our displays, we will continue to prioritize research.”

Members of the public are welcome to drop in for a single presentation, a session or the full day. **For those unable to attend in person, the day’s events** will be livestreamed on Facebook Live:

Session 1 (Biodiversity Past and Present; 10:10 am to 11:45 am):

<https://www.facebook.com/RoyalBCMuseum/videos/10150988661469944/>

Session 2 (BC Journeys: Cultural and Economic Perspectives in BC History; 1:00 to 2:00 pm):

<https://www.facebook.com/RoyalBCMuseum/videos/10150988666974944/>

Session 3 (Indigenous Heritage and Reconciliation; 2:00 to 3:30 pm):

<https://www.facebook.com/RoyalBCMuseum/videos/10150988670364944/>

The full schedule of events is available at

royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/visit/events/calendar/event/105883/research-day.

This is the first time the public has been invited to attend Research Day; until now it has typically been an informal, peer-focussed event to share knowledge within the museum and archives.

Reflecting its provincial mandate, Royal BC Museum research is always rooted in **BC’s natural and/or human history**, but is often also connected to global patterns, phenomena and concerns. For example, Dr. Henry Choong’s **research** focusses on marine debris driven to BC shores from the 2013 Japanese tsunami.

This year’s presentation topics range from the diversity of spiders to Indigenous knowledge about orcas; from the history of BC’s energy sector to the role archives play in responding to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

After many of last year’s **Research Day presentations** were published in a **recurring series in the Times Colonist’s *Islander* section**, the strong,



participatory response from the public contributed to the sense that the findings might be of interest to the general public.

You can find more information about Royal BC Museum research staff, their areas of scholarly interest and their work in the lab, in our collections and in the field and marine environments on the Research Portal:

<https://royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/collections/research/research-portal>

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.

- 30 -

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