



## **14 years of Paleontology in British Columbia**

**Seventh Annual Symposium presented in conjunction with the North Island College Science Department and the British Columbia Paleontological Alliance**

**Friday, May 18th, 2007; 10:00 am – (Field trip, Shelter Point), (Evening social mixer)**

**Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007; 9:00- 4:00 (Lectures, Posters, Fossil displays, Art Show)**

**Sunday, May 20th, 2007; 9:00 - 4:00 (Lectures, Workshops, Field Trip, Trent River)**

**Monday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2007; 8:00am - 5:00pm (Field trip, Hornby Island)**

**Event Location: North Island College,  
2300 Ryan Road,  
Courtenay, British Columbia,  
Stan Hagen Theatre**

### **Call for Posters and Abstracts**

The Vancouver Island Paleontological Society (VIPS) the founding member of the British Columbia Paleontological Alliance (BCPA) would like to invite you to provide a poster at our seventh annual paleontological symposium. This symposium will contain presentations from a mix of vocational and professional paleontologists from all over Canada and the United States. The theme this year is British Columbia's Fabulous Fossils and we will also be focusing on celebrating the 14th anniversary of the VIPS and the BCPA. We are interested in talks; posters or displays associated with paleontology or other related natural sciences. Specific invitations have been given to staff and students of Western universities, professional and retired paleontologists, the Geological Survey of Canada, museums and the artists' community. The aim is to showcase palaeontology to the general public as well as the scientific community and foster closer relations between the VIPS, the BCPA and the above groups. The event will have a modest fee. There is no fee to submit a poster and abstract.

We plan to encourage families to bring fossils to our identification booth on the Saturday. For the kids, we have power point presentations of BC's Fabulous Fossils, an activity booth and a preparatory workshop. Advertising for the event

**discussion about your exhibit. The deadline for submission of request for poster space is February 01, 2007.**

### **The Symposium**

The symposium is a 4-day event with lectures, poster and showcase displays on Saturday, May 19th, and workshops on Sunday May 20th. Registration is required to attend the Saturday activities and there will be a moderate fee to cover booklets and costs. Due to limited space, Sunday workshop participants will be required to register and pay a moderate fee for workshop manuals. The workshop events will be located in classrooms at North Island College. Field trips will be on Friday, Sunday and Monday, with a small fee to cover travel expenses and bag lunch.

### **Symposium Abstract Volume**

There will be an attractive symposium abstract volume published. It will be provided upon registration and payment of fee. We request that speakers and poster presenters submit abstracts for the publication to the editor (see below). Abstracts can be 1-4 pages (with 1 being standard) in length although exceptions will be made for specific requests. Abstract contributors are encouraged to include photos and/or diagrams although it should be noted that the abstract volume would be printed in black and white. Documents will not be edited for content but may be reformatted to fit into the volume. Snail mail (and email address if you wish) address of the author should be included for insertion in the volume. Deadline for submission of abstracts for publication is February 1st, 2007. Specific instructions and examples will be available on our VIPS website TBA October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2006 **Submission of an abstract is mandatory.**

### **Further Information**

Posters presentation / Art Show / general information / volunteering:

Dan Bowen, VIPS President, (250) 338-8978, [danbowen@shaw.ca](mailto:danbowen@shaw.ca)

Abstract submissions/ Lecture program / general information

Joe Morin, Editor 1, (250) 338-1385, [wjmorin@telus.net](mailto:wjmorin@telus.net)

Rick Ross, Editor 2, (250) 339-6667, [rlmr@shaw.ca](mailto:rlmr@shaw.ca)

### **About the Vancouver Island Paleontological Society**

The Vancouver Island Paleontological Society is a non-profit society, with charitable status whose purpose is to promote the science of paleontology through study and education and make contributions to the science through discovery, collection, description, public education and preservation of material for study and posterity. The VIPS works with professionals at museums and

## **Some Helpful Hints**

**A poster is a visual medium to express current results of one's research work on a topic the presenter has chosen to study or to provide an overview of a researched topic.**

### **Who should do a poster?**

Anyone who has an interest in sharing their work and who likes feedback from the audience (or attendees) on their work should consider doing a poster.

### **What should be considered for a poster?**

Any topic that ties in with palaeontology can be considered for a poster.

### **Why posters?**

Written presentations are mechanisms to convey past and recent developments in a field of study essential to the investigator. An effective written presentation is a poster presentation.

### **What is a poster?**

A poster is something that you pin up on a board. The dimension of a poster can vary. It can be anywhere from 2' x 3' to 4' x 8'. It contains text and figures relevant to one's work. It follows the same pattern as any scientific article that appears in a journal does. One typical format:

- ◆ Title, Author(s), Affiliation
- ◆ Summary
- ◆ Introduction – Reasons behind the work
- ◆ General information
- ◆ Geographical location of where the fossils were found
- ◆ Description and interpretation
- ◆ Conclusions
- ◆ References

Dedicate a box to each one of the above categories. Within the box, include the text and figures relevant to the category. Number the boxes in such a way that the reader can follow from one box to the other in a sequence the presenter wishes. The structure of the above framework changes from topic to topic.

### **How does one make a poster?**

A few years ago, posters were made with primitive computer tools and extensive drafting (lots of physical labor). The commonly used computer tool is a word processing tool. Today with powerful graphics and word processing tools, a poster can be made entirely using a computer. The final poster image gets printed on a color printer. Remember, you don't have to have a computer to do a poster!

### **How should the visual representation of the poster look?**

Whatever the size of the poster, when one sees (or views) it from 3 to 4 feet away, the letter (or font) size must be large enough to be easily read. Also, figures should be reasonably large. Think about when the eye doctor wants you to read off his "poster" of alphabets and numbers from a distance. Adding colors makes a difference to the poster, and can in fact attract attendees to your poster.

**Good Luck!**