

Alberta Palaeontological Society

What do you think of when someone mentions Washington DC? Perhaps you think of the results of the November Presidential election. Consider instead the “Dinosaurs and Fossils” located in the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History and the new multi-million dollar National Fossil Hall currently under construction.

William Arnold Ingelson, APS Member

LOCATION: Mount Royal University, Room B108

TIME: September 15, 2017 at 7:30 pm

ABSTRACT

On November 8th 2016, billions of people from around the world were focussed on the election of a new American President in Washington D.C.. The September 15th presenter and his wife were there during election week, experiencing the election aftermath while staying just six blocks from where the inauguration would take place in January. While his wife was touring the Capitol Building, receiving multiple marriage proposals from American Government employees wishing to expedite a speedy emigration to Canada, the speaker was exploring the dinosaur displays at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History. In this presentation, a number of photographs and descriptions of the Smithsonian dinosaur and fossil collection will be shared as the collection awaits re-location to the new National Fossil Hall scheduled to open in 2019. The construction of this new wing began in April of 2014 and represents the largest and most complex renovation in the history of the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History. Opened originally in 1910 “to invoke discovery and education of the natural world”, many of the original fossils are currently on display throughout the museum. With its green dome and immense size (comparable to 18 football fields,) the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History houses over 126 million natural science specimens and cultural artifacts. This extensive collection is maintained by the Smithsonian Institute. The Smithsonian Institution Museums should be on one’s bucket list including the National Museum of Natural History and the National Fossil Hall once it opens in two years time. Please join us for an overview of this facility and its impressive fossil collection.

BIOGRAPHY

Arnold Ingelson is a native Calgarian and a long time member of the APS. He has been involved in searching for fossils and dinosaur bones for the past five decades. As a young boy, his uncle, Bill Downton, one of the founding members of the Calgary Rock and Lapidary Club would take Arnold & his younger brother Allan, on field trips to the Badlands. This inspired a life-long interest in both palaeontology and landscape painting. Following high school, Arnold pursued a Bachelor of Education from the University of Calgary majoring in Secondary Art. Arnold also completed three diplomas in the areas

of Speech Arts and Drama from Trinity College of London, England, the Royal Conservatory of Toronto and Mount Royal College. This provided the opportunity to teach Speech Arts for a number of years at Mount Royal Conservatory. He later completed a Masters in Educational Leadership from the University of Portland, Oregon. Arnold taught at both the elementary and secondary levels in a career spanning 34 years with the Calgary Board of Education. He was Principal at five different schools prior to his retirement in 2012.

Arnold has continued his passion of landscape painting as well as palaeontology during his retirement. He and his wife also have a strong interest in travelling throughout the world. His recent trips to the Smithsonian Institute Museums and specifically the National Museum of Natural History forms the basis for this presentation.

DIVISION INFORMATION

This event is presented jointly by the Alberta Palaeontological Society, the Earth Science Department of Mount Royal University, and the Palaeontology Division of the Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists. For details or to present a talk in the future, please contact CSPG Palaeontology Division Chair Jon Noad at jonnoad@hotmail.com or APS Coordinator Harold Whittaker at 403-286-0349 or contact programs1@albertapaleo.org. Visit the APS website for confirmation of event times and upcoming speakers: <http://www.albertapaleo.org/>.