



GEOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION OF CANADA
PALEONTOLOGY
DIVISION

*33rd Canadian Paleontology
Conference*

November 21st - 22nd, 2025

Free Virtual Conference



VIRTUAL VENUE FORMAT

This year the annual CPC Conference will be held in a virtual format.

The meeting will be held over two days, Friday, November 21st and Saturday, November 22nd, 2025. The sessions will take place in the afternoon/evenings (starting at 3pm EST / 12pm PST), at times suitable for all Canadian time zones.

PLATFORMS

Oral presentation sessions will be held via Zoom. Zoom is a free online teleconferencing platform that does not require participants to download anything to their personal computer. (For more information, see here: <https://zoom.us/>) A Zoom link will be provided to each registered attendee for the oral presentation sessions prior to the conference.

Posters will be presented virtually on the platform '[Gather](#)'. Information about uploading, presenting, and accessing posters will be available in the second circular.

REGISTRATION AND ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

THERE IS NO CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEE FOR CPC 2025.

The **abstract submission deadline is Monday, November 3rd**. Attendees will need to be registered to get the Zoom links to the oral presentation sessions.

The deadline to register without submitting an abstract is **November 17th, 2025**.

To register and/or submit an abstract, **please send the following information** via e-mail to gac.paleontology@gmail.com:

- 1) Your name and affiliation (if applicable)
- 2) Whether or not you are a student*
- 3) If submitting an abstract, indicate if you would like to present an ORAL presentation (talk) or a POSTER

*All student presenters qualify for the [Thomas E. Bolton Award](#) (best student presentation award).

In the email subject line, please write either 'CPC 2025 Abstract' or 'CPC 2025 Registration'.

ABSTRACT FORMAT

Abstracts should be compiled in Word (.doc or .docx). They are to be no more than 250 words in length, written in size 12 font, and follow the traditional format (no citations or references). Figures may be included if desired, with a short figure caption.

Titles should contain no new scientific names, but higher taxonomic names may be included. Identify each author by their first name, in full, followed by any middle initials, and the last name. Identify each author with a superscript number and give the full mailing and email information for each author. Please identify the expected speaker of the presentation with an asterisk (*) next to their name.

Figures, if included, should be submitted separately in the same email as .TIF files (minimum resolution is 300 dpi, 600 dpi is preferred). Figures should be sized to fit into a single column (88.9 mm), two-thirds page width (122 mm), or full-page width (182 mm). Maximum page height is 233 mm. Colour figures should use CMYK colour, not RGB.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

Talks:

Technical sessions will take place on **Friday, November 21st** and **Saturday, November 22nd, 2025**, via Zoom. Each oral presentation will be allotted **12 minutes**, plus 3 minutes for questions.

Oral presentations must be presented in a **Powerpoint** (.ppt or .pptx) or **PDF** (.pdf) format. When it is time to present, the presenter will be made a co-host by the session moderator, so that they are able to share their screen.

To ensure that all presenters can accept a role as co-host, share their screen appropriately, and be heard by participants, we ask all presenters to sign into the Zoom session 20 minutes before their session starts so that we can run a tech test.

Posters:

The poster session will take place on **Saturday, November 22nd, 2025**. All posters must be in an accessible digital format (i.e. PDF) and should not exceed 500 MB in size.

AWARDS

Thomas E. Bolton Award (Best Student Presentation)

The Paleontology Division of the Geological Association of Canada gives an award to acknowledge excellence in paleontological research by a student through their paper presentation at the Canadian Paleontology Conference. The first of the Thomas E. Bolton Awards was presented in 1998 at the Eighth Canadian Paleontology Conference in Collingwood, Ontario.

The award has been named in honor of Tom Bolton. Just a few weeks after being awarded the Billings Medal, Thomas Elwood Bolton passed away on November 21st, 1997. The award is a fitting tribute to a man who had dedicated his life to the furtherance of geology and paleontology. The citation for the medal included the statement that "No individual has done more for Canadian paleontology than Tom Bolton".

Tom's lifelong career with the GSC began in 1952. His research covered a remarkable diversity of Ordovician and Silurian organisms including trilobites, eurypterids, corals, brachiopods, crinoids, cystoids, bryozoans, sponges, nautiloids, gastropods and pelecypods. Not only was Tom an acknowledged authority in his field, but he was also Curator of the National Collection of Type Invertebrate and Plant Fossils for over 30 years. He left a legacy of eight volumes of the Catalogue of Type Fossil Invertebrates and one Catalogue of Type Plant Fossils. These provide data on over 130,000 specimens collected from the days of Sir William Logan in the last century to 1993.

The hallmarks of Tom's work were cheerful involvement, modesty, effectiveness, and a willingness to involve others. His enthusiasm for paleontology was contagious, and he delighted in talking to those who shared his passion whether they were "professional" paleontologists or not. If you liked fossils, Tom would share his knowledge with you. It is appropriate that the award for paleontological research by a student is named in his honour.

All students who present their research at CPC 2025 will be considered for the Thomas E. Bolton award.

Avocational Paleontology Award

Great discoveries are made, and great things are done, by people who have no formal training in paleontology but who are passionate about ancient life, fossils, and the preservation of fossil sites. Whether it is donating a fossil collection to an institution, protecting and/or maintaining a site of paleontological importance, volunteering in fossil prep or outreach, or fundraising to build a fossil museum, avocational paleontologists play a huge role in the Canadian palaeontology community.

The PD Division has created a new award to recognize the role of avocational paleontology in Canada. This new, yet unnamed, award will recognize and celebrate the contributions of non-professional paleontologists to the field, helping to send the message that avocational palaeologists of all ages are important and valued.

Award evaluation criteria can be found [here](#). Downloadable nomination forms can be found [here](#).

To nominate someone for the Avocational Palaeontologist Award please e-mail completed nomination packages to gac.paleontology@gmail.com by **Monday, November 3rd**. Include 'Avocational Palaeontologist Award Nomination' in the subject heading.

CPC 2025 –SCHEDULE

Please see the next circular for a conference schedule.

Cover Image: Southfork Brontothere Quarry near Eastend, Saskatchewan. Photo by Emily Bamforth