



Alberta Palaeontological Society 28th Annual Symposium

March 15–16, 2025

Paleo 2025

Circular



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The Symposium

The annual symposium of the Alberta Palaeontological Society (APS) is a two-day event with lectures, posters, and showcase displays presented by a mix of avocational and professional palaeontologists from all over Canada.

The Twenty-Eighth Annual Symposium will be held in a virtual format and in person at Mount Royal University, 4825 Mount Royal Gate SW, Calgary, Alberta on March 15–16, 2025.

- **Saturday, March 15, 9:00 am – 4:30 pm:**
Lectures, posters, and displays (free)
- **Sunday, March 16, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm:**
Workshop: 3D Imaging of Fossils (registration required)

There will be fossil displays and activities of interest to a wide audience, including families with children. We encourage families to bring fossils to our identification booth.

Advertising for the event will go out to news media, the Canadian Energy Geoscience Association's *Reservoir*, and the APS website (<https://albertapaleo.org/events/symposium>). The symposium is presented by the APS in conjunction with the Canadian Energy Geoscience Association Palaeontological Division and Mount Royal University Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences.

Registration

Saturday programs are free and open to the general public; no registration is required to attend. For those interested in presenting a poster or display, see **Information for Presenters**. There is no fee to submit an abstract or to request space for a poster or display.

Due to limited space, Sunday workshop participants are required to register and pay a fee to attend. For details, please see **Workshop**.

About the Alberta Palaeontological Society (APS)

The Alberta Palaeontological Society is a non-profit society whose purpose is to promote the science of palaeontology 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 APS works with professionals at museums and universities to add to Alberta's palaeontological collections and preserve its heritage.

APS meetings are generally held on the third Friday of each month at Mount Royal University. Visit our website at albertapaleo.org for more information!

2025 Organizing Committee (Contacts)

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Schedule

Saturday, March 15, 2025

Jenkins Theatre, Main Building Level 1 (lower level), Mount Royal University

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 9:00 – 9:15 am | Opening Statements
Cory Gross, APS President |
| | Symposium Introduction
Mona Trick, APS Symposium Chair |
| 9:15 – 10:15 am | Squid Games: Challenges in Ammonite Paleoecology
Dr. Cam Tsujita, Department of Earth Sciences, Western University, London, Ontario |
| 10:15 – 10:30 am | Coffee break |
| 10:30 – 11:00 am | Changes in Dinosaur Diversity in Response to Continental Fragmentation
Dr. Matthew J. Vavrek, Cutbank Palaeontological Consulting |
| 11:00 – 12:00 pm | Overview and Update on the Kaskie Hadrosaur Project in Dinosaur Provincial Park
Darren H. Tanke, Senior Technician II, Royal Tyrrell Museum of Palaeontology, Drumheller, Alberta |
| 12:00 – 1:00 pm | Lunch break |
| 1:00 – 2:00 pm | Utilizing Sedimentology to Reconstruct Dinosaurian Environments
Dr. Jon Noad, Stantec Consulting; University of Adelaide |
| 2:00 – 3:00 pm | Posters & Displays Breakout Session and coffee break
<i>Poster presenters are requested to be with their posters</i> |
| 3:00 – 3:30 pm | New insights into amphibian anatomy, evolution and ecology from the Paleozoic of Atlantic Canada
Dr. Hillary Maddin, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario |
| 3:30 – 4:30 pm | Tyrant Lizard Kings and Queens: A Tale of Canadian <i>T. rexes</i>
Dr. Emily Bamforth, Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum |
| 4:30 pm | Closing remarks for Paleo 2025
Mona Trick, APS Symposium Chair |

Workshop: 3D Imaging of Fossils (registration required)

Sunday, March 16, 2025

Room B140, Main Building Level 1 (lower level), Mount Royal University

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

\$20.00 per person (no GST charged)

Registration

Please register by emailing giftshop@albertapaleo.org, in person at a monthly APS meeting, or by mailing your cheque to the Society's mailing address at P.O. Box 68024, Crowfoot Postal Outlet, Calgary, Alberta, T3G 3N8. Payment can be made via cash, cheque, or Interac e-Transfer to payee giftshop@albertapaleo.org. Make cheques payable to the Alberta Palaeontological Society.

Registration is **limited to 20 participants**, so register early! If needed, an afternoon session from 1:00 – 4:00 pm, also limited to 20 participants, will be added to meet demand.

The deadline for registration is March 9, 2025.

Presenters

Dr. Emily Bamforth (Curator, Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum)

Jackson Sweder (Head Technician, Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum)

Atharva Roy (Alberta Palaeontological Society)

Description

The use of three-dimensional (3D) imaging technology is becoming widespread in palaeontology, having applications for field work, collections management, research, exhibits, and outreach. Much of this technology is now available to the public and easy to use, meaning that anyone with a smartphone, tablet, or laptop can create 3D digital copies of their favourite fossils.

In this workshop, participants will 1) learn about 3D imaging technology uses in palaeontology, 2) be introduced to two types of 3D imaging (photogrammetry using MetaScan and PolyCam, and 3D surface scanning using a hand-held light scanner), 3) see a demonstration of these two methods, 4) have an opportunity to 3D scan their own fossil, and 5) learn about editing programs available to make 3D printable files from 3D scans.

Suggested items to bring

- A fossil (ideally 2–10 cm in length) to 3D image. Note that we will also have some fossils available to try scanning
- If participants wish to try photogrammetry on their own device (smartphone, tablet, etc.), download and install either MetaScan (<https://metascan.ai/>) or PolyCam (<https://poly.cam/tools/photogrammetry>) beforehand. Both have free trial options
- Notepad and paper for taking notes

Location

All events will take place in the Main Building. Posters and displays will be presented in the **main hallway on Level 1 (lower level)** outside the Cougars Campus Store. Lectures will be presented nearby in the **Jenkins Theatre**, located in F Wing via a hallway next to Cougars Campus Store. The Sunday workshop will take place in **Room B140**, located in B Wing on Level 1 (lower level).

See the [Map](#) or visit the MRU website at www.mtroyal.ca/AboutMountRoyal/CampusesTours/CampusLocations/campus-map.htm.

Food services

A food court is located in Wyckham House, accessible from the Main Building via a hallway on Level 2. Vendors and their hours can be found at www.mtroyal.ca/CampusServices/CampusResources/FoodServices/index.htm#Hours.

Parking

Most lots offer visitor parking during the symposium. We recommend **Lot 2**, a surface lot near the West Gate entrance, due to ease of access, proximity to entrance, and pay terminal location just inside the entrance (see the [Map](#)). Alternatively, find covered parking in the **East Gate Parkade**. Your license plate number is required for payment. You do not need to display a receipt in your vehicle.

Visitor rates (*applicable starting Sept. 1, 2023. GST not included*)

Nearest entrance	Lot	Saturday rate	Sunday rate
West Gate	Lots 1, 2, 3, 4	\$4.50/hr (\$8.00 max)	Free
	Lots 5, 6A, 7, 8	\$4.50/hr (\$8.00 max)	Free
East Gate	East Gate Parkade	\$4.50/hr (\$8.00 max)	Free
	Lot A	\$9.00 flat rate	Free
	Lot B	\$7.00 flat rate	Free

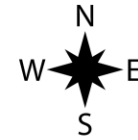
Payment options

- Use the HotSpot app (available from the Apple or Google app stores)
- Scan the QR code (each parking lot has signage; this is a pay-per-use option subject to a \$0.35 fee per transaction)
- Park and pay terminals (using coins, Visa, or Mastercard) at the West Gate Entrance, Lot 6A, Lot 7, Lot A, East Gate Parkade (P2 lobby), and the Recreation Entrance.

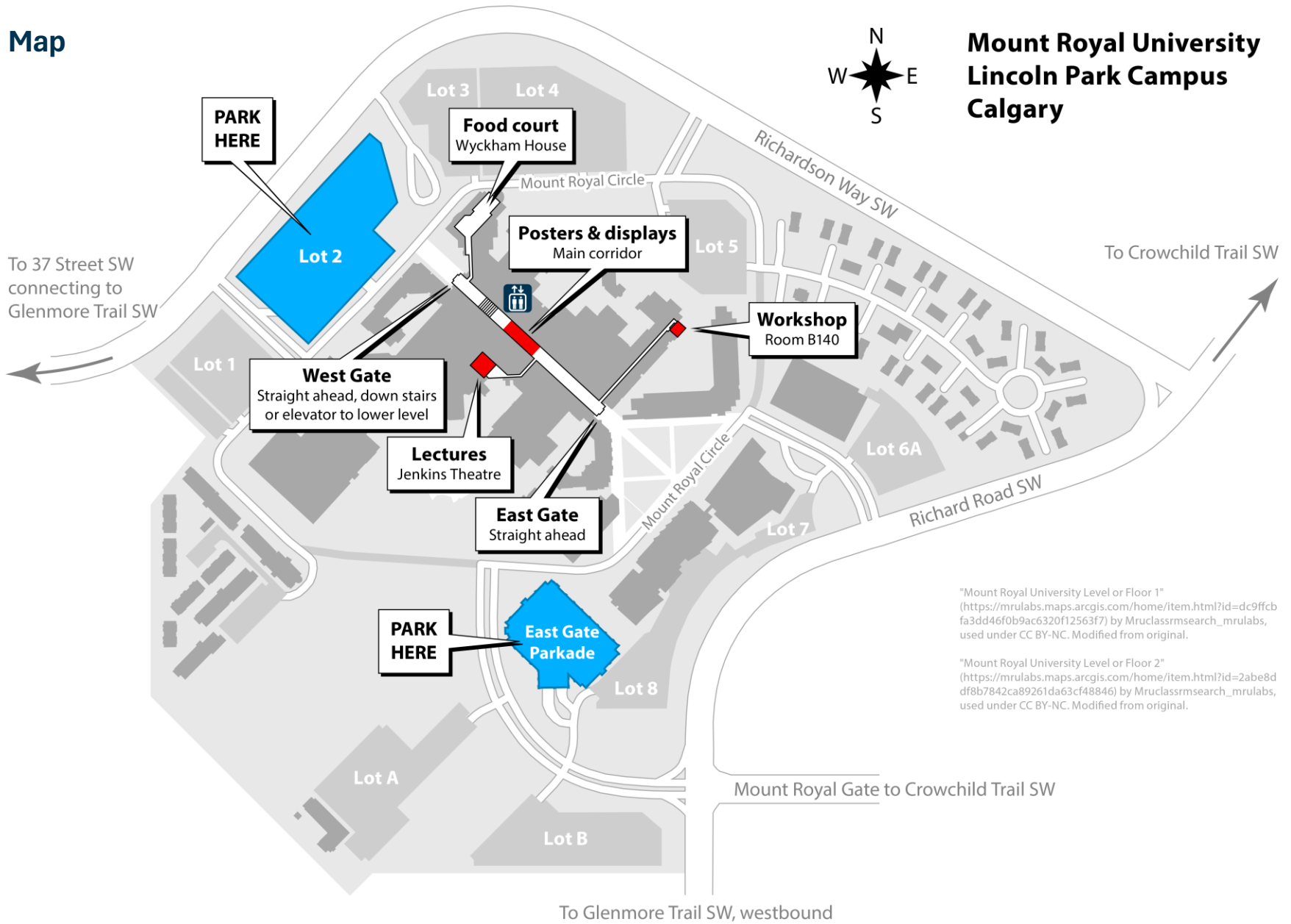
For instructions on these options, visit the paying for parking webpage at www.mtroyal.ca/AboutMountRoyal/TransportationParking/Paying-for-Parking.htm.

For details on visitor rates and parking maps, go to www.mtroyal.ca/AboutMountRoyal/TransportationParking/Visitor-Rates-Parking-Map.htm.

Map



Mount Royal University Lincoln Park Campus Calgary



"Mount Royal University Level or Floor 1"
(<https://mrulabs.maps.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=dc9ffcba3dd46f0b9ac6320f12563f7>) by Mruclassrsearch_mrulabs, used under CC BY-NC. Modified from original.

"Mount Royal University Level or Floor 2"
(<https://mrulabs.maps.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=2abe8ddf8b7842ca89261da63cf48846>) by Mruclassrsearch_mrulabs, used under CC BY-NC. Modified from original.

Information for Presenters

Submission deadline and requirements

Presenters are required to submit the following materials depending on their presentation category. **The deadline for all submissions is February 15, 2025.**

Lecture presenters

- Must submit an abstract or short paper to the Editor at h2allen@telusplanet.net
- Notify us about your preferences for broadcasting and/or recording your talk
- See [Abstract Guidelines](#) and [Lectures](#)

Poster presenters

- Must submit a request for space, along with an abstract or short paper, to **both** the Posters & Displays Coordinator at posters@albertapaleo.org and the Editor at h2allen@telusplanet.net
- Notify us of any special requirements or additional requests
- See [Abstract Guidelines](#) and [Posters and Displays](#)

Display presenters

- Must submit a request for space to **both** the Posters & Displays Coordinator at posters@albertapaleo.org and the Editor at h2allen@telusplanet.net
- Notify us of any special requirements or additional requests
- See [Posters and Displays](#)
- May optionally submit an abstract or short paper to both contacts above
 - If choosing to do so, see [Abstract Guidelines](#)

Audience and other information

Specific invitations have been given to staff and students of universities, natural history clubs, the Geological Survey of Canada, museums, and members of the petroleum industry. The aim is to showcase palaeontology to the general public and foster closer relations between the APS and the above groups. Your audience will range from members of the public to avocational and professional palaeontologists. Please consider this when preparing your presentation.

A limited number of fossil display cabinets are available upon request to any presenter. Please see [Display cases](#) for details.

Thank you for your contribution to our symposium!

Abstract Guidelines

General information

The preferred method for submission of abstracts or short papers is **electronically, via e-mail**. Printed submissions (including text and illustrations) will be accepted. All materials submitted will be returned to the author on request.

E-mail all files to: h2allen@telusplanet.net
The deadline for all submissions is February 15, 2025.

All submissions will be acknowledged. If you don't receive acknowledgement of your submission **within 1 week, please contact the Editor!** A prepress proof will be e-mailed to the author in PDF format.

Authors should include name and address information, in the following format:

Jane Doe
Associate Professor, Dept. of Earth Sciences
University of Calgary
5555 University Avenue
Calgary, AB Canada A5A 5A5
E-mail: jdoe@inetprovider.com

Abstract volume

As in past years, an attractive symposium abstracts volume will be published and sold at a price to cover publication costs.

Abstracts or short papers may be **any length**. Submissions will be edited for design and typographical concerns only (fonts, punctuation, spelling, spacing, layout, etc.). The Editor will **not** change any intellectual/literary content without prior consent of the author but will be reformatted and styled to fit the volume.

We encourage illustrations and photos! Please note that the volume will be printed in black and white, so images will be converted to greyscale by the Editor. Ensure that any figures you include will reproduce clearly in greyscale.

Text formats

Abstract text may be submitted as an e-mail attachment in MS Word, RTF, or plain text. You may also send plain text pasted directly into the body of an e-mail message. Please be aware that text will be reformatted for the abstracts volume, so you need not concern yourself with fonts, line spacing, styles, margins, etc.

Files from page layout or presentation applications saved in their native formats (Microsoft Publisher, PowerPoint, Keynote, Pages, Quark XPress, InDesign) or markup code (LaTeX) are **not acceptable**.

PDF files are OK, but **read the following**:



Please **do not** send text or Word files with embedded illustrations. Send your text and illustrations as **separate files**.

Please **do not** send PowerPoint files. If you want to use text from PowerPoint slides in your abstract, use the “Save As” command to save as RTF files, or simply copy and paste the text into Word, WordPad, etc.

Please use your last name for file attachments (e.g., “Smith.docx”, “Smith_fig4.jpg”).

Illustrations

The abstracts volume will be printed on 8.5" x 11" (letter size) paper. Thus, **all illustrations should fit within a 6.5" x 9.0" rectangle** (vertical or horizontal orientation) to allow for 1" page margins. Material larger than this will be cropped, reduced, or divided across more than one page, at the discretion of the Editor. **The volume will be printed in black-and-white/greyscale**: Colour illustrations are welcome, but they will be converted to B&W or greyscale.

Image files may be submitted in the following common file formats:

- BMP (.bmp)
- GIF (.gif)
- JPEG (.jpg)
- Photoshop (.psd)
- PNG (.png)
- TIFF (.tif)
- EPS (.eps)
- Illustrator (.ai)



Please **do not** send PowerPoint files. If you want to use illustrations from PowerPoint slides in your abstract, use the “Save As” command to save your images in an acceptable format (JPEG, TIFF, PNG, GIF, BMP).

Halftone art (photos, diagrams with greys or colours)

This includes photos or diagrams with greys or colours. The Editor can perform some minor photo retouching (dust specks, scratches, contrast, cropping); if this is desired, please send the file in TIFF or Photoshop format. The image resolution must be **200 ppi (pixels per inch) minimum**.

Line art

This includes diagrams, charts, maps, tables, pen-and-ink drawings, etc. that contain **only** pure black and pure white. If the illustration has heavy lines and large or no text, the image resolution must be **300 ppi (pixels per inch) minimum**. If it contains fine lines, fine detail, or small text, the image resolution must be **600 ppi minimum**. If in doubt, use **600 ppi**.

Printed/paper submissions

Non-electronic submissions will be accepted for publication if received by the submission deadline. These include printed or typewritten text or art suitable for scanning. Hardcopy illustrations must be in the form of original photos or drawings. All material will be returned to the author on request.



Photocopied illustrations will not reproduce acceptably.

Questions?

If you have any questions or special requests, please contact the Editor:

Howard Allen
Editor, Alberta Palaeontological Society
7828 Hunterslea Crescent NW
Calgary, AB Canada T2K 4M2
h2allen@telusplanet.net (send all files/abstracts to this address)
Phone: (403) 862-3330

Lectures

Length and format

Presentations are scheduled for lengths of either 20 or 50 minutes followed by 10 minutes for questions and to change to the next speaker. You can present using either a **PowerPoint or PDF file**. If you plan to present using PowerPoint, **also bring a PDF copy** (just in case our PowerPoint version is not compatible). Your audience will range from members of the public (including families with young children) to avocational and professional palaeontologists. Please consider this when preparing your presentation.

For all speakers, please remember to submit an abstract for your talk. See [Abstract Guidelines](#) for details.

The deadline for all submissions is February 15, 2025.

Loading presentations

Either e-mail your presentation at least 1 day in advance (by March 14, 2025) to the Symposium Chair (symposium@albertapaleo.org) or bring your presentation on a USB stick to Jenkins Theatre. Morning presenters are requested to load their presentations before the first talk of the day (i.e., 8:30 – 8:55 am). Afternoon presenters can wait until the lunch break before the start of the afternoon session (12:00 – 12:55 pm).

Recording and broadcasting

Paleo 2025 will be a hybrid meeting with live and virtual speakers and audience members, broadcast using the APS Zoom Pro account to those that receive the link. Prior to the symposium, you will receive an email from the Technology & Website contact (eric.campbell@albertapaleo.org) with a form to indicate which of the following options you have chosen for your presentation:

1. Broadcast via Zoom **and** record my presentation
 - The talk will be uploaded to the APS YouTube channel for the general public to view anytime without cost at <https://youtube.com/@albertapaleo>
2. Broadcast via Zoom but do **not** record my presentation
3. Do **not** broadcast or share on internet at all

Promotion

To promote Paleo 2025, we will be contacting local radio and TV stations. Let the Symposium Chair (symposium@albertapaleo.org) know if you would like to be interviewed and provide when you are available and your cell phone number.

Posters and Displays

General information

A 5' wide by 6' high display panel will be supplied to each presenter (see image to right). Those with special requirements are asked to identify these requirements when submitting a request for space (see [Submission deadline and requirements](#)). Please notify the Posters & Displays Coordinator if you will need any of the following:

- Tables (8' by 4')
- Chairs
- Electricity (e.g., to operate a display)
- Additional display stands (e.g., for multiple or oversize posters)
- A larger display area
- Display cases (see [Display cases](#))

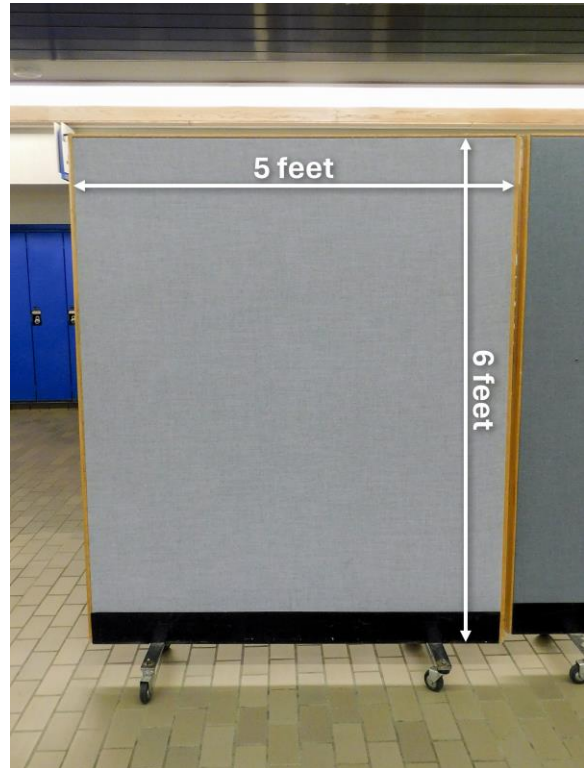
Contact the Posters & Displays Coordinator at posters@albertapaleo.org if you have any questions or additional requirements.

For displays that wish to and for **all posters**, please remember to submit an abstract for your presentation. See [Abstract Guidelines](#) for details.

The deadline for all submissions is February 15, 2025.

Event day information

- Please set up your poster or display by 8:30 am on Saturday, March 15
- Bring mounting materials such as Velcro fasteners (recommended), push pins, or tape, if possible
 - A limited supply will be provided but we strongly encourage presenters to provide their own materials to avoid issues
- Be available at your poster or display at least during the Posters & Displays Breakout Session from 2:00 – 3:00 pm for discussion about your exhibit



Display panel dimensions.

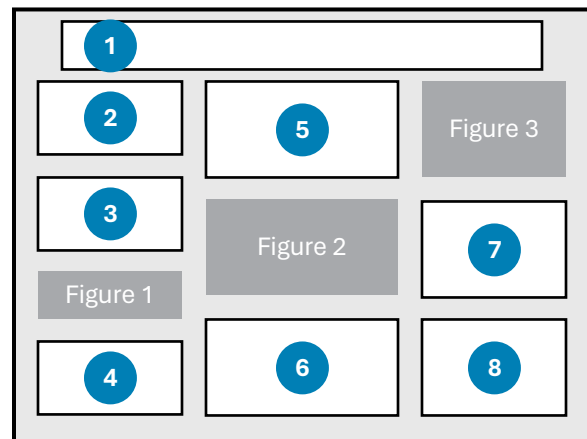
Poster guidelines

Any topic related to palaeontology can be considered for a poster. An effective written presentation is a poster presentation; both are mechanisms to convey past and recent developments in a field of study essential to the investigator. Anyone interested in sharing their work and receiving audience feedback should consider doing a poster.

The size and dimensions of a poster can vary. It can consist of individual letter size sheets to large format printing. It contains text and figures relevant to one's work. It follows the same pattern as any scientific article that appears in a journal.

One typical format is:

1. Title, author(s) and affiliation(s)
2. Abstract—summary and key findings
3. Introduction—background and purpose of investigation
4. General information/methods
5. Geographic and stratigraphic location where the fossils were found/results
6. Description and interpretation
7. Conclusions
8. Acknowledgements and references



Example poster format.

Dedicate a box to each one of the above categories. Within each box, include the text and figures relevant to that category. Number or order 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 may change from topic to topic.

Posters can be made manually or digitally. Drafting a poster by hand involves some manual labour but does not require computer access. Creating a poster on a computer can be done entirely with graphics and word processing software, open-source alternatives, or online graphic design websites. Either way, when designing a poster, think visually; use graphics and visuals to tell your story, supported by clear and concise text where needed.

A poster is typically viewed from 1–2 metres away—therefore the letter (or font) size must be large enough that the text can be easily read. Think about when the eye doctor wants you to read off the letter chart from a distance. Body text should be minimum 24 pt, headings slightly larger, and the main title clear from a reasonable distance. Also, figures should be reasonably large. Use colours purposefully; adding colours makes a difference to the poster and can, in fact, lure attendees to your poster or drive them away.

Display cases

A limited number of fossil display cabinets are available upon request. They are wood with a glass top and foam core liners, and come in three sizes. The measurements (all internal dimensions) are listed in the table and shown in the image below.

Please include requests for fossil display cabinets to the Posters & Displays Coordinator at posters@albertapaleo.org by the submission deadline.

Display case dimensions

Size	Width	Depth	Height	Sloping to
Small	27 ¼"	19 ¼"	7 ¾"	2 ¾"
Medium	28 ¾"	20 ¾"	10 ½"	4 ¼"
Large	30 ⅝"	22 ⅝"	11"	5 ½"

All measurements in inches. All internal dimensions.



Display case dimensions.