

Alberta Palaeontological Society



Paleo 2024

27th Annual Symposium

Lectures and Poster displays (Saturday, March 16, 2024, 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM)

1st Circular

The annual Alberta Palaeontological Society Symposium will be held in a virtual format and in person at Mount Royal University, Calgary.

Presented in conjunction with the C.E.G.A. Palaeontological Division,
Alberta Palaeontological Society and Mount Royal University Earth and
Environmental Sciences Department

Call for Posters and Abstracts

The Alberta Palaeontological Society (APS) would like to invite you to provide a poster at our Twenty Seventh Annual Palaeontological Symposium. This symposium will showcase presentations from a mix of avocational and professional palaeontologists from all over Western Canada. We are interested in posters on topics associated with palaeontology. Specific invitations have been given to staff and students of western universities, natural history clubs, the Geological Survey of Canada, museums and members of the petroleum industry and the artists' community. The aim is to showcase palaeontology to the general public and foster closer relations between the APS and the above groups. The event is free to all participants. There is no fee to submit a poster and abstract.

We plan to encourage families to bring fossils to our identification booth. Advertising for the event will go out to news media, Canadian Energy Geoscience Association's *Reservoir*, and our webpage.

The instructions for posters / displays

A 5 foot wide by 6 foot high display panel will be supplied to each presenter. Each presenter should bring stick pins or tape for attaching posters although we will try to have some on hand for those who forget. Those who have special requirements such as electricity to operate a display or a larger display area should identify these requirements upon submission of a request for space. Presenters are requested to provide an abstract as per instructions below. We request that posters be set up by 8:30 AM the day of the event. During the day a poster session period will be specified. Please be available at least during this time for discussion about your exhibit. The deadline for submission of request for poster space to posters@albertapaleo.org is February 15, 2024.

The Symposium

The symposium is a single-day event with lectures, poster and showcase displays on Saturday, March 16, 2024. The programs are free and open to the general public. No registration is required to attend. The main events will be centred in the lower level hall of the main building of the Mount Royal University.

Symposium Abstract Volume

As in past years an attractive symposium abstract volume will be published. It will be sold at a price to cover publication costs. We request that speakers and poster presenters submit abstracts or short papers for the publication to the editor at editor2@albertapaleo.org. Abstracts or short papers can be any length. Abstract contributors are encouraged to include photos and/or diagrams although it should be noted that the abstract volume will be printed in black and white, so images will be converted to greyscale by the editor. Documents will not be edited for content without consent of the authors, but will be reformatted and styled to fit the volume. Postal mail address (and email address if you wish) of the author(s) should be included. Deadline for submission of abstracts for publication is February 15, 2024. Specific instructions and examples can be downloaded from our website www.albertapaleo.org.

Further Information

Committee Chairperson (general inquiries):
Mona Trick, (587) 578-4579, symposium@albertapaleo.org

Lecture Program:
Lacey Holoboff, (403) 894-0698, programs1@albertapaleo.org

Posters and Displays:
Matthew Rhodes, (403) 336-0554, posters@albertapaleo.org

Advertising:
Mona Trick, (587) 578-4579, symposium@albertapaleo.org

Abstract Submissions:
Howard Allen (403) 862-3330, editor2@albertapaleo.org

About the Alberta Palaeontological Society

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. Alberta Palaeontological Society meetings are generally held on the third Friday of the month in Room B108 of the Main Building of Mount Royal University, in Calgary.

Some Helpful Hints

Definition:

A poster is a visual medium to express results of one's research work on a topic she or he 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 the work that she or he has done and who likes feedback from the audience (or attendees) on the 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?

Oral or written presentations are mechanisms to convey past and recent developments in a field of study that is 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 consist of individual letter size sheets to as large as 1.2 meters x 2.4 meters. 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:

- ♦ Title, Author(s), Affiliation
- ♦ Summary
- ♦ Introduction – Reasons behind the work
- ♦ General information
- ♦ Geographical location 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 that 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 may change from topic to topic.

How does one make a poster?

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 even 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.

How should the poster look?

The poster is typically viewed from 1 to 2 metres away, therefore the letter (or font) size must be large enough that the text can be easily read. Also, figures should be reasonably large. Think about when the eye doctor wants you to read off his letter chart from a distance. Adding colours makes a difference to the poster, and can in fact lure attendees to your poster or drive them away.

Have fun!