



# Archaeology Society of Alberta



LETHBRIDGE CENTRE MARCH 2018 ACTIVITY BULLETIN

## MONTHLY MEETING: JOSHUA READ

**WHO:** Joshua Read, Master's Candidate, University of Lethbridge

**WHAT:** *Defining Fur Trade Diet in Northern Alberta: An Examination of Faunal Remains from Fort Vermilion I*

**WHEN:** Tuesday, April 3, 2018, **6:30 pm meet & greet, 7 pm lecture**

**WHERE:** Theatre Room, Main Branch, Lethbridge Public Library

Life in the northern Canadian fur trade was often depicted as harsh and brutal, with starvation an ever-present threat in the struggle to not only survive, but to make a profit trapping and selling the furs of the animals that lived in these regions. Yet a closer look at historical journals written by fur traders and explorers suggests that food was not only available, it was so plentiful in some cases that both European and indigenous populations had the luxury of choice in what they ate. This talk will discuss the archaeological work performed at Fort Vermilion I, a northern fur trade post on the Peace River, specifically focussing on the faunal remains collected over the last 20 years of excavations.



The data analyzed over the last two years has revealed dietary signatures at Fort Vermilion I that correspond with the suggestion made by historical writers that choice played an important role in determining what was eaten at a fort.

Having a love for history and the thrill of exploration for as long as he can remember, Josh Read began his academic career in archaeology at Memorial University of Newfoundland in 2008, but ultimately finished his undergraduate degree at the University of Calgary in 2013. Josh was lucky to find a job as a consulting archaeologist the summer after graduation and worked in the CRM field for three years for various Calgary-based companies. He has experience surveying and excavating all over the province and is as comfortable analysing bone in a lab as he is slogging through muskeg down a pipeline right-of-way. Josh returned to academia to pursue an M.A. in archaeology under Dr. Shawn Bubel at the University of Lethbridge in 2016 and has discovered a new passion: fur trade archaeology. He is currently in the last month of his program, and will be applying to become a permit-holding archaeologist in the CRM field shortly after he completes his degree.



Contact the Lethbridge Centre via Jim McMurchy, 97 Eton Rd. W, Lethbridge, AB T1K 4T9. (Tel) 403.381.2655. (Email) [jnmc@telus.net](mailto:jnmc@telus.net) or [arky.lethbridge@gmail.com](mailto:arky.lethbridge@gmail.com). Check us out on Facebook!

## **Lethbridge Historic Society**

**WHO:** Dr. Carly Adams

**WHAT:** *Highlights of the Nikkei Memory Capture*

**WHEN:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 at 7pm

**WHERE:** Lethbridge Public Library, Main Branch



## **Calgary Centre**

**WHO:** Dr. Max Friesen, University of Toronto

**WHAT:** *Inuvialuit Architecture: The Archaeology of Cruciform Houses in the Mackenzie Delta*

**WHEN:** Wednesday, March 21, 2018 at 7:30 pm

**WHERE:** Room 121, ICT Building, University of Calgary

## **Upcoming Events:**

**Stones & Bones** – March 24/25, Frank Slide Interpretive Centre

**Writing-On-Stone** – April 14, tour of newly acquired lands & trial of recording methods for the summer

**ASA AGM & Conference** – April 26 – 29, Edmonton, see  
<http://arkyalberta.com/> for more info & link

**Fort Vermillion Field School** – June 2 – 30, contact Shawn Bubel  
([bubest@uleth.ca](mailto:bubest@uleth.ca)) for information about volunteering

**DIPI-1 Survey Continued** – July 7/8, threatened site, continue with surface collection, shovel tests & possibly test units



# 2018 Archaeological Society of Alberta Annual General Meeting

Hosted by the Archaeological Society of Alberta: Edmonton Centre

April 26-29, 2018

The Lodge Snow Valley, Edmonton, Alberta

Preliminary Conference Schedule:

Thursday:

Afternoon: Tour of Royal Alberta Museum Acheson warehouse

Evening: Meet and Greet and registration (location TBA)

Friday:

Day of talks (open call) at The Lodge Snow Valley; poster sessions

Public Lecture: Todd Kristensen (location TBA)

Saturday:

Invited speakers: Edmonton from Time Immemorial; poster sessions

Banquet at The Lodge Snow Valley

Keynote Speaker: TBA

Sunday:

Field Trips: walking tour of  
Downtown Edmonton, more TBA



Please submit poster and paper abstracts to [asa.agm.2018@gmail.com](mailto:asa.agm.2018@gmail.com)  
and go to [sites.google.com/view/2018asaconference](https://sites.google.com/view/2018asaconference) for more information!

Contact the Lethbridge Centre via Jim McMurchy, 97 Eton Rd. W, Lethbridge, AB T1K 4T9. (Tel) 403.381.2655. (Email) [jnmc@telus.net](mailto:jnmc@telus.net) or [arky.lethbridge@gmail.com](mailto:arky.lethbridge@gmail.com). Check us out on Facebook!