



# **Amiskwaciwâskahikan: Edmonton From Time Immemorial**

**2018 Archaeological Society of Alberta Annual  
General Meeting and Conference**  
The Lodge Snow Valley



April 26<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> 2018





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2018 ASA Annual General Meeting and Conference



The Archaeological Society of Alberta - Edmonton Centre and the 2018 Conference Committee recognize that we are located in ᑭᓲᓄᓄᓄᑦᑭᓄᑦ (Amiskwaciwâskahikan) on Treaty 6 territory, the territory of the Papaschase, and the homeland of the Métis Nation.

## **2018 ASA AGM CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

### **Chair**

Amandah van Merlin

### **Sponsors and Donations Co-ordinator**

Christina Poletto

### **Venue Co-ordinators**

Angela Green / Kathy Gadd

### **Submissions Co-ordinator**

Jennifer Hallson

### **Silent Auction Co-ordinator**

Sheila Macdonald

### **Volunteer Co-ordinator**

Angela Green

### **Grant Application Co-ordinators**

Jennifer Hallson / Amandah van Merlin

### **Program**

Jennifer Hallson / Christina Poletto / Robyn Crook / Alexandra Burchill

### **Webmaster**

Christina Poletto

Cover Photo courtesy of: Alwynne B. Beaudoin



## Amiskwaciwâskahikan: Edmonton From Time Immemorial 2018 ASA Annual General Meeting and Conference



### **LETTER OF WELCOME**

Welcome to Amiskwaciwâskahikan: Edmonton From Time Immemorial, the 2018 ASA Annual General Meeting and Conference.

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, I would like to personally welcome each of you to our conference featuring the deep history of what we now call Edmonton. This conference highlights a new and exciting time in archaeology in Canada and Alberta as we acknowledge the colonialist underpinnings of our chosen discipline and our society. Since the dissemination of the Truth and Reconciliation calls for action, our organization has aimed to bring more indigenous voices into the conversation regarding archaeology and heritage at this conference and into our future plans and endeavours. We hope that this is the start of many conversations and learning opportunities for our board and members.

I would like to thank each one of you for your participation in these conversations and this conference. Throughout this conference I hope that you can stay engaged and help shape the future of archaeology in Alberta. We could not do what we do without the participation and engagement of interested people. All my thanks and gratitude go out to you.

Sincerely,  
Amandah van Merlin; Chair of the 2018 ASA AGM and Conference

### **VOLUNTEER THANK YOU**

It has been a pleasure, and a tremendous learning experience, serving as the president of the Archaeological Society of Alberta: Edmonton Centre for the last 6 years. Over that time, we've seen significant change in our organization. We have grown in membership and activity, built connections with new institutions and organizations, and undertaken, new, exciting, and ambitious projects. All of this has required the work of a dedicated volunteer executive, and dozens more volunteers and engaged members. The 2018 Archaeological Society of Alberta Conference is a great example of this.

I would like to thank some specific individuals for their work. First, George Chalut deserves enormous credit for his role in maintaining the Strathcona Archaeological Society through the majority of the last 30 years. Without his dedication, the Edmonton Centre of the Archaeological Society of Alberta would almost certainly have ceased to exist. Kathy Gadd and Angela Green also deserve recognition for their long-term commitment to the roles of Secretary and Vice President, respectively.

Over the last few years, several other dedicated volunteers have joined our executive. Though there are too many to list them all, Madeline Coleman, Amandah van Merlin, Christina Poletto, Jennifer Hallson and Alexandra Burchill deserve recognition for their ongoing work. I also want to acknowledge the contributions made by Evert Poor, who joined our board to help us in our efforts towards Truth & Reconciliation and engagement with indigenous communities.

Every public talk, workshop, field trip, newsletter, or field project takes hours of planning, preparation and reporting. The events our members see are only the tip of an iceberg of effort. I hope that this conference marks the beginning of a new phase for the archaeology society in Edmonton, as we take on a larger role in the community. We have more big ideas and ambitious plans, and they're going to take the efforts of many more volunteers and members, just like you.

Thanks,  
Kurtis Blaikie-Birkigt; President, Archaeological Society of Alberta: Edmonton Centre, 2012-2018



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## SOCIAL EVENTS

### *Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup> 2018*

6:00-9:00 PM AGM AND CONFERENCE WELCOME RECEPTION AND REGISTRATION  
LOCATION: THE PROVINCIAL KITCHEN & BAR  
4211 106 St NW, EDMONTON, AB

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### *Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup> 2018*

6:00 PM PUBLIC LECTURE: ALBERTA'S ANCIENT MUD AND BLOOD AND THE PAST WE LIVE IN BY  
TODD KRISTENSEN  
RECEPTION WITH CASH BAR OPENS 6:0, LECTURE BEGINS AT 7:00  
LOCATION: TELUS CENTRE, UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA CAMPUS  
111 St 87 Ave NW, EDMONTON, AB

8:15 PM SOCIAL RECEPTION  
LOCATION: DEVANEY'S ON CAMPUS  
11113 87 Ave NW, EDMONTON, AB

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### *Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup> 2018*

5:30 PM RECEPTION & BANQUET  
KEYNOTE ADDRESS: GLIMPSES OF EARLY EDMONTON: ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES  
AT THE ROSSDALE SITE, 1999-PRESENT BY NANCY SAXBERG  
LOCATION: THE LODGE SNOW VALLEY  
13204 RAINBOW VALLEY ROAD

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### *Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup> 2018*

10:00 AM TOUR OF THE STRATHCONA SITE: FjPi-29  
LOCATION: STRATHCONA SCIENCE PARK  
8650 17 St NW, STRATHCONA COUNTY  
MEET ON SITE, MORE DETAILS TBA  
*Weather permitting*



## SCHEDULE: FRIDAY, APRIL 27<sup>th</sup>

8:30	<b>Registration Opens</b>
9:00	<b>Opening Remarks</b>
9:30-9:50	<b>Cabins and Coulees: Archaeological mysteries and historical myth surrounding the Métis hivernant experience in the Cypress Hills</b> Eric Tebby
9:50-10:10	<b>Lac én Long (Long Lake Settlement): Edmonton's Forgotten Métis Precursor</b> Dylan Reade
10:10-10:30	<b>Cultural Resource Management and Urban Planning – Examples from Edmonton, Alberta</b> Gareth Spicer
10:30-10:50	COFFEE BREAK
10:50-11:10	<b>Timing of post-glacial landscape stabilization and early human occupation in the Oil Sands region, northeastern Alberta, Canada</b> Robin Woywitka
11:10-11:30	<b>Exploring Palaeoenvironments in Mountainous Areas: Recovered Organics from a Receding Glacier</b> Diana Tirlea, Alwynne Beaudoin, Krista Williams, Richard Caners, Ashley Thorsen, Lisa Lumley, and Greg Horne
11:30-11:50	<b>Human - Landscape Dynamics in Northern Alberta during the Late Holocene: A View from Sharkbite Lake</b> Christina Poletto
11:50-1:00	LUNCH
1:00-1:20	<b>Results from the Brazeau Archaeological Project – 2015 and 2016</b> Madeline Coleman and Amandah van Merlin
1:20-1:40	<b>The Flood Mountain Research Project: Thoughts and Results from the 2017 season, aka What's Up with Early Prehistoric Sites near Grande Cache?</b> Margarita de Guzman, Kyle Belanger, Matt Rawluk, and Jode MacKay
1:40-2:00	<b>In Small Things Forgotten, Early Prehistoric Period Style-Microcosms from the Ahai Mneh Site (FiPp-33), near Lake Wabamun</b> John W. Ives
2:00-2:20	COFFEE BREAK
2:20-2:40	<b>Engagement through Education and Excavation: The University of Calgary's Youth Engagement Program at Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park</b> Kelsey Pennanen, Shalcey Dowkes, and Dale Walde
2:40-3:00	<b>The Need for Indigenous Archaeology in Alberta</b> Darryel R. Sowan
3:00-3:30	<b>Poster Session</b>
6:00	<b>Public Lecture &amp; events</b>



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**SCHEDULE: SATURDAY, APRIL 28<sup>th</sup>**

***EDMONTON FROM TIME IMMEMORIAL***

8:30	<b>Registration Opens</b>
9:10	<b>Welcome Address from ASA</b>
9:20-9:50	<b>Opening Dialogue – Indigenous relationships and archaeological findings</b> Elder Jerry Saddleback
9:50-10:00	<b>Questions</b>
10:00-10:30	<b>Before “Edmonton”: Mammoths, Mastodons, and other Ice Age Megafauna</b> Chris Jass
10:30-11:00	COFFEE BREAK
11:00-11:30	<b>The Rabbit Hill Site: Archaeological Evidence for Continuity in Precontact Occupation of the Edmonton Area</b> Caroline Hudecek-Cuffe and Kristine Fedyniuk
11:30-12:00	<b>Edmonton Now and Then: An Environmental History of Central Alberta</b> Alwynne Beaudoin
12:00-1:00	LUNCH
1:00-1:30	<b>The Strathcona Sites and Archaeology in Alberta: A Personal Retrospective</b> Gerry Oetelaar
1:30-2:00	<b>Glimpse at Lifeways through the Seasons in the Edmonton Area during the 1600-1800s</b> Alexandra Burchill, Corey Cookson, and Brittany Romano
2:00-2:30	COFFEE BREAK
2:30-3:00	<b>“Ghosting” the Métis presence in Edmonton in the XXth Century</b> Nathalie Kermoal
3:00-3:30	<b>Papaschase and First Nation Participation in Archaeology</b> Chief Calvin Bruneau
3:30-4:00	Poster Session
4:00-5:00	<b>ASA AGM and Elections</b> Flintknapping, atlatl, and other demonstrations (Outside)
6:30-11:00	<b>Reception &amp; Banquet</b>





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## SCHEDULE: EVENING OF SATURDAY, APRIL 28<sup>th</sup>

### RECEPTION & BANQUET

6:00	Doors open
7:00	Dinner
8:00	A History of the Strathcona Archaeological Society by Angela Green
8:20	Awards <i>Poster Award sponsored by the Association of Consulting Archaeologists</i>
8:30	Introduction of Keynote Speaker: Amandah van Merlin  Keynote Address: Nancy Saxberg, Wood Environment Infrastructure Solutions <b>Glimpses of Early Edmonton: Archaeological Discoveries at the Rossdale Site, 1999-present</b> This presentation will be an overview of archaeological investigations at the Rossdale site in the last 20 years with an emphasis on the challenges of working at the site and interpreting the fragmentary evidence. It will include stories from fieldwork as well as a discussion of what the archaeological materials tell us about Edmonton's history, particularly with respect to trade and industry.

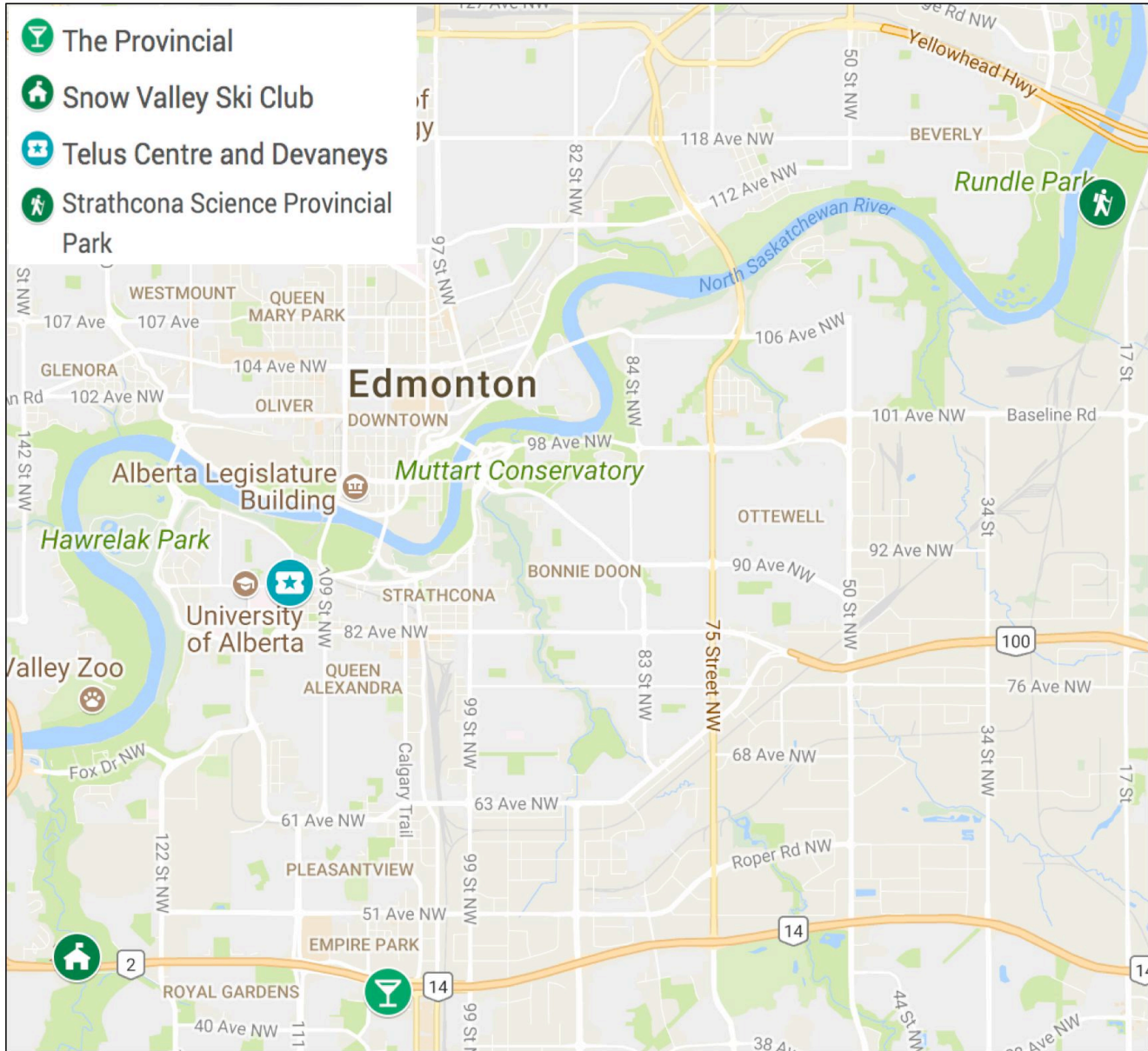


Archaeological Society of Alberta

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## MAP OF CONFERENCE VENUES







## ABSTRACTS

Allan, Timothy E.<sup>1</sup> and Rhy McMillan<sup>2</sup>

*1 University of British Columbia and 2 Pacific Centre of Isotope and Geochemical Research, University of British Columbia*

### **What 'works' and what doesn't: A multi-proxy approach to the sourcing of worked stone from the Hummingbird Creek Site (FaPx-1), Alberta Rocky Mountains [Poster]**

The Hummingbird Creek site (FaPx-1) is a pre-contact hunting camp on a high terrace above the South Ram River in Alberta's Rocky Mountains. Cultural occupations have been radiocarbon dated to between 1,010 and 2,450 years before present (BP). The stone production debris (debitage) and stone tools were primarily derived from dark grey to black cryptocrystalline material, similar in appearance to regionally available chert. Geochemical methods of associating artifacts with procurement areas are fairly common in archaeology, especially with the use of portable X-Ray fluorescence (pXRF) to determine trace element concentrations in obsidian (Shackley 2008). However, several studies have been unsuccessful in differentiating chert varieties using elemental concentrations alone (Kendall and MacDonald 2015; ten Bruggencate et al. 2016). Raman spectroscopy is a non-destructive analytical method for determining mineralogical and structural properties of artifacts and samples and has been successful in associating artifacts with procurement areas (Bonjean et al 2015; Carter et al. 2010). Using Raman spectroscopy, we can determine a sample's major mineral components, crystal order and structure, as well as the conditions of diagenesis the sample underwent during their formation (Beysac et al. 2002). Here, we use both geochemical and mineralogical/structural analytical techniques to determine if the inhabitants of FaPx-1 utilized local rock (South Ram) to make their tools, or visited a source of chert 45 km away (Pineneedle Creek) to make their tools.

Beaudoin, Alwynne

*Royal Alberta Museum*

### **Edmonton Now and Then: An Environmental History of Central Alberta [Saturday Podium]**

From a viewpoint on the edge of the North Saskatchewan valley in Edmonton, you can stand and visualise the entire sweep of postglacial environmental history. Forests and grasslands, tundra and lakes, ice sheets and ash, fires and floods. Through the millennia, climate, vegetation, and landscape have changed significantly, offering differing opportunities and challenges for human occupants. We'll examine the broad sweep of central Alberta's postglacial environmental history, reading the landscape as a place where people have lived for at least ten thousand years.



Chief Calvin Bruneau  
*Papaschase Band*

**Papaschase and First Nation Participation in Archaeology [Saturday Podium]**

Chief Calvin Bruneau will speak about his experiences with archaeology and historical resource management, including:

- Southside burials and Rossdale burial site
- Hearings and Repatriation Process
- Fort Edmonton/Traditional Burial Ground Monument and Bridge Replacement
- Lack of Consultation and Bridge Replacement Protest
- Site Monitoring and Archeological Excavations in Edmonton's River Valley
- The Future of Archeological Work in Edmonton and the River Valley

Burchill, Alexandra<sup>1</sup>, Corey Cookson<sup>2</sup>, and Brittany Romano<sup>2</sup>  
*Archaeological Survey of Alberta and 2 Tree Time Services Inc*

**Glimpse at Lifeways through the Seasons in the Edmonton Area during the 1600-1800s [Saturday Podium]**

The Edmonton river valley has been continuously occupied for thousands of years with Alberta's early peoples making their seasonal rounds through the well-resourced and protective Parkland environment. The evidence of this seasonal round can be found in the earth of archaeological sites, the pages of historical texts, and the words of Indigenous Elders. From these sources we can imagine: Heavy resource gathering in the fall months east of Edmonton with bison pounds set up in strategic locations; The movement of people into the sheltered river valleys of the North Saskatchewan River when winter temperatures dropped; The use of canoes once the ice broke-up to travel to traditional hunting areas and fur trade posts; The harvest of plentiful wild fruits and vegetables in the summer months; The impact on Indigenous lifeways from the influx of European goods and technology from Eastern Canada. This presentation will explore how people interacted with the seasons and the changes that were taking place in the Edmonton area during the 1600 to 1800s.

Coleman, Madeline<sup>1</sup> and Amandah van Merlin<sup>2</sup>

*1. Tree Time Services Inc. and 2. Archaeological Society of Alberta – Edmonton Centre*

**Results from the Brazeau Archaeological Project – 2015 and 2016 [Friday Podium]**

The Archaeological Society of Alberta – Edmonton Centre has been conducting a volunteer survey project at the Brazeau Reservoir since 2015. The survey has resulted in the identification of five new archaeological sites around the reservoir, and finds that span from the time of the Ice Free Corridor to Middle to Early Precontact transition. Results of the 2015 and 2016 surveys have been analyzed together and the results are presented here.

de Guzman, Margarita, Kyle Belanger, Matt Rawluk, and Jode MacKay  
*Circle CRM Group Inc.*

**The Flood Mountain Research Project: Thoughts and Results from the 2017 season, aka What's Up with Early Prehistoric Sites near Grande Cache? [Friday Podium]**

The Flood Mountain Site (FIQs-35) was identified in 2016 during an HRIA of a proposed forestry cut block for Foothills Forest Products (FFP) near Grande Cache, Alberta. A broken projectile point was



recovered during subsurface testing, bearing typological similarities to Goshen and Charlie Lake points found elsewhere in Alberta. As such, preliminary typological analysis has dated the early occupation at Flood Mountain to the Early Prehistoric Period. Given the rarity of such finds and site types in this region, further research was proposed, to expand our understanding of the Early Prehistoric Period of the area. In 2017, extensive shovel testing and exploratory excavations were conducted, to further delineate site boundaries and understand occupation and activities at FIQs-35. These research results are presented here, as well as some preliminary thoughts on answering some future research questions.

Dumont, Mariposa

*Simon Fraser University*

**Niitsitapi (Blackfoot) Place as Reflected in the Storied Landscape of Southern Alberta [Poster]**

Indigenous people in the past and present have a connection with the land. Previous work by ethnographers and archaeologists have claimed that Plains First Nations were hunter gatherer types who travelled around with no attachment to the land. The Blackfoot or Niitsitapi have asserted that, “[o]ur people knew the places where different plants grew and where game was plentiful. Their lives were nomadic, and their movements were not aimless: they always travelled with a purpose” (Glenbow Museum 2001:5). Blackfoot use of land and their relationship to the land is interwoven into their culture, which is evident, either through intentional or unintentional modification of the landscape, including natural sites of sacred importance. The Blackfoot made observations on the interactions of animals, plants and the environment that has been translated into sacred spaces onto the landscape. For my poster, I will explore the Blackfoot worldview of the physical and the spiritual world that is expressed onto the landscape as a narrative. These expressions of place are interpreted into oral traditions, traditional knowledge and sacred sites. Place names and stories were used as mnemonic tools to record history, track resources, record traditions, share codes of behavior, map landmarks, to convey territorial markers, and hold knowledge of the landscape’s ecology. The Blackfoot have a collective signature written into their surroundings as evidenced by the many place names, sites and features. The Blackfoot have a defined idea of their place in the world and this is reflected within the storied landscape of Southern Alberta.

Fisher, Dale

*University of Alberta*

**The Heat Treatment of Beaver River Sandstone: Macroscopic Observations and Economic Implications of a Prehistoric Toolstone [Poster]**

This research provides a synthesis of the observable results of heat treatment on stone, and subsequently describes heat treatment experiments and observations on Beaver River Sandstone (BRS), a toolstone from northeastern Alberta. The results of this research are not only applicable to BRS, but to a wide range of lithic materials used throughout Alberta. It has been suggested that Beaver River Sandstone was heat treated by prehistoric First Nations because it often occurs in a fine-grained artifact form that is not found naturally but is replicable when heated from 300-425°C. BRS is more amenable to both pressure and percussion flaking when it is heated and exhibits many of the macroscopic signatures of heat treatment. Currently, there is no agreed upon method to identify heat treated BRS artifacts in the archaeological record. Thus, it is important that the macroscopic “landmarks” of heat treatment be understood and that a quantifiable way of identifying heat treated BRS artifacts be developed. In addition, the economic implications of heat treating BRS have been assumed to follow



the same principles as that of other raw materials. My experiments and additional research has demonstrated that the heat treatment of raw stone materials is variable and based upon a number of criteria. This means that a developed understanding of BRS as a raw material is essential to understanding its prehistoric use and artifact form and that archaeologists should consider each raw material unique and subject to different processes, clearly understood by its prehistoric users.

Gadd, Kathy  
*University of Alberta*

**Archaeology and Heritage Potential in the Leduc County Annexation Area [Poster]**

In June of 2017, the City of Edmonton signed an annexation agreement with Leduc County for the land between the south edge of the current city limits and the north edge of the airport, between the North Saskatchewan River and Highway 2. This project aimed to show through heritage potential modelling techniques applied in GIS where areas of a high potential of heritage concerns might be before developments begin.

Gillies, Brynne and Timothy E. Allan  
*University of British Columbia*

**Meat and Mobility: Faunal Analysis of the Hummingbird Creek Archaeological Site (FaPx-1), Alberta Rocky Mountains [Poster]**

The Hummingbird Creek Site (FaPx-1) is a sub-alpine archaeological site in the central Rocky Mountains of Alberta, Canada. The site was discovered in 2009 by the Archaeological Survey of Alberta, on a high terrace above the South Ram River, near its confluence with the Hummingbird Creek. Initially several stratified occupations were identified, separated by a deposit of Bridge River tephra, dating to 2,360 years before present (BP) (Clague et al. 1996), giving the site excellent chronological control. FaPx-1 also yielded hundreds of pieces of lithic debris, stone tools, and animal remains. The material culture was recovered from three distinct occupations (D, E and G). The inhabitants of FaPx-1 would have had a commanding view of the South Ram valley, which because of Onion Peak, makes this area one of the few passes into the alpine region to the west. Given the density of material culture, and the excellent chronological control, FaPx-1 represents an important opportunity to make inferences on hunter-gatherer behavior in the past. This poster will be an analysis of the faunal remains from FaPx-1 to identify the species selected for by hunter-gatherers, and to interpret the activities that occurred there.

Ives, John W.  
*Institute of Prairie Archaeology, University of Alberta*

**In Small Things Forgotten, Early Prehistoric Period Style-Microcosms from the Ahai Mneh Site (FiPp-33), near Lake Wabamun [Friday Podium]**

While it is often the case that spectacular artifacts in collections dominate our perceptions, it is sometimes true that small and unusual artifacts can take on a consuming interest if we pay them adequate attention. University of Alberta field school activities at Ahai Mneh (FiPp-33), on TransAlta's lease near Lake Wabamun revealed a lower-lying Early Prehistoric or Paleoindian period component, aspects of which were present in surface collections from an adjacent cultivated field. Three enigmatic and initially unprepossessing artifacts from Ahai Mneh actually have fascinating stories to tell if we are willing to delve into the microcosm of human decisions for which they still preserve traces. These



examples include a failed effort at making a fluted point, an unusual Hell Gap-like point, and a fractured Alberta point base.

Hudecek-Cuffe, Caroline<sup>1</sup> and Kristina Fedyniuk<sup>2</sup>

*1 Archaeological Survey of Alberta and 2 Royal Alberta Museum*

**The Rabbit Hill Site: Archaeological evidence for Continuity in Precontact Occupation of the Edmonton Area [Saturday Podium]**

The Cree name for Edmonton, *Otinow*, means a place where everyone came, and this description is certainly an accurate reflection of this area during the fur trade era. Archaeological evidence, however, indicates that Indigenous peoples used this area along the North Saskatchewan River, not only in the 1700s and 1800s after the establishment of major North West Company and the Hudson's Bay Company fur trade posts, but also considerably earlier, for more than 5000 years.

This presentation will review some of the key archaeological evidence from the Rabbit Hill site and other archaeological locations in the Edmonton area that points to a long consistent pattern of Indigenous hunting, camping, and utilization of the diverse resources offered by the creeks, hills, and river valley in the Edmonton region.

Jass, Christopher N.

*Royal Alberta Museum*

**Before "Edmonton": Mammoths, Mastodons, and other Ice Age Megafauna [Saturday Podium]**

The Quaternary fossil record of the Edmonton area indicates that the region has a rich, diverse megafauna both before and after the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM). Pre-LGM faunas include records that extend beyond the capabilities of radiocarbon dating (~45,000 yr BP) and have been largely interpreted as being of late Quaternary age. Occasional records (e.g., giant camel) hint at significantly earlier time frames (early or middle Pleistocene) for some recovered remains. Analysis of fossil remains at a coarse chronologic scale indicate Pre-LGM assemblages were fundamentally different from post-LGM faunas, with horses likely dominating landscapes in and around what is now Edmonton. Pre-LGM faunas of the Edmonton area also suggest the possibility of extirpation of some taxa well in advance of the hypothesized arrival of humans in the region. Post-LGM fauna indicate a shift to landscapes dominated by Bison and provide insight into the timing of extinction of late Pleistocene megafauna in North America.

Jungkind, Kendra

*University of Alberta*

**Vogel's in Mill Creek Ravine: Faunal Analysis of a Meat-Packing Plant from the Turn of the 20th Century [Poster]**

In the summer of 2017, excavations at FjPi-173 in Mill Creek ravine as part of the Mill Creek Historical Archaeology Project (MCHAP) uncovered extensive faunal remains associated with Vogel's, a meat-packing plant that operated there for about a decade near the beginning of the 20th century. The excavation was a joint effort between Haeden Stewart (PhD candidate at University of Chicago) and a field school run by Dr. Katie Biittner through Grant MacEwan University. After a series of shovel tests several units of varying sizes were opened in an artificially maintained clearing and a wooded area on the western bank of the stream. The vast majority of faunal remains were discovered in Unit 3, a 1m x 2m unit in the wooded area, which appears to have been a refuse pit.





Excavations in all units followed a combination of arbitrary and natural layers, and bottles recovered from Unit 3 indicate that each of the levels there with the highest concentration of faunal remains represent approximately 4 years of use. Volunteers at the University of Alberta have been analyzing the remains since autumn 2017. These remains consist primarily of complete or nearly complete lower limb elements and fragmentary cranial and mandible elements including teeth. The bulk of the material is cattle, many of which are unusually large sub-adults, but there is also a strong representation of pig, sheep and goat. Investigation of the size, age and species demographics at the site allows for a better understanding of the operations at Vogel's.

Kermoal, Nathalie  
*University of Alberta*

**“Ghosting” the Métis Presence in Edmonton in the XXth Century [Saturday Podium]**

The history of Edmonton is closely intertwined with Fur trade history and Métis history. It emphasizes a strong Métis presence around Fort Edmonton and along the Saskatchewan river. The labour the Métis provided was central to the economic dynamism of the region: they fished, they hunted the buffalo, prepared the robes and the pemmican for trade, they freighted and tended the gardens and the horses. Overall, they helped feed the Fort and the mission and the prosperity of Edmonton depended greatly on their labour. By the second part of the XIXth century, Métis realities started to change, in some cases dramatically as they lost their lands (i.e., the troubles in Batoche and the hanging of Louis Riel in 1885) and their presence started slowly to disappear from the city narratives. With time, they are “placed in the past and used as anti-modern metaphors” (Thrush 2016: 114). While the Métis presence can only be glimpsed through archival sources, what can we learn about the people who decided to live in the city of Edmonton in the XXth century? What can be discovered about residents who lived their lives away from public view and of people that were for the most part viewed negatively due to stigmas based on racism and stereotypes at the time? In my communication, I will analyze the urban displacement Métis people endured in the city of Edmonton at a time when shantytowns-where Indigenous families lived-became the target of urban developers, architects, promoters and health practitioners.

Kristensen, Todd  
*Archaeological Survey of Alberta, University of Alberta*

**Alberta's Ancient Mud and Blood and the Past We Live In [Friday Night Public Lecture]**

Deep in Alberta's past are a thousand stories filled with danger, beauty, and triumph. Archaeologists, historians, geologists, and palaeontologists piece together old events using interesting science and insight. But how do we share the past? Traditional textbooks and research articles give important information but can fail to share the drama of an ancient time. The Heritage Art Series is a collection of images of Alberta's past paired with stories that blend science, art, and archaeology to explain how those scenes shaped the land around us and its people. This is storytelling meant to be as colourful as the events themselves.

Kurzybov, Petr  
*Western Heritage*

**A Unique Stone Adze Discovery in Northwestern Alberta [Poster]**

Diagnostic artifacts such as lithic tools are rarely recovered from archaeological sites in the boreal forest, with non-diagnostic lithic flakes tending to be more common. This characteristic, combined with



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the low abundance of preserved organic materials available for chronometric dating, frequently limits the interpretation of sites in northern Alberta. Another effect is that the few potentially diagnostic tools that are recovered may have had little previous study and therefore minimal archaeological, temporal, or regional contexts in which to interpret them.

The discovery of a stone adze in Alberta's boreal forest represents one such find. The artifact was recovered from a high terrace overlooking the Losegun River to the southwest of Fox Creek in northwestern Alberta. The adze measures over 20 cm in length and is fashioned from a large quartzite cobble spall completely covered in cortex on its ventral surface. This lithic tool exhibits unique morphological traits, and similar-looking artifacts from lithic assemblages in northern Alberta are currently unknown. The closest analogies to this adze appear to be Eldon unifaces, which are flaked stone tools that are unique to the Canadian Plains (primarily central Alberta and Saskatchewan) and thought to date to the Early to Middle Precontact Period (7,500-4,500 years BP). In this presentation, we interpret the spatio-temporal setting of this unique adze within the context of previous archaeological work, site stratigraphy, and the boreal forest landscape.

Oetelaar, Gerry

*University of Calgary*

**The Strathcona Sites and Archaeology in Alberta: A Personal Retrospective [Saturday Podium]**

From personal, academic and historical perspectives, the Strathcona site encapsulates the depth and continuity of occupation in the Edmonton area. My journey toward a career in archaeology began as an undergraduate student in the Department of Archaeology at the University of Calgary in 1972 and my first field experience included an archeological survey in the Beaver Hills. However, my career as an archaeologist started as a field school instructor at the Strathcona Site, a place along the North Saskatchewan River in Edmonton with evidence of repeated human occupation for some 5,000 years. During the preparation of the report at the end of my first field season, I realized that I was one of several archaeologists who had worked at the site including a number of individuals whose careers were launched as a result of their association with the site. Even though the site and its contents have been subjected to disparaging remarks, the majority of the archaeologists who worked at the site enthusiastically implemented novel research designs in their attempts to address a remarkable range of objectives. I propose to review these research questions in light of theoretical developments in the discipline and to identify some of these issues that continue to sustain my interest some thirty years later.

The Strathcona site also has the distinction of being the birthplace of public archaeology in Alberta. As part of one, if not, the critical module within the newly established Strathcona Science Park, the archaeological research at the Strathcona site was not only designed to serve as a training ground for the next generation of archaeologists but also as a place to help increase public awareness of and involvement in archaeology. To achieve these goals, visitors to the park were offered the opportunity to witness the progress of an actual archaeological investigation, to ask questions of those who were conducting the work, and to participate in the excavation of the site. Given the nature and success of this initiative, I incorporated and developed similar public programs in all of my subsequent research projects including a SSHRC-funded Major Collaborative Research Initiative project which culminated in the very successful 'History in the Hills' program. In fact, my introduction to and involvement with the Volunteer Programme at Strathcona Science Park laid the ground work for my



current research dealing with the archaeological imprint of Blackfoot oral traditions on the landscape of the northwestern Plains.

Pennanen, Kelsey, Shalcey Dowkes, and Dale Walde

*University of Calgary*

**Engagement through Education and Excavation: The University of Calgary's Youth Engagement Program at Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park [Friday Podium]**

Through funding provided by the Archaeological Society of Alberta (Calgary Centre), the University of Calgary's Public Archaeology Program was established in 2014 at the Cluny Fortified Village site (EePf-1) at Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park. Soon after, a need was identified to engage local First Nations youth in a meaningful way, and the opportunity was seen to provide an enriched educational experience by creating a program that allowed students to participate in the archaeological excavations. Through funding provided by The Calgary Foundation, the Aboriginal Youth Engagement Program was established in 2016 aiming to create an outreach program that allowed an avenue for First Nations students' participation. The program consists of two elements; the first being classroom-based activities aligned with the core pillars of the Alberta Curriculum that use the unique medium of archaeological methods to meet learning objectives applied to concepts addressing mathematics, science, language skills, and social science. The second element includes two full days of participation at the ongoing archaeological excavations at the Cluny Fortified Village site. This applies the skills and methods learned through the practical application of archaeological field techniques. This presentation will outline an overview of the newest public outreach program hosted through the University of Calgary's Program for Public Archaeology and plans for the 2018 field season.

Poletto, Christina

*University of Alberta*

**Human - Landscape Dynamics in Northern Alberta during the Late Holocene: A View from Sharkbite Lake [Friday Podium]**

Within the Mineable Oil Sands Region (MOSR) and the greater northeastern Boreal Forest, archaeological investigations since the 1970s have resulted in the discovery of hundreds of sites relating to almost 10,000 years of human occupation. However, the archaeological record is usually limited to stone tools situated in poorly stratified sites, often lacking independent chronologic control. With this limited record, the analysis of supplementary records, such as lake sediment cores, becomes valuable in framing past and future CRM work, and the human history in the region. The analysis of a sediment core from Sharkbite Lake fills a gap in the late Holocene – the only high-resolution palaeoenvironmental record during this time in the Athabasca River Valley (base date of 3320 +/- 15 rcybp) - and informs the local scale environmental changes that affected First Nations living in the area. The results from the pollen, microcharcoal, and botanical analysis of Sharkbite Lake help demonstrate how the ecological history adds to the narrative of the archaeological record. Comparison of the environmental record to dated archaeological sites allows for a better understanding of the dynamics that influences First Nation communities, and the relationship between the landscape and the communities in the region.



Reade, Dylan  
*No affiliation*

**Lac én Long (Long Lake Settlement): Edmonton's Forgotten Métis Precursor [Friday Podium]**

Lac én Long (Long Lake / Kinokamau) is an extinct three kilometre long body of water formerly situated in northwest Edmonton, drained away in the early twentieth century to provide an unobstructed path for the Canadian Northern Railway. In consideration of early fur trade history and of pre-colonial settlement — and for multiple reasons — it is perhaps the most significant historical site in Edmonton outside of its original forts.

Long Lake and surrounding environs were of paramount importance to the Hudson's Bay Company, almost from the time that palisades were first raised at Fort Edmonton. It was a principal year-round satellite of the Fort from the 1820s to the mid-1880s: a primary source of boat and building construction material in the winter; a primary source of hay in the summer; and from the early 1820s it served almost continuously as the location of the Fort Edmonton (Small) Horse Guard.

From encampments in the 1820s to seasonal sawyer's tents and shanties in the 1850s to log homes in the 1860s, the lake gave rise to an established population which by the 1870s was to rival that of Fort Edmonton. Those who settled around the lake in the 1860s would prove to be of enormous consequence, a primal Big Bang of community that would fuel and reconfigure the evolution of Edmonton Settlement, ten kilometres to the south east, in the following decade.

Evidence presented through archival primary sources, maps and photographs serves to reconstruct the story of Edmonton's overlooked precursor.

Elder Jerry Saddleback  
*Samson Cree Nation*

**Indigenous relationships and archaeological findings [Saturday Podium]**

This presentation will include a brief introduction to Cree worldviews and the Long Story, the history of colonialism, where we are now, and how we can move forward as neighbor nations. The discussion may challenge some archaeological theories, but lends itself to discussions of having mutual respect for each other's ways of knowing about the past.

Saxberg, Nancy  
*Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions*

**Glimpses of Early Edmonton: Archaeological Discoveries at the Rossdale Site, 1999-present [Saturday Keynote]**

This presentation will be an overview of archaeological investigations at the Rossdale site in the last 20 years with an emphasis on the challenges of working at the site and interpreting the fragmentary evidence. It will include stories from fieldwork as well as a discussion of what the archaeological materials tell us about Edmonton's history, particularly with respect to trade and industry.

Sowan, Darryel R.  
*Askip Napew Consulting and Swan River First Nation*

**The Need for Indigenous Archaeology in Alberta [Friday Podium]**

Archaeology has been developing and progressing in Alberta primarily since the 1970's after the development and implementation of the province of Alberta's Historical Resource Management Act. The Act did not or has not since addressed the implementation of First Nation Treat Rights. However,



the act is used to somewhat oversee and control the development of resources in the 5 Treaty areas that cover Alberta. This development in turn has affected where and how First Nations have used the land. I propose that with the development of Archaeology by First Nation communities in Alberta, an increased ability to control and implement resource development by Nations themselves can be achieved through the development of Indigenous Archaeology.

Spicer, Gareth

*Turtle Island Cultural Resource Management Inc.*

**Cultural Resource Management and Urban Planning – Examples from Edmonton, Alberta  
[Friday Podium]**

In Edmonton, as elsewhere in Alberta, cultural resource management work carried out on behalf of the community is undertaken by private consultants triggered by development within a regulatory environment facilitated through the authority of government regulation. Consequently, the value of this work is reliant upon the effective intersection of these three components.

Through the discussion of two case studies, this presentation will illustrate examples of this intersection in regard to archaeology at the Groat Road Bridges Rehabilitation and Interchange Project and for indigenous engagement at the Walterdale Bridge Replacement Project. Based upon this discussion, I will provide examples of subsequent City of Edmonton projects employing methods and procedures which have been informed by these case studies.

The positive cultural resource management outcomes associated with the Walterdale and Groat Road Projects have served to illustrate the value of alignment between proponents, cultural resource practitioners, and government regulators. I will suggest that the continued application of planning methods and procedures informed by these projects support this claim.

Stewart, Peter

*Western Heritage*

**The Identification of a Potential “Invisible” Burn Feature at FIPf-62 Using Magnetic Susceptibility [Poster]**

When conducting an HRIA or controlled excavation, archaeologists may encounter indicators that a hearth feature should be present (e.g., FCR, calcined bone, potlidded artifacts); however, there is no visual evidence to support this claim. Rather than inferring the presence of a hearth feature based the kinds of artifacts that have been collected, Western Heritage has been collecting magnetic susceptibility readings from the soils in and around suspected hearth areas in order to develop a more objective means of identifying potential hearths in the absence of any visual evidence.

Magnetic susceptibility measurements are of interest to archaeologists because they can document mineral changes induced by burning or during soil formation (i.e., due to these processes, magnetic susceptibility values will be elevated relative to the values for sediments that have not undergone these processes). Therefore, magnetic susceptibility can be used to identify former land surfaces and sediments associated with cultural activity, particularly repeated and focused burning events, as in a hearth.

During the 2017 field season, 73 magnetic susceptibility readings were taken from a 2 m x 2 m excavation block at FIPf-62. By measuring the magnetic susceptibility of the soil at regular intervals it was possible to identify a spike in magnetic susceptibility readings at the same depth as suspected heat altered artifacts, suggesting a hearth may have been present at one time.





Sutherland, Erika<sup>1</sup> and Krista Leddy<sup>2</sup>

*1 University of Alberta and 2 Michif Cultural Connections*

**Footprints Across Time: Moccasins in Alberta and Beyond [Poster]**

Moccasins are unique artefacts that serve as essential practical footwear while simultaneously signalling cultural affinity. Indigenous communities across Canada have rich histories associated with the type of moccasin they make and decoration they choose. Craftspeople imbue each moccasin with a signature that is defined by their relationship with the wearer, personal talent and the deep history of the method passed down through the generations.

This poster represents collaborative work that looks at moccasin techniques and styles that are taught in the Métis community of St. Albert, Alberta. We look at the history of a specific moccasin style in Alberta and how the tradition is taught today. In turn, we assess what insights may be used to evaluate a collection of 13th century moccasins from northern Utah that were made in the same pattern as these modern moccasins. How does the style of moccasin that is made today compare to the moccasins that are over 7 centuries old? What can archaeologists learn about a migratory hunter-gatherer culture from discarded footwear? And what can Albertans learn about themselves from a tradition that has been passed down from time immemorial?

Tebby, Eric

*University of Alberta*

**Cabins and Coulees: Archaeological mysteries and historical myth surrounding the Métis hivernant experience in the Cypress Hills [Friday Podium]**

Now known as Chimney Coulee (DjOe-6), this site is situated amongst the multitude of wooded valleys on the eastern slopes of the Cypress Hills. The history surrounding the site is most widely known for the temporary trading activities of Hudson's Bay Company trader Isaac Cowie in the winter of 1871-1872 and later as the North West Mounted Police post of East End occupied in the late 1870s. Known but seldom discussed are the Métis hivernant families who lived at this site during the 1870s and 1880s. An archaeological investigation was conducted in August and September 2017 on a Métis cabin at this site north of the town of Eastend, Saskatchewan. This project has been successful due in part of the overwhelming support of curious locals and enthusiastic volunteers from across three provinces. The focus of this ongoing research has been to shed light on the cultural and domestic experience of the Métis and compare results alongside the limited examples of hivernant cabins in the Canadian West. In attempting to contextualize the site and its occupants, historic research has helped to greatly enhance the cultural remains and give new meaning to this site. The written history of the area is proving to be both supportive and contradicting of the archaeological evidence while also seemingly wrapped together in local history and myth. Analysis on the artifacts continues and the multitude of new stories and intrigue on this site continue to be revealed in this iconic historic site.

Tremain, Devon and Timothy E. Allan

*University of British Columbia*

**Comparing and Contrasting: Lithic Analysis of an Assemblage from the Hummingbird Creek Archaeological Site (FaPx-1), Alberta Rocky Mountains [Poster]**

FaPx-1 is a pre-contact archaeological site located in the Rocky Mountains of Alberta. The site was discovered in 2009 by the Archaeological Survey of Alberta, revisited and excavated in 2011, 2012 and



2017. The site is located on a high terrace above the confluence of the South Ram River and Hummingbird Creek, with commanding views over the South Ram River Valley. Nearly 1,400 stone artifacts were recovered from the site in three distinct occupations. These occupations were dated to approximately 1,000 (level D), 2,350 (level E) and 2,450 (level G) years before present (BP). The level E and level G occupations are separated by a deposit of Bridge River tephra, accurately dated to 2,360 years ago (Clague et al. 1995); the tephra deposited into a slight depression along the terrace, presumed to be a remnant stream-bed. Most of these artifacts are debitage, or the by-products of the production of stone tools. Previous research has indicated that the platform, or the site of impact on the parent rock piece, can be diagnostic of stage it was produced (Hayden and Hutchings 1989; Pokotylo 1978). A representation of one stage over another can be informative of the activities ancient indigenous people undertook while inhabiting FaPx-1. With this information, we can address whether the inhabitants of FaPx-1 were producing new tools from scratch at the site; bringing prepared pieces which were then finished there; or if either of these activities changed through time. These aspects can help reconstruct ancient hunter-gatherer lifeways and provide detailed information in an area of little archaeological research.

Tirlea, Diana<sup>1</sup>, Alwynne Beaudoin<sup>1</sup>, Krista Williams<sup>1,2</sup>, Richard Caners<sup>1</sup>, Ashley Thorsen<sup>1,2</sup>, Lisa Lumley<sup>1,2</sup>, and Greg Horne<sup>3</sup>

*1 Royal Alberta Museum, 2 Alberta Biodiversity Monitoring Institute, and 3 Parks Canada*

### **Exploring Palaeoenvironments in Mountainous Areas: Recovered Organics from a Receding Glacier [Friday Podium]**

Landscape reconstruction provides valuable information about past local and regional vegetation and historical uses of its natural resources. As glaciers recede over time there is a potential to sample exposed organic material for reconstructing past landscapes. However, in Alberta it is uncommon to recover material from glaciers and ice patches suitable for macrofossil and pollen analysis. With changes in climate, these features are rapidly receding and melting globally, potentially resulting in exposed organic material quickly deteriorating once out of the ice. Therefore, there is urgency to sample and survey glaciers and ice patches, before these potential sources of information disappear.

Woywitka, Robin

*Archaeological Survey of Alberta and University of Alberta*

### **Timing of post-glacial landscape stabilization and early human occupation in the Oil Sands region, northeastern Alberta, Canada [Friday Podium]**

The mineable oil sands region of northeastern Alberta contains one of the highest concentrations of prehistoric archaeological sites in the boreal forests of western Canada. This is due to the presence of abundant sources of a lithic raw material stone called Beaver River Sandstone. Previous work in the regions has suggested immediate post-glacial occupations that were contemporaneous with, or immediately followed, the glacial lake Agassiz outburst flood event that affected the area at the end of the Pleistocene. Here we use stratigraphic relationships, Infrared Stimulated Luminescence dating of eolian material, and radiocarbon dating of peat deposits to determine the age of initial human occupation, and to reconstruct the environment encountered by the first inhabitants of the mineable oil sands region. We confirm that the first occupations occurred ca. 12,000 years ago, shortly following catastrophic flooding, and that the post-flood environment was dominated by cold climatic conditions that supported permafrost and underwent significant eolian processes.



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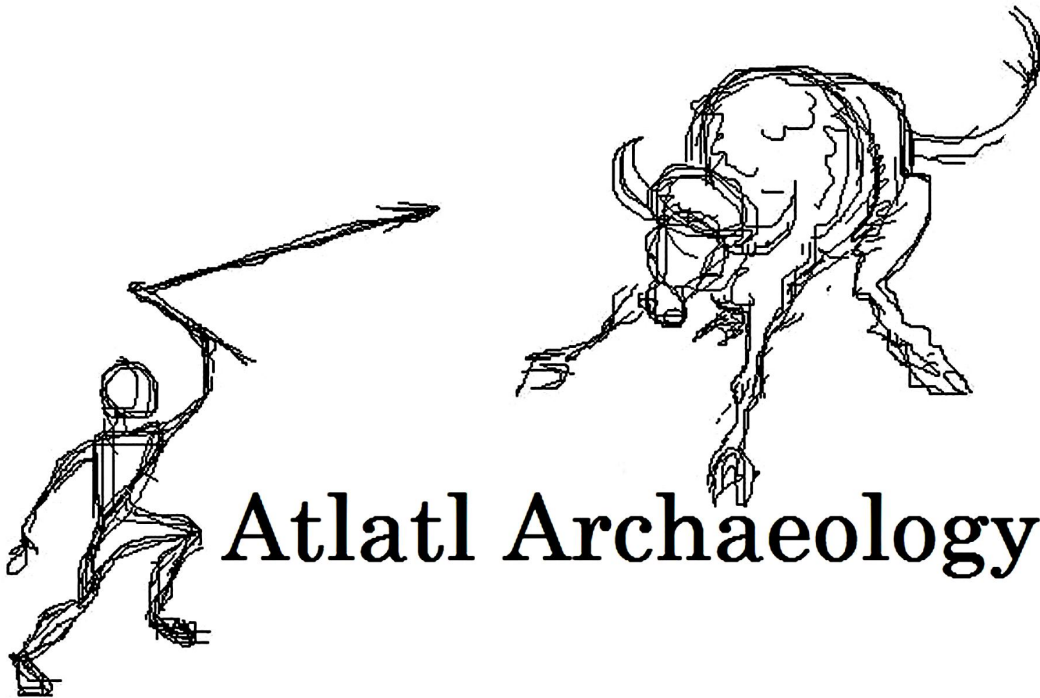
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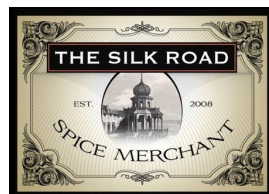
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