

ANNUAL REPORT
2024 – 2025



SUPPORTING THE SCIENTIFIC, EDUCATIONAL, AND PUBLIC
OPERATIONS OF THE ROYAL TYRRELL MUSEUM

Our Mission: We support the success of the Royal Tyrrell Museum, collaborating and contributing to provide funding that enhances the museum experience and its impact.

Our Vision: We have a transformative impact, excelling as a valued advocate in a shared vision of the Royal Tyrrell Museum as a centre of excellence.

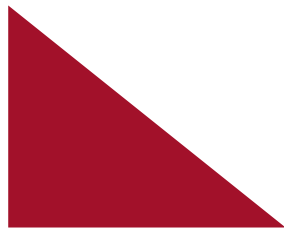
The Royal Tyrrell Museum Cooperating Society (the “Society”) exists to support the Royal Tyrrell Museum of Palaeontology (the “Museum”). This year, we contributed over \$73,000 in support of the Museum’s research, educational programming, and exhibit development.

Here are a few of the projects the Society supported:

- Funding for curators to attend scientific conferences and conduct research at other institutions.
- Micro-CT scanning of fossil specimens.
- Publication costs for scientific papers in professional journals.
- Museum playground cleaning and maintenance.
- Funding for a graduate student to visit the Museum to conduct research.
- Supplies for the Fossil Casting educational program.

The Society funds the Fee Assistance Program that allows underprivileged adults and youths to visit the Museum for free. This year, the Society made it possible for 29 adults, 46 youths (aged 7 – 17), and 6 seniors to visit the Museum.

We also administer the Drumheller Fund, presenting grants to the local community on behalf of the Drumheller Family and the Calgary Foundation. This year’s grant of over \$17,000 was awarded to the Badlands Historical Centre for new gallery flooring. The Society was pleased to be able to support this worthy project.



The 2025 Speaker Series was held in a hybrid format, with both in-person talks and streaming online via Zoom. Scientists from around the world presented on their research. Topics included injuries and disease in tyrannosaurs, ice mummies of British Columbia and Italy, mammals from the Age of Dinosaurs, and the correlation between fossils and climate change.

Presenters were from institutions as the University of Texas (Austin); Rutgers University (New Jersey); the Archaeological Survey of Alberta; Princeton University (New Jersey); and the Beaty Biodiversity Museum (British Columbia).

The Society-sponsored Badlands Science Camp sold out once again! We strive to ensure that all campers and parents are happy with their experiences. Three 5-day junior camps (for campers aged 9 – 12) and three 7-day senior camps (for campers aged 13 – 17) were held in the beautiful badlands surrounding the Museum. Campers visited Horseshoe Canyon, Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park, Dry Island Buffalo Jump Provincial Park, and the Tolman Bridge badlands. They attended live lectures by Museum scientists and assisted in scientific research projects by:

- Screen washing and sorting Late Cretaceous microvertebrate material.
- Identifying, measuring, and recording hadrosaur hand and foot elements.
- Measuring Ice Age wolf jaws.

The Society supported a *Dinosaurs After Dusk* Halloween event at the Museum. Seventy-five people participated in flashlight tours of *Dinosaur Hall*, heard about the Top 10 scariest specimens in the Museum's collections, and attended a presentation by one of the Museum's palaeontologists.



In October, we welcomed Dr. Alfred Lemierre to the Society as the Dr. Elizabeth (Betsy) Nicholls Postdoctoral Fellow. Dr. Lemierre is researching the diversity and evolution of North American anuran (frog) assemblages through the Late Cretaceous and Palaeocene.

We hired a new Membership Coordinator, and look forward to upcoming improvements to the program and perks to members. There were 817 memberships sold this year, up slightly from last year. Thank you to all our valuable members for contributing to the success of the Society and the Museum!



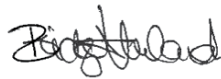
This year, the Society received nearly \$56,000 in donations, honorariums, and grants. We sincerely thank everyone who donated. Donations can be made by phone, website, or in the donation boxes within the Museum galleries. All donations of \$25 or more are eligible for a charitable tax receipt.

The Society donated Shop products valued at about \$3,000 to 25 local fundraising and charity events. We also administer the Drumheller Family Scholarships, awarding \$10,000 each to two local high school graduates toward their post secondary education tuition and fees. This year's recipients were a student studying medicine and one studying teaching.

This year, the Museum welcomed more than 522,000 visitors and of those, over 107,000 purchased approximately \$4 million in product from the Museum Shop!

The majority of net profit generated from the Museum Shop is held in reserve for future Museum projects, except for a small amount that is set aside for Society technological needs and improvements.

The Society looks forward to being part of the new *Breakthroughs* exhibit opening this spring, and celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the Royal Tyrrell Museum in September, 2025.



Bridget Unland
Chairperson, Royal Tyrrell Museum Cooperating Society

