

May 11, 2012

Dinosaurs Roam at the Royal BC Museum

VICTORIA BC – Dinosaurs are set to roam the Royal BC Museum in a ground-breaking new exhibition that opens May 17 and runs throughout the summer.

Dinosaurs: Ancient Fossils, New Discoveries explores how our understanding about these amazing creatures is changing based on new research by leading scientists from around the world.

“This is an exhibition 200 million years in the making,” said Jack Lohman, CEO of the Royal BC Museum. “Dinosaurs continue to fascinate us and we are pleased to share this exciting and educational exhibition with our visitors.”

The exhibition includes gigantic skeletons of *T. rex*, Stegosaurus and other ferocious predators and grazing herbivores. There are many high-tech displays and hands-on interactive stations. Visitors can marvel at the world’s most scientifically accurate robotic model of a moving dinosaur and walk through a lush recreation of a forest in Mesozoic China, one of the largest re-creations of a prehistoric environment ever built.

The four-month engagement at the Royal BC Museum is the first and only Canadian stop for *Dinosaurs: Ancient Fossils, New Discoveries*, created by the world-renowned American Museum of Natural History in New York.

“You are going to learn something new about dinosaurs after seeing this exhibition,” said Dr. Richard Hebda, Curator of Botany and Earth History at the Royal BC Museum. “Paleontologists today are using an incredible array of new technologies including bioengineering computer software and CT scans to unravel some of the most puzzling mysteries about dinosaurs.”

Dinosaurs: Ancient Fossils, New Discoveries examines what these creatures really looked like, how they actually moved and behaved, as well as the complex and hotly debated theories of why, or even whether, they became extinct.

“We are working closely with Tourism Victoria and our many hotel and hospitality partners to create themed travel packages and activities to bring *Dinosaurs* to life throughout the city this summer,” said Lohman.

The Royal BC Museum also plans a series of behind-the-scenes tours, special presentations by one of the world’s leading paleontologists, summer Dino Camps for kids and other events for children and families. Check out the Museum’s website for all the details: dinosaurs.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca

IMAX Victoria will be presenting a film to enrich the visitor experience during the *Dinosaurs* exhibition; *Dinosaurs: Giants of Patagonia* explores life in the early Cretaceous period in a region of southern South America. This larger-than-life film, focusing on the history, evolution and extinction of dinosaurs, opens May 17 and runs thru to September 16, 2012. It features renowned paleontologist Rodolfo Coria, with Donald Sutherland as the main narrator.

About the Royal BC Museum

As the provincial museum and archives, the Royal BC Museum preserves and shares the stories of British Columbia – on-site, off-site and online – through its research, collections, exhibitions, publications and educational programs. Its two-hectare cultural precinct in Victoria also includes a number of historically significant buildings and First Nations sites; and its seasonal satellite museum gallery in Vancouver showcases BC's history in one of the oldest buildings in Chinatown – Wing Sang.

For more information about the Royal BC Museum, visit www.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca or call 1-888-447-7977.

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