

November 22, 2018

### Holiday cheer at the Royal BC Museum this December

VICTORIA, BC—Embrace the holiday spirit at the Royal BC Museum. Discover winter celebrations around the globe, walk the festive streets of Old Town and sing some classic Christmas carols accompanied by the Carillon.

Catch [Live at Lunch: A World of Body Piercing](#) on November 28 from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm. Guest speaker Manni Franz from the Musée de l'Homme, Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle in Paris will share a special presentation about a new exhibition on a World History of Body Piercing. Admission by donation.

Don't miss your chance to explore ancient Egypt without plane tickets or a time machine. [Egypt: The Time of Pharaohs](#) will be closing on December 31. Filled with more than 300 original artifacts, some an astounding 4,500 years old, the exhibition explores life along the banks of the Nile, the great pharaohs and what every day experiences were like for ordinary Egyptians. Included with admission or museum membership.

In acknowledgment of [World AIDS Day](#) and Aboriginal AIDS Awareness Week the Royal BC Museum will host a special event with AIDS Vancouver Island that features art, film, music and a living library on December 1 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Admission is free. Further details will be posted on the Royal BC Museum's Facebook page shortly.

Did the sights and sounds of Christmas in stores on November 1 leave you feeling a little Grinchy? A stroll through [Christmas in Old Town](#) is sure to rekindle your festive spirit. Wander the wood-cobbled streets with storefronts wreathed in traditional festive finery. Open daily from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm throughout December (finishing January 9, 2019). Included with museum admission or membership.

You can be sure to get your Christmas list to "The Man with the Bag" himself during December. See [Father Christmas in Old Town](#) during the first three weekends of December (December 1-2, December 7-9 and December 14-16) from 11 am to 3 pm. Included with admission or membership; photos are by donation.

What does the phrase "Happy Holidays" mean to you? Find out about wintertime celebrations from around the world at our family program, [Wonder Sunday: World Celebrations](#). Join us on Sundays (December 2, 9 and 16) from



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1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Included with museum admission or membership.

Hear the bells of the Carillon ring and sing along to festive favourites with your family and friends (four-legged variety also welcome) at our [Carol Along with the Carillon](#) event on December 9 from 4:30 pm to 5:15 pm. Provincial Carillonneur Rosemary Laing will accompany the Newcombe Choir in a one-of-a-kind caroling party. Watch as the Carillon is lit up for the holidays with a hot chocolate and cookie in hand. Event is by donation.

New year, new you, right? The BC Archives feels the same way and will be closed December 10 to 14 to allow for collection audits and other collection tidy-up work to improve public access.

Meet Dr. Victoria Arbour, the newest curator at the Royal BC Museum, and find out about our plans for the future of research and the paleontology collection at our next Live at Lunch talk on December 5 from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm. Dr. Arbour is a vertebrate paleontologist and evolutionary biologist specializing in fossils from the age of dinosaurs and is the leading expert on the armoured dinosaurs known as ankylosaurs. Learn more at her [Live at Lunch: A New Direction for Paleontology](#) talk. Admission is by donation.

See what Christmas in Victoria would have been like more than 100 years ago at Helmcken House. Decorations, music and first-hand accounts of Christmas experiences over a century ago will prove an interesting comparison to festive celebrations today. [Helmcken House Old-Fashioned Christmas](#) takes place from Monday, December 17 until Sunday, December 31, 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Included with admission or by donation.

Please note that the Royal BC Museum and Victoria IMAX are [closed](#) on December 25, 2018 and January 1, 2019.

Celebrate in style at our family-friendly New Year's Eve party, [Early Shift: Party Like It's 1999 \(BCE\)](#). Join us in the *Egypt: The Time of Pharaohs* exhibition for a family-oriented celebration fit for the gods featuring music, activities and games for all on Sunday, December 31 from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm. Tickets: \$24 per adult, \$16 per youth. Free for children under 5 years old. Members receive a 10 per cent discount.

For more information about any of these events, visit our online calendar at [royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/visit/calendar](http://royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/visit/calendar).

## About the Royal BC Museum

The Royal BC Museum explores the province's human history and natural history, advances new knowledge and understanding of BC, and provides a dynamic forum for discussion and a place for reflection. The museum and archives celebrate culture and history, telling the stories of BC in ways that enlighten, stimulate and inspire. Located in Victoria on the traditional territory of the Lekwungen (Songhees and Xwsepsum Nations), we are a hub of community connections in BC—onsite, offsite and online—taking pride in our collective histories.

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