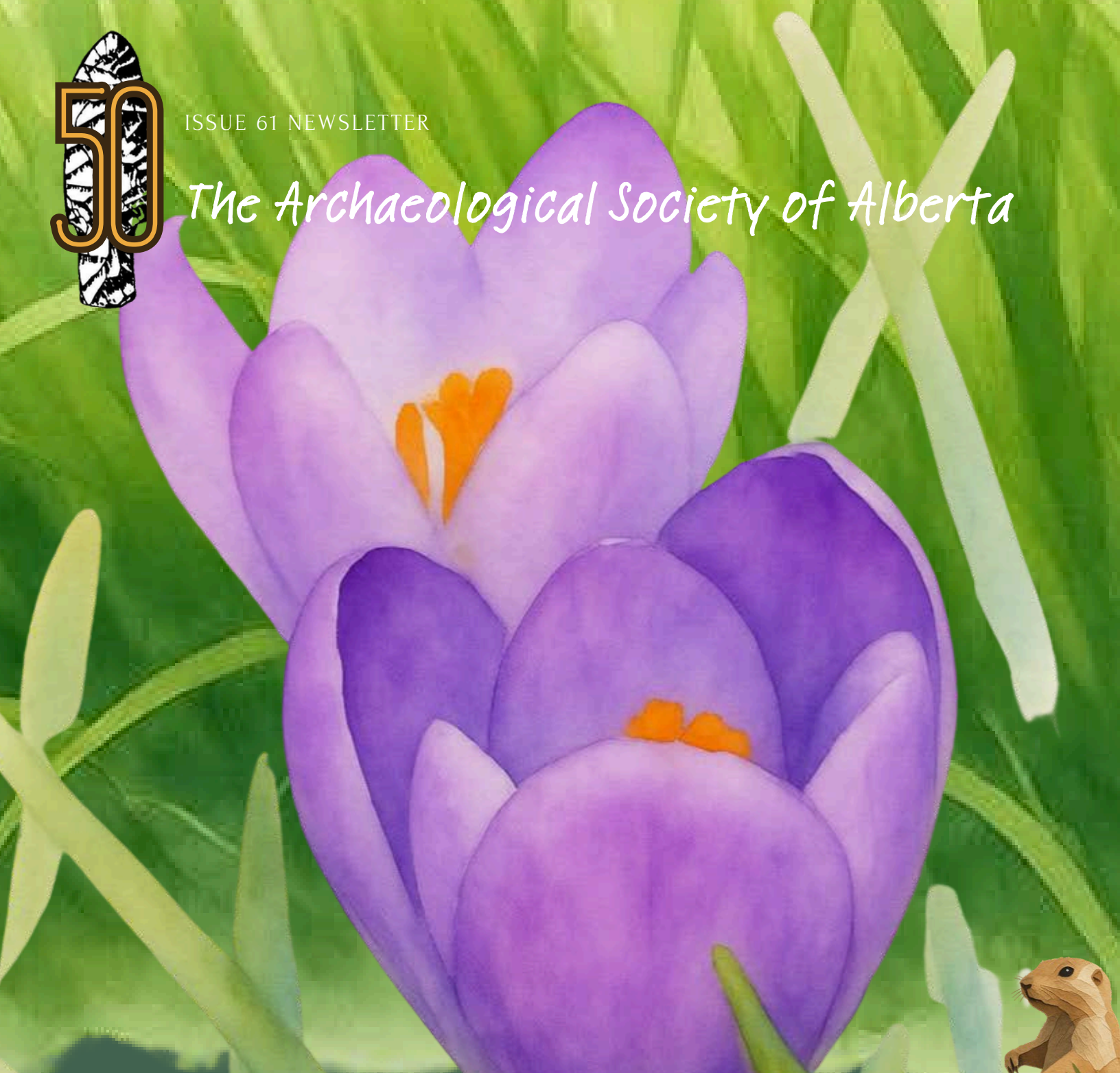




ISSUE 61 NEWSLETTER

The Archaeological Society of Alberta



THIS ISSUE:

**CAA/ASA
Conference**
PAGE 2

**ASA
Memberships**
PAGE 6

**Centre
Activities**
PAGE 7

**Website and
Socials**
PAGE 12

**Donation
Page**
PAGE 13

**Alberta
Experiences**
PAGE 14

**What's Here
and Coming**
PAGE 16

**ASA
Store**
PAGE 17

Web Finds
PAGE 18

CAA-ACA/ASA CONFERENCE

The 2026 CAA-ACA/ASA Conference and General Meetings was a very well attended event with lots of speakers and activities to keep all busy. Here's a quick breakdown by the numbers...

25
Sessions

~200
Podium
Presentations

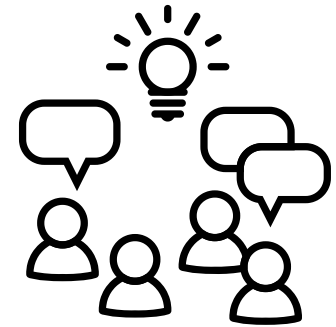
~40+
Posters in the
Janet Blakey
Poster Session

~475
Attendees

5
Days of
Learning and
Sharing

Workshops

- Toolkit: Digital Data Collection
- Student Workshop
- Nature Journaling
- Hand Drum Making with Helmer Twoyoungman



Field Tours

- Iconic Bow Valley Tour
- Rat's Nest Cave Explorer Tour
- Cave & Basin National Historic Site



The group who went on the Iconic Bow Valley Tour

Special Events

- Opening Reception with welcomes from ASA President Wendy-Ellen Nittel and CAA President Katie Cottreau-Robins. And wise words from Elders Bill Snow, Hank Snow, and Richard Piche
- 5th Annual Women in Archaeology Wine & Cheese (Fairfield Foundation)
- Public Lecture: Bodies, Bones, Burials and Wrecks: Tracing the Archaeological and Human Legacies of the 1845 Franklin Northwest Passage Expedition
- New Brunswick Archaeology Podcast - Live Recording
- Janet Blakey Poster Session Breakfast
- Lightning Round Session at the Canmore Brewing Co. (This was fun!)
- ASA 51st Annual General Meeting
- Conference Banquet with Keynote Speaker, Dr. John (Jack) Ives



*Top left: The opening reception with Îlethka Oyate, the Drum and Dance Troupe from the Good Stoney Tribe
Top right: Sean Pickering won "The Point" for his winning Lightning-Round talk about CHOPPERS.
Bottom left: Vendors in the hall*

Volunteers

An event this size couldn't be done without the coordinated efforts of many volunteers.

- **21 Student Volunteers** - These helping heroes kept sessions running on time, doing odd jobs, and handing out name tags at the registration desk.
- **20+ Conference Organizing Committee Volunteers** - This conference was a year in the making; these folks volunteered their time behind the scenes, so when the conference came, it ran smoothly.
- **AND Numerous helping hands** that helped before and during the conference with all those little tasks that, when joined together, made it so memorable.



CAA president Katie Cottreau-Robins (right) honoured Joanne Braaten (centre) in recognition of her 14 years as CAA Treasurer. Dawn Wambolt (left) is the new CAA Treasurer. Joanne was also the conference co-chair and remains the ASA Treasurer.



Left: Registration desk - the calm before the storm. Right: Keynote speaker, Jack Ives, presenting at the banquet.

CAA-ACA/ASA CONFERENCE SPONSORS



THANK YOU SPONSORS



H3M



Stantec



Atlatl Archaeology
& Laboratory Services

Bison

Historical Services Ltd.



Heritage &
Archaeology
Consulting



**CALGARY
FOUNDATION**
FOR COMMUNITY, FOREVER

element event solutions



Lifeways OF CANADA LIMITED
ARCHAEOLOGICAL, PALAEOLOGICAL, & HISTORICAL RESOURCE CONSULTING



WESTCREEK

AIM



Archaeology
for **Good** Alliance



LANDSONG
HERITAGE CONSULTING LTD.



LIMITED
PARTNERSHIP



SYNERGY
LAND & ENVIRONMENTAL



Burnco

Glenmore Audi

Sprung Structures



InterGroup
CONSULTANTS



TERREVAL
Research and Valuation Specialists



**TWO WORLDS
CONSULTING**



**Western
Heritage**

Arthur O. Solheim, LLP Chartered Accountants

Jordi Malasiuk

ASA Centre *Memberships*



Get first hand access to local exclusive events!

Bodo Centre

Calgary Centre

Edmonton Centre

Lethbridge Centre

Red Deer Centre

SEAAS Centre



About the ASA

The ASA has supported our communities with access to archaeological education for the past 50 years! We have published 161 resources in total, with more in progress. Additionally, we offer a variety of events across the province, which are open to both professionals in the field and the public. Some of the ASA Centres offer a variety of scholarships, grants, and workshops. Additionally, we refer students to various field school opportunities. Our vision is to support aspiring archaeologists with supplemental resources and educational opportunities.

Vision Statement



The Archaeological Society of Alberta enhances the public's understanding of Alberta's archaeological resources and instils an appreciation of our collective past.

The Archaeological Society of Alberta advocates for the safeguarding of our non-renewable cultural heritage.

CENTRE ACTIVITIES

ASA CALGARY CENTRE



Untangling Besant and Avonlea: Using Pottery and Meals to Rethink our Interpretations About Material Cultural Change on the Northern Great Plains

Presented by: Andrew Lints, PhD

Date: January 21, 2026

Exploring Black History of the Western Canadian Prairies: Archaeology at the John Ware Homestead

Presented by: Dr. Lindsay Amundsen-Meyer

Date: February 18, 2026



Dietary Change Revealed in Kitchen Refuse Pits from the Ancient Floors of Housepit 54, Bridge River Site (K'etxelnaz), British Columbia

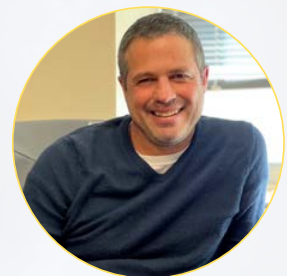
Presented by: Anna Marie Prentiss

Date: March 18, 2026

First Peoples of the Rocky Mountain West at the La Prele Mammoth Site

Presented by: Todd Surovell

Date: April 18, 2026

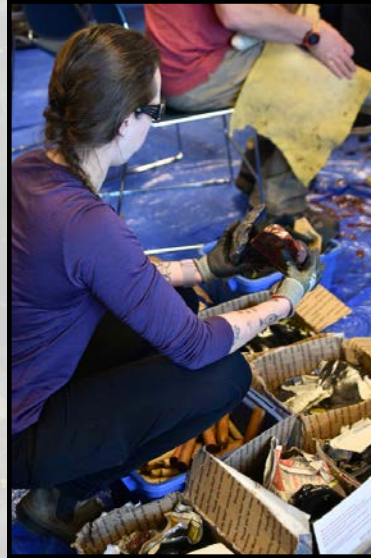


CENTRE ACTIVITIES

ASA CALGARY CENTRE Spring Flintknapping Workshop



Photo by: Lorraine Stratkotter



On March 28 & 29, 2026, several flintknappers of all experience levels met at Mount Royal College to learn and practice their skills. This popular event, organized and hosted by the ASA-Calgary Centre, is one of the benefits of membership.



Photos by Rebecca Gilmour unless otherwise stated

ASA EDMONTON CENTRE

Talking Archaeology



Exploring Public Archaeology

Presented by: Taydem LaRoque

Date: January 15, 2026



Uncovering the “Untimely Dead”

Presented by: Dustin Berndt-Setter

Date: February 26, 2026



Supporting the Search for Unmarked Graves: Evaluating Soil Spectroscopy

Presented by: Sara Lafergy

Date: April 16, 2026

Flintknapping Workshop

Presented by: ASA Edmonton Centre

Date: February 22, 2026

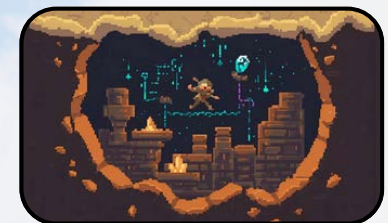


Events

Archaeology and Videogames

Presented by: ASA Edmonton Centre

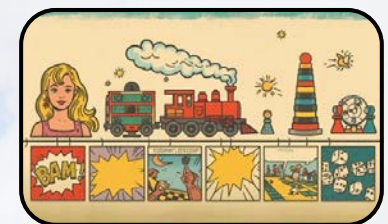
Date: March 3, 2026



Playtime Through the Ages

Presented by: ASA Edmonton Centre

Date: April 15, 2026



CENTRE ACTIVITIES

ASA LETHBRIDGE CENTRE



Lessons Learned? Looting, Loss, and Landscape at an Early Bronze Age Site, Jordan

Presented by: Morag M. Kersel
Date: January 15, 2026

Debunking the “Mysterious” Collapse & Disappearance of the Maya: Perspectives from Belize and the ‘Edge’

Presented by: Tamara Moore
Date: February 10, 2026

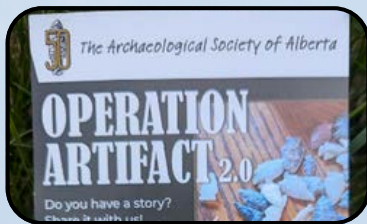


1177 BC and After: The Collapse and Survival of Civilizations

Presented by: Eric Cline
Date: March 5, 2026

From Female Gladiators to Feudal Countesses: The Contested Field of the Woman Warrior

Presented by: Dr. David Hay
Date: April 14, 2026



Operation Artifact 2.0

Presented by: ASA Lethbridge Centre
Date: April 11, 2026

Stones and Bones at Head-Smashed-In

Presented by: ASA Lethbridge Centre
Date: April 25-26, 2026



Family Day at Head-Smashed-In

Presented by: ASA Lethbridge Centre
Date: September 9, 2025

CENTRE ACTIVITIES

SOUTHEASTERN ALBERTA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY



Alberta's Boreal Sand Dunes

Presented by: Maegan Huber

Date: January 21, 2026

Update on Medicine Hat Power Plant Site

Presented by: Josh Read

Date: February 18, 2026



Digital Commemoration of Alberta's Indian Residential Schools and Their Landscapes

Presented by: Zoe Cascadden-Jassal

Date: March 18, 2026

Slowing Down the Archaeological Process in Dolores, Guatemala

Presented by: Dr. Maxime Lamoureux-St-Hilaire

Date: April 15, 2026



ASA RED DEER CENTRE



Click the membership card to reach the sign-up sheet

The ASA Red Deer Centre has reached an important milestone, now counting 10 members. The organization is currently working toward holding an election to formalize its structure. It is also in the final stages of securing a meeting location to support regular activities. Thank you to all members and supporters who have contributed to the Centre's reestablishment.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE, SOCIALS AND PUBLICATIONS!



We're always sharing fun events and updates on our website and social media channels. Keep up with our website to stay in the loop, and find opportunities to get published!



www.arkyalberta.com



Discover More: Follow the ASA on Social Media



Add our social media channels to catch our updates!

Alberta Archaeological Review



Do you have something you'd like published but a bit shy about doing so?

This is a fantastic opportunity for students, early-career archaeologists, and avocational enthusiasts to dip their toes into the world of publishing. If you've been thinking about sharing your research, reflections, or fieldwork experiences, this is a great place to get started!

<https://arkyalberta.com/publications/alberta-archaeological-review>



DONATION PAGE

ONLINE STORE DONATE 0 items

Archaeological Society of Alberta

HOME ABOUT MEMBERSHIP CENTRES EDUCATION & OUTREACH PUBLICATIONS CONFERENCES

Did you know the Archaeological Society of Alberta has a Donation Page?

Your support helps us inspire wonder, spark curiosity, and connect Albertans to the people who walked this land before us.

arkyalberta.com



POLLEN ANALYSIS IN ALBERTA

Pollen analysis helps archaeologists recreate past environments; by providing insight towards the flora that was present throughout the landscape. Pictured below is a core taken from Sharkbite Lake.

Evidence suggests that a forest fire sometime between 2410–2377 rcyBP led to a decrease in various canopy trees such as pine and spruce trees; with an increase in shrubs, and herbaceous species. This fire may have contributed to the proliferation of various berries across the Boreal Forest! (Christina Poletto, 2018).





**Dark Star
SkyGazing**
August 12, 13, or 14

Kids Day Camps
Several days through
July and August

Adult Dig Camps

June 25-27
July 14-18
July 23-26
August 4-6



Artifact Collections

Catlogging
Drop-in or register
August 18-30



For more information:
bodoarchaeology.com

bodoarchaeolgoy@gmail.com

EXPLORE AB - SUMMER EXPERIENCES

Public Archaeology Program

May 21, 2026 to June 10, 2026
Edworthy Park, City of Calgary

[Click here to learn more](#)

University of Calgary Public Archaeology Program

The Public Archaeology Program offers a Laboratory Analysis Program and an Excavation Program.

Program funding support provided by the City of Calgary and Archaeological Society of Alberta.

A photograph of a large, multi-story brick building with signs that read 'MEDALTA' and 'POTTERIES'. The building has a classic industrial architectural style with multiple windows and a chimney.

[Click here to learn more](#)

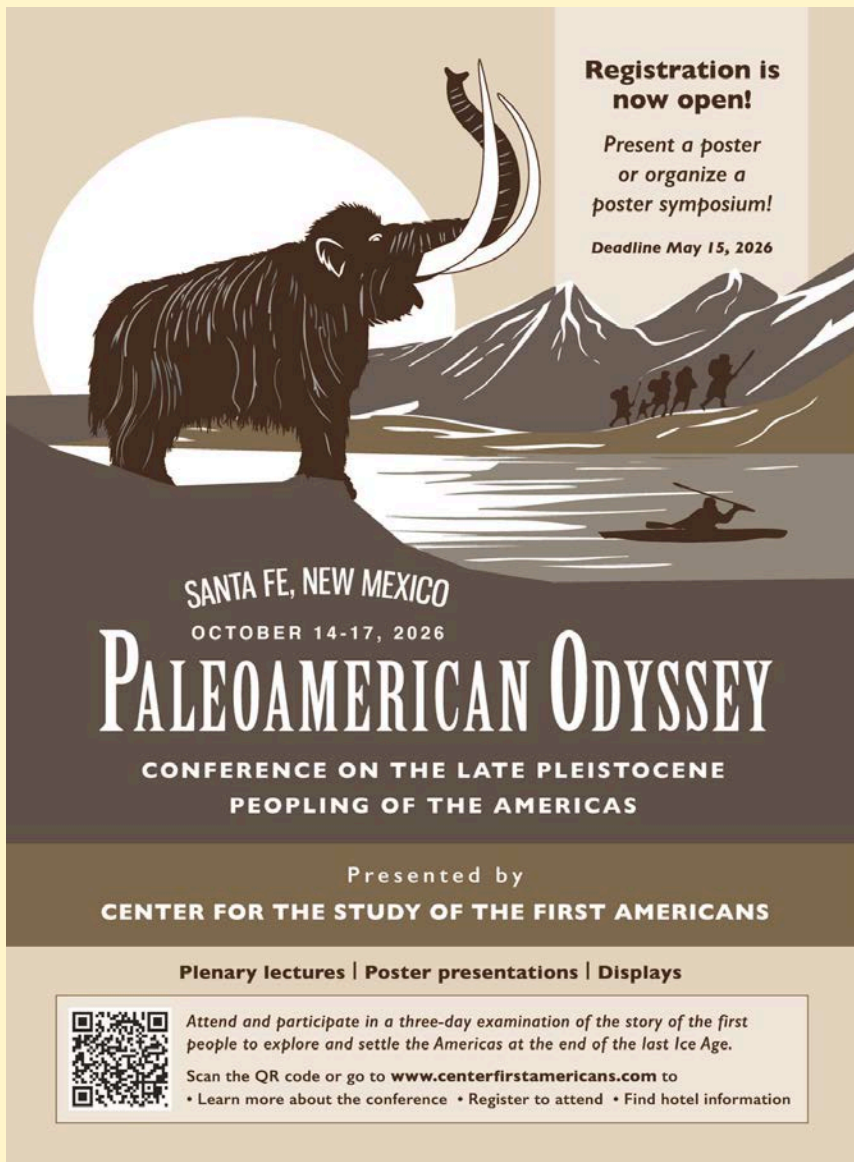
July 6 - 24, 2026

ARCHAEOLOGY FIELD SCHOOL @ MEDALTA

Choose from one, two, or all three weeks in July!

A logo for the 'FIELD SCHOOL' featuring a stylized map of Alberta with the text 'FIELD SCHOOL @medalta' inside it.A photograph of a person wearing a green jacket and a white cap, kneeling on the ground at an archaeological site, looking at a clipboard.

WHAT'S HERE AND COMING




Registration is now open!
Present a poster or organize a poster symposium!
Deadline May 15, 2026

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO
OCTOBER 14-17, 2026
PALEOAMERICAN ODYSSEY
CONFERENCE ON THE LATE PLEISTOCENE
PEOPLING OF THE AMERICAS

Presented by
CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF THE FIRST AMERICANS

Plenary lectures | Poster presentations | Displays

 Attend and participate in a three-day examination of the story of the first people to explore and settle the Americas at the end of the last Ice Age.
Scan the QR code or go to www.centerfirstamericans.com to
• Learn more about the conference • Register to attend • Find hotel information

The Center for the Study of the First Americans is organizing a three-day conference on the first Indigenous people to enter the Americas during the end of the last Ice Age. The PaleoAmerican Odyssey Conference, will be held in Santa Fe, New Mexico, from October 14–17, 2026. In 2013, we held the first Paleoamerican Odyssey conference and we had 1200 people attend which included professional archaeologists, avocational archaeologists, and interested members of the public. Click [here](#) to learn more!



Government Relations

The Government of Alberta has eliminated the ASA's funding and its Provincial Heritage Organization Status as part of Budget 2026. Let your voice be heard - send a letter to your MLA! Learn how you can help [here](#).

ASA's Bookstore

CHECK OUT THE ASA STORE FOR A VARIETY OF BOOKS, AND OTHER FUN ARCHAEOLOGY ITEMS!



Dive deep into a site with the ASA GOLD SERIES volumes!

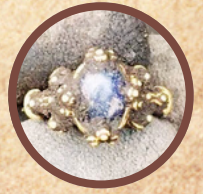
ALL STORE ITEMS CAN BE FOUND HERE

www.arkyalberta.com

WEB FINDS!

MEDIEVAL GOLD RING WITH DAZZLING BLUE GEMSTONE DISCOVERED IN NORWAY IS A 'FANTASTICALLY BEAUTIFUL AND RARE SPECIMEN'

Source: Live Science



ARCHAEOLOGISTS IDENTIFY TRACES OF CHILDREN'S FINGERPRINTS STILL VISIBLE ON CLAY BEADS CREATED 15,000 YEARS AGO

Source: Smithsonian Magazine



ARCHAEOLOGISTS INVESTIGATE A MOUND ON A FARM AND THEN DISCOVER THAT IT HIDES REMAINS DATING BACK 5,000 YEARS

Source: AS USA



THE MAYA ENGINEERING PARADOX: MASTERS OF WATER, PRISONERS OF MERCURY

Source: Science Daily



SCIENTISTS JUST LOOKED INSIDE DARWIN'S 200-YEAR-OLD SPECIMEN JARS WITHOUT OPENING THEM

Source: Phys.Org



EGYPTIAN ARCHAEOLOGISTS FIND PERFECTLY CIRCULAR TEMPLE TIED TO ANCIENT WATER CULT

Source: Human History



ARTIFACTS FROM 2,000-YO SHIPWRECK AT BOTTOM OF SWISS LAKE INCLUDE ROMAN CHARIOT PIECES (LOOK)

Source: Good News Network



REMAINS OF 'THREE MUSKETEERS' HERO MAY HAVE BEEN FOUND UNDER CHURCH ALTAR – DNA TESTING UNDERWAY

Source: Good News Network

