



ROYAL ALBERTA MUSEUM

# International Museum Day

May 15, 2009

International Museum Day has been celebrated all over the world since 1977. The theme of this year's celebration is *Museums and Tourism*. Thousands of museums around the globe will be celebrating ethical, responsible, sustainable tourism, showing how heritage can bring tourists and local communities together in new, mutually beneficial relationships.

Although International Museum Day is officially commemorated each year on May 18, your Royal Alberta Museum will be presenting a number of programs spotlighting curators and galleries on **Friday, May 15**. We invite you to share in the stories and good works that help form an engaged and cultured community!

## Curator-led Gallery Tours

included with admission!

Join Museum curators as they share stories about the objects and research presented in some of the Museum's most popular galleries. Two consecutive tours will start on the hour at **10 am, 11 am, 1 pm, 2 pm & 3 pm**.

## Brown Bag Lunch

from 12 noon to 1 pm in the Museum Theatre; free admission!

### Dr. Alwynne Beaudoin presents *Dating the past: how do we know how old things are?*

One of the first things that people ask about specimens or artifacts is how old they are. Geologists, palaeontologists, and archaeologists use many different techniques for assessing the age of sites and materials. We'll showcase a few important studies to show how some of these methods help illuminate stories from Alberta's past. From the field to the lab, finding out how old things are is not as easy as some may think!

## Fun Film Presentation - *Night at the Museum*

at 1:30 pm in the Museum Theatre; free admission!

A newly recruited night security guard at the Museum of Natural History discovers that an ancient curse causes the animals and exhibits on display to come to life and wreak havoc! (Rated PG; 2006)

## Did you know...

- ... the *Royal Alberta Museum* first opened in 1967 as the Provincial Museum of Alberta?
- ... the *Royal Alberta Museum* has more than 11 million artifacts in its collection?
- ... The *Royal Alberta Museum* has the largest public collection of early Fur Trade artifacts from the Hudson's Bay Company and the North West Company posts in western Canada, dating from 1790?
- ... the *Royal Alberta Museum* has the largest collection of mounted birds in Canada?