

Earth Science for Society (ESfS) 2026 – January 2026 Newsletter

3-day geoscience outreach exhibition from March 15-17, 2026
in MacEwan Hall at the University of Calgary, Alberta

[Website: esfscanada.com](http://esfscanada.com)
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[Bluesky: @esfscanada.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/esfscanada.bsky.social)

Program Delivery

Since school and youth group sign-ups opened on October 1, 2025, twelve schools, including three new ones, have registered to bring 934 students with 98 teachers. Fifteen youth groups, seven of which are new, have signed up to bring 359 young people and 65 leaders. A teacher told us, *"We have participated in this program since it originally started. It is exactly what the kids need as they meet and interact with experts to support their learning...I'm looking forward to another year of this fantastic event"*, said an Embers Leader. Quick uptake by teachers and youth group leaders attests to the value of the ESfS program!

If your school or youth group would like to attend, please register by clicking the Sign-up Form link on our [ESfS School & Youth Groups Page](#)

Sponsorship

The sponsorship team has successfully secured \$78,143 in funding plus an additional \$11,500 of in-kind sponsorship for our 2026 event with other exciting sponsorship opportunities still available! If you or your organization is interested in supporting our event, please visit the [ESfS Sponsorship Page](#) for more information.

Thank you to our sponsors! Canadian Natural Resources is once again sponsoring the **Resources and You** Pavilion for \$10,000. The CSPG Foundation (Foundation for the Canadian Energy Geoscience Association, formerly known as the Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists) is returning as sponsor of the **Energy for Us** Pavilion for \$10,000. The Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta (APEGA) is sponsoring the Geo-Theatre for all three days for \$7,500. We have two additional partial pavilion sponsors that are anonymous CSEGF donors, each one donating \$5,000. We are grateful to the Canadian Geological Foundation for awarding ESfS a grant from the Jérôme H. Remick III Endowment Trust Fund up to the amount of \$5,000 for Scavenger Hunt booklets. Strathcona is our Monday school sponsor this year in the amount of \$5,000. Tuesday's school sponsor is CNOOC Petroleum North America for \$5,000. CSEG Foundation is providing \$5,000 in funding as well as \$10,000 in-kind services. Tourmaline is sponsoring the Trilobite Fossil Station for all three days and is also an in-kind sponsor of storage for our panning for gold station, totalling \$3,700. Paramount Resources Ltd is sponsoring our Devonian Reef Diorama this year as well as the Geoscience Activity Tables for a total of \$3,200. Eavor is returning as our pen sponsor at \$2,500. Birchcliff Energy Ltd. is a general sponsor in the amount of \$2,400. Scotia Wealth Management is a general sponsor for \$2,000. Parex Resources is sponsoring the volunteer breakfasts for \$1,600. Brian and Elaine Russell are sponsoring the Monday volunteer lunch for \$1,200 again this year. Pulse Seismic is sponsoring the

water station for all three days in the amount of \$1,200. GLJ Ltd is another returning sponsor this year with a \$1,000 general sponsorship. Canadian Rockies Earth Science Resource Centre also contributed \$1000 for general sponsorship. Qeye is sponsoring the exhibitor and volunteer pizza night for \$800. Earth Signal Processing is also a general sponsor in the amount of \$750. Athabasca Oil Sands Corp provided \$500 as a general sponsor to match employee donations. GeoSoftware is a general sponsor for \$300. Pamela Pribilovic and Darren Hinks have donated \$250 each. Two additional anonymous donors have each contributed \$50 and one anonymous donor contributed \$393.

Door prizes will be provided by:

- Journey 2050, Alberta Palaeontological Society, Ten Peaks Innovation, Mining Matters, Canadian Rockies Earth Science Resource Centre, and CSPG Foundation

Educator resources will be provided by:

- Ten Peaks Innovation, RASC Calgary, Canadian Rockies Earth Science Resource Centre, and Ed Leith Cretaceous Menagerie Museum

Thank you very much to all donors! The ESfS event would not be possible without the contributions from donors and our sponsors.

Exhibits

The Exhibits committee has been working hard to retain more of last year's exhibitors with a great deal of success. We have had a great response and have 22 confirmed exhibits with many returning favourites: ESfS Trilobite Fossil Station, Geoscience Activity Tables, Journey 2050, Department of Earth, Energy, and Environment UCalgary, Devonian Reef Diorama, WISE (UCalgary), Alberta Paleontological Society (March 15th only), Mining Matters, CREWES, Department of Earth, Energy and Environment UCalgary, Ten Peaks Innovation, RASC Calgary, Calgary Rock and Lapidary Club, Natural Resources Canada – Geological Survey of Canada (Calgary), Canadian Association of Geophysical Contractors, Yukon Dan Gold Panning, Canadian Society of Exploration Geophysicists, Canadian Nuclear Society, Rothney Astrophysical Observatory, Canadian Rockies Earth Science Resource Centre, Switch Classroom, Ed Leith Cretaceous Menagerie Museum, and the Foundation for the Canadian Energy Geoscience Association. Additionally, we have received positive feedback from several other organizations and they are in the approvals process. We anticipate a busy and full exhibition once again this year and will continue to accept applications until the floor is filled. Looking forward to seeing everyone in March!

Exhibits dates to remember:

- Exhibitor Requirements form available: January 7, 2026
Exhibitors will have received an email with a pre-filled form
- **Exhibitor Requirements form submission deadline: January 29, 2026**
- Exhibitor Kit available: February 13, 2026
- Last day for inclusion in ESfS printed materials: February 13, 2026

Watch for updates on the [ESfS Exhibits Page](#).

Non-profit exhibitors such as museums and universities travelling to Calgary to participate in ESfS may apply for Travel Grants. Grants are dependent on funding. The number of grants and amounts awarded will be at the discretion of the ESfS committee. Submission deadline: January 15, 2026. Please let us know if you need extra time to submit your application.

Download guidelines here: [ESfS 2026 Non-profit Exhibitor Travel Grant Guidelines](#)

Click here to apply: [Travel Grant Application Form](#)

Accommodation:

A group rate of \$164.99 per night will be available until February 12, 2026 at the Holiday Inn Express & Suites Calgary University, 2373 Banff Trail NW, Calgary AB T2M 4L2. Group block code: **ESS** or **Earth Science for Society**. The hotel information PDF can be downloaded from the Exhibits page on our website: [ESfS Exhibits Page](#).

Marketing

The Marketing committee is working to raise awareness of the ESfS event in March 2026, primarily through social media (LinkedIn, Facebook, and Bluesky). We will be using the #ESfS2026 hashtag. Our social media account information links are included at the top of page 1 of this newsletter. We'd love for you to Like / Follow us!

We will be coordinating advertisements with local geoscience organizations and academic institutions over the coming months to promote the March event.

Help advertise this event by distributing our poster. Download here: [ESfS 2026 Poster](#).

A video from ESfS 2018 is profiled on our Home page. You can view it on YouTube here:

[ESfS Promotional Video](#).

ESfS 2026 bookmarks are available to distribute. If you or your organization would like to distribute them, please contact our ESfS Administrator (Alyssa) at esfs@cseg.ca.

Social media (LinkedIn, Bluesky, Facebook): 2,747 followers

Speakers

We are excited to welcome two notable presenters to ESfS 2026. Talks will take place on Sunday March 15, 2026. View Geo-Theatre and Speaker information on our website at [ESfS Geo-Theatre](#).

Date: Sunday, March 15, 2026

Topic: The Monstrous, The Magnificent, and The Mysterious: Dinosaurs of Western Canada

Time: 1:00 pm & 3:00 pm

Speaker: Dr. Emily Bamforth

Curator at Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum; Adjunct Professor at the University of Alberta and the University of Saskatchewan

Topic: How to find fossils, and what to do when you find them: with examples from around Calgary

Time: 2:00 pm & 4:00 pm

Speaker: Dr. Jon Noad

Senior Palaeontologist

Venue & Logistics

The Venue Committee is working with the MacEwan Conference & Event Centre and GCS to coordinate logistics for the March ESfS 2026 event, which will be held in MacEwan Hall at the University of Calgary, Alberta.

Volunteers

Volunteer registration is open!

Visit the ESfS website for more information or to sign up: [ESfS Volunteers Page](#).

As of January 12, 2026, 40% of shifts have been filled with 40 volunteers signed up for 102 individual shifts.

Please help us get the word out in calling for volunteers to help fill the remaining shifts. Visit the ESfS website for more information or to sign up: [ESfS Volunteers Page](#).

Contact us at esfsvolunteers@gmail.com if you wish to register a group of volunteers from your organization.

ESfS in Motion

ESfS in Motion's travelling exhibits showcase four fun and interactive stations: the Explore Space Station, the Trilobite Fossil Station, the Rock Cycle Station and the Our Changing World Station. Visitors investigate space travel and our solar system at the Explore Space Station. The Trilobite Fossil Station allows participants to touch, identify and classify trilobite fossils. The Rock Cycle Station has sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic rocks and mineral samples to examine. The Our Changing World Station has activities related to plate tectonics and seismic methods.

Visit 'Upcoming Events' on our website for more information: [ESfS in Motion Page](#).

The Earth Science for Society Committee

Inspiring the next generation with Earth Science.

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