

Earth Science for Society (ESfS) 2026 – March 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://www.esfscanada.com)

[Facebook: ESfSCanada](https://www.facebook.com/ESfSCanada)

[LinkedIn: ESfSCanada](https://www.linkedin.com/company/ESfSCanada)

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

Message from ESfS 2026 Chair Julia Davison:

“Panning for gold, making an earthquake, zooming in on fossils, submerging into deep oceans, gazing into outer space and so much more...there are 26 amazing exhibits for youth to explore at ESfS this year. This is a wonderful opportunity for youth to meet working scientists and really dig beyond the regimen of the school curriculum. Paleontologists, Dr. Emily Bamforth and Dr. Jon Noad are certain to inspire with their geoscience presentations at ESfS. Dr Bamforth will bring monstrous, magnificent and mysterious dinosaurs from Western Canada to life. Dr Noad will give examples and tips on finding fossils in Calgary for keen science enthusiasts. Our volunteer team is making the finishing touches in preparation for the 13th Earth Science for Society (ESfS) Exhibition next weekend. It has been a joy to work with such a dedicated, enthusiastic group of geoscientists both on the ESfS Committee and joining us as volunteers at the ESfS exhibition itself.

As always, the school and youth group spots filled quickly with both returning and new schools. The popularity of these spots filling so quickly certainly speaks to the value that ESfS offers to the community in building science literacy. ESfS has been very fortunate to have received generous sponsorships in 2026. The success and accessibility of the ESfS exhibition is founded on these contributions. We'd like to extend our deepest gratitude to all the sponsors, exhibitors, and volunteers who make this amazing event possible.”

Program Delivery

School registration is now completely full, with fourteen schools, including five new ones, bringing 1,146 students with 119 teachers. Eighteen youth groups, seven of which are new, have signed up to bring 403 young people and 72 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 youth group would like to attend, please register by clicking the Sign-up Form link on our [ESfS School & Youth Groups Page](#) .

Buses have been reserved for Calgary schools attending on Monday and Tuesday and the Scavenger Hunt booklet has been submitted for printing.

Sponsorship

The sponsorship team has successfully secured \$85,143 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 Limited 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. Imperial Oil Resources is sponsoring Travel Grants 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.

Educator resources will be provided by:

- Ten Peaks Innovation, RASC Calgary, Canadian Rockies Earth Science Resource Centre, Switch Classroom, Ed Leith Cretaceous Menagerie Museum, Mining Matters, Natural Resources Canada - Geological Survey of Canada (Calgary), Energy Safety Canada / Careers in Energy, Rothney Astrophysical Observatory, Canadian Natural Resources Limited, Ocean Networks Canada, Catherine Yuckin, and The Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta.

Door prizes will be provided by:

- Journey 2050, Ten Peaks Innovation, Alberta Palaeontological Society, Mining Matters, Canadian Rockies Earth Science Resource Centre, CSPG Foundation, Energy Safety Canada / Careers in Energy, Ed Leith Cretaceous Menagerie Museum, The Hangar Flight Museum, Butterfield Acres, Calgary Flames, Canmore Cave Tours, Ocean Networks Canada, Map Town, Calaway Park, Laser City, Catherine Yuckin, and Perimeter Institute.

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 received a great response and is excited about our diverse exhibitor line-up. We are now FULL! We have confirmed 26 exhibits. The 26 include many returning favourites: ESfS Trilobite Fossil Station, Geoscience Activity Tables, Journey 2050, Department of Earth, Energy, and Environment UCalgary, Devonian Reef Diorama - Sandstone Prehistoric Safaris Calgary, 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, Rothney Astrophysical Observatory, Canadian Nuclear Society, Canadian Rockies Earth Science Resource Centre, Switch Classroom, Ed Leith Cretaceous Menagerie Museum from Manitoba, Energy Safety Canada / Careers in Energy, Canadian Natural Resources, the Canadian Energy Geoscience Association Foundation, Ocean Networks Canada, and Alberta Geological Survey of the Alberta Energy Regulator. Tell your family and friends and encourage them to come see the Exhibits! We look forward to seeing everyone at the exhibition!

We've received completed Exhibitor Requirements forms from all currently confirmed exhibitors. Thanks for your help in finalizing our on-site orders and in providing content for the Scavenger Hunt booklet!

Download [the Exhibitor Profiles PDF](#) for a sneak peek of what our exhibitors will be bringing to ESfS.

Watch for updates on the [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 are 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 are actively promoting 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.

Website analytics: 1,545 Views in February 2026. 13% increase in Views in January and February compared to last year.

Social media (LinkedIn, Bluesky, Facebook): 2,761 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. Final orders were placed at the end of February.

Volunteers

Volunteer registration is open!

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

As of March 5, 2026, 70% of shifts have been filled with 95 volunteers signed up for 182 individual shifts. We are looking for volunteers to fill the remaining 78 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](#). Consider signing up a group from your organization as a great team building opportunity.

Contact us at esfsvolunteers@gmail.com if you have any questions.

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.

esfscanada.com