

The Burgess Shale Geoscience Foundation



One Hundred Years Ago

Charles Walcott discovered the world's most important fossil animals in the Burgess Shale, high on a mountain slope near Field, BC in Yoho National Park.

Half a Billion Years Ago

An amazing variety of soft-bodied animals, precursors to many of today's complex life forms, lived on the ocean floor. Most were lost forever to science and only rarely were they preserved in rocks such as the Burgess Shale.

Summer 2009

This year, a number of exciting events are taking place to mark the Centennial of the Burgess Shale discovery.

The Burgess Shale Foundation invites you to participate in the 100th anniversary re-enactment of the discovery of the Burgess Shale Fossils at Walcott Quarry near Field, British Columbia!



Quarry: photo courtesy of Erin Younger.

While at the Quarry the riders will be provided with:

- A professional scientific presentation by Charles and Helena Walcott
- The opportunity to see and handle the fossils of the Burgess Shale, secured in a locked vault in



Helena Walcott and her horse, Breeze, on Wapta Ridge, 1911.

Horseback Ride and Discovery of the Burgess Shale Re-enactment

A special event during this celebration is the re-enactment of the discovery of the Burgess Shale fossils. On Friday, Sept. 4, 2009, the horse riders will stay overnight at the historic Emerald Lake Lodge in BC, enjoying an evening wine and cheese get-together with Charles and Helena (played by geologists Paul and Kimberley Johnston). On the morning of Saturday Sept. 5, the riders will kick off the day by joining Charles and Helena for a centennial champagne breakfast in the President's Dining Room. The riders, all dressed in historical costume, will proceed to the Emerald Lake Boat House with their centennial bagged lunches in hand, will saddle up and ride around Emerald Lake and climb to Yoho Pass.

From Yoho Pass, the riders will follow the Wapta Highline Trail toward the site of Walcott's discovery. During the course of the mountain ride, Charles and Helena will lead the group in a re-enactment of the discovery of the Burgess Shale fossils and will provide a historical narration, including specific details of the discovery.

Later, the riders will dismount at the Royal Ontario Museum's (ROM) former research site and hike the remaining 100 metres up to the Burgess Shale – Walcott Quarry. Situated at an elevation of 7,600 feet, the views from the quarry are simply breathtaking.

Riders participating in this unique event will experience one of the most spectacular

the Walcott Quarry

- A centennial lunch in the Walcott Quarry
- A photo opportunity while all riders, along with Charles and Helena in historical costume

Details

The fee for this fundraising event is \$3,500 per person. This includes two nights' accommodation at Emerald Lake Lodge, all meals, and transportation from Emerald Lake Lodge to and from Field. A tax charitable receipt will be issued.

Please note that spousal partners who are not riding horses will be included free of charge.

Reservations required by **August 14, 2009.**

Sign Up Now!

To sign up for this exciting adventure, call
1-800-343-3066 or (403) 816-9333.

Contact Us

and classical rides in the Canadian Rocky Mountains, with views of No-see-um Falls, the President Mountain Range, the Western Main Range, Mt. Burgess and Walcott Peak.

All riders will rejoin their horses at the ROM's research site, and then begin the ride back to Emerald Lake Lodge.

Burgess Shale Centennial Finale Gala

Upon arrival at the Lodge, the riders will have time to return to their rooms to get ready for the Centennial Finale Gala at the Field Community Centre. This delightful evening will consist of a BBQ, a dance and a silent auction with transportation provided to and from the Gala. Guests will dine casually – BBQ style under the stars and will enjoy entertainment from the *Calgary Fiddlers*.

The Burgess Shale Geoscience Foundation
P.O. Box 148, Field, British Columbia, Canada
V0A 1G0

Phone: 250.343.3006 • Fax: 250.343.6426
E-mail: info@burgess-shale.bc.ca
Website: www.burgess-shale.bc.ca

