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**VENUE and DATES**

9th IBC/CIB – 2024, June 24 - 27 2024

Niagara Falls Convention Centre, Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada

**SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM**

The 9th IBC/CIB (International Brachiopod Congress/Congrés International sur les Brachiopodes) invites contributions covering all aspects covering Modern to Cambrian brachiopods. Topics may include everything from Systematics to Taphonomy, Evolution, Biostratigraphy, (paleo)ecology, (paleo)biogeography, Biomineralization to Biogeochemistry, and covering all types of events from Radiations to Mass Extinctions.

The last Scientific Session of the IBC/CIB is dedicated to Early Career Researchers and scientists. It looks for submissions from this specific demographic on all aspects of brachiopod research and its contribution to the scientific community, general public and advancement of brachiopod research into the 21st Century.

The Scientific Committee will assemble the submitted oral presentations and posters into their appropriate categories and sessions. Authors will be advised of their final assignment after the deliberations are completed in April by the Committee.

**FIELD TRIPS**

The 9th IBC/CIB offers two major field trips to participants.

The Pre-Congress field trip to Anticosti Island (Quebec) is led by André Desrochers of the University of Ottawa. The trip starts and ends in Montreal. This trip is of particular interest to those in the Late Ordovician – Early Silurian and rocks loaded with brachiopods. The rock sequences on Anticosti capture the Late Ordovician (Hirnantian) Mass Extinction, the first and second-largest of the Phanerozoic. Collection of material will be possible with guidance by the leader. For more information you may contact the field trip leader at: [adesro@uottawa.ca](mailto:adesro@uottawa.ca)

The Post-Congress field trip to Friday Harbor, San Juan Island is led by Audrey Morrison of Brock University. The trip starts in Niagara Falls and ends in Seattle (Washington State). For more information about this field trip, you may contact the field trip leader at: [am18wd@brocku.ca](mailto:am18wd@brocku.ca)

**GEOLOGIC HISTORY OF NIAGARA**

Niagara has a most interesting geologic history, with the latest event centering about the selection of Crawford Lake for the GSSP of the Anthropocene – spearheaded by a team of geoscientists from nearby Brock University. If there is sufficient interest to visit Crawford Lake before or after the IBC/CIB then we can make that possible (please indicate so on the Registration form). For the presentation by Francine McCarthy on Crawford Lake click the QR code below:



Read more about the geologic history of the Niagara Region and Escarpment by scanning the following QR code.

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**TOURISM ACTIVITY**

The go-to website for information about touristic activities and information is Niagara Falls Tourism. Their webpage provides a great overview of the multitude of activities available in the Niagara Region.

**REGISTRATION**

Registration is **OPEN**.

Please respond with: Full name, Affiliation, Address, email address, preferred name on Name Tag; presentation of oral and/or poster submission(s) (and potential title[s]), preference of Paper version of Program and Abstracts (or USB stick or both).

Participation in Field Trip(s), also indicate your interest in visiting Crawford Lake before or after the Congress (day trip-fee collected on site).

Please send Registration information (with ‘Registration-9IBC/CIB’ in the email header) to: [ubrand@brocku.ca](mailto:ubrand@brocku.ca)

**Payment of Early Registration Fee is due by March 29, 2024.**

**Payment of Late Registration Fee applies after April 1, 2024.**

**ABSTRACT**

Abstract submission is **OPEN** until April 30, 2024, for both oral presentations and posters (there is no extra fee associated with these). Please follow the instructions for abstracts: 9th ICB abstract template (attached). Submit abstracts to: [ubrand@brocku.ca](mailto:ubrand@brocku.ca)

Those interested in poster submissions may avail themselves of Printing Services (Brock University), for a fee, of printing of their posters. Please contact: [ubrand@brocku.ca](mailto:ubrand@brocku.ca)

We plan to publish the Congress proceedings in an open-access ISI journal. Manuscript submission deadline is set for January 31, 2025 for consideration by *Rivista Italiana di Paleontologia e Stratigrafia* (Scientific Committee members will act as editors/reviewers).

**CONGRESS REGISTRATION FEES**

Registration fee includes the following: Ice Breaker & Opening Party (snacks and drinks); admission to workshops & scientific sessions; lunch during the Congress; morning and afternoon coffee/tea with some munchies; paper booklet and/or memory stick of Congress proceedings, program, and abstracts.

Early Registration Late Registration

Until March 29, 2024 after April 1, 2024

Formal Participant $725 $850

Student (UG, G, Post-docs) $400 $500

Accompanying Person $300 $400

All prices in Canadian Dollars (CAD$)

Banking/Payment information will be available shortly.

**CONGRESS GALA DINNER**

June 25, 2024 – 7 pm

Gala Dinner: $110/person (all inclusive; at a leading local Niagara Falls Restaurant). Menu consists of the following: 5-course dinner with choice from 3 appetizers, choice from 4 entrees, choice of dessert, 2 alcoholic/other beverages. Please advise of dietary restrictions and food allergies.

**FIELD TRIP FEES**

Pre-Congress Field Trip Location Cost Attendees

June 15 – 20, 2024 Anticosti Island, Quebec $3,500 (16-20)\*(a)

Post-Congress Field Trip

June 29 – July 2, 2024 Friday Harbor, WA, U.S.A. (12)\*\*(b)

Single room $2360

Double room (shared) $1960

All fees/costs are in Canadian Dollars.

**Post-Congress Field Trip fee is due February 15, 2024;**

**Pre-Congress Field Trip fee is due February 29, 2024**

\*Pre-Congress Trip: all double room occupancy, covers transportation to/from and on the Island, as well as all meals, trip start, and end points are Montreal (Quebec); participants need to make their way to Montreal (start) as well as from Montreal to Niagara Falls and the Congress at the end of the trip. (a) Eight (8) spots are still available.

\*\*Post-Congress Trip: start point is Niagara Falls (Ontario) and end point of trip is Seattle (Washington State), single and double rooms are available, includes transportation from Niagara Falls to Buffalo airport (shuttle) to Seattle (air) to Friday Harbor (bus, ferry) and back to Seattle. It also includes a half day excursion on the Washington State University research vessel to collect modern marine invertebrates (including several species of modern articulated/inarticulated brachiopods) from Puget Sound. (b) Six (6) spots are still available.

**ACCOMMODATION**

The following hotels are recommended venues for the 9th IBC/CIB - 2024 participants (in no particular order; room fee (1-2 people) plus tax (HST) and service charges):

Radisson Hotel & Suites $159, 6733 Fallsview Blvd; Hilton Niagara Falls $210, 6361 Fallsview Blvd; Marriott on the Falls $271, 6740 Fallsview Blvd; Comfort Inn $152; 6645 Fallsview Blvd; The Oakes Hotel $169, 6546 Fallsview Blvd; Wyndham Garden $129, 6141 Fallsview Blvd.

There are many other accommodation options available via search engines.

**TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM AIRPORT** (Toronto or Buffalo)

Niagara Airbus is the shuttle service of choice for the Congress. We have retained a **CODE** (765) to be used when making reservations to receive the Brock University discount. Reservations are to be made online and five (5) days in advance of the travel arrangement. Colleagues going on the Friday Harbor Fieldtrip will not need to make a roundtrip reservation, since that trip starts in Niagara Falls and ends in Seattle, Washington State.

Trip from Montreal to St. Catharines is easily done by train.

**TOURS**

The following are examples of the many activities and tours that are available in Niagara Falls. Be forewarned Niagara Falls is a tourist trap with a multitude of activities and points of interest.

Wine Tour $119.70 + Tax (HST)

Niagara Falls Tour 164.70 + Tax

Search: a) Niagara Airbus for tours, and b) the many other options available to explore the Niagara Region and the Falls

**INSURANCE**

The conference organizers cannot accept liability for personal accidents or loss of, or damage to private property of participants, either during or indirectly arising from the 8th International Brachiopod Congress. Participants are advised to take out their own personal health and travel insurance for their trip and for their participation at excursions and field trips.

**INVITATION and VISA**

A formal letter of invitation for attending the 9th International Brachiopod Congress to help acquire visas or funding is available on request. This letter does not imply any financial obligation on the part of the Congress organizers.

Participants who require a support letter for visa application are invited to contact the organizing committee (9brachiopodcong@brocku.ca; “Letter of invitation” in the heading of the e-mail). Please note for security purposes, letters of invitation can only be sent to individuals registered for the Congress.

You are responsible for all travel arrangements, including procurement of visas and electronic travel authorizations, if necessary, and acquisition of sufficient local currency for your stay. Travelers are advised to apply for a visa/ETA as early as possible. It is imperative that you allow adequate time to process your paperwork.

**CANCELLATION and REFUNDS**

The registration fee for the Congress and Field Trips will not be refunded except for cancellations in cases of force majeure. Fee will only be refunded if the notice of cancellation is received before April 30, 2024 and the fee will be refunded in part. The requested refund (50% registration fee originally paid) will be sent to the registrant after the Congress. After May 1, 2024, no refund(s) will be possible even if the participant does not attend the Congress.

**Special Request**

We are looking for photos, pictures of activities from past IBC/CIB Congresses and field trips and excursions to construct a video montage to be presented during the IceBreaker Party in the evening of June 24, 2024.

On behalf of the 9th IBC/CIB Organizing Committee, I look forward to welcoming all of you to Canada and Niagara Falls for a stimulating time and experience,

Uwe Brand BrachNet

General Chair Our webpage

9th IBC/CIB

January 24, 2024