

Explore the past for yourself, come excavate at the Cluny Fortified Village site and dig into history!



## Cluny Fortified Village

The Cluny Fortified Village Site (EePf-1) is an archaeological site located in the valley of the Bow River in the Siksika First Nation. The Siksika have known about the site since its settlement around 1700 CE, with visits from Euro-Canadians beginning in 1875 CE. The site is unique to the Canadian Plains, with the appearance of a fortified village similar to those constructed by Middle Missouri peoples in North Dakota. At Cluny, people constructed pits and trenches for defensive structures. The inhabitants resided here peacefully and activities such as food procurement and preparation, as well as the production of beads, pottery, and clothing took place at the site. The evidence of these activities remain at the archaeological site in the form of artifacts, and archaeological excavations provide an opportunity to examine first-hand the ways people of the past lived and thrived.

This program provides a unique opportunity for students, they will have the opportunity to work alongside archaeologists and uncover culture history that will lead to a better understanding and a greater appreciation of the complex history of the land.



# UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Faculty of Arts Program for  
Public Archaeology:

## Aboriginal Youth Engagement Program

To book your school please email  
Program Director Kelsey Pennanen:  
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Or call  
**807-938-5507**

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Visit Blackfoot Crossing Historical  
Park online:  
[www.blackfootcrossing.ca](http://www.blackfootcrossing.ca)

Program for Public  
Archaeology:

# ARCHAEOLOGY ABORIGINAL YOUTH ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

**Classroom Dates:**  
April 15-May 3, 2019  
**Excavation Dates:**  
May 6—June 17, 2019



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## The Program

The program provides high school students the unique educational experience to expose the meaningful cultural heritage contained at the Cluny Fortified Village Site through in-class activities and archaeological excavation.

The day in class will take place prior to the excavation and consist of archaeologically-themed activities to prepare students to participate in a real archaeological excavation and expose them to Alberta prehistory. Excavations at the site will then take place over two days, with students being provided the opportunity to unearth first-hand the cultural heritage of Alberta.

By exposing students to the discipline of archaeology field, as well as through positive interaction with University of Calgary graduate and undergraduate students, we hope it may encourage continued post-secondary education and future employment in Cultural Resource Management.

The University of Calgary Faculty of Arts Public Archaeology Program, together with Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park (BCHP) and the Siksika Board of Education, with the support of the Calgary Foundation helps make this program possible.

## Classroom Activities

Youth will take part in a number of activities that compliment Alberta's Educational Curriculum. Activities include:

- **Alberta Prehistory**
- **Biology and Faunal Analysis:** Students will be introduced to their traditional uses, and archaeological context by reconstructing the bones of a real bison
- **Geology and Lithic Analysis:** Students will learn to identify stone tool raw materials and drawing sediment profiles
- **Ceramic Analysis:** Students will see how pottery construction and decoration change through time
- **Geography:** Students will learn basic mapping techniques and how archaeologists locate sites
- **Excavation Techniques and Data Recording:** Students will learn the basic skills required for excavation

## Out in the Field

Students will then apply the skills learned in the classroom at a real archaeological excavation. The day in the field will consist of:

- **Tour of the Archaeological Site**
- **Excavation and Recovery of Artifacts**
- **Recording and Mapping Artifacts**
- **On-site discussions of Alberta prehistory**
- **Atl-atl throwing**



### Location

Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park is located in the Canadian Badlands, about an hour's drive east of Calgary near Cluny, AB.

### Cost and Required Forms

Cost consists of the daily admission fee to Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park (\$12.00+GST for adults, \$8.00 for children), as well as transportation of the students to and from the site.

All participants are required to complete a volunteer registration form, a liability waiver, and a photography waiver. Participants under the age of 18 must also have their parent or guardian complete a consent form.

### What to Expect

Archaeological excavations require physical activity including kneeling, bending, and lifting. Volunteers will participate in all archaeological excavation activities including digging, screening, recording artifacts, note-taking, and unit mapping. Digging equipment is provided and students are paired with an archaeologist trained in excavation techniques. In case of heavy rain, the day will be cancelled and re-scheduled.

### What to Bring

Participants must bring their own lunch, water, sun screen, bug repellent, hats, work gloves, and must wear weather appropriate clothing. Close-toed shoes are required.

**Space is limited, to take part in this free educational program, please contact the Aboriginal Youth Engagement Program Coordinators and reserve your spot today!**