



MILLENNIA RESEARCH LIMITED

Mission Statement

Millennia Research Ltd. is committed to providing high quality services and products in the areas of Archaeological Inventory Assessments, Archaeological Overview Assessments, culturally modified tree and wet site studies, curriculum development and implementation, and public education. We seek to provide our employees with continuing training, professional development, and employment opportunities in a safe, flexible, edifying work environment.

To accomplish these objectives, Millennia Research Limited seeks to provide challenging opportunities for employees to learn new skills and refine existing abilities, to develop long-term working relationships with clients and First Nations, to provide opportunities for meaningful First Nation participation in archaeological projects, to generate products which contribute to our understanding of the past, and to share this information as freely as possible with concerned individuals and organizations.

Millennia Time

Connecting Space & Time

VOLUME 4

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What's New:

Millennia Research Limited has expanded! With the addition of a couple new staff archaeologists and a growing need for lab space, we expanded to a neighbouring office to allow for more in-house processing of archaeological samples and artifacts. In the office, our staff continues to be busy with numerous projects from around the province including Vancouver Island, the central coast and north-eastern BC, while our current field work is presently localized in the south coast region.

In addition to on-going small scale fund-raisers like our photo contest and in-office bake sales, we've initiated our Movember team. Please check out our page regularly (millennia-research.com).

Finally, I'm proud to report that my son, Roger Eldridge, graduated with his BA in Anthropology from UVic earlier this year. Look for his profile in an upcoming issue.

Morley Eldridge, President



The health and safety of our office and field staff is a priority for everyone at Millennia Research. On October 20, 2011 we participated in the "Great British Columbia Shake Out", a province wide earth quake drill. We have also recently purchased Earthquake kits for personnel at the office and have an established plan in case of emergency.

Millennia Archaeology Awareness Training Sessions:

Millennia has developed a tail-gate archaeological awareness training session for delivery on project sites where the potential for archaeological materials is generally low. The session, lasting about 15 minutes, includes hand-on examples of expected archaeological sites in the area and outlines what project workers are to do if they think they have found an archaeological site. Examples of different fire-cracked rock, shell midden, faunal material, and artifacts and a laminated series of photographs support the session. Awareness training for employees can fulfill a significant portion of due diligence for major developers. Millennia also offers other workshops and training sessions. Please contact us for more information.

(Pictured Right: D'Ann Owens leading an Arch Awareness Training Session).



Millennia Research Profiles:

We would like to welcome a new member to our team of GIS and Archaeology specialists:

Rob Field, BA, RPCA (Pictured right) has been a consulting archaeologist since 1995. When not conducting archaeological studies, Rob can occasionally be found with his nose in a book or, more likely, under (or on) the water, in the mountains, or exploring caves.

Rob has successfully conducted small and large-scale projects and assessments and has provided expertise in a variety of fields and locations to an enormous number of satisfied clients in almost every sector imaginable. He has worked on land and underwater projects throughout British Columbia and has extended his archaeological experience into Washington State, Wyoming, the Arctic, and Quebec's Gulf of St. Lawrence. Rob has a great deal of experience working with First Nations, coastal and interior CMTs, and winter and summer fieldwork in northern B.C.





Top:

4 Obsidian bifacial preforms

Bottom:

Finlay Reach, Williston Lake.



The winner of the last newsletter photo contest was photo C (Pictured right). The winning contestant chose to donate to the United Way.



Looking for more information?

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Points to Consider: Williston Lake Obsidian Cache:

These incredible bifaces (two sided stone tools) were found on the Finlay Reach of Williston Lake (Pictured below left) in north-eastern British Columbia during the BC Hydro Williston Lake Dust Mitigation Program.

The cache includes the 4 obsidian bifaces, which were likely preforms intended to be made into points, as well as 19 larger obsidian blanks from which similar point preforms could be fashioned.

Obsidian is the result of volcanic lava coming in contact with water. This contact produces a glassy texture in the resulting rock; perfect for making tools. Minerals present give the obsidian a dark green to black color. Due to its

razor sharp edges, obsidian has been utilized for cutting tools and has been a valued trade good for thousands of years.

Obsidian found in the Williston Lake area has been traced to Mt. Edziza, a stratovolcano, in North Western British Columbia. It is located more than 300 kilometers away as the crow flies from where the cache was found. The distance indicates a substantial trade network, or some very strong legs. All objects were found within a 15x5m area, a very tight clustering in the open local environment. The objects were once likely stored, carefully concealed, ready for when someone needed them.

The bifaces are made to almost identical dimensions; the weights alone being within a 0.2g difference. This observation, as well as the similarity in their flaking pattern, suggests they could have been fashioned by the same person, or at least to a similar standard.

Interestingly, partial surfaces on the flake blanks are well worn, as if they had been carried together on a long trip. But this wear pattern can only be seen on the small areas of the bifaces that have not been shaped. More than likely, the person carrying the stone from the mountains stopped somewhere along the way and skillfully crafted the four bifaces, before storing them for future use.

Photo Contest: Natural things that look strange or unnatural:

Photo A: Grendel



Charity: SPCA

Photo C: Plastic Frogs



Charity: Mustard Seed Food Bank

This is an in-house contest but you get to choose the winner. Choose your favorite photo submitted by our staff and the contest entry fees (\$2.50 per photo) are forwarded to the winning staff member's charity of choice. Vote for the photo or the charity, but please VOTE!

Send your vote via email to:

admin@millennia-research.com

We'll announce the winning photo and total donated in the next edition.

Photo B: The Screamer.



Charity: Victoria Adoptables

Photo D: Skull Rock



Charity: Mustard Seed Food Bank