

PROVINCIAL FOSSIL VOTING INITIATIVE

Background information

Selecting a Provincial Fossil

The Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development sought input from the public on selecting a Provincial Fossil to be added to the official [Provincial Symbols of British Columbia](#).

The selection of a Provincial fossil supports the principles of the Fossil Management Framework. The Framework recognizes fossils as important heritage resources with scientific and educational value.

Voting for your favourite fossil candidate

Seven fossil candidates were shortlisted through a public process in partnership with the [British Columbia Paleontological Alliance \(BCPA\)](#). The following criteria were used to select the fossil candidates:

- Be well known and easily recognizable;
- be more or less unique to British Columbia;
- reflect the unique geography of British Columbia;
- have wide appeal to a general audience;
- serve as an educational vehicle through which the biology, ecology, and geology of the time it represents can be made clear; and
- be amenable to designs for posters, displays and logos.

The voting period closed on Friday, November 23, 2018.

The fossil with the most votes will be recommended for consideration as the provincial fossil emblem.

Fossil Candidates

The seven fossil candidates, presented alphabetically are as follows:

Scientific Name	Non-scientific Name	Period and Era
<i>Canadoceras yokoyamai</i>	Ammonite	Cretaceous Period Mesozoic Era
Elasmosaur	Elasmosaur (marine reptile)	Cretaceous Period Mesozoic Era
<i>Eosalmo driftwoodensis</i>	Salmon	Paleogene Period Cenozoic Era
<i>Marrella splendens</i>	Lace crab	Cambrian Period Paleozoic Era
<i>Olenoides serratus</i>	Trilobite	Cambrian Period Paleozoic Era
<i>Shonisaurus sikanniensis</i>	Ichthyosaur (marine reptile)	Triassic Period Mesozoic Era
<i>Yabeina columbiana</i>	One-celled animal	Permian Period Paleozoic Era