



The Canadian Botanical Association Bulletin

Bulletin de l'Association Botanique du Canada

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President's Message

Dear CBA Members,

I know that many of you have experienced a true Canadian winter this year, complete with heavy snowfall. Here in Vancouver, however, we have had plenty of rain but not a single snowflake so far. I'm sure all of us—along with a wide variety of plants—are looking forward to the arrival of a vibrant spring.



CBA Student Awards

Several CBA awards are available for students:

- Lionel Cinq-Mars Award for the best oral presentation by a student at the CBA Annual Meeting.
- Iain and Sylvia Taylor Award for the best student poster presented at the CBA Annual Meeting.
- John Macoun Travel Bursary providing partial financial assistance for graduate students presenting a paper or poster at the CBA Annual Meeting.
- Undergraduate Travel Award for undergraduate students presenting a paper or poster at the CBA Annual Meeting.
- Laurie Consaul Northern Research Scholarship, open to undergraduate or graduate students conducting botanical field research in northern Canada (north of 60°) in the upcoming field season.

Full details are available on the CBA Awards website (<https://www.cba-abc.ca/awards/>). Please consider nominating your students for these opportunities.

The Canadian Botanical Association Bulletin

The CBA Bulletin is issued three times a year (March, September and December) and is freely available on the CBA website. Hardcopy subscriptions are available for a fee.

Information for Contributors

All members are welcome to submit texts in the form of papers, reviews, comments, essays, requests, or anything related to botany or botanists. For detailed directives on text submission please contact the Editor (see below). For general information about the CBA, go to the website: www.cba-abc.ca

Executive Editor

Dr. Erin Zimmerman

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Next issue

Texts for the next issue, 59(2), must be received by August 1, 2026

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Bulletin de l'Association Botanique du Canada

Le Bulletin de l'ABC paraît trois fois par année, normalement en mars, septembre et décembre. Il est envoyé à tous les membres de l'ABC.

Soumission de textes

Tous les membres de l'Association sont invités à envoyer des textes de toute nature concernant la botanique et les botanistes (articles, revues de publication, commentaires, requêtes, essais, etc.). Tous les supports de texte sont acceptés. Pour des renseignements détaillés sur la soumission de textes, veuillez consulter le rédacteur (voir ci-dessous). Infos générales sur l'ABC à l'url suivant: www.cba-abc.ca

Rédactrice en chef

Dr. Erin Zimmerman

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Prochain numéro

La date de tombée des textes du prochain numéro, le no 59(2), est le 1 août 2026

Renew Your Membership

My sincere thanks to everyone who has already renewed their CBA/ABC membership. If you have not yet done so, this is a gentle reminder to renew at your earliest convenience. Membership not only provides valuable professional benefits but also plays a vital role in supporting the Association's activities and strengthening the botanical community in Canada. We also encourage you to help promote the Association by sharing the benefits of CBA membership with colleagues in your department.

Nominations for CBA Board Positions

We strongly encourage members to take an active role in the Association. One meaningful way to contribute is by self nominating for one of the available Board positions. More information about these roles can be found in the announcement from Dr. Mihai Costea (Past President) in this issue of the Bulletin.

2026 Annual CBA Meeting

Our next annual meeting will take place at Carleton University in Ottawa from June 2–5, 2026. This year's conference theme is "*Supporting Diversity in All Its Forms*." Highlights of the program include:

- Tuesday, June 2
 - Optional field trips during the day
 - An evening public lecture by Dan Brunton on the flora of the Ottawa River Valley
- Wednesday, June 3
 - Opening symposium: *Supporting Diversity in All Its Forms*, featuring Kathleen Pryer, Erin Zimmerman, and Étienne Lévillé-Bourret
- Thursday, June 4
 - Morning symposium on human diversity in botany, sponsored by the IDEA Committee
 - Afternoon tours of the collections at the Canadian Museum of Nature (Aylmer) and the AAFC Central Experimental Farm
 - BBQ and the Weresub Lecture in the evening
- Friday, June 5
 - Symposia from the Teaching Section and the Plant Development Section
 - Annual General Meeting and Conference Banquet to conclude the event

Abstract submissions are open until March 31, and we welcome talks and posters on any aspect of botany or mycology. Conference registration is now open.

For details on registration, abstract submission, accommodations, travel, and field trips, please visit the conference website: <https://site.phedloop.com/event/CBAABC2026>

Gratitude to Our Members

My term as CBA President will conclude at the Annual General Meeting in Ottawa this June, when Dr. Dayanandan will begin his tenure as our next President. I want to express my heartfelt thanks to all of you for your support and encouragement. Serving in this role has been a deeply rewarding learning experience.

I look forward to seeing you at our annual meeting in Ottawa this June.

Sincerely,

Santokh Singh, University of British Columbia, Vancouver Campus

Message du président

Chers membres de l'ABC,

Je sais que plusieurs d'entre vous ont vécu un véritable hiver canadien cette année, avec ses abondantes chutes de neige. Ici, à Vancouver, on a eu beaucoup de pluie, mais pas un seul flocon de neige jusqu'à présent. Je suis certain que nous tous – ainsi qu'une grande variété de plantes – avons hâte de voir l'arrivée d'un printemps éclatant.

Prix étudiants de l'ABC

Plusieurs prix de l'ABC sont offerts aux étudiants :

- Prix Lionel Cinq-Mars pour la meilleure présentation orale d'un étudiant au congrès annuel de l'ABC.
- Prix Iain et Sylvia Taylor pour la meilleure affiche étudiante présentée au congrès annuel de l'ABC.
- Bourse de voyage John Macoun offrant une aide financière partielle aux étudiants des cycles supérieurs présentant une communication ou une affiche au congrès annuel de l'ABC.
- Bourse de voyage pour les étudiants de premier cycle présentant une communication ou une affiche au congrès annuel de l'ABC.
- Bourse de recherche nordique Laurie Consaul, ouverte aux étudiants de premier cycle et des cycles supérieurs menant des recherches botaniques sur le terrain dans le nord du Canada (au nord du 60e parallèle) durant la prochaine saison de terrain.

Tous les détails sont disponibles sur le site Web des prix de l'ABC (<https://www.cba-abc.ca/awards/>). Nous vous encourageons à proposer la candidature de vos étudiants pour ces bourses.

Renouvelez votre adhésion

Nous remercions sincèrement tous ceux qui ont déjà renouvelé leur adhésion à l'ABC. Si ce n'est pas encore fait, nous vous demandons de renouveler votre adhésion dès que possible. L'adhésion offre non seulement de précieux avantages professionnels, mais elle joue également un rôle essentiel dans le soutien des activités de l'Association et le renforcement de la communauté botanique au Canada. Nous vous encourageons également à promouvoir l'Association en partageant les avantages de l'adhésion à l'ABC avec vos collègues de département.

Candidatures aux postes du conseil d'administration de l'ABC

Nous encourageons fortement les membres à participer activement à la vie de l'Association. Une façon significative de contribuer est de soumettre votre candidature pour l'un des postes disponibles au conseil d'administration. Vous trouverez plus d'informations sur ces rôles dans l'annonce du Dr Mihai Costea (ancien président) publiée dans ce numéro du Bulletin.

Assemblée annuelle de l'ABC 2026

Notre prochaine réunion annuelle aura lieu à l'Université Carleton à Ottawa, du 2 au 5 juin 2026. Le thème de la conférence de cette année est « Soutenir la diversité sous toutes ses formes ». Les points saillants du programme sont les suivants :

- Mardi 2 juin
 - Excursions facultatives en journée
 - Conférence publique en soirée de Dan Brunton sur la flore de la vallée de la rivière des Outaouais
- Mercredi 3 juin
 - Symposium d'ouverture : *Soutenir la diversité sous toutes ses formes*, avec Kathleen Pryer, Erin Zimmerman et Étienne Léveillé-Bourret
- Jeudi 4 juin
 - Symposium matinal sur la diversité humaine en botanique, parrainé par le Comité IDEA
 - Visites guidées des collections du Musée canadien de la nature (Aylmer) et de la Ferme expérimentale centrale d'Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada (AAC) l'après-midi
 - Barbecue et conférence Weresub en soirée
- Vendredi 5 juin
 - Symposiums de la Section d'enseignement et de la Section du développement des plantes
 - Assemblée générale annuelle et banquet de clôture

La soumission des résumés est ouverte jusqu'au 31 mars. Nous acceptons les communications orales et les affiches portant sur tous les aspects de la botanique et de la mycologie. Les inscriptions au congrès sont maintenant ouvertes.

Pour plus de détails sur l'inscription, la soumission des résumés, l'hébergement, les déplacements et les excursions, veuillez consulter le site web de la conférence : <https://site.pheedloop.com/event/CBAABC2026>

Merci à nos membres

Mon mandat de président de l'ABC prendra fin lors de l'assemblée générale annuelle à Ottawa en juin prochain, où le Dr Dayanandan entamera son mandat de prochain président. Je tiens à vous remercier chaleureusement pour votre soutien et vos encouragements. Cela a été une expérience d'apprentissage extrêmement enrichissante.

Au plaisir de vous revoir à notre assemblée annuelle à Ottawa en juin prochain.

Cordialement,

Santokh Singh

Université de la Colombie-Britannique, campus de Vancouver

[Translated into French by Frédérique Guinel]

New Member Publications

Armijos Carrion, A.D., Boisen Valentin, S., Meades, S.J., Burzynski, M., Anions, M.F.E., Feltham, J. and Roncal, J. (2025) Lineage-specific phylogenetic structure of boreal habitats suggests different assembly processes across phylogenetic and spatial scales. *Ecography*, 2025: e07630. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ecog.07630>
[See next page for a collage of beautiful images from this paper.]

Cemin, L. G., and M. Jean. (2025) Forest Composition Drives Bryophyte Biomass, Carbon, and Nitrogen Storage in the Boreal-Temperate Ecotone. *Journal of Vegetation Science* 36, no. 6: e70088. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jvs.70088>.

Gillies, G. J., Vemulapalli, R., & Eckert, C. G. (2025) Common milkweed gardens increase occupancy by monarch butterflies and other specialist herbivores towards an urban centre. *Insect Conservation and Diversity*, icad.70033. <https://doi.org/10.1111/icad.70033>

Kricsfalusy, Vladimir. (2026) The native flora of the Redberry Lake Biosphere Region (Saskatchewan, Canada): taxonomy, biogeography, habitats and conservation. *Nordic Journal of Botany*. [10.1002/njb.04865](https://doi.org/10.1002/njb.04865).

Kricsfalusy V., Chakma K. (2025) Prediction of potential habitat distributions and climate change impacts on six *Carex* L. species of conservation concern in Canada. *Conservation*, 5(4): 55. <https://doi.org/10.3390/conservation5040055>

Kricsfalusy V., Chakma K., Godfrey A. (2025) Integrating herbarium data with spatial biodiversity assessment into conservation plans: A case study of the genus *Carex* in Saskatchewan. *Nature Conservation*, 59: 65–88. <https://doi.org/10.3897/natureconservation.59.149423>

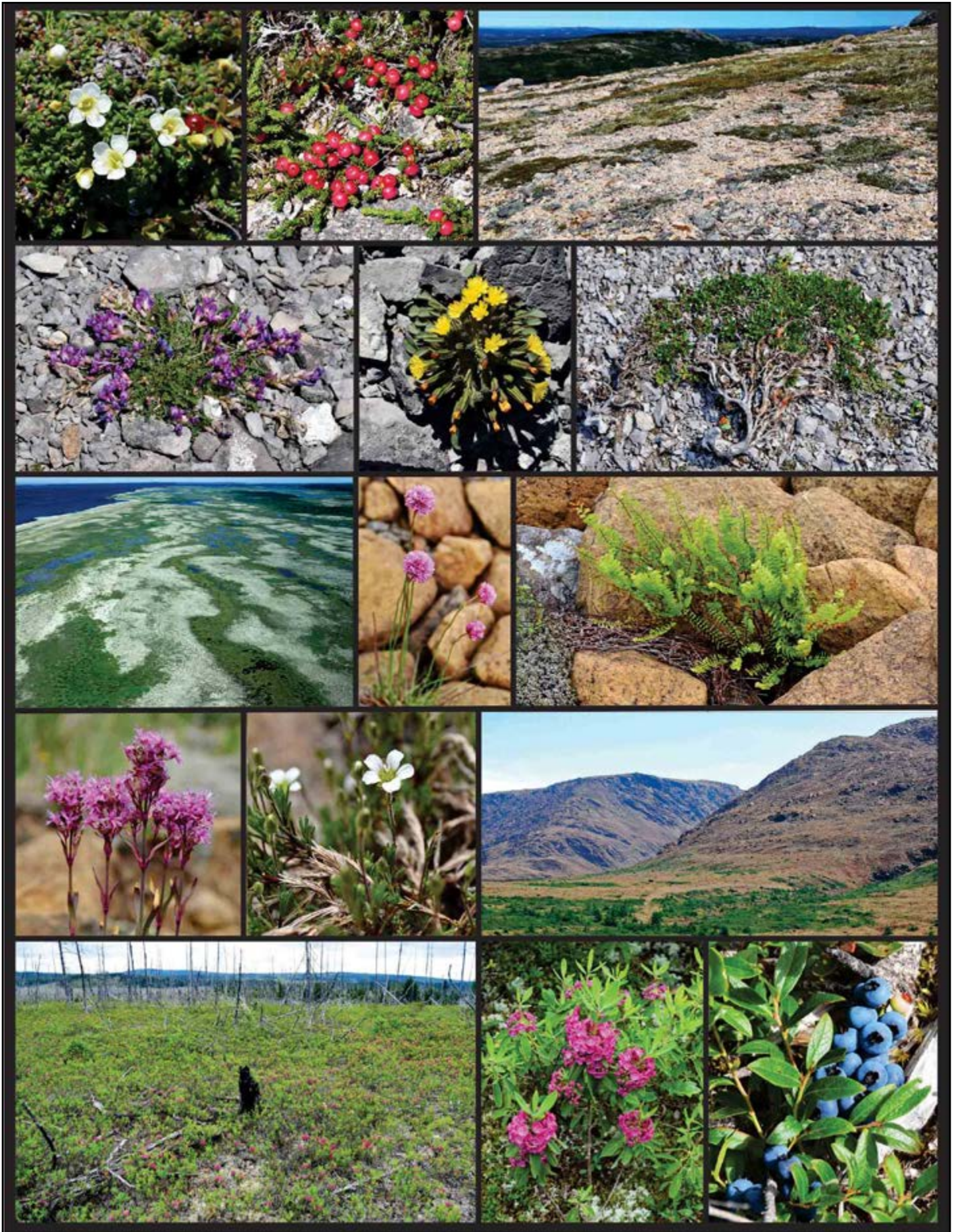
Kricsfalusy V.V., Godfrey A., Chakma K., Stewart A., Danylyk I.M. (2025) Evaluating the diversity, distribution patterns and habitat preferences of *Carex* species in western Canada using geospatial analysis. *Biodiversity Data Journal*, 13: e144840. <https://doi.org/10.3897/BDJ.13.e144840>

Lacroix-Carignan, É., Starr, J. R., Naczi, R. F. C., Kilpatrick, E. S., Léveillé-Bourret, É. (2026) Integrative taxonomy supports DNA barcoding in revealing an abundant cryptic species in the United States Coastal Plain. *Journal of Systematics and Evolution*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jse.70036>

Messier, Henry et al. (2025) Selection for fewer, water- and carbon-conservative needles in black spruce trees under warm, dry climates. *Annals of Botany*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/aob/mcaf332>

Sede, S., Testoni, D., Sclovich, S., Morello, S., Santín, F., Romaschenko, K., Starr, J.R., & Giussani, L. (2025) An expanded *Pappostipa* (Stipeae, Poaceae) includes a lineage of South American species with plumose-like awns. *Botanical Journal of the Linnean Society*. 208(1): 75–90. <https://doi.org/10.1093/botlinnean/boae056>

Zhang, L., Starr, J., Ford, B., Reznicek, A., Zhou, Y., Léveillé-Bourret, É., Lacroix-Carignan, É., Cayouette, J., Smith, T.W., Sutherland, D., Catling, P., Saarela, J.M., Cui, H., & Macklin, J. (2025) Helping authors produce fair taxonomic data: Evaluation of an author-driven phenotype data production prototype. *Database* 2025: baae097. <https://doi.org/10.1093/database/baae097>



Caption for the above collage from co-author Julissa Roncal:

(all photos by Susan Meades, with permission)

Representative habitats and plant species in the island of Newfoundland where the community phylogenetic study was conducted: Alpine barrens, Limestone barrens, Serpentine barrens and Kalmia heathlands. A phylogenetic tree of ca. 1,800 plant species native to Newfoundland was reconstructed to evaluate the phylogenetic structure of these habitats. Contrary to the stress-dominance hypotheses which predicted a phylogenetic clustering of plants in these boreal habitats, a random phylogenetic structure was found in all habitats for most lineages except for the deep angiosperm nodes. These results suggest that random or stochastic community assembly processes are predominant.

First Row: *Diapensia lapponica*; *Empetrum eamesii*, Alpine barrens (Hawke Hills)

Second Row: *Oxytropis campestris* var. *minor*, *Askillia pygmaea*, *Salix uva-ursi*

Third Row: Limestone barrens (Great Northern Peninsula), *Armeria maritima* subsp. *sibirica*, *Adiantum aleuticum*

Fourth Row: *Viscaria alpina*, *Cherleria marcescens*, Serpentine barrens (Tablelands, GMNP)

Fifth Row: Kalmia barrens (Gander), *Kalmia angustifolia*, *Vaccinium angustifolium*.

Rare Dung Moss Found



Splachnum rubrum, a rare dung moss.

Photo by Celina Waldron

From Dr. Anna Dabros:

Last summer, our research group of enthusiastic bryologists – Celina Waldron, Dr. Richard Caners, and Jenn Buss – was out in the field, collecting data on the impact of oil and gas disturbances on bryophyte communities in northern Alberta bogs, when they came across the red dung moss, *Splachnum rubrum*. The moss grows predominantly on animal droppings and, like other members of the Splachnaceae, relies on insects to disperse its spores. Our project is a collaboration between the Canadian Forest Service (CFS), Royal Alberta Museum (RAM) and the University of Alberta (UofA), where Celina is currently completing her MSc as part of this project. While collecting data on edge effects of seismic lines in a boreal bog, Jenn Buss (CFS) discovered the moss, and after consulting her colleagues, learned that it is an infrequently documented dung moss in Canada. Richard Caners (RAM herbarium) confirmed the identity of the moss and told us that the last time he saw this species in the field was in 2005, and that the most recent herbarium specimen of this species at RAM is from 1969, collected by Alberta Naturalist Charley Bird. As such, we were all very excited about the unlikely encounter with this ephemeral dung moss. We hope the CBA bryologists will share our enthusiasm.

Photo Submission: Members of Conservation Ecology Laboratory at University of Saskatchewan (C-ECO Lab <https://research-groups.usask.ca/conservation-ecology/home.php>) on field studies at the Redberry Lake Biosphere Reserve.



Left: Group assessment of grassland health at the Hafford Community Pasture (Gilbert Adum, Patrick Osei, Dr. Vladimir Kricsfalusy, Frida Stittrich).

Right: Frida Stittrich, BSc and Sadik Enan, MScs conducting vegetation and soil surveys in calcareous fen.



Left: Dr. Vladimir Kricsfalusy together with Gilbert Adum, PhD and Patrick Osei, MSc studying population of moor rush (*Juncus stygius* subsp. *americanus*), a vulnerable plant species.



Canadian Botanical Association Conference



Supporting Diversity in All its Forms

Soutenir la diversité sous toutes ses formes

June 2-5, Carleton University, Ottawa

Featured Speakers



Herbaria: the foundation of botanical science
Kathleen M. Pryer

The changing roles of women in plant science
Erin Zimmerman

Flora of the Ottawa Valley
Dan Brunton

National Collections Tour



The Canadian Museum of Nature's Natural Heritage Campus in Aylmer

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Saunders Herbarium

Field Trips



Burnt Lands Alvar
Holly Bickerton

Rare plants of the Pontiac
Étienne Léveillé-Bourret

Mer Bleue Bog
Sarah Mainguy

Gatineau Park: Pink Lake
Park Staff

Registration



Early-bird prices until **April 15**
(members / non-members)

Student — \$250 / \$300

Regular — \$500 / \$600

Remote — \$50 / \$70

Abstract deadline March 31

Registration, abstract submission, and additional information: site.phedloop.com/event/CBAABC2026



Canadian Botanical Association
L'Association Botanique du Canada



Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

Graduate student opportunities opening in agroecosystems, climate change and biodiversity conservation

Vasseur Ecology Lab is offering funded graduate student (Master and possibly PhD) positions in the Department of Biological Sciences for current funded projects.

A background in ecology will be required, ideally with experience in doing field work, species identification/biodiversity, and biostatistics. In one project, the successful candidates will conduct research in ecological assessment of plant and invertebrate species diversity in agroecosystems, mainly organic vineyards at the landscape level.

Brock University is suitably located in the Niagara region, where experiments can be conducted easily in controlled and operating conditions. The department is very well equipped for field experiments, analytical facilities, and greenhouses (as well as research experimental plots on Brock research farm).

Any students interested in applying can do so immediately and positions will remain open until suitable candidates are found.

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, the positions are currently limited to Canadians and permanent residents. Brock University is actively committed to diversity and the principles of Employment Equity and invites applications from all qualified candidates. Women, Aboriginal peoples, members of visible minorities, and people with disabilities are especially encouraged to apply and to voluntarily self-identify as a member of a designated group as part of their application.

Please submit a letter of application with a summary of research accomplishments, a CV, unofficial transcript, and contact information for three academic references to: Liette Vasseur, Biology, email: lvasseur@brocku.ca.



MSc position in Plant Ecology

at the University of Waterloo (ON, Canada)

**Funding available for an MSc student to study
covariation in water- and carbon-use traits.**

**I am looking for an autonomous, mature and
highly motivated person with experience
doing independent research (such as an
undergraduate research thesis).**

Send your motivation letter, C.V., transcript, a writing sample
and the contact info for 2 references to:
julie.messier@uwaterloo.ca



To start as of Fall 2026

see
juliemessier.org/join-the-lab



Ecology & Conservation Section Update

By Jenny McCune & Varina Crisfield

BIG NEWS!!

We have a new co-chair! Dr. Varina Crisfield is a plant ecologist with a diverse professional background that includes degrees in both geography and biology, and time working in consulting, taxonomy, and ecological research. Originally from Alberta but now in Quebec, she has worked in a range of landscapes, including grasslands, the Arctic, peatlands, and boreal forests. She completed her PhD at Université de Sherbrooke in 2025 and is currently working as a postdoc at Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue. Her current research focuses on understanding how environmental change may impact boreal bryophyte communities. Conservation has been central in Varina's professional work: she has been a member of the COSEWIC vascular plants specialist subcommittee since 2021, and her PhD research focused on rarity and the conservation of rare species in Key Biodiversity Areas. She also has a keen interest in plant–environmental relationships and understanding why species occur where they do. In her spare time, Varina continues to cultivate her taxonomic knowledge, with a particular interest in bryophytes and sedges.



Dr. Varina Crisfield, photo by Manuel Ezeta.

2026 SYMPOSIUM

We are planning a half-day symposium at the upcoming CBA/ABC Annual Meeting called “*Plant diversity across space and time.*” Feel free to get in touch with Varina if you have ideas for speakers (Varina.Crisfield@uqat.ca). We hope to see you there!

DON'T FORGET...

If you are a University research lab, non-governmental organization, consulting firm or other organization that **does plant ecology in Canada**, please send us the address of your website so we can include a link to it in the Ecology and Conservation Section CBA/ABC webpage.

CBA/ABC Invites Nominations for 2026

Dear CBA members,

Are you passionate about plants? Are you interested in learning about how the CBA works? Would you like to contribute to CBA initiatives? Are you looking to develop your network, working with plant scientists from across Canada?

The CBA/ABC is seeking nominations for several important positions:

- **President-Elect**
- **Treasurer**
- **Webmaster**
- **Bulletin Editor**
- **Two Directors-at-large residing West of the Ontario/Manitoba Border**

The **President-Elect** serves a 2-year term before assuming the President role, and shall originally have served a term as a Director or an equivalent service elsewhere in the Corporation (e.g., as an officer of a Section). The President-Elect's main duties are:

- To chair the Lionel Cinq-Mars and Iain and Sylvia Taylor committee awards, including the presentation of the awards.
- To manage the CBA/ABC undergraduate awards offered at the different regional competitions held across Canada.

The **Treasurer** is elected for a period of two years and may serve for up to two terms (a total of four years). The treasurer fulfills a variety of duties that are critical to the Society, including:

- Maintains the CBA/ABC accounts in compliance with the By-law and the rules of the Not-for-Profit Organizations Act.
- Ensures that all Federal and Provincial financial filing deadlines are met.
- Is responsible for all financial activities of CBA/ABC in conjunction with the hired Executive-Assistant who is responsible for all tasks related to membership fees, day-to-day finances, and year-end statements.
- Manages the annual review of the financial records conducted by a certified public accountant.

The **Webmaster** oversees the management of CBA/ABC's website ensuring its functionality and security. It acts as the digital curator, coordinating the online published content with the Board of Directors, Section Chairs, and the membership.

Bulletin Editor — With Erin Zimmerman having taken over the editorial duties, this position has moved on to additional responsibilities, such as managing aspects of online membership. However, this director position must be maintained in accordance with CBA bylaw.

Directors serve a two-year term and are eligible for re-election to one additional successive term. They attend three to four board meetings annually and participate to committees of their choice.

The CBA/ABC recognizes the importance of diversity in representation and encourages all members to self-nominate regardless of career stage or area of botanical interest. This is your chance to make a difference in our Association and botany in Canada!

All positions will start in June 2026.

If you are interested in these essential volunteer positions, please submit a brief (1/2 page) statement describing your current position and/or motivation for the position via email to Mihai Costea, mcostea@wlu.ca by March 28, 2026. If you have questions, please feel free to inquire using the same email address. The Board of Directors is looking forward to receiving your nominations and will present a slate of candidates to the membership several weeks prior to the AGM.

L'ABC lance un appel de candidatures pour 2026

Vous êtes passionné par les plantes ? Vous souhaitez en savoir plus sur le fonctionnement de l'ABC ? Aimeriez-vous contribuer aux initiatives de l'ABC ? Cherchez-vous à développer votre réseau en travaillant avec des scientifiques étudiant les plantes de partout au Canada ?

L'ABC lance un appel de candidatures pour plusieurs postes importants :

- **Président élu**
- **Trésorier**
- **Webmestre**
- **Editeur du Bulletin**
- **Deux directeurs résidant à l'ouest de la frontière Ontario/Manitoba**

Ces trois postes débiteront en juin 2026.

Le président élu remplit un mandat de deux ans avant d'assumer le rôle de président, et doit au départ avoir rempli un mandat de directeur ou un service équivalent ailleurs dans la société (par exemple, en tant que dirigeant d'une section). Les principales fonctions du président élu sont les suivantes :

- Présider les comités des Prix Lionel Cinq-Mars et Iain et Sylvia Taylor, y compris la remise de ces prix.
- Gérer les prix de premier cycle de l'ABC offerts lors des différents concours régionaux tenus au Canada.

Le trésorier est élu pour une période de deux ans et peut servir un maximum de deux mandats (un total de 4 ans). A ce poste, le trésorier remplit diverses fonctions essentielles pour l'Association, notamment :

- Tient les comptes de l'ABC en conformité avec son Règlement et la Loi sur les organismes à but non-lucratif.
- S'assure que toutes les dates limites de dépôt des documents financiers fédéraux et provinciaux sont respectées.
- Est responsable de toutes les activités financières de l'ABC en collaboration avec l'adjoint exécutif (embauché) qui est responsable de toutes les tâches liées aux cotisations des membres, aux finances quotidiennes et aux déclarations de fin d'année.
- Gère l'examen annuel des dossiers financiers effectués par un expert-comptable.

Le webmestre supervise la gestion du site web de l'ABC afin d'en garantir le bon fonctionnement et la sécurité. Il agit en tant que conservateur numérique, coordonnant le contenu publié en ligne avec le conseil d'administration, les présidents de section et les membres.

Editeur du Bulletin — Erin Zimmerman ayant pris la direction des tâches éditoriales, la personne à ce poste a pris en charge d'autres responsabilités, telles que la gestion des aspects liés à l'adhésion en ligne. Cependant, ce poste de directeur doit être maintenu conformément aux statuts de l'ABC.

Les directeurs ont un mandat de deux ans et peuvent être réélus pour un mandat successif. Ils assistent aux trois ou quatre réunions annuelles du conseil d'administration et participent aux comités de leur choix.

L'ABC reconnaît l'importance de la diversité dans la représentation et encourage tous les membres à proposer leur candidature, quel que soit leur stade de carrière ou leur domaine d'intérêt. C'est votre chance de faire une différence dans notre Association et dans la botanique au Canada !

Si vous êtes intéressé(e) par ces postes bénévoles essentiels pour l'ABC, veuillez soumettre une brève déclaration (1/2 page) décrivant votre position actuelle et/ou votre motivation pour le poste par courriel à Mihai Costea, mcostea@wlu.ca avant le 28 mars 2026. Si vous avez des questions, n'hésitez pas à vous renseigner en utilisant la même adresse électronique. Le conseil d'administration de l'Association se réjouit de recevoir vos nominations et présentera une liste de candidats aux membres plusieurs semaines avant l'Assemblée Générale Annuelle.



Calocorthis purpureus

Photo by Mihai Costea

Update from Botany, Official Journal of the CBA

Founded in 1929, *Botany* publishes high-quality research in all segments of plant science, prioritizing integrative studies that advance fundamental understanding of plant life. Building on its near century-long legacy, the journal is committed to rigorous peer review, impactful scholarship, and active support of the journal community. As *Botany* approaches its 100th anniversary, we look forward to sharing a renewed vision for the journal's future.

Our recent special collections, [The Intrinsic Value of Botanical gardens and herbariums](#), [Indigenous Knowledges and Approaches to Botanical Research](#), and the [UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development](#), are now wrapping up. We invite you to explore the broad range of articles that have been published so far. If you are interested in coordinating a future collection with us, please reach out (contact details below).

We're pleased to share that longtime journal editor and supporter Dr. Christian Lacroix has stepped into a new role as Senior Editor, Reviews at *Botany*. *Botany* welcomes Reviews that critically integrate current research across the plant sciences and highlight emerging themes shaping the field. Submissions should provide clear insight and direction for future study. [Submit your Review through ScholarOne](#).

While it is free to publish in *Botany*, we also offer [discounts and waivers](#) for authors who choose to publish Open Access.

We'd like to highlight some recent Editor's Choice papers:

- [Shading as a tool for *Sphagnum magellanicum* regeneration: scalable implications for peatland restoration in southern South America](#) by [Zúñiga et al.](#)
- [Wáts'iyus Harvest Basket Model: turning to ancestral plant knowledge to develop Indigenized strategies towards decolonial ethnobotanical research in Skwxwú7mesh \(Squamish\) BC](#) by [Joseph et al.](#)
- [Understory plant species-specific effects on subarctic soil fertility](#) by [Klapprat et al.](#)

We look forward to another year of publishing impactful research and engaging with the research community, whether online or at the 2026 Annual CBA meeting in Ottawa. Members of the Canadian Botanical Association play a vital role in shaping the journal through their submissions, reviews, service, and ideas. We are grateful for your ongoing support and the many ways you strengthen the journal and botanical science in Canada.

With best wishes,

Liette Vasseur, Co-Editor-in-Chief: lvasseur@brocku.ca

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Accessibility: a confusing or forgotten factor of IDEA?

Most organizations, universities, and institutions have regulations for accessibility, focusing on physical abilities. However, accessibility is a more complex topic and is not often considered in its entirety, as it also includes cultural, social, economic access. Everyone should be able to access, understand and fully participate in and produce science. But is it really the case?

Accessibility should consider cultural practices, mental health support, economic situation, gender, service requirements, and personal situations. For example, a single person with a child may not have the same availability to work in a lab at late hours. Because of this, should a supervisor remove access to funding or other opportunities? A supervisor may not intentionally think of this as discrimination, thinking the person with a child does not have the capacity. But is it the reality?

There are several little occasions where accessibility may be denied to one person compared to another one. One that has been seen and discussed in the past is the opportunity to travel and present in a conference. A supervisor may favor one person (unfortunately in the past it has been the male) and therefore sends the information about a conference only to this person even if other students in the lab could submit an abstract and present. These simple actions, often unconscious, may seem benign but can have consequences on the career of one person versus another.

The IDEA committee of CBA/ABC has been reflecting in the past months on accessibility issues. Although it is in IDEA, it is often overlooked. But as we can see, accessibility has many facets. We all need to be conscious of them and examine how we can reduce barriers to everyone.

We invite you to join us at the 2026 CBA/ABC Annual Meeting in Ottawa for our special session where three speakers will introduce their perspectives on accessibility in botanical science. This will be followed with a panel including student and early career scientist representatives and an open discussion with the audience. This is where you can bring your ideas and good practices to encourage greater accessibility to all.

Are you interested in joining the panel discussion? Please reach out to Liette Vasseur (lvasseur@brocku.ca) or Nicole Fenton (nicole.fenton@uqat.ca).

~Liette Vasseur



Calocorthus purpureus
Photo by Mihai Costea

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