

February 10, 2024



REMPERT PALEONTOLOGY  
RESEARCH GROUP

Neal Larson  
Scholarship and Grant Chairperson  
Association of Applied Paleontological Sciences

Trevor H. Rempert  
*Principal Investigator*

To the members of the Association of Applied Paleontological Sciences  
(AAPS),

Alexander P. M. Vinkeles-  
Melchers  
*Associate Researcher*

I am writing to express my most sincere gratitude for awarding me with the  
James R. Welch Scholarship for Invertebrate Paleontology Research.

Guy Santucci  
*Paleontologist, Cranbrook  
History Centre*

I plan to study the Early Cambrian Eager Formation near Cranbrook and  
Fort Steele, British Columbia, a locality remarkable for containing  
exceptional soft-bodied fossils comparable to the Burgess Shale. Since its  
initial discovery in 1915, the Cranbrook locality has been the subject of only  
six scientific investigations. The most recent investigation took place in the  
summer of 2015 and reported the discovery of abundant remains of  
*Olenellus* and *Wanneria* trilobites, as well as *Anomalocaris*, *Bosworthia*,  
*Tuzoia*, hyoliths, brachiopods, sponges, and the high potential for many  
additional undescribed taxa not known to science.

Brennan Martens  
*Undergraduate Student*

In coordination with the Cranbrook History Centre and Museum, I plan to  
lead a team of volunteer fossil hunters from the British Columbia  
Paleontological Alliance (BCPA), the Vancouver Paleontological Society  
(VANPS), and the Vancouver Island Paleontological Society (VIPS) to  
thoroughly survey the site.

I am truly honored to be recognized for the James R. Welch Scholarship.  
Your generous support will allow for the collection, preparation, and  
research of a plentitude of invertebrate fossils from one of the earliest  
marine ecosystems. I look forward to providing updates to the members of  
the AAPS as the project progresses.

Sincerely,

**Trevor H. Rempert**  
**Department of Physiology and Biophysics**  
**Case Western Reserve University, School of Medicine**

