

All field trips will take place within Manitoba, a province renowned for its friendly hospitality; nevertheless, participants should come prepared for the possibility of less-than-hospitable weather. The average daily temperature for May in Winnipeg is 12°C, with record extremes of 37°C and -11°C. North-central Manitoba (Thompson) has an average daily temperature of 6.5°C in May, with record extremes of 32.6°C and -18.3°C (*Source*: Environment Canada).

Prices shown below include transportation and double-occupancy accommodation for the duration of the field trip (as specified by the departure/arrival information), field trip guidebook, bottled water, meals and incidentals as indicated, and all applicable taxes.

Post-meeting Field Trips

FT-C5

Ordovician-Silurian Boundary Interval in the Williston Basin Outcrop Belt of Manitoba: A Record of Global and Regional Environmental and Biotic Change

Saturday May 25 to Monday May 27, 2013

Leaders: Robert Elias (University of Manitoba), Graham Young (Manitoba Museum)

Estimated cost per person: \$430 (includes snack on day 1 a.m. and lunches on days 1 and 2)

Maximum number of participants: 14

Summary: During the latest Ordovician to earliest Silurian, deposition and biotas were influenced globally by environmental changes that led to glaciation and subsequent deglaciation in south-polar Gondwana. At the centre of equatorial Laurentia, the Williston Basin provides a record of global and regional change in an epicontinental sea. Classic localities in southern Manitoba will be compared with sites north of Grand Rapids and northeast of The Pas, including the only known exposures of the Ordovician-Silurian boundary in this vast basin. New research, integrating lithostratigraphy, biostratigraphy and C-isotope stratigraphy, suggests that deposits of latest Ordovician, Hirnantian age are present and that the Ordovician-Silurian boundary is at a higher position than previously thought.

Departure/arrival information: Departs from the main entrance of the Winnipeg Convention Centre at 7:45 a.m. on Saturday May 25th. Arrives at same location at 8:30 p.m. on Monday May 27th.

Other information: Round trip by minivans in southern and west-central Manitoba will be about 1700 km, with stops at easily accessible roadcuts, outcrops and abandoned quarries (longest round-trip hike will be about 1 or 2 km on easy terrain). Since we are visiting these sites over three days, each day will be long, with substantial driving time. The trip will end late on May 27, so participants should not plan subsequent travel on that day.