

**Title:** Battle of the Belly River Indigenous-Led Heritage Management Plan:  
Database Development, Planning & Design Department

### **Overview**

The City of Lethbridge Planning and Design department is seeking one senior undergraduate student to participate in an applied study for the fall 2024 semester. The successful candidate will support the development of an Indigenous-led heritage management plan for the Battle of Belly River site. The Battle of Belly River occurred in 1870 in what is now the City of Lethbridge's river valley. This National Historic Event is recognized as the last major battle between First Nations in Canada.

Building on the work of the 2023 City of Lethbridge Heritage Management Plan and the Battle of Belly River Research Project, this project will deliver a site-specific Heritage Management Plan that will support the ongoing management of the battle site. As part of this project, and working with the Planning Team, Heritage Consultants, the Blackfoot Confederacy Nations Consultation Offices and the Lethbridge and Area Métis, the successful candidate will assist by undertaking data collection and digitization of literature, historic documents, oral histories, and photographs pertaining to the battle. With this information, the successful candidate will develop a searchable database management system for each of the partner Nations that can be used during the development of the Battle of Belly River Heritage Management Plan, and that can be built upon by each Nation in the future.

In addition, the successful candidate will assist in carrying out field visits with Elders and Knowledge Holders at the Battle of Belly River site. They will support recording and documentation of any oral histories, stories, or information offered during those visits. Training will be provided.

To learn more about heritage management at the City of Lethbridge, visit the [Historic Places Preservation](#) area of the City's website.

This position is a continuation of the City of Lethbridge and University of Lethbridge's on-going Work Integrated Learning collaboration providing students with practical experience working through real world municipal initiatives and community topics in Lethbridge.

The City is proud to continue partnering with the University of Lethbridge and the Prentice Institute for Global Population and Economy (Prentice Institute) to offer Work Integrated Learning opportunities to students from all disciplines, connecting them to real world initiatives that impact their local government and community.

To learn more about the Prentice Institute, visit: [ulethbridge.ca/prentice-institute](http://ulethbridge.ca/prentice-institute)

### **What will you be working on?**

Under supervision, students will be responsible for:

- Familiarising themselves with the work completed as part of the 2023 City of Lethbridge [Heritage Management Plan](#) and the Battle of Belly River Research Project.
- Gaining familiarity with various database management systems in order to develop a functional system complete with a user-friendly interface and integration tools that are compatible with databases already used by partner Nations. Identify and locate sources of historic images, literature, documents, and oral histories pertaining to the Battle of Belly River.
- Acquire documents and materials, ensuring that permissions and rights for the materials, if necessary, are obtained and the data is in a format suitable for digitization.
- Digitization (if required) of materials and documents acquired. This may include image scanning, text conversion, audio/video digitization.
- Insertion of information and materials gathered into a Digital Database Management System ensuring search user functionality and ease of use.
- Develop a short <1000-word document that describes the contents of the database, while also providing a simple a step-by-step guide on how to use it.
- Assist in carrying out (up to 3) field visits with Elders and Knowledge Holders at the Battle of Belly River to support the documentation of oral histories and stories offered during these visits.

### **Who are we looking for?**

To apply for this position, you must:

- Be a senior undergraduate student or graduate student of any academic discipline / major.
- Be interested in one or more aspects of this project including: archaeology, heritage studies, museum studies, information management (including GIS), or archival work.
- Have strong research skills and be self-motivated.
- Have exceptional organization skills, written and oral communications skills.
- Have excellent interpersonal skills and experience working with people from diverse backgrounds.

Preference will be given to students:

- Who self-identify as members of an equity-deserving community.
- Have third year standing or higher.
- Have a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

## What's in it for you?

Through this position, students will gain experience and skills in the following areas:

- Learning about the functioning of heritage management, as a part of the wider heritage and urban planning fields.
- Carrying out applied research and analysis.
- Understanding how complex projects take shape, are managed and get delivered.
- Gain experience working with the local government sector.
- Create connections and learn from industry experts.

**Students will be paid a modest amount (\$1000.00) to help cover the costs of tuition and incidental expenses, at the successful completion of the applied study.**

This opportunity is designed to support students who wish to pursue an applied study for **disciplinary credit** (with academic supervision coordinated through the Career Bridge).

While students may apply for multiple City Scholars applied study projects in a given academic term, generally, they can only participate in one per term.

## How do I apply?

If you are interested in this opportunity, apply directly to the contact below with your resume, a cover letter and unofficial transcripts by **11:59 PM September 8, 2024**. In two pages or less, your cover letter should help the selection committee understand your academic background and goals, and any relevant course work, volunteer or employment experience, and why you are interested in this applied study.

### **Ross Kilgour**

Senior Community Planner  
Planning & Design, City of Lethbridge  
[ross.kilgour@lethbridge.ca](mailto:ross.kilgour@lethbridge.ca)  
403-320-4237