



University  
of Victoria

# ANTHROPOLOGY COLLOQUIUM

## Lions, Hyenas and Sabertooths, Oh My! Carnivores as Selective Agents: Implications for early hominin behaviour

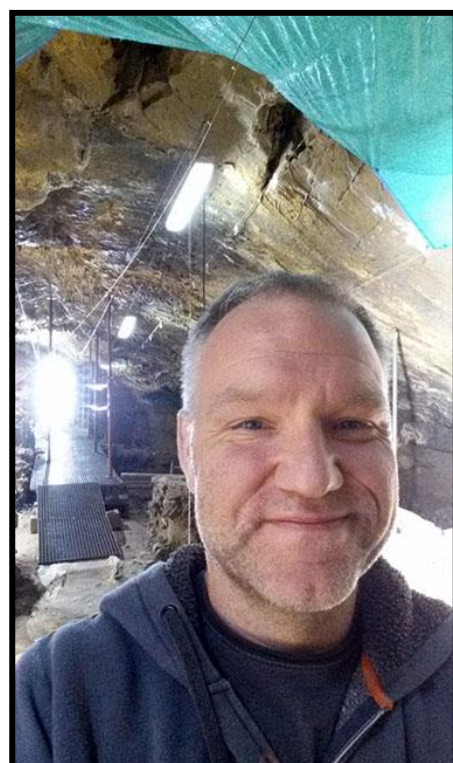
**Dr. David E. Hopwood**

Department of Anthropology  
Vancouver Island University

Monday, March 12<sup>th</sup> 2018

11:30 am – 12:50 pm

Cornett Building: B135



Understanding the ecological factors influencing early Homo is crucial to understanding the evolution of hominin behaviour. These factors include environmental setting and change, distribution of resources and the presence of competitors, particularly the large carnivores. The presence of large carnivores would have placed significant selective pressure on early Homo populations as they entered the carnivore guild approximately two million years ago. In addition to being providers of carcasses and competitors for food, carnivores would have restricted hominin camps and home ranges to areas in which there was low risk of predation. This talk will focus on the behavioural evolution of early Homo and Homo erectus and the role that large bodied carnivores played as selective agents. I will discuss how competition with carnivores acted to limit the ecological niche of hominin populations, pushing them to develop adaptive (behavioural) strategies to expand this niche.

**EVERYONE WELCOME.**