

Dr. Randall F. Miller  
Research Curator and Head, Geology and Palaeontology Section  
New Brunswick Museum



New Brunswick Museum  
Musée du Nouveau-Brunswick



Dr. Randall Miller was born in Ontario in 1956. He studied geology at the University of Waterloo and received his Ph.D. in Environmental Earth Science in 1984. His research for his graduate studies focused on climate change during the last ice age.

In 1986, Dr. Miller moved to Saint John to become the Curator of Geology and Palaeontology at the New Brunswick Museum. The Museum traces its history back to the first public museum in Canada. It has one of the oldest geological collections in the country, with mineral and fossil specimens that were collected as far back as the 1820s. Part of the work of the Geology Curator is to organize and catalogue thousands of fossils, rocks and minerals from New Brunswick and other parts of the world. The collection information is organized on a computer database accessible through the Museum's web site (<http://www.nbm-mnb.ca>).

The job of a curator also includes scientific research. Although Dr. Miller still studies ice age climate and climate change, New Brunswick has fossils going back almost one billion years and he has studied and written about the world's oldest most complete shark fossil, giant sea scorpions, tiny spider-like trigonotarbid, walrus fossils, ancient lobe-finned fish, fossil footprints and the history of geological discoveries in New Brunswick. In January 2004, his work on fossil sharks was described in *Discover* magazine and featured on the CBC Radio show 'Quirks and Quarks'. He has also written a children's book, *Fossil Hunter: Will Matthew and the Giant Trilobite*, and contributed to a best-selling book about the geology of the Maritimes called *The Last Billion Years*.

He is also an Adjunct Professor with the Department of Geology at the University of New Brunswick and a Professional Geoscientist with the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of New Brunswick

Dr. Miller likes to kayak, hike and cycle and often hunts for fossils at the same time.