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## Dr. Christopher West

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Dr. Christopher West is a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Alberta. Originally from Manitoba, he received a BSc in Earth sciences from the University of Winnipeg, a BSc in palaeobiology with High Honours and a PhD in palaeobotany and geology from the University of Saskatchewan. He has published on Paleogene and Neogene fossil floras from Ellesmere and Axel Heiberg islands in the Canadian High Arctic, British Columbia, and Alberta. Dr. West's research interests are focused on reconstructing ancient climates and ecosystems using plant fossils to better understand ancient forest ecosystems, and how these ancient ecosystems gave rise to the modern forest biome in North America. Dr. West was recently awarded the Governor General's Gold Medal for his dissertation on the early Paleogene fossil floras from the Canadian High Arctic.