

## **Columbia Icefields Field Trip Description**

**Field Trip Leaders:** Dr. Don Lawton and Dr. Deb Spratt

**Itinerary:** The field trip will depart Banff and travel northwest along the TransCanada Highway and the Icefields Parkway to the Columbia Icefields. The Icefields Parkway is one of Canada's national treasures and the road climbs through the heart of the Rocky Mountains, passing pristine mountain lakes, through broad glacial valleys and beside towering peaks. Trip time is about 2.5 hours and on the way we will stop at Peyto Lake, one of the most scenic locations. At the Columbia Icefields, we will be able to examine the toe of the Athabasca Glacier which is retreating at about 5 m per year. We will have lunch during which geological cross-sections and seismic images of fold-thrust structures of significance to oil and gas exploration will be described. On the return trip, time permitting, we will visit Moraine Lake, famous for its aquamarine blue water, and view the valley of the ten peaks.

**Clothing:** Normal hiking gear and hiking boots. Include a warm jacket.