



## *Native Prairie Speaker Series*

**Title:** Pathogens on the prairies: assessing health of native Saskatchewan bumble bees

**Speakers:** Kirsten Palmier, Masters Student at the University of Regina

### **Biography:**

Growing up in Saskatchewan, Kirsten has always had an appreciation for the outdoors which has led her to complete her BSc from the University of Regina in 2017. Her passion for nature lies with the protection and conservation of native Saskatchewan species. Throughout her undergraduate degree, Kirsten has been fortunate to volunteer for organizations that focus on the conservation of native prairie species such as the Nature Conservancy of Canada, the Regina MAPS (Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship) program, and Parks Canada. These volunteer opportunities ranged from mist netting song birds in Regina to tracking black footed ferrets in Grasslands National Park. She has also had the pleasure of working at the Royal Saskatchewan Museum as a summer student since 2015 under the supervision of Dr. Cory Sheffield which consequently has led her to pursue my MSc research at the University of Regina. Kirsten's current area of research, co-supervised by Dr. Sheffield (Royal Saskatchewan Museum) and Dr. Andrew D.S. Cameron (University of Regina), focuses on the health and conservation of native bumble bees, specifically the presence of pathogens, within the province of Saskatchewan.

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