



*You are invited to attend the*

## **Ontario Archaeological Society Toronto Chapter Meeting**

**Wednesday, March 20, 2019  
7:30 pm**

**19 Russell Street, Department of Anthropology  
University of Toronto, St. George Campus  
2nd Floor Boardroom, Rm. 246**

There will be speakers, light refreshments, and time to socialize.

**Max Friesen, Professor of Anthropology, University of Toronto**  
***Inuvialuit Architecture: The Archaeology of Cruciform  
Houses in the Mackenzie Delta***

Within the great range of house types occupied by northern peoples, a few stand out due to their size, complexity, or unusual form. One of the most spectacular is the cruciform semi-subterranean house occupied by Inuvialuit in the Mackenzie Delta region, Northwest Territories. These are known through the historic record as very large, carefully constructed driftwood-framed houses with three alcoves bordering a central floor area.

Over the past 60 years, several archaeologists have excavated portions of cruciform houses, leading to gradually increasing knowledge about them. However, due to their great size, deep burial, and problems with permafrost, it has been difficult to excavate one fully.

Dr. Friesen will report on the recent excavation of two large cruciform houses at the site of Kuukpak on the East Channel of the Mackenzie River. Following a brief overview of the ethnohistoric record, he will interpret aspects of the houses' architectural form, construction techniques, and change over time.



Photo: courtesy Max Friesen

***We encourage all interested persons to attend Toronto Chapter meetings free of charge  
and invite you to become a member of the OAS and the Chapter. Bring a friend!***