

## New earliest Tiffanian (late Paleocene) mammals from Cochrane 2, southwestern Alberta, Canada

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New mammalian fossils at Cochrane 2, Paskapoo Formation, Alberta, Canada, document five new species and two new combinations: *Ptilodus gnomus* sp. nov. and *Baiotomeus russelli* sp. nov. (Multituberculata), *Thryptacodon orthogonius* comb. nov. and *Litomylus grandaletes* sp. nov. (Condylarthra), *Pararyctes rutherfordi* sp. nov., *Bessoecetor septentrionalis* comb. nov., and *Paleotomus junior* sp. nov. (Eutheria incertae sedis). These new taxa supplement a taxonomically diverse Cochrane 2 local fauna, representing one of the most species rich Paleocene mammalian localities in the world. An earliest Tiffanian age is estimated for the locality based on the presence of the index taxa *Plesiadapis praecursor*, *Nannodectes intermedius*, and *Ectocion collinus*. The Cochrane 2 local fauna fails to demonstrate a decrease in species number relative to those of late Torrejonian localities from the United States, as would be predicted by current paleoclimate scenarios; the rarity of earliest Tiffanian localities in North America suggests sampling error as a partial explanation for the apparent incongruity.

**Key words:** Multituberculata, “Condylarthra”, Eutheria, Paleocene, Paskapoo Formation, Canada

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