



# **ALBERTA ELKS ASSOCIATION**



## **MINUTES OF 93<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE** **Held via Zoom** **Saturday June 26, 2021**

8:30 a.m.

Kevan McBeth, Grand Lodge Executive Director, provided instructions on zoom procedures for the Conference.

9:00 a.m.

Past Provincial President Darren Scott called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with formal opening ceremonies.

Procedures of the Conference were read to the members in attendance.

### **1. Roll Call**

Past Provincial President Darren Scott  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Barbara Evans  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Kelly Sanford  
3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Diane Wilson  
Esquire Ian Sundquist  
Inner Guard James Zimmer  
Chaplain Blake Prior  
Secretary Treasurer Lynda Petten  
Judiciary Chair Jim McLeod  
Judiciary Member Duane Felt

### **2. Introductions**

#### **Past Provincial Presidents**

Joan Hannah – 1995 – 1996  
Jim McLeod – 1996 – 1997  
Nick Henger – 1997 - 1998  
Bill Ward – 1998 – 1999  
Duane Romuld – 2000 - 2001  
Marjorie Dowell – 2005 – 2006

Duane Felt – 2006 – 2007  
Ken Komarnisky – 2008 - 2009  
Bob Shave – 2011 - 2012  
Gail Schrock – 2012 – 2013  
Leonard Shain – 2013 – 2014  
Lyle Ozouf – 2016 - 2017  
Ron Townrow – 2017 – 2018

### **Past National Leaders**

Sharen McLean – Past Supreme Honored Royal Lady – 2011 - 2012  
Bill Ward – 2006 – 2007  
Duane Romuld – 2009 – 2010  
Jim McLeod – 2013 – 2014  
Duane Felt – 2014 – 2015  
Denis Ellingboe –

### **Grand Exalted Ruler**

Derek Barkley

### **Grand Lodge Officers**

Grand Leading Knight Maurice Kozsman  
Grand Loyal Knight Leonard Shain  
Grand Lecturing Knight Don Gillis

### **Grand Lodge Committee Chairs or Members**

Jim McLeod – Judiciary Chair  
Lynn Williams – Member Services Committee  
Don Gillis – Member Services Committee  
Leonard Shain – Marketing Committee

### **3. Moment of Silence**

A moment of silence was observed with special recognition given to –

Past Grand Exalted Ruler, Provincial President Brother Jack Blinston  
Past Provincial President Brother Don Neal  
Past Provincial President Ken Neuman

### **4. Presentation of the Budget**

**Moved by Gerry Czapp, Camrose and seconded by Doug Becotte, Dawson Creek to table the budget. CARRIED**

5. **Adoption of 2019 Conference Minutes**

Moved by Doug Becotte, Dawson Creek and seconded by Bill Ward, Didsbury  
to adopt the 2019 Conference Minutes as circulated. **CARRIED**

6. **Reports from Association Officers**

a) **Darren Scott, Past Provincial President**

I would like to say thanks for letting me lead this great organization in 19/20. I had a great time visiting the Lodges and meeting old and new friends.

Now to this last year!! As we tried to hold our Conference, it became an ever-increasing task to accomplish with the tools we had in place at the time. In October, we as an Executive, decided to let Barbara Evans take over the duties as Acting President to continue with our strategic plan to better our Association.

As we all know this was a difficult year for many Lodges not meeting or trying different ways of meeting. As an Association, we need to move along or we will end up not having an organization.

We know that many of the Lodges are struggling financially and are relying on their gaming activities to help them along the way. Until this pandemic is taken care of it could be years before you are able to get that funding. Now is the time to try new things to keep us going. Reach out to your community and see what is needed.

This year the Association Executive has been looking at ways to become more financially prudent. We have switched to zoom meetings. We are looking at changing the structure of the Order to allow local Lodges to sit in some of the chairs at Conference by eliminating some Executive members.

I hope to see you all in person one day soon. Please attend our 2021 Zoom Conference as we need to get the business of our session done.

Let's all be Elks Proud!!

b) **Barbara Evans, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, President Elect**

Dear Brothers and Sisters...

I think that in all my years working on boards and committees, these past two years have likely been the most challenging. As Elks, we are facing challenges with our aging membership, Lodge closures and the general lack of interest in young people to "join" things. Then, COVID19 struck...not once but, they say we are in the third round facing a fourth! Lock down and gathering prohibitions has had serious financial, social and

emotional impacts on all of us. With the vaccines, we look to better days ahead, but we aren't there yet.

Last year the Alberta Association sent a letter advising that Grand Lodge had "determined that it is unsafe to ask members to travel to and participate in gatherings, such as Conferences". Grand Lodge issued notice that all requirements in all Association and Lodge bylaws were to be waived for the year 2020, hoping that 2021 would see a return to some level of normalcy.

The purpose of Conference is to attend to the societal business as required by the government, to pass a budget for the ensuing year, to establish the executive membership of the organization for the year and celebrate who we are as Elks. An annual conference provides a venue for comradery, sharing and celebration of the good works our Lodges and members and is a very important role of the Association. For those of us who have been serving the Executive it is also a time to share our vision for the Association and recommit to the work through elections and installation of Officers and District Deputies.

These were things that we had to manage in a different way over the last 18 months and the Association did its best to continue to build leadership and strength in our Lodges who continue to work and support their communities through ZOOM meetings, newsletters monthly, social media and our webpage. The Executive worked diligently on our Strategic Plan and have set new goals for 2021-2022.

Having to cancel Conference in June 2020 and October 2020, President Darren Scott stepped down as President and as Incoming President I assumed the role, with his mentorship. As 2020 was the year that wasn't, elections for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Presidents and Three Trustees will be done virtually so that we can get back on track.

My fondest wish is that I may be in a position to travel in the coming year, or that my Brother and Sister executive members will travel on my behalf to the Lodges. We need to find the strength to move forward and recommit to serving our communities. Whether we can get "out and about" right now or not, let us use this time to start optimistically planning events and projects...perhaps some that can be held within current restrictions... but don't let COVID19 stop us from planning for when we are set free!

c) **Kelly Sanford, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President**

Brothers and Sisters Elks,

What can I say about this year? It was one for the books for sure! One day I will be able to tell the story to younger generations about the year the world shut down. The world shut down Brothers and Sisters, but we did not. That is something to be proud of.

I have watched in awe as Lodges pulled together to adjust to the times. Meetings turned to emails, emails turned to Zoom, Zoom turned to tailgate Lodge meetings,

which turned to in person and back to Zoom. I have watched Bingos be shut down and then somehow find a way with YouTube Bingo - Outstanding!! I learned this year it turns out you really can teach an old dog new tricks! It is mind blowing how many Lodges have turned to Zoom and were able to make it work! Bravo!

While I will miss seeing everyone at Conference once again, this pandemic has proven one thing for certain - you can knock us down but we will stand together and stand stronger. Thank you, Brothers and Sisters, for working hard to help others, helping your communities and maintaining your Lodges.

Thank you to Sister Lynda Petten for all your hard work for the Association Executive keeping us running like a well-oiled machine. Thank you for going above and beyond the call of duty taking time out of your evenings, multiple evenings to assist Lodges with hosting their Zoom meetings. Thank you does not seem like enough but Thank You.

Thank you to the Executive of the Alberta Elks Association. Your dedication to the Order during this year was exceptional. It has been a pleasure to serve with you all!!

Until we meet again.

d) **Diane Wilson, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President**

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President for the Association for the past two years. I have again continued to expand my learning capabilities while this year has passed so quickly.

Over the past two years I have participated in the conference calls, and then progressed up to zoom meetings with the Executive and attended the mid-term meeting in Lacombe. I was fortunate enough to be able to attend three different Lodge meetings when Grand Exalted Ruler Derek Barkley was performing his official visit. I also attended Edmonton Elks Lodge when Provincial President Darren Scott was performing his official visit.

As liaison for Districts 2 & 11, I have kept in contact with the District Deputies throughout the years and participated in a zoom meeting with District 11. As the world took on a different kind of spin, I chose to follow the safest protocol and work from home as much as my job would allow. As District meetings, Lodge meetings, and social events were being cancelled and postponed I continued to communicate with the Executive and committee members. The Executive have had some hard decisions to make and have had to become creative in ways that they have not been in the past.

I would like to thank the entire executive, committees and members for their hard work and consideration for others as we work together to continue to be the best organization of volunteers in existence.

e) **Ian Sundquist, Esquire**

Well - what a year this has been! Restrictions on indoor gatherings has been the greatest blow to our Lodges. At first, I think many Lodges thought they could just wait it out but as time marched on they realized this was not a short-term thing. Some Lodges moved into "Zoom" mode immediately realizing that to not have a meeting one way or another would be bad for the cohesion of the Lodge. Unfortunately, too many Lodges took the path of least resistance and stopped having meetings. That doesn't mean that they stopped doing things for their communities though. Many continue to support their communities as best they can, but without the ability to fundraise this becomes difficult. Here again many Lodges found ways to make a few bucks. Let's keep our eyes on the light at the end of the tunnel with the vaccination program.

As your Esquire for the last couple years, I have been working with your team, the Alberta Elks Association Executive to keep the Association on an even keel and perpetuating our commitment to the members. As a member of the Membership Committee, we developed a Member Retention Program and also did a review of the forms the Lodges are asked to fill out to see if we could eliminate some with duplication of information and added to those reports we thought needed to have more pertinent information for the Association. Discussions and approval of this work took a back seat with the Executive as more pressing matters with the pandemic and assisting struggling Lodges took precedence.

It has been my pleasure to serve the Association in this capacity and I look forward to doing what I can in the future to keep this great Order going!

f) **James Zimmer, Inner Guard**

I have not much to report as we all know Covid did not allow for many meetings. It has been quite a different year. Being on the Executive has continued to be a rewarding and learning experience. From learning to do zoom meetings to better understanding my position, I am looking forward to the day we can be face to face again.

Going forward – I will continue to enjoy being a part of this great group and do my job to the best of my ability. Thank you to everyone for keeping this organization going through this unusual time.

g) **Blake Prior, Chaplain**

This year has been very challenging to say the least. I know it has been difficult for Lodges to function with lost revenue from not being able to rent their hall and a limited means of fund-raising. With vaccinations on the rise maybe by fall we can get back to a somewhat normal routine again. I encourage Lodges to see if there are any local municipal grants that can be accessed to help with costs and continue to stay in touch

with members through phone calls, or zoom meetings. This will end and we will get through it.

**Moved by Bill Ward, Didsbury and seconded by Duane Romuld, Brooks to accept the reports as presented. CARRIED**

## **7. Committee Reports**

### **a) Sustainability And Relevance, Diane Wilson, Chair**

Sustainability is just what the Association Executive have been focused on - keeping the Association alive and functioning. The Communications Committee have been keeping the membership informed and have also been trying to get as many people involved as possible. The newsletter has been coming out monthly with plenty of pictures to catch everyone's eye and also to share what other Lodges have been doing. They have expanded and have been making videos that show what the Elks and Royal Purple do in our communities. The committee has had a very huge success in reaching out to people. Each and every one can help by sharing the videos and newsletters.

The website has many ideas for Lodges to try as fundraisers, or just to become more visible in your community. Although everyone has had to stay home and stay safe, we encourage each and every one to reach out to someone. Pick up your phone and give someone a call or a text. Talk about the Elks and Royal Purple. This is the time to work on getting new members. Talk to people on Facebook (if you are on it) and share what wonderful things that have been done in your Lodge or you have heard about that another Lodge has been doing. Think about how you or even your neighbour can help. Save all the tabs, have others save tabs for you. Sponsor someone in the Walk. Sit on a committee, share ideas, look for the positives in all that you do.

What is relevant to the Elks and Royal Purple Elks? Helping people, making a difference in your lives and in the lives of others.

### **b) Communication Committee, Kelly Sanford, Chair**

Brother and Sister Elks –

Two years ago, during a Strategic Planning weekend the Communications Committee was created. Committee being the key word. We formed a team of outstanding members with exceptional strength, who work so well together. We were rolling full steam ahead, created projects for Lodges to get community involvement, creating promotional opportunities, opening the lines of communication and we thought surely nothing could stop us.... Then Covid said "Hold my beer and watch this". Like most Lodges, our Communication Committee had to put projects on hold, but communication became vital. So, while we might have been a little quieter in the past few months, please rest assure our team is working hard in the best interest of the Order.



## Toy Drive



Thank you, Brothers, Sisters and Lodges for your support once again in making the Alberta Children's Hospitals Toy Drive a success. We truly wish there were a better way than photos to express the rewarding feeling we have delivering toys.

Entering the 2<sup>nd</sup> Children's Hospital Toy Drive we had a vision of taking Charlie to the hospitals with bags of toys in hand, making our rounds, visiting kids and presenting the hospital with their toys, crafting supplies, etc. Reality stepped in and that obviously was not possible. Instead, the Toy Drive looked like this - 3 hours of sitting on Amazon painstakingly picking out toys, crafting supplies, etc. and shipping them to the hospitals.

Even though we were disappointed with the delivery we were there when the hospitals needed us. With Covid, patients are no longer allowed to share toys and playrooms were shut down. Both the Alberta Children's Hospital and the Stollery Children's Hospital were thrilled and relieved when we filled their offices with Amazon Boxes.

If you would like to donate to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Toy Drive, we are just accepting cash donations as donations of materials are still restricted. You can forward donations to the Alberta Elks Secretary, designating your donation to the Toy Drive.

## Christmas Ornament



In Fall 2020 we released the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Alberta Elks Christmas Ornament this time focusing our efforts on Tabs for Tots. The ornament was ordered and ready to be released last Conference, and of course that did not happen.

We released the 2020 ornament in the newsletter and utilized social media but sales were down from the first year. We believe this is greatly due to Lodges not being in session as a lot of the purchases were through the Lodges. Ornaments are still for sale and can be purchased by contacting the Association Office. Ornaments are \$20.00 with \$10.00 from each sale going directly to the Tabs for Tots Program.



## Newsletter

The Communications Committee is incredibly happy to report that one thing not effected by Covid-19 is our monthly newsletter. We have had no shortage of content coming in, including photos and incredibly tons of community donations. We feel the newsletter has proven its effectiveness in keeping the lines of communication open in the Province and is now being directly emailed to 1200 members monthly.

We love sharing projects, donations, coming events. Please keep in mind the newsletter is solely run by the committee volunteers so if we miss something we apologize in advance and will work to correct the problem. If your Lodge has anything they would like to put in the newsletter, please email it to [elks.secretary@abelks.org](mailto:elks.secretary@abelks.org) with the subject line being newsletter. When making a submission for the newsletter please sent the write up and the picture as two separate files so it will be transferrable to the program we use.

## Website

Improvements continue to happen to make the website easier for our members to use. Unfortunately, getting information submitted to add to the site remains difficult and we continue to work on making that process easier.

Lodge Submissions - wouldn't it be cool if each Lodge's publicity director made the effort to submit something on a regular basis. A simple, little paragraph is all we would need. We could create an area for each Lodge that had running submissions each month and would become almost a mini-history area for your Lodge to show what has been accomplished over a year. We might be surprised at what the Lodges are doing!!

Covid may have put restrictions on things but most Lodges have continued to figure out how to meet and do community work. Share this information.

Let's make this an area where people can see we aren't all about meetings but can and do have fun!!

Your posters and pictures should be included in the newsletter which has its own section on the site and is easily accessible to anyone who visits the site.

Committee Submissions – take some time to compile what your committee has been doing over a month or the year. This will let your Lodge members know that they are in good hands and also will let them know who to contact should they have any questions or perhaps even wish to join.

Foundation Submissions – it would be great to have a regular submission/newsletter for people to understand exactly what the Alberta Elks Foundation is for.

Let's all start making contributions and we may pique the interest of someone who looks at our website. We may just end up with new members when they see and understand what we do and the fun we have doing it!!

### President's Travel Report

Due to Covid-19 there have been no visits done by the Provincial President. I have continued to help the Communications Committee in any way so that we can continue making a difference to our Members, Lodges and Communities.

### Social Media

The pandemic has actually helped our social media following over the past year, which has made our impact online grow. Our biggest growth is still when we share articles and material that directly hits the heart strings of our members.

On average, we see approximately 200 people engaging on the page daily. This has declined as we see the pandemic dragging on. We think it is because people are just over only being able to connect online instead of in person.

We still struggle for daily things to share although the continued push to find information is slowly increasing the overall traffic. The continued use of the associated National/Provincial Hashtags is also helping us with organic users. We have seen an increase in community awareness by sharing those on a consistent basis.

In May we were able to work out the glitch and post the Association newsletter to the Facebook page which allowed many of the Lodge pages to share that to their own lodge Facebook pages growing the contact we have as well as what we do as Elks in our Communities. This has really helped share what we have been doing behind the scenes during the pandemic.

One special project we launched during the start of the pandemic was the Hour of Eleven. We have made a special effort to recognize our deceased members and the contributions they have had in our Lodges and Communities. The Communications Committee made a move to focus on those that have passed with a memorial slide show which has had an impact on so many this year. By marking their passing with the Hour of Eleven on both the Website and our Facebook page we are able to hold space for these members and their families.

Overall, the Social Media aspect of the page is doing well. Having the consistency has really allowed it to grow organically and remain on the newsfeeds of our followers allowing us to stay current. It is in the current plan of the next Communications Committee to have a communications social media schedule to ensure that media is posted to the platforms at least 3-4 times a week with relevant material pertaining to the Association and Foundation.

The Communications Committee is always looking for “Did You Know” facts or a Blast from the Past photo. it would be great to find some of our older photos and share those with our members and in turn our communities. If you have some to share, please ensure those get to Lynda.

We appreciate the Association Executives, and most importantly the Memberships’ continued support of such a wonderful media tool.

### *Additional Comments from the Committee Chair*

Chair Sanford reminded the Lodges to watch what they put on their home Lodge Facebook pages (i.e. pictures of drunken members, etc.) as these pictures remain in the Lodge history when people are searching “Alberta Elks”. What is put on your own personal pages does not matter, it is the Elks pages that need to be watched. An example used was the issue resulting from the Edmonton football team changing their name which has caused problems when people were searching “Alberta Elks” and unwanted information has shown up that does not show our Elks Association in a good light.

## *Team Work Makes the Dream Work!!*

### c) **Walk For Children – 2020 & 2021, Diane Wilson**

This year marks the 37th year for the Annual Walk for Children. The 2019-2020 Walk for Children started out with the North Central and South-Central Zones having a host early in the year. As time went on, the District Deputies were also trying to recruit hosts in the North Zone and the South Zone. District Deputy, Mike Irla was successful in convincing the Valleyview Lodges to host the North Zone. Hanna Elks asked to host the Walk in the South-Central Zone and it was felt that the more walks that can be held in the Province, the better. The South Zone was unsuccessful in attaining a host again this year.

The years’ hosts were:

- North Zone – Valleyview
- North Central Zone – Breton
- South Central Zone – Acme and Hanna
- South Zone – vacant

2020 Walk - Hanna chose to try a virtual walk due to the COVID-19 restrictions and \$1100.00 was raised and sent into the Grand Lodge. Breton had starting collecting funds for the Walk and the funds that were collected were \$5130.00.

The Walks have had to be postponed due to the COVID-19, but as soon as it is safe to re-convene, the Walks will be re-scheduled. In the meantime, we are hoping that other Lodges will consider running virtual walks.

d) **Duane Romuld, District Deputy Facilitator**

The last year has been very challenging for everyone in the world. The same can be said for our Lodges and the District Deputies in charge of the Lodges within their districts. Many Lodges have had very few actual meetings which made it difficult if not impossible for the District Deputies to make actual visits. Some Lodges have had Zoom meetings.

Coordinating visits with Lodge meetings has not always been possible. Some districts have managed to have Zoom District meetings and some have not. While in years past I may have been able to say to the Deputies that I understand and have been through the same things, clearly, I cannot say that this year.

All District Deputies whether they were successful in attending an actual meeting or if they were limited to just contacting the Exalted Rulers of Lodges have done a great job this year. While the coming year shows promise of improvements it would appear that it is going to be a struggle and the Brothers and Sisters who have remained in the jobs and/or stepped up to take on the positions are to be commended.

Training this year has been online which in itself has been a challenge. At the time of writing this report, the training was still upcoming but I trust it will go well and with some luck, we may have found some ways to improve the training.

e) **Judiciary Committee**

Chairman Jim McLeod reported that their committee is in place to assist both the Foundation and the Association and had been doing the work asked of them.

**Moved by Shellene Fakir, Didsbury, seconded by Al Gummeson, Ft. Saskatchewan to accept the Committee Reports as printed. CARRIED**

**8. District Deputy Reports**

a) **District #1 – Doug Becotte**

Greetings Brother and Sister Elks. As District Deputy for District One of the AB Elks Assoc., thank you very much for all your assistance as your District Deputy. Continually helping Disabled Children, solving a few Hearing and Speech Problems, as well as Eye Sight, Schooling assistance, Sports improvements, along with others, it is great to be part of the many different happenings that have been achieved by our former Elk Leaders.

We need to attract newer and younger members to join our Great Order. If nothing else to only fulfil our many ideas, then us willingly listening to and work with their many new thoughts. They are needed “Locally” and throughout the rest of our great country. How do we encourage them to join and take over the many services? Maybe new workable

thoughts are needed? We as Elks are a Canadian Volunteer Organization of Men and Women serving our and other Communities.

It is a must to advertise our Order, let people know who we are, along with letting others know what we do for our Communities. We need to be heard. If you are looking for new ideas go to the...Alberta Elks Association website...under Lodge Information, chose Lodge Projects. There are a lot of ideas and plans on how to hold events. If your Lodge has events...Share them on the website as well.

“Questions” about our Order can be answered, if not by your ER, DD, Liaison Officer, or PP, then certainly will by our GER. Find out who they are. Questions will be ANSWERED. Strong leadership comes into play; good leaders control the headstrong and encourage the timid to speak without fear. Members take an obligation to treat all members with respect and dignity. No idea is too small or insignificant for consideration and could eventually contribute to the success of your Lodge. When the public is asking what Elks do, use a National Elk Card for aid and inform them. We are a well-established and trusted community service, Charitable Organization of Canada. We support Children with Hearing and Speech disabilities as well as many Community projects across our great Nation. We are” Elks Proud”. Hopefully conversation will lead to an interview about different Elk happenings and hopefully membership. Inform them of our different web sites, suggest personnel that may be able to help with unanswered questions.

Another AB Elk Card, has been proposed for use to Improve the use of AB Elks (Districts 1 & 14) to be able to advertise on different items, selling Membership, etc. The Alberta Elks Association is an Alberta, Yukon and Eastern British Columbia Volunteer Organization of Men and women Serving Communities. We are an organization dedicated to the benefit and welfare of others wherever there is need for Charity or Public Service. Individual Lodge Members are part of a Canada-wide Fraternity of Service and Friendship. In short, we are really “People Helping People”.

b) **District #2 – Mike Irla**

First, I would like to thank all the Lodges for allowing me to visit their Lodges this past year. Unfortunately, I was only able to visit three Lodges in person when the next wave of Covid-19 struck.

As the year 2021 came with no in-person meetings, I called all the Lodges to see how things were going. The replies I got was that some Lodges met to discuss business at hand, others met via zoom, most had no meetings but kept in touch via phone or some personal contact. Technology was a factor for some Lodges as they were not set up for zoom and most said that internet service was not that great to hold zoom meetings. We had to postpone our district meeting for April 2021.

Communication with Lodges and the members on updates and activities on a regular basis with the monthly newsletters and the website at the provincial and national level was well presented and informative.

I have agreed to serve as District Deputy for District #2 for 2021-2022 year. Thank-you to Bro. Danny Fell for travelling with me to my visits.

A big hand out to Brooks for trying to arrange and hold the Provincial Conference.

In these times of uncertainty stay safe, stay healthy, stay optimistic.

c) **District #3 – Denis Ellingboe**

No report submitted.

d) **District #4 – Leonard Shain/Gordon Mcleod**

No report submitted.

e) **District #5 – Diana Worsley**

Thank you to all Lodges in District 5. Due to COVID-19, I was not able to travel in person at all.

Some Lodges in our District have had great success with Zoom meetings and others have had membership not wanting to go that route. Some Lodges are able to continue doing some of their activities, even with restrictions, which is amazing.

We had a joint District 4 & 5 meeting this April via Zoom, and had a great turnout.

I will be continuing as District Deputy for District 5 for the coming year, with hopes of travelling again come the fall.

Big shout out to everyone and hope to see you all again soon.

f) **District #6 – Don Pilisko**

Greetings from District 6 which include Lac La Biche, Vegreville, St. Paul, Myrnam, Hairy Hill, and Elk Point. Our District does not have any Royal Purple Elks lodges.

Not much has been happening in our neck of the woods with the majority of members not excited about zoom meetings. Each club however have been trying to keep themselves busy as I'm sure all clubs are. Some clubs have even snuck in an in-person meeting or two.

I do want to commend the Provincial and National Associations for keeping momentum of fellowship going in these times. Well done brothers and sisters.

g) **District #7 – Blake Prior**

Greetings from District 7. It has been a very trying year dealing with Covid-19. I started my fall visitations but that was abruptly shut down due to the pandemic. I have kept in contact with the Lodges in my District by phone through the year.

Fund-raising has been limited due to Covid and opportunities to rent the hall owned by clubs has also been sparse. Some Lodges have managed to have a meeting here and there but most Lodges are staying in touch by phone and managing to pay their monthly bills. With any luck this pandemic will soon be behind us.

I am nearing my completion of my second term as District Deputy and will be handing the duties over to Brother Ed Haun. I hope things return to normal soon and we can resume our club efforts around communities making them a better place to live.

h) **District #8 – Shawn Andrew**

No report submitted.

i) **District #9 – Gerard Hermary**

In opening I would first like to thank the Lodges of District Nine for their help and patience as we find a way to cope with today's changes.

When appointed District Deputy in Leslieville #351 on November 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 and reappointed April 11 2021 held by Zoom Conference in Red Deer Lodge #85, I was unsure on the day-to-day responsibility and duties of District Deputy. In saying this the time has been exciting and self-rewarding with continued help from my predecessor Hugh Lockhart as well as Lynda Petten, Nick Henger and the Lodges' officers within District Nine. Thank You! You are all just awesome to volunteer with.

Even if we don't agree on everything discussed we all agree the growth and sustainability of the Elks is important to the communities we live in.

Although I haven't been able to visit the Lodges with the exception of the fall 2020 meeting in Leslieville we keep in touch via phone call and emails. I guess we've saved on travel costs.

As a newer member working on my 3rd year with Lodge 85 in Red Deer as their Inner Guard, I feel the passion of the long-term members within Elkdom. My goal this year is to challenge myself to help increase the membership within District Nine as well as helping with new ideas in raising funds and increasing the existing fund raising already in place.

I'm very confident with the Lodge officers in place in all of the District Nine Lodges. They will continue to grow within their communities as they are very much involved within their areas.



Look forward to visiting the Lodges when Mr. Covid 19 permits. So, God Bless. Hope this finds everyone safe and Healthy!

j) **District #10 – Sharon Davis**

I went to all my Lodges last fall for first visits and then covid hit us.

I did get to three of my Lodges that wanted to have meetings at the beginning of the second report period. The other seven did not want in-person meetings and they felt that zoom would leave out too many of the older members. They did do what they could by email and phone calls. Some of the business got done.

I was on a zoom call with the Provincial President and with the GER.

Since we did not have a District Meeting, I agreed to stay on one more year. I am so looking forward to travelling and doing first visits in October. That is about all I can say at the moment since we are all still on lockdown. Here's hoping things get better soon.

k) **District #11 – Vernon Thuroo**

It was a short year to get in all the Lodge visits. I made my first visits to most Lodges before getting shutdown with the Covid 19 regulations. I phoned and talked to the Lodges to get information for the Alberta Elks Association. We held a virtual District meeting with five Lodges and our liaison, Diane Wilson.

The Lodges in District 11 are holding monthly meetings when they can. Some Lodges are out working in the community and putting on functions to keep active. Our District had two Lodges do a virtual walk-a-thon for the Fund for Children. Every Lodge is trying to sell tickets for the Alberta Elks Foundation raffle.

Working and talking to each Lodge helps to bring in different ideas as to how we can keep active within the community.

l) **District #12 – Terry Read**

Greetings from District 12. Although it has been an interesting year, I think that most of my Lodges have weathered through. I managed to visit a number of my Lodges before shut down started and those that I did not visit in person I have kept in touch with by phone.

All of my Lodges seem to be doing fine but we have one under supervision at this time with hopes that the problem will be resolved in a timely manner.

Best wishes to all Lodges and hope that we can get back to business in the near future.

Terry Read also reported the Calgary Elks Lodge have surrendered their Charter.

m) **District #13 – Brad Biette**

These sure are different times we are in. Here in District 13, we are constantly adapting to changes. In Brooks we were disappointed with the news of not being able to host Provincial Conference this year.

Over the last year Lodges in the district were able to host some bingo's when it was possible, some Lodges did renovations while they were able to, and for Brooks we were fortunate enough to host our 8th Annual Slow pitch Tournament again which was a huge success. Our Lodges are itching to get back out into their communities and continue to help where they can.

I would like to personally thank all of the Lodges in my district for allowing me to serve as your District Deputy. I hope the District is in a better place. Thank you for trusting in me as your District Deputy and I hope to see you down the road in the near future.

n) **District #14 – Aurel Beaudin**

Where do you begin with COVID 19 in the way?? District #14 has done remarkable staying in touch. Over the past few months, I have been either on the phone or on ZOOM meeting with every Lodge. Everyone has been on board and doing whatever means of meetings or virtual get togethers. All Lodges are down some with activities but are keeping in touch in their communities.

It is sad to say that the Crowsnest Pass Elks #584 closed its doors but has not handed in their Charter and still have assets to disperse. I have received information as of May 2, 2021 from their Secretary Al Gelman.

I would like to say thank you to all District #14 Lodges for their cooperation they have given me and to the Elks of Canada for the education they provided me in Elkdom. After three years, it is time to let someone else learn about the Elks. It has been a distinct privilege to serve on the membership and retention initiative committee program. I think we did make some accomplishments. Now, it's time to move on.

**Moved by Margo Ward, Didsbury and seconded by Doug Becotte, Dawson Creek to accept the District Deputy reports as printed. CARRIED**

### **9. Comments from Derek Barkley, Grand Exalted Ruler**

- Commented that virtual Conferences seem to be the new norm but all are missing face-to-face meetings
- A message from has been put on the website and will be shared with Lodges
- Explained the Strategic Plan for Grand Lodge Committee and the work they have done this past year working with all levels
- Sale of the Grand Lodge building was necessary with funds going into long term investments with minimal dollars put into a shorter-term investment for possible current needs
- Charity Committee have a new website and encouraged all to look at it
- Member Services Committee have been active
- We are suffering with membership numbers but those that we do have, are the true members and, reflect what it means to be an Elk
- Thanked everyone for staying on for another year
- We will have to work hard to get our members back on track after not meeting for over a year; it is up to all of us to get everyone back on board
- Explained the Grand Lodge resolutions and encouraged all to read the documents on their website before voting on the resolutions
- Hiring an outside consultant, through a Request for Proposal system, to help our organization survive. They will look at all aspects of our organization.

### **Comments**

Ian Sundquist, Esquire brought up the fact that it is very important that the members go through the Strategic Plan before they vote on the resolutions so they truly understand those.

Leonard Shain, Sherwood Park, informed the membership that their Lodge would be willing to help any Lodge set up Gowns for Grad. They have over 1,000 gowns on racks and several more that can't fit on racks. Racks will be provided if necessary.

### **10. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Barbara Evans performed "The Hour".**

11. **Alberta Elks Foundation Annual General Meeting** (minutes found in a separate document).

## **12. Resolutions**

### **Resolution #1: Structure of the Alberta Elks Association Executive.**

WHEREAS: The Grand Lodge of the Elks of Canada Association Regulations state that the Officers of the Association shall be a President, Immediate Past President, First, Second and Third Vice-Presidents, Provincial/Territorial Membership Director, Secretary-Treasurer or a Secretary and a Treasurer, a Board of Trustees, Esquire, Inner Guard, Chaplain, Historian, Organist, Publicity Director and members of the Association Judiciary Committee;

AND WHEREAS: An Association may, by application approved by the Grand Executive, structure itself with fewer, or different Officers, and its Executive shall be as approved by the Grand Executive;

AND WHEREAS: The Alberta Elks Association executive believe that the reduction of size of the Executive would promote fiscal efficiencies to allow for allocation of available funds to projects and Lodge assistance and encourage Elk Members to take on Leadership roles;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Alberta Elks Association apply to Grand Lodge to confirm the Officers and Executive of the Alberta Elks Association shall be established as President, Immediate Past President, 1st Vice President (incoming President) 2nd Vice President, 3rd Vice President and Esquire;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the duties of the Inner Guard and Chaplin shall be assigned by the Conference Chair in consultation with the Association Executive for each Provincial Conference.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That all applicable sections of the Bylaws and Regulations of the Alberta Elks Association be amended to reflect this change.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That these amendments shall be effective 2022 after approval by Grand Lodge and Alberta Corporate Affairs.

*SUBMITTED BY the Alberta Elks Association Executive.*

**Moved by Duane Felt, Vulcan and seconded by Kelly Sanford, Brooks. CARRIED**

## **Resolution #2: Secretary-Treasurer Appointment**

WHEREAS: The current Alberta Elks Association Bylaws and Regulations, section 11.7.1 states “The Secretary-Treasurer shall be appointed annually and can be made for a maximum of five (5) consecutive years”.

AND WHEREAS: It is in the best interest of the Association to allow for stability and ensure consistency and operational efficiency within the role of Secretary-Treasurer;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Section 11.7.1 be amended to read “The Secretary - Treasurer shall be appointed annually”.

*SUBMITTED BY the Alberta Elks Association Executive*

**Moved by Duane Felt, Vulcan and seconded by Diane Worsley, Ft. Saskatchewan.  
CARRIED**

## **Resolution #3: Bylaws: Alberta Elks Association re Bylaw # 9 – VOTING**

WHEREAS the current bylaw prohibits voting “by proxy or otherwise”

AND WHEREAS the world as we know it has been changed by the COVID 19 pandemic to prevent or limit social gatherings;

AND WHEREAS it is important that the Association be able to conduct the business of the Association, sharing information and receiving approval for the Association business from their members and meet their legal reporting requirements;

AND WHEREAS technology has expanded to the extent that remote meetings and/or voting can be conducted virtually and / or in person;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the phrase – “Such votes must be made in person and not by proxy or otherwise” be deleted from Bylaw 9 and replaced with “Votes by proxy are prohibited”.

### **Current Wording of Bylaw #9:**

9.1 Any member who has not withdrawn from membership nor has been suspended nor expelled as herein provided shall have the right to vote at any meeting of the Society. Such votes must be made in person and not by proxy or otherwise.”

### **NEW WORDING IF ACCEPTED:**

9.1 Any member who has not withdrawn from membership nor has been suspended nor expelled as herein provided shall have the right to vote at any meeting of the Society. Votes by proxy are prohibited.

*SUBMITTED BY The Alberta Elks Association Executive*

**Moved by Duane Felt, Vulcan and seconded by Doug Becotte, Dawson Creek.  
CARRIED**

**Resolution #4: Bylaws: Alberta Elks Association - BYLAW #11.2:**

WHEREAS the current practice and requirement for election to the Alberta Elks Association Board of Directors requires nominees to be present at the Annual General Meeting;

AND WHEREAS the number of delegates voting on the election is limited to those present at the Annual General Meeting;

AND WHEREAS the Alberta Elks Association needs diversity, dedication and expertise on the Board of Directors to ensure that the membership is best served;

AND WHEREAS inclusivity and transparency would be served if the general membership of the Association were able to review in advance of the Annual General Meeting the members who are interested on the Association Board of Directors and be in a position to assist their Lodge delegate(s) in determining the best choices for election;

AND WHEREAS Elk members who would be interested in serving at the Association level, but are not able to be present at Conference are prohibited from service;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the following be added to Bylaw #11.2:

**Notice of Intent to Seek Office**

11.2 Eligible members of the Order may provide Notice of Intent to Run for office not later than March 1st of the year they intend to run for elected office.

Notice of Intent to Run does not require that they designate the particular office position being sought.

Notice of Intent to Run forms shall be approved by Alberta Elks Association Executive.

Members who intend to run for office may provide the Association a Statement of intent including a brief biography, a description of why they wish to run for office and/or information related to their perspective on how their election can benefit the membership and promote the Order.

Such statement shall be provided in writing to the secretary of the Association not later than 45 days prior to Conference.

At the discretion of the Association, statements may be edited and returned to the member for final approval. Approved statements may then be published for members' information in whatever manner approved by the Executive.

Notwithstanding the above, nominations will still be accepted from the floor of the Conference.

Campaign Speeches:

Nominators of candidates for any office shall make their nomination and introduce the nominee to the members in an address not to exceed one minute. The Nominee will have up to five minutes to accept the nomination and address the members present.

*SUBMITTED BY The Alberta Elks Association Executive*

**Moved by Duane Felt, Vulcan and seconded by Darren Scott, Breton. CARRIED**

### **Resolution #5 - Bylaws: Alberta Elks Association - BYLAW 14 – COMMITTEES**

14.2 Standing Committees shall be appointed annually on the recommendation of the Incoming Provincial President with consultation of the Vice-Presidents and approved by the Executive.

Standing Committees for this Association shall be, but not limited to –

- a. Advisory Committee
- b. Community Services Committee
- c. Lodge Visitation Committee
- d. Sports Committee
- e. Ritual and Patrol Team Committee
- f. Walk for Children Committee
- g. Forward Planning Committee
- h. Audit Committee
- i. Communications Committee
- j. Habitat Committee
- k. Travelling Gavel Committee

WHEREAS the Executive of the Alberta Elks Association have developed a Strategic Plan format identifying four Strategic Pillars under which programs and projects are being developed for Lodges and Districts;



AND WHEREAS the Committees as designated by the current Bylaws has not been fulfilled for a number of years and requires updating to reflect the current operations of the Association;

AND WHEREAS the Finance Committee and Judiciary Committee are designated under Bylaws 12.5 and 12.10 respectively as members of the Officers and Directors of the Association;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that Bylaw 14 be amended to read:

14.2 Standing Committees shall be appointed annually on the recommendation of the Incoming Provincial President with consultation of the Vice-Presidents and approved by the Executive. Standing Committees for this Association shall be, but not limited to –

- a) Advisory Committee
- b) Membership Committee
- c) Communications Committee
- d) Sustainability & Relevance Committee

The Executive may consider other Committees for this Association, but not be limited to –

- a. Community Services Committee
- b. Lodge Visitation Committee
- c. Sports Committee
- d. Ritual and Patrol Team Committee
- e. Walk for Children Committee
- f. Forward Planning Committee
- g. Audit Committee
- h. Habitat Committee
- i. Travelling Gavel Committee

*SUBMITTED BY The Alberta Elks Association Executive*

**Moved by Duane Felt, Vulcan and seconded by Darren Scott, Breton. CARRIED**

### **13. Comments from Maurice Koszman, Grand Leading Knight**

- Congratulated the Alberta Elks and Royal Purple Elks on their activities for the last sixteen months on the work they have continued doing through the pandemic
- A legacy has been left to us for the last 109 years of Elkdom and the work that has been done during that period of time
- We owe to our predecessors to continue with their work
- The Service we do to our society through charity will make our organization just as strong as in the past

- The normal is not going to be the same; we have to make adaptations on how we do things; covid has provided us with an opportunity of leadership
- Our communities have missed us, those that rely on our help have missed us, friendships have been missed us; we now have the opportunity to fix those
- Theme – “Elkdom with Enthusiasm”
- Itinerary is empty currently because of restrictions. A schedule will be last minute and he encouraged other Lodges to visit the Lodge that he is visiting so he can see as many people as possible during his visit
- Any special occasions within our Province, eg. Drumheller – 100 Anniversary, walkathons, etc. are to be submitted to Alma so arrangements can be made for a visit
- Go back to our respective communities, talk to your Lodge members up and down the chain
- Don't just sit on communications received and don't use the excuse you never received the information because he won't buy that excuse
- The flow of communication can become a flood and, in this manner, our organization will grow.

#### **14. Election of Association Officers**

- a) President Elect Barbara Evans – no nominator
- b) 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Kelly Sanford – introduced by Duane Romuld – elected
- c) 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Diane Wilson – introduced by Bob Shave – elected
- d) 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Ian Sundquist – introduced by Duane Felt – elected
- e) Director James Zimmer – introduced by Bill Ward – elected
- f) Director Blake Prior – introduced by Edward Haun – elected
- g) Director Meghan Pollard – introduced by Ron Townrow – elected

#### **Election of Foundation Trustees**

- a) Gerry LePrieur nominated by Duane Felt
- b) Joan Hannah nominated by Terry Read
- c) Heather McLeod nominated by Leonard Shain

- d) Bev Monette nominated by Joanne Siemens
- e) Lynda Petten nominated by Duane Romuld
- f) Phyllis Anderson nominated by Diane Wilson

The following were elected to the position of Foundation Trustees –

Gerry LePrieur  
 Joan Hannah  
 Heather McLeod  
 Lynda Petten  
 Phyllis Anderson

15) **Community Service Awards**

2019 Awards –

1-25 Members – Hythe Royal Purple Elks #106 - \$8,639.00/member  
 26-50 Members – Didsbury Elks #514 - \$5,407.51/member  
 51-100 Members – Hanna Elks #451 - \$3,157.00/member  
 >100 Members – Red Deer Elks #85 - \$893.45/member

Special Awards were handed out this year for those Lodges that continued community support work during COVID restrictions and who submitted their Community Service Reports –

Valleyview Elks #321	Hanna Elks #451
Lac La Biche Elks #470	Olds #100
Elk Point Elks #460	Brooks #77
Camrose Elks #70	Stavelly Elks #112
Acme Elks #103	Dawson Creek Elks #289

16) **Past Presidents' Report**

Darren Scott stated they met and discussed the technology and agreed to meet more often and hoping to be helpful to this year's Executive.

17) **Budget / Auditors' Report**

Moved by Ian Sundquist, Stavely and seconded by Joan Hannah, Didsbury to lift the budget from the table. **CARRIED**

**Alberta Elks Association Proposed Budget  
April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022**

	Proposed Budget 2021-2022	Actuals to 31-Mar-21	Proposed Budget 2020-2021
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>			
<b>Revenue:</b>			
Membership Fees	74,000.00	85,950.00	82,000.00
Walk for Children Funds Collected	0	0.00	0.00
Special Projects (Toy Drive)	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00
Special Projects (Ornament Sales)	250.00	1,000.00	1,800.00
Special Projects (Charlie Rentals)	600.00	0.00	600.00
Member Services Grants	500.00	0.00	500.00
Regalia Sales	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bank Account Interest	20.00	0.00	20.00
Miscellaneous Income	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>77,370.00</b>	<b>88,950.00</b>	<b>88,920.00</b>
<b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>			
<b>Travel Expense:</b>			
President's Travel	1,200.00	0.00	1,200.00
Officer Travel	500.00	57.60	500.00
GL Delegates (1st Vice-President)	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Other Travel Expense	500.00	0.00	500.00
<b>District Deputy Travel:</b>			
Lodge Travel	10,000.00	1,325.00	10,000.00
Other District Expenses	100.00	42.31	250.00
<b>Conference Expenses:</b>			
Executive	100.00	0.00	10,000.00
District Deputies	100.00	0.00	10,000.00
Committees	50.00	0.00	5,000.00
Booklet and Proceedings Costs	100.00	0.00	500.00
Past Provincial Presidents	10.00	0.00	200.00
Other Conference Expenses	100.00	841.00	2,500.00
Grand Lodge Delegates	50.00		

**Mid-term Expenses:**

Executive	3,500.00	0.00	3,500.00
District Deputies	3,500.00	0.00	3,500.00
Committees	500.00	0.00	500.00

**Committee Expenses:**

Executive	500.00	647.45	1,000.00
Membership (incl. Lodge Re-vitalization)	250.00	83.57	500.00
Walk for Children	0.00	0.00	200.00
Publicity	1,000.00	282.57	3500.00
Sickness & Distress	100.00	63.50	100.00
District Deputy Facilitator	500.00	0.00	500.00
Website	0.00	280.11	100.00
Strategic Planning	500.00	0.00	2,500.00
Relevance/Sustainability	0.00	0.00	150.00

**Administration:**

Insurance Expense/Officer Liability	2,600.00	0.00	2,500.00
Accounting & Legal Expense	4,620.00	4,482.45	4,200.00

**Secretary and Office:**

Computer Program	300.00		
Telephone/Internet	800.00	800.00	800.00
Postage/Meter Contract	1,000.00	1024.54	2,000.00
Photocopier/Office Supplies	650.00	77.35	1,000.00
Honorarium	8,400.00	8400.00	8,400.00
Petty Cash	0.00	0.00	0.00
Officer Regalia	250.00	0.00	250.00
Storage Unit	1,100.00	1,083.60	600.00

**Transfers:**

Walk for Children Paid Out	0.00	0.00	0.00
Toy Drive Paid Out	2,000.00	3,441.96	4,000.00
Miscellaneous Transfers	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ornaments Paid Out	250.00	259.79	1,050.00

**Other Expenses:**

Ornaments	0.00	740.21	750.00
Charlie	1,000.00	150.00	1000.00

**Bank Charges:**

Service Charges	100.00	106.00	50.00
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<b>Miscellaneous Expenses</b>	100.00	0.00	100.00
<b>Write-offs</b>	5,000.00	75.00	2,500.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>52,330.00</b>	<b>24,264.11</b>	<b>86,900.00</b>
<b>Income</b>	<b>77,020.00</b>	<b>88,950.00</b>	<b>88,920.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>-52,330.00</b>	<b>-24,264.11</b>	<b>-86,900.00</b>
<b>Net</b>	<b>24,690.00</b>	<b>64,685.89</b>	<b>2,020.00</b>

**Moved by Shellene Fakir, Didsbury and seconded by Gerry LePrieur, Sherwood Park to accept the Proposed 2021/22 Budget. CARRIED**

To the Board of Trustees of:  
 The Alberta Elks Association

The accompanying summary financial statements which comprise the summary Statement of Financial Position as at March 31, 2021, and the summary Statement of Operations for the year then ended, are derived from the reviewed financial statements of The Alberta Elks Association for the year ended March 31, 2021.

In common with many charitable organizations, the Association derives revenue from donations, the completeness of which is not susceptible to plausible review verification. Accordingly, our verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the accounts and we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to donations revenue, revenues over expenses, assets and net assets.

Based on our review, except for the effect of adjustments, if any, which we might have determined to be necessary had we been able to satisfy ourselves concerning the completeness of the donations referred to in the preceding paragraph, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the reviewed financial statements are not, in all material respects, in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. Reading the summary financial statements therefore is not a substitute for reading the reviewed financial statements of the Association. The reviewed financial statements of The Alberta Elks Association are available on request by contacting the organization.

*Pivotal LLP*

Red Deer County, Alberta  
 May 13, 2021

Chartered Professional Accountants

**THE ALBERTA ELKS ASSOCIATION**  
**SUMMARY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**MARCH 31, 2021**

**UNAUDITED**

**ASSETS**

	2021	2020
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 236,279	\$ 171,006
Accounts receivable	25,100	48,924
Prepaid expenses	1,268	4,008
	<u>\$ 262,647</u>	<u>\$ 223,938</u>

**LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**

<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	\$ -	\$ -
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Unrestricted net assets	<u>262,647</u>	<u>223,938</u>
	<u>\$ 262,647</u>	<u>\$ 223,938</u>



**SUMMARY STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS**  
**YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2021**  
**UNAUDITED**

	Budget 2021 (Unaudited)	2021	2020
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Memberships	\$ 82,000	\$ 68,825	\$ 83,900
Walk for Children (net)	(200)		
Toy drive revenues (net)		(1,442)	1,442
Mascot revenues	600		300
Member services	500		800
Ornament sales (net)			1,308
Other revenue and recoveries	20		22
	<u>82,920</u>	<u>67,383</u>	<u>87,772</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Advertising and promotion	3,500	283	98
Bad debts	2,500	6,775	1,725
District Deputy expenses	20,250	1,367	18,201
Grand Lodge delegates	1,000	-	-
Honorarium	8,400	8,400	8,400
Insurance	2,500	1,973	2,402
Mascot expense	1,000	150	6,044
Mid-term and provincial conferences	25,700	-	18,503
Strategic planning conference	2,650	-	5,620
Office	4,900	3,371	3,635
Other committee	1,500	731	864
Professional fees	4,200	4,482	4,200
Rental	600	1,084	-
Reports/booklets	-	-	112
Service awards	-	-	1,053
Travel - president and officers	2,200	58	253
	<u>80,900</u>	<u>28,674</u>	<u>71,110</u>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES</b>	<u>\$ 2,020</u>	<u>\$ 38,709</u>	<u>\$ 16,662</u>

Moved by Ian Sundquist, Stavely, seconded by Don Gillis, Breton to accept the Auditor's Financial Report as submitted. CARRIED

Moved by Leonard Shain, Sherwood Park, seconded by Al Gummesson to appoint Pivotal LLP, Red Deer as the auditors for the 2021/22 year for both the Alberta Elks Association and the Alberta Elks Foundation. CARRIED

18) 2022 Conference

Duane Romuld invited all members to attend the 2022 Conference being held in Brooks on June 3 and 4, 2022.

19) Installation of Officers

Grand Exalted Ruler Derek Barkley performed the installation of officers.

20) President's Speech



**PRESIDENT SPEECH at the 93rd ALBERTA ELKS CONFERENCE**

More than a year ago, as the Whitehorse Elks Lodge was preparing to host the 2020 Provincial Conference, I was also preparing to step into the role of Provincial President... planning goals and direction for the Association, preparing my "theme" and speech, organizing Committee chairs, and so on.

Then the Storm called COVID hit... not only across Alberta and Canada, but the whole world. Plans were cancelled and we were told to go home and lock down. No gatherings, no fundraising events, no celebrations or meetings. With optimism, we planned a Conference for October 2020... but the storm had not receded. The vaccine appeared...we planned for June 2021 Conference...

Well, Brothers and Sisters, here we are ... meeting virtually because the storm has not yet passed. But we will weather this storm and we will return...stronger and with more energy and commitment to our communities. I believe we can... and must be the lighthouses in the storm...and I know it won't be easy.

From day-to-day we don't know what we are allowed to do or if the next wave will wash away our plans. But we CANNOT sit and wait. We must prepare to sail once the storm calms. No matter how frustrating or demoralizing as these events have been ...and may

likely continue to be for some time yet, we must accept the challenges and find ways to begin returning to community service and Elks fraternity.

Over the coming months, the Executive will be working to find ways and resources to help revitalize our Lodges and fundraising capacities. We will continue to share information and be available to any Lodge who seeks assistance or support.

To the lodges, sisters and brothers who have already moved forward to rekindle the light of the Elks of Canada in their communities.... THANK YOU!

To those who are working on reopening plans, I encourage and applaud your efforts.

To those who have yet to embrace the potential for future activities, I implore you to shake off the lethargy and fear...to find any small way to reconnect with your Lodge brothers and sisters and your community.

By now, you've probably guessed that my theme will be "Weathering the Storm"...

Friends, we must **not** confuse "the path" with "the destination". Just because our path appears stormy doesn't mean we aren't heading for a bright, sun shiny destination. It's time to unfreeze the "pause button" and move forward with courage, optimism and energy.

Together we shall weather the storm! Thank you.

President Barbara Evans announced her committee chairs to be as follows –

Judiciary – Duane Felt  
Past President Advisory – Darren Scott  
Communications – Kelly Sanford  
Membership – Ian Sundquist  
Sustainability – Don Gillis

Denis Ellingboe questioned whether the Walk for Children was proceeding. Barbara Evans indicated that it will be considered as a project for this coming year.

## 21) **Closing Resolution**

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That all legislation, orders, edicts, declarations and resolutions which have been adopted this 93<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference of the Alberta Elks Association be confirmed and wherever necessary, the Bylaws, rules and privileges of the Association be amended to give full force and effect thereto.

**Moved by Duane Felt, Vulcan, seconded by Al Gummesson, Ft. Saskatchewan.  
CARRIED**

22) **Comments**

Leonard Shain asked the Association and the Foundation to consider sharing their minutes on a regular basis once those have been approved by their respective Executives.

Kudos were given to those who helped set up this virtual Conference – Kevan McBeth, Lynda Petten and Joanne Siemens.

23) **Adjournment**

The 93<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference adjourned at 4:00 p.m. on a motion by Immediate Past President Darren Scott.

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