

# ALBERTA ELKS NEWSLETTER

October 2023



## A Project One Year in the Making

In a vibrant town of 8,800 residents, where the spirit of community knows no bounds, a remarkable story is unfolding. In this Elks Lodge-less haven, a beacon of hope shines brighter than ever – Tabs for Tots! The heartwarming tale begins at St. Mary's School in Taber, Alberta, where a school project became a catalyst for something truly extraordinary.

Imagine this: School staff, on the lookout for a meaningful project, stumbled upon Tabs for Tots through the magic of social media. Inspired by the program's mission, they reached out to the Alberta Elks Foundation last year, eager to learn more. What happened next was nothing short of magical.

To introduce the Tabs for Tots program to their students, the staff showcased the Tabs for Tots video from the website. With that, the project took flight! What initially seemed like a simple school project soon transformed into a heartwarming avalanche of generosity.

Friday, September 29th, Brother Wayne Eggen and Brother Brad Biette of Brooks Elks Lodge 77 journeyed to Taber, accompanied by the ever-charming Charlie. Together, they arrived to collect the 607 pounds of Tabs as well as thank the school for their support, and share with them more about the Tabs for Tots Program.

It takes a whopping 1,139 tabs to make just one pound, and the staff and students at St. Mary's School managed to amass approximately 690,766 tabs for their donation. What astounded everyone is that they've set their sights on an audacious goal of collecting a staggering 2 million tabs by next year!

A thunderous round of applause is due to the exceptional staff and students of St. Mary's School. Together, they are turning the town of Taber into a shining example of community, unity, and boundless generosity. This is a story of triumph and hope, and it's only just begun!



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# Foundation News

## Alberta Elks Association 5th Annual Toy Drive

In 2019, a momentous occasion unfolded as the Alberta Elks Association the first Children's Hospital Toy Drive, an initiative dedicated to bringing joy to the young patients at the Alberta Children's Hospital in Calgary and the Stollery Children's Hospital in Edmonton. Since its inception, the Toy Drive has experienced an overwhelming surge of support, and it has now found a new home under the auspices of the Alberta Elks Foundation.



The Alberta Children's Hospital and the Stollery Children's Hospital collectively provide care to an astonishing 100,000 children each year. Remarkably, statistics reveal that nearly 50% of all children in Alberta will, at some point, rely on the services of one of these hospitals before they reach the age of 18. While the Alberta Elks Foundation Toy Drive may not directly serve your local hospital, it is highly likely that you are connected to someone who has benefited from these vital institutions, whether they are family members, friends, neighbors, or fellow residents of your town.

This profound connection underscores why the Toy Drive has found its perfect home within the Alberta Elks Foundation. With 98 lodges collaborating harmoniously, we have the collective power to bring genuine smiles to the faces of countless children.

Over the years, the Toy Drive has undergone a transformative evolution. It has evolved from delivering trailers brimming with toys, collected diligently by our lodges, to fulfilling online wishlists for these young patients. More recently, we've extended our support by providing Audio Books for the Alberta Children's Hospital, ensuring that every child, regardless of their circumstances, can experience the magic of a bedtime story. Amidst these changes, one unwavering principle remains at the core of our mission: we donate tangible, cherished products, not mere cash.

Together, with your continued support, we can brighten the lives of children in need and make a lasting impact on their journey to recovery. Join us as we embrace the spirit of giving and create a world filled with hope, laughter, and the joy of childhood.

With that, that Alberta Elks Foundation would officially like to launch the 5th Annual Alberta Elks Foundation Toy Drive. We would like to remind all members that participation in this project is optional but greatly appreciated. If you would like to donate to the Toy Drive please forward donations to the Alberta Elks Foundation. In June the Foundation will again split the funds and purchase toys for the hospitals off their wishlist.



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# HAVE YOU HEARD



*Dear Brothers & Sisters, and Ladies of the Royal Purple Elks,*

This year, the Alberta Elks Association's Communications Committee has made lodge promotion a key priority. We understand that not all lodges are active on social media, and those that are could benefit from additional content support. To address this, the Communications Committee is implementing a "Lodge Spotlight" campaign specifically for social media awareness.

A questionnaire was sent to all Lodges in the Association for you to fill in and return to us. As we receive responses, we will create individual Lodge Spotlight Facebook posts. These spotlights will be shared throughout the year on the Association's Facebook Page. When we feature Lodge Spotlights, we will tag your town, lodge, and any relevant tags related to your lodge. Please keep in mind that there are 52 weeks in a year and potentially 98 lodges in Alberta. We will spotlight two (2) lodges per week, following a "first come, first serve" basis.

We want to assure you that even though it may take some time before we showcase your lodge, your turn will come. A fillable form was sent to all Lodges for your convenience..

Thank you for your cooperation in making this campaign a success and for helping us shine a spotlight on your lodge's contributions and activities. We look forward to showcasing your lodge in the near future.

*Jayson Hughes*

Jayson Hughes  
Communications Chair



## Presidents Travel

October 3	Elk Point #460	8:00
October 4	Hairy Hill #304	8:00
October 5	Heisler #305	8:00
October 9	Lloydminster #171	8:30
October 10	Vermilion #131	8:00
October 26	Westlock #330	8:00
November 2	Irma #366	8:00



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# Dawson Creek #289



Dawson Creek Elks #289 on behalf of the Elks & Royal Purple Fund for Children made a donation to Andrea Waldie to purchase speech electronic equipment for her 4 year old son Colin. Pictured are members PDD Doug Becotte, ER Frank Ripley, Shirley Brown, Pat Hunter and Lorraine Sumners along with Andrea Waldie and son Colin

# Trenville RP Elks #248



Donation from Trenville Royal Purple Elks #248 to the Imagination Library of Delburne \$200 Dollywood Foundation of Canada. Pictured is Sister Kathy Faulk and Library representative Suzanna Seusert of Delburne.

## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

The Alberta Elks Communications Committee loves sharing your story. We invite all lodges to share their coming events, donations, projects and more.

Submissions for the newsletter are due on the 25th of each month. When submitting an article we ask that you send pictures as a JPEG upload and a write up separate.

If you do not send information with the photo your photos will no longer be published in the newsletter.

Example of information to send:

- Lodge Name and Number
- Who's in the photo
- Information about the project your donating to
- How much the donation is
- What the project is

## Camrose Elks #70

Camrose Elks #70 recently donated to the Camrose Refugee Centre



L to R – Terry Pope, Leo Blum -secretary, Becky McCarroll – Camrose Refugee Centre



L to R – Leo Blum – Secretary, Jason Silbernagel – Exalted Ruler, Becky McCarroll – Camrose Refugee Centre





# Brooks Elks #77



The time has come and gone with out 11th Annual Co-ed Slo-Pitch Tournament.

The amount of support we have received from our community, local businesses and teams is astonishing and unbelievable that it still amazes me to this day.

Brooks kicked off with 14 teams and some beautiful weather to have a great weekend with new teams winning and having a great time. Dizzy bat made it's comeback this year with some good comedy and cheering. Our home run derby and pitch competition carried on with lots of spectators.

Of course without our volunteers which includes our members, Air Cadets, U-13 Badlands Diamond Devils, and lots of friends an undertaking of this magnitude would not be possible.



**Free Formal Wear Event**

Suits, Shoes, Dresses and more at no charge to all 2024 graduates!

**Saturday**  
October 21st  
9am - 6pm

**Sunday**  
October 22st  
10AM - 4PM

**Elnora Community Hall**  
407 2nd Ave  
Elnora, AB

**This event is hosted by the Trenville Royal Purple Elks # 248**

Elks Canada is dedicated to making sure that no graduate goes without the finery they dream about. Come shop our selection of donated Dresses, Suits and Shoes. You can walk away with a free Graduation ensemble!

**Thank you to those whose support and donations have made this incredible program possible!**

For general information about this event or to volunteer or make a donation, call Louise at 403-357-8292.

Follow us on Facebook for event updates and future event announcements:

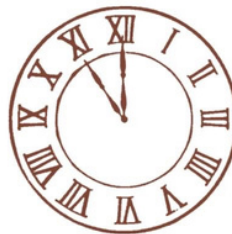
@trenville248

#Gowns4Grads

#ElksProud



**With sadness we share with you the following**



**"It is the hour of eleven when all Elks cease from their labours and again renew within their hearts their obligations to each other with special regard to our absent and departed Members"**



**Brother Art L. Pierce**  
August 24, 1930-  
May 27th, 2023  
Wainwright Elks



**Sister Shelia Reimer**  
Sept 4-2023  
Fort Saskatchewan



**Clem Swainsons**  
Sept 7, 2023  
Leslieville Elks



**Brother Andree Rausch**  
May 21st, 1965 -  
September 10th, 2023  
Medicine Hat Elks



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