#### **ALBERTA ELKS NEWSLETTER**

March 2024



# **Presidents Message**



All Members of the Alberta Elks Association:

Spring is basically here and the time of year when our District Deputies do their visits. The weather has been great for travelling and hopefully, it stays that way.

For many Lodges, the District Deputies are the only way we know if Lodges are flourishing or floundering. That is why the reports done during these visits are very important.

The Elks have helped many people and groups within their communities over the years – from donating monetary funds, to personal assistance

and to community projects. However, many members are aging and unable to contribute to fundraising like they used to. If the Elks are no longer thriving within a community, there is one less place for organizations and people to seek help.

Travelling around to the Lodges this past year, I find every Lodge saying they can't attract new members. There are the usual excuses – too busy, don't have time, hate meetings, etc. but these same people asking for donations from the Elks. Possibly it is time to ask the people who are asking for the donations to also join the Elks. It is helping within their community and they don't have to commit to every meeting. Many are only once a month.

It is easy to find out information about the Elks organization through either talking to another member or going to the Alberta Elks Association website and it will send you in the right direction.

Thank you to all the members and non-members who do help in our communities. Volunteers are what make communities successful!!!

Fraternally yours,

James Zimmer

Alberta Elks Association President

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#### **Presidents Travel**

March 4 Stettler #92 7:30 p.m. March 7 Wetaskiwin #91 8:00 p.m.



## Stavely Elks Lodge



The Stavely Elks donated \$2500 to the Stavely Archery Lanes, for sponsorship of their upcoming Junior Tournament in March. Exalted Ruler Brother Blaine Hoffarth is pictured, with many of the juniors, and the Club's president, Burke Schmidt.( middle with green hoodie)

## **Travelling Gavel**



John Mercier; past Exalted Ruler of the Carstairs Elks Lodge 556, presents the Traveling Gavel to acting Exalted Ruler; Cody Sweere of the Strathmore Elks Lodge 491. Eight members of the Carstairs lodge attended the Strathmore Elks lodge meeting on February 20 and were treated to a steak and eggs supper and Strathmore hospitality.

#### **Traveling Gavel**



The Camrose and District Preschool received \$294 from the Camrose Elks as their charity of choice in the Chase the Ace draw. From left; Elks Gerry Czapp, program director Kandace Bonney, children Emilee Dewart, Everleigh Paquette, teacher Cathy Franklin, children Luca Mohr, Stevii Mohr, Crystal Schiermann and Elks Larry Babiuk.

## **Breton Elks Lodge**



Les Nemeth of Breton Elks Lodge was presented his 50 year pin by Past Provincial President Bob Shave.











Lodges -



Grant applications to the Alberta Elks Foundation are down and this is an opportune time to apply!!

Have you prepared your grant application for the Annual General Meeting in June? Deadline is May 1st.

All grants over \$2,000 must be approved by the membership.

Email them to - albertaelksfoundation@gmail.com





#### **President Travels**



Our Provincial President Brother James was in Camrose Monday for his official meeting with the Camrose Elks Lodge #70

The meeting was well attended and the Lodge welcomed a new member to their ranks. Joe is local to Camrose and will be initiated in March!

Welcome to the Elks Joe!

#### 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 Dale Binder Picture Butte Elks February 7, 2024

#### Slave Lake ELks



Slave Lake Elks gave \$500 donation to the Slave Lake Volleyball Club. In the picture left to right is M Florin, E Friesen, L Aguila, Coach Jeff, Bob (Slave Lake Elks member), M Green, Nahachick and K Bostons. Photographer S Simpson.



