

ALBERTA ELKS NEWSLETTER

November 2024



**WHAT'S
NEW!**

Association & Committee Reports

Did you Know!!!

**A Walk Down Memory Lane
Community Heros**



Association

Alberta Elks Association Fall Update

This fall has been a season of revitalization and strategic planning within the Alberta Elks Association, focused on growth, member engagement, and sustainability. The Association has been hard at work on a number of initiatives aimed at strengthening our community connections and creating pathways for future success. Key highlights include:

• Membership Development:

- Developed a membership worksheet to explore unique marketing and outreach strategies.
- Identified at-risk lodges to provide additional support and guidance for sustainability.

• Lodge Support and Community Engagement:

- Developed direct action plans for struggling lodges, including a mentorship program pairing Past Provincial Presidents and District Deputies to provide personalized support.
 - Initiated a partnership with local media outlets to raise community awareness and build support for the lodges.
 - Implemented monthly communications for updates and morale-boosting within the lodges, along with a commitment to share positive accomplishments across the association.
- Looking ahead, we're laying the groundwork for next year, ensuring that lodges in need of assistance receive ongoing support and that all lodges can continue their community work with renewed vigor. Our theme, "Invest in Us," is at the heart of these activities as we strengthen our foundation for the future.

Judiciary Report

The Judiciary Committee is here to serve the Association and its members. As per the Association Bylaws, we are members of the Association and Foundation Executives in a non-voting role to assist and counsel as needed. We are responsible with ensuring that the Bylaws and Regulations of the Association as well as those of Grand Lodge are being followed. We are also here to assist the Lodges and the Districts with their Bylaws as requested, ensuring they are in compliance or to rule on questions regarding this compliance when they arise. It is also our duty to assist with all amendments of the Bylaws of the Association whenever resolutions come forth from the Lodges, Districts or the Association Executive. We ask you to read the Bylaws and Regulations of the Alberta Association that are on the Association Website. Should you have any questions please reach out to any member of the Committee.

Communications

The Communication Committee has been working hard to assist our lodges across Alberta. We have created the newsletter to include monthly information on what the Association and the Committees are working on, history points, and new ideas for lodges. Our members are a great importance to us and we are committed to working together for continued success for our organization. We are offering assistance to any lodge that needs help with brochures, posters, finding forms or just that you want to contribute to the newsletter. Communication Committee can be reached thru this email address: abelkscommunication@gmail.com Please do not hesitate to reach out.

Membership

Membership are currently working hard to address the needs of flagged lodges within our association. The committee is assisting them to identify their concerns, working to heal lodges and bring in new members.



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Did You Know?

NEW MEMBERS? Do you know the language of the gavel or what the heck you are suppose to do when the Exalted Ruler raps it in your lodge? If not, let us help you!

- One rap (0) calls the lodge to order, or permits the members to be seated after they have arisen:
- two raps(00)call the Officers to their feet
- three raps(000) call up the Lodge.

The Elks of Canada are partnered with Fundscript! This allows you buy gift cards with a percentage of each card going back to the Fun For Children! For more information on Fundscript visit; <https://group.fundscrip.com/en/E5GLKT/fund-for-children>



If a lodge put 10% of the money they raise from events or fundraisers into an account, that 10% could be used to send members to conferences or conventions. By doing this you are helping your members attend conferences without a big financial hit to the lodge!

AVAILABLE NOW

The Elks of Canada have funds reserved for lodge revitalization!! Better yet the application process is easy! Application forms are available on the Elks of Canada website and can be submitted online or by mail. The form is issued mainly for information to the Member Services Committee to aid help for a struggling lodge in terms of ideas, programs and materials. Any lodge looking for help to "revitalize" or change in order to help them grow or get back on track can fill out this form and can apply for \$500 to assist you. Click on the link below for the form.
<https://www.elksofcanada.ca/lodgerevitalizationform>

A Walk Down Memory Lane

Did you know that the 1st Grand Lodge Convention was held in: Vancouver, BC; the 25th Convention was held in Flin Flan, MB; the 50th Convention was held in Calgary, AB; the 75th Convention was held in Winnipeg, MB. and the 100th was held in Chiliwack, BC.

At the 1926 Grand Lodge Convention it was passed that "it be compulsory for all members, on and after November 1, 1926, to wear the fez while the lodge is in session."

Up to 2006, the Grand Lodge Convention has been held:

- 23 times in BC
- 21 times in Alberta
- 18 times in Ontario
- 14 times in Saskatchewan
- 9 times in Manitoba
- 5 times in Quebec
- 2 times in Newfoundland 1 time in New Brunswick
- 1 time in the Northwest Territories

DID YOU KNOW?

You might be surprised at knowing that Grand Lodge can print Brochures for you. They can print 100 free brochures for a lodge and after that the lodge pays 10 cents a copy. AB Communications can help the lodge with a brochure to use in your community. Contact the AB Communications by email abelkscommunication@gmail.com for further information. If you have a question and would like an answer drop us a line and we will try to find the answer.

INTERESTING FACT



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From your Foundation;

Brother and Sister Elks, as the new cycle of the Elks year begins, we welcome new board members Vanessa Grant, Gerard Hermary, and Terry Read along with returning members Al Gummesen, and Darren Scott. I would like to take the opportunity to remind you of your Alberta Elks Foundation and of what it does and can do for you and your community. One of the questions that we are often asked is just what the Foundation does. For those members who have been around for a number of years it is easily answered but for our newer members it is a mystery. While it would take up too much space to outline all our functions and grants, I would encourage you to access the website and learn more about what YOUR foundation does. We will also be featuring an article on each of our grant programs on a rotating basis in the monthly newsletter.

As a thumbnail sketch, the following are some of the areas that we are involved in: I.S.T.A.R. grants and scholarships, the float and Charlie the Elk, General grants for expenditures, Personal Assistance grants, Tabs for Tots program, emergency fire assistance, Annual Raffle, Casino, Toy Drive, and out latest start up the Mighty Lil' Elk. These are some of our programs and we are always open to new ideas and suggestions for areas to look at being involved to enhance and support our lodges in their communities.

If you are unaware of any of these programs or how they operate or are accessed, please reach out to an experienced lodge member, your District Deputy, a Provincial officer either present or past or go to the website and see a detailed explanation and forms to apply to a specific grant area. This last year we focused on a trailer for the float and branding of the Foundation to send a consistent message to the public at large.

This year while maintaining and enhancing our programs we are looking to extend the branding effort by exploring a pop-up sign that advertises our programs that the lodges can use at functions, trade shows and other events to aid in getting the word out of what we are and do to attract new members for the lodges. We are looking to keep the cost as low as possible so that every lodge can afford one. Keep an eye out for further information.

Hoping that the year will bring you challenges and many opportunities.

Sincerely,
Bill Ward
Foundation Chair

**ALBERTA ELKS
FOUNDATION**



56th ANNUAL RAFFLE

First Prize
\$30,000 CASH

Second Prize
\$10,000 CASH

Third Prize
\$5,000 CASH

TICKETS
\$2.00 each or
3 for \$5.00

PROCEEDS FROM THIS RAFFLE ENABLE US TO
PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO:

- ISTAR - Institute for Stuttering Treatment & Research
Training, Research & Treatment of Stuttering in Children and Adults
- Local Community Projects
Support Local Minor Sports, Youth Groups, Playgrounds, etc.
- Assistance to Underprivileged Children
With Equipment to Live and Learn in Special Schools
- Elks & Royal Purple Fund for Children
Supply Hearing Aids and Test for Canadian Children

30% of all ticket sales go directly
back to the selling Lodges to invest
in their communities

Early Bird Draws
March 13, 2025
3 prizes of \$750.00 Each

FINAL DRAW DATE JUNE 26, 2025
All draws to take place at the Didsbury Elks Hall, 1914 - 20th St. Didsbury, AB

TICKETS AVAILABLE
Local Contact www.elksfalberta.ca

78,200 TICKETS PRINTED Tickets may only be purchased or sold within the Province of Alberta. Tickets are not to be sold to anyone under the age of 18 years. LICENSE 688092

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The upcoming casino event for the Alberta Elks Foundation is just around the corner, and we are in need of volunteers! The funds raised from these casinos are essential in supporting the grants we provide to our lodges and the programs we operate.

Casino Dates: February 14 & 15, 2025
Location: Deerfoot Inn Casino, Calgary

For volunteers traveling from out of town, the Foundation will cover accommodations, and meals will be provided during your shift at the casino.

If you're interested in volunteering, please reach out to:
Darren Scott
Email: wades@telus.net
Phone: 780-696-3800
Alternate: 780-898-6599



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ISTAR Scholarships

Every year the Alberta Elks Foundation supports three Scholarships for ISTAR;

Dr. Einer Boberg (in memory) who was the co-founder and first director of ISTAR, to reflect his lifelong commitment to the advancement of clinical practice and the importance of its connection to research.

Deborah Kully, a co-founder, and long-time Executive Director of ISTAR and reflects her deep commitment and dedication to the advancement of clinical practice.

The 2024/2025 recipients are:



Sewit Tewelde

University of Toronto

**Deborah Kully / Alberta Elks Foundation Memorial
Graduate Award Recipient
\$2,000.00**



Brett Nisbett

University of Alberta

**Deborah Kully / Alberta Elks Foundation
Scholarship Recipient
\$2,000.00**

**Hannah Gau
University of Alberta
Dr. Einer Boberg / Alberta Elks Foundation
Memorial Graduate Award
\$1500**

JOIN OUR TEAM

Our current Secretary/Treasurer is approaching her fifth year with the foundation, which means we need to find a successor. This transition will happen during the Annual General Meeting in June 2025.

The responsibilities of this position include:

- Recording minutes for meetings and the Annual AGM
- Sending emails to lodges
- Managing financial matters
- Coordinating the float
- Handling inquiries related to grants
- Assisting the Raffle Chair

If you're interested and would like to learn more, please reach out to current Secretary / Treasurer Joanne Seimens for more information about the role by emailing

albertaelksfoundation@gmail.com

*Under Bylaw 12.4.1
Officers & Directors*

The Board of Trustees, at its first meeting, shall appoint the Foundation Secretary-Treasurer annually. The term of office of the Foundation Secretary-Treasurer shall not exceed a maximum of five consecutive years. Notwithstanding the maximum five-year restriction, the Board of Trustees shall maintain the authority to appoint a Foundation Secretary-Treasurer for a one-year term.



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President's Visits for November

November 5 | Elk Point No. 460 | 6:00 PM

November 6 | Beaverlodge No. 249 | 7:30 PM

November 7 | Grande Prairie No. 285 | 8:30 PM

November 8 | Kimberley Anniversary | 5:00 PM

November 19 | Mannville No. 395 | 7:30 PM

November 19 | Mannville Royal Purple Elks No. 205 | 7:30 PM

November 26 | Sexsmith No. 284 | 7:30 PM

Community Heros

Slave Lake #379



Donation made by the Slave Lake Elks #379 in the sum of \$600 to the Slave Lake Minor Soccer Association



A donation of \$254.30 that was from bottle recycling made to the Slave Lake Children's Recourse Council (CRC) In the picture is Bob Bennett (Elk) and Christine Boisvert (CRC).



A donation to the Slave Lake Gymnastics Association for their December \$5000 draw for the PRIZE-A-PALOOZA.

In the picture is Bob Bennett (Elk) and Marcia McDermott from the Gymnastics Association.



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Stavley Elks



Exalted Ruler of the Stavely Elks Lodge Brother Jordie Bronson presenting a check for \$5000 to the Nanton Handi-Van Society, for general operating expenses. On the left is Laurie Brown, and in the middle is Norma Blake from the Society.

Halkirk Elks



It was a packed house!

Thank you to all of our volunteers for putting together such a fun night. A big thanks goes out to Cal Herder, our auctioneer for the evening. Thank you to Dusty Golden for the fantastic musical intermission.

And a HUGE thank you to all of you that came out to support us, making this one of the most successful Oyster Fry's ever!!!

High Prairie RP Elks



The flower beds at MacIntyre Park each year are an amazing attraction to downtown High Prairie. There are three organizations which are due credit for their success: The High Prairie Royal Purple Elks, High Prairie Community Beautification Association, and the Town of High Prairie.

High Prairie RP Elks



High Prairie Healthcare Auxiliary received a donation of \$5,000 from the High Prairie Royal Purple Elks, presented Sept. 24. Left-right, are auxiliary secretary Marilyn Emter, treasurer Sharon MacDonald, vice-president Tammy Melnyk, Royal Purple Elks Exalted Ruler Colleen Greer and Leading Knight Helen Henderson. Funds will be use for beautification at J.B. Wood Continuing Care Centre.



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Dawson Creek Elks



On September 18, 2024, the Dawson Creek Elks #289 had the honor of Provincial President Meghan Pollard attend our meeting. Pictured is Exalted Ruler Frank Ripley, Alberta Provincial President Meghan Pollard and District Deputy Gary Schau.

Long Time Member



Gloria Coons who has been a member of Dawson Creek for 71 years. She is the longest living member of our Lodge. Gloria will be celebrating her 99th birthday on November 1st. T. Member Shirley Brown made the presentation and Gloria's son Bob looked on.

Trenville Elks



Another huge success with the Gowns4Grad that the Trenville Royal Elks #248 have taken on. And it is such a rewarding venture to see the smiles of the grads with the suits and gowns they've chosen.

Grand Exalted Ruler



Our Grand Exalted Ruler of Canada Brother Myles Reid has been on the road and visiting lodges. You can follow Brother Myles' adventure on the Elks of Canada facebook page!



[elksocalberta.ca](https://www.elksocalberta.ca)



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Elks of Canada National Curling CHAMPIONSHIPS

HANNA, ALBERTA
DECEMBER 5TH, 6TH, 7TH, 2024

- 4 Game Guarantee
- Saturday Night Meal & Entertainment
- Silent Auction
- Awards
- 8 End Games



\$250 Per Team - Deadline Nov. 15

For more information or to register contact:
vernthuroo@yahoo.ca

Elks of Canada National Curling

Hotel Rooms

Canalta: Single and Double Rooms: \$169.00 plus tax
Continental breakfast available
Phone 403 854-2400
113 Palliser Trail

Canada Grey Motor Inn: Single and Double \$110.00 plus tax. Restaurant and lounge.
Phone 403 854-4471
616 2 Ave W
Get your rooms reserved asap

Skips meeting on Dec 4 at the Canada Grey meeting room at 7pm

Extra Banquet tickets will be \$30

Cheques made out Hanna Elks #451
Email to vernthuroo@yahoo.ca
Need to know what division team is entering: Mens, Seniors, Masters, Ladies, Mixed

Send all the players names when entering

December 5 will be our opening ceremony at 11am.

For more information or to register contact:
vernthuroo@yahoo.ca



**DIDSBURY ELKS LODGE
PRESENTS**

Gowns for Grads



THE DIDSBURY ELKS GOWNS FOR GRADS PROJECT IS BACK!

THE G4G PROJECT PROVIDES GRADUATES WITH THEIR OWN FAIRY GODMOTHER THIS GRADUATION SEASON PROVIDING EVERYONE WITH FREE GRAD DRESSES, SUITS AND ACCESSORIES.

LOCATION: DIDSBURY ELKS HALL 1914 20 ST
TIME: BY APPOINTMENT STARTING OCTOBER 1, 2024

PLEASE CALL MARGO WARD TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT
403-556-5201



Gowns4Grads

Free suites, dresses, shoes, and accessories
for all 2025 graduates!



2024-2025

Upcoming Events:

Elnora

September 21st and 22nd

Lincoln

October 26th and 27th

Stettler

December 7th and 8th

Red Deer

February 18th, 19th & 20th

Wainwright

Dates to be determined

To make clothing donations
or volunteer your time,
please contact us! Call
Louise at 403-357-8292



**ELKS OF
CANADA**
EST. 1912

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



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