# **ALBERTA ELKS NEWSLETTER**

October 2025





# **President's Message**

Together We Can – And Together We Will Dear Brothers, Sisters, and Ladies of the Royal Purple Elks,

It is an honour to serve as your Provincial President for the 2025-2026 term. Thank you for the work you do each day to uphold our values and strengthen our communities.

My theme for this year is simple but powerful: **Together We Can**.

Together, we can support families in hardship.

- Together, we can lift up children in need.
- Together, we can stand beside lodges that are struggling.
- And most importantly, together, we can take care of each other.

As we move into the fall, our focus is on unity, growth, and helping every lodge thrive. Grand Lodge has launched the "Double Up" Membership Campaign, encouraging every member to bring in two new members. You'll see more of this during ELKtober, and I encourage everyone to take part.

Adding to the excitement, Alberta and Saskatchewan are facing off in the Battle of the Prairies — a friendly interprovincial challenge where the province with the most new members and the fewest lodge closures will take home bragging rights (and a trophy!). Opening new lodges will be celebrated even more.

This fall, as lodge visits continue, let's take time to really focus on what each lodge needs to succeed. Use your District's knowledge, tap into Association resources, and support one another in every way possible. I look forward to visiting lodges, celebrating your wins, and hearing your concerns firsthand.

Together we can... and together we will.

- Sister Terry Read, Provincial President 2025-2026

### **President's Schedule**

Oct 1, 2025 - Hardisty Elks

Oct 7, 2025 - Drayton Valley Elks

Oct 9, 2025 - Didsbury Elks

Oct 14, 2025 - Ft. MacLeod Elks

**Oct 15, 2025 – Hanna Elks** 

Oct 18, 2025 – Vulcan Elks 100th Anniversary

Oct 20, 2025 - Valleyview RPE

Oct 21, 2025 – McLennan Elks

Oct 27, 2025 - Picture Butte Elks

Oct 28, 2025 - Acme Elks

### THANK YOU

Now that I have had time to reflect on the honor bestowed upon me, I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest gratitude for becoming an Honorary Provincial President of the Alberta Elks Association.

There is nothing nicer than unexpected appreciation.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart!!

Lvnda Petten Honorary Provincial President





### **Alberta Elks Executive** 2025-2026



Front Row L-R: Lynn Williams, GER Myles Reid, Terry Read, Meghan Pollard, Vern Thuroo Back Row L-R: Jayson Hughes, Jordie Bronson, Joanne Siemens, Matt Koenraadt

### **Alberta Elks Association District Deputies** 2025-2026



L-R **Front Row:** Paul Ehrenholz-District 9, Bev Monette-District 3, Sister Terry Read-Provincial President, Faye Rever-District 2, Garry Schau-District 1

Back Row: Gordon Higginbottom- Dstrict 10, Matt Konraadt-District 11, Duane Dowell-District 12, Rochelle Graham-District 14 Missing; Don Pilishko-District 6, Travis Willerton-District 7



Greetings from the Alberta Elks Foundation,

At this years Annual General Meeting, we elected a completely new Board of Directors. Three board members completed their three-year terms and have now stepped down. We thank them for their dedication and service.

We are pleased to introduce your new Foundation Board: Lady Sharen McLean, Lady Christine Penny, Sister Lynda Petten, Brother Leonard Shain, Brother Vern Thuroo, and myself, Duane Romuld

On behalf of the Alberta Elks Foundation, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to the outgoing board members for their commitment and the excellent work they've done during their tenure.

The new Board will be supported by the Association Judiciary members: Brother Jim McLeod, Brother Duane Felt, and Brother Bill Ward. As well as our new Foundation secretary/Treasurer Sister Monica Krull.

As we are near the end of summer, the use of the float will begin to slow down. Unfortunately, both the float and Charlie have experienced damage this year. Repairs will be necessary, and to help manage this better going forward, we are developing a formal equipment transfer process. This will include detailed instructions and documentation to track where and when any damage occurs, allowing us to allocate repair costs appropriately to the lodge responsible.

Reminder: If your lodge is planning an event and would like to request the float and/or Charlie, please submit a formal request. We will do our best to accommodate your needs.

Going forward, we will be highlighting one of the Foundation's many programs each month. We're starting with the Toy Drive, which supports both the Stollery Children's Hospital in Edmonton and the Alberta Children's Hospital in Calgary.

Due to hospital protocols, donations must meet specific requirements. Items must be new and unused, and only certain types can be accepted. We encourage you to check with us for an up-to-date list of acceptable donations. That said, there is always a need, and your support makes a meaningful difference. Now we would encourage your lodge to host an event to get donations for the hospitals. Donations are made after Christmas in the new year when the shelves have started to empty out after the Christmas rush.

Thank you for your continued dedication to the Alberta Elks Foundation and the communities we serve.

Fraternally, **Duane Romuld** 

Alberta Elks Foundation

ALBERTA ELKS FOUNDATION

REACHING OUT TO OTHERS

### **ALBERTA ELKS FOUNDATION 2025-2026 OFFICERS**

Chairperson **Duane Romuld** Vice Chairperson Leonard Shain Trustee Christine Penney Trustee Lynda Petten Trustee Sharen McLean Association Representative 1 st Vice President Vern Thuroo Secretary Treasurer Monica Krull

Judiciary Chair Jim McLeod Judiciary Member Duane Felt Judiciary Member Bill Ward Raffle Chair Margo Ward Tabs for Tots Nick Henger Float (foundation) Monica Krull ISTAR representative Sharen McLean

Note: For contact information please contact the Secretary/Treasurer at albertaelksfounation@gmail.com and information can be sent to you.





## **Hanna Elks**



Thanks to a grant supported by the Alberta Elks Foundation (GA 2025-03), the Hanna Elks donated four Aquatic Mobility Aids to the Town of Hanna Swimming Pool. These walkers are designed to improve balance, support recovery, and make aquatic exercise safer and more enjoyable for all participants.

The Town of Hanna Swimming Pool extends its heartfelt thanks to the Hanna Elks for this generous gift that will enhance accessibility and wellness in the community.

Pictured (L-R): Kevin Olsen, CS Facilities Manager; Megan Olsen, Pool Coordinator; Vern Thuroo, Hanna Elks; Julia Cavenagh, Pool Manager.

## **Fernie Elks**



Fernie Elks & Alberta Elks Foundation Support Youth at Ghostrider Adventure Camp

On behalf of the Fernie Elks Lodge and the Ghostrider Adventure Camp Foundation, we extend heartfelt thanks to the Alberta Elks Foundation for sponsoring an "at risk" youth at this summer's camp. With their support, we were able to send two youth to this lifechanging experience.

The Ghostrider Adventure Camp, based in the beautiful Elk Valley of British Columbia, provides fully-funded outdoor adventure opportunities for children aged 8-12 who might otherwise miss out.

Through nature exploration, teamwork, and adventure, campers build confidence, resilience, and lasting friendships. The camp also runs a teen leadership program to train future counsellors, ensuring the impact continues for generations to come.

## **Upcoming Events**







### **Hanna Elks**



Members of the Hanna Elks along with Hanna's Rodeo Queen and Princess.

The Hanna Elks were proud to kick off rodeo weekend with their ever-popular pancake breakfast. Joined by Hanna's Rodeo Queen and Princess, members served up fluffy stacks and sizzling sausage to more than 300 hungry rodeo fans.

The atmosphere was filled with laughter, community spirit, and the smell of fresh coffee-proving once again that nothing brings people together like good food and great company.

# Sundre Elks Lodge Celebrate 75 Years!



This year marked a remarkable milestone for Sundre Elks Lodge No. 338, as we honour their 75 years of loyal service to their community.

**Congratulations** to all members past and present for your dedication, compassion, and hard work in helping make these 75 years possible. Here's to many more years of making a difference, together.

## **Vegreville Elks**



Congratulations to the 2025 raffle winners from Vegreville Elks Lodge No. 143! Brother Bernie Florkow was on hand to present the prizes and celebrate with our 6 lucky winners.

Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets and supported this fundraiser. Your generosity helps the Elks continue our tradition of service and community support in Vegreville.

## **McLennan Royal Purple**



Flipping for a Cause in Donnelly

The Royal Purple Ladies served up a hearty Pancake Breakfast at the Smoky River Agricultural Grounds in Donnelly, AB, fueling the crowd for the always-exciting Donnelly Mud Bogs. With smiles, laughter, and plenty of syrup, our team of Royal Ladies kept the plates full and the community spirit alive. Here are a few snapshots of us in action!



### Strathmore Elks



Strathmore Elks Celebrate \$10,000 Raffle Winner at 56th Annual Alberta Elks Raffle

Brother Tony Giasson presents a cheque for \$10,000 to Shannon Jones; 2 nd place winner of the 56th annual Alberta Elks Raffle. Ms. Jones stated, "I am so happy to support the Strathmore Elks. They fund so many wonderful community charities through their catering and bartending activities!"

## **Grande Prairie Elks**



**Grande Prairie Elks Present 3rd Grand Prize** Winner in Alberta Elks Raffle

The 3rd Grand Prize in the 56th Annual Alberta Elks Raffle was awarded to Ms. T. Hunt, with the winning ticket sold in Grande Prairie. The prize was proudly presented by Randy Nelson of the Grande Prairie Elks Lodge.

# **Camrose Elks**



**Supporting Community Playgrounds** 

The Camrose Elks are proud to support local youth initiatives. Exalted Ruler Gerry Czapp joined Marian Czapp of the Canadian Royal Purple Society in presenting a \$2,000 donation to Jack Stuart School Playground organizers Terra Manion and Kimberley Olsen. Together, contributions like this help ensure safe and welcoming spaces for children and families in our community.

## **Brooks Elks**



Brooks Elks Support Local Athlete's Training in Spain

The Brooks Elks are proud to support Caleb Saunders with a donation toward his upcoming training opportunity in Spain. Caleb began his soccer career in Brooks with GFC and recently made history by helping BCHS capture its first-ever gold medal. We are excited to cheer Caleb on as he takes this next step in his athletic journey!



# **Vegreville Elks**





Vegreville Elks Support Haying in the 30s Cancer Support Society

Vegreville Elks member Paul Bosse proudly presented a \$500 donation to Mae Adamyk in support of Haying in the 30s Cancer Support Society during their dinner and silent auction held in St. Michaels.

Since 1999, this incredible initiative—born from one man's vision—has assisted more than 5,000 individuals diagnosed with cancer in the Lakeland Region and beyond. Each year, over the August long weekend, the Haying in the 30s event brings people together in the spirit of community and compassion, raising vital funds to continue this life-changing work.

The Vegreville Elks are honoured to support such a meaningful cause that makes a direct impact in the lives of so many.

# **Stavely Elks**





Stavely Elks Invest in Local Projects

The Stavely Elks are proud to support two important community initiatives with recent donations:

- \$500 was presented to Mairin Gettman (Family School Liaison Councillor) and Shelby Slevin for the WCCHS Outdoor Classroom Project, encouraging hands-on learning and student engagement.
- \$3,000 was presented to Lisa Strauss and MaryLou Slumski for the Nanton Kosy Korner Platform Lift Project, helping improve accessibility and inclusivity within the community.

Exalted Ruler Jordie Bronson joined in making the presentations, underscoring the Elks' commitment to enhancing education, accessibility, and community well-being.



# **Elks of Canada** National Curling

# SWIFT CURRENT, SASK NOVEMBER 27 - 29, 2025

- Saturday Night Banquet
- Silent Auction
- Awards
- 8 End Games





\$300 Per Team - Deadline Oct. 20, 2025

For more information or to register contact: mcayla.zakaluzny@gmail.com or skrauchek@hotmail.com

# **Elks of Canada** National Curling

**Hotel Rooms** 

Home inn & suites 1411 Battleford trial E. 306-778-7788 (behind casino)

Holiday inn express 1301 North service Rd E. 306-773-8288(beside casino)

### **CURLING DIVISIONS**

Sr Mens/Masters, Mens Ladies/Mixed

#### CHEQUES PAYABLE

Hodgeville Royal Purple Elks Lodge #57

Send all the players names when entering

#### **BANQUET TICKETS**

Extra banquet tickets available for \$30.

For more information or to register contact: mcayla.zakaluzny@gmail.com or skrauchek@hotmail.com

## Strathmore Elks

Annual Strathmore Oilmen's Spring **Tournament** 

The 19th Annual Strathmore Oilmen's Spring Golf Tournament was another smashing success, uniting golfers for a day on the greens in support of local causes. Held June 12 at the Strathmore Golf Club, the event raised vital funds, with the Strathmore Elks donating \$1,500 each to Cystic Fibrosis Canada, Carseland Busy Bee Playschool, and the Kid's Jump Start Program.

Special thanks to Bro. Sean Duthie for his hard work in making the event possible. Golfers also enjoyed a delicious BBQ pork on a bun lunch, generously hosted by Strathmore Elks Lodge 491.





### **Red Deer Elks**

#### A Note of Thanks

On behalf of the Red Deer Elks, Harley would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who supported this year's "Jam in June" fundraiser.

This free annual event, held on June 21st at the Elks Club, brings together classic rock, folk, and country bands who donate their time and talent to "throw a party" for a cause.

With your generosity, we raised \$3,950 for the MS Clinic at the Red Deer Regional Health Foundation—our best year yet! Over the past six years, Jam in June has raised more than \$11,000 to support those impacted by MS.

### **Breton Elks**



**Breton Elks Support 2025 Sunnybrook Travelling Car Show** 

Breton Elks Lodge No. 402 was proud to support this year's Sunnybrook Travelling Car Show with a community donation.

Pictured: Brother Ernie Mockerman representing Leduc County with Joe Hanna, winner of the contestants' draw.

## **Hanna Elks**



### Honouring a Century of Life and 65 Years of **Elkdom**

First Vice-President and Hanna Elks Lodge Member Brother Vern had the honour of presenting a 65-year service pin and 100th birthday greetings to Brother Bill Smith. Joining in the celebration were Bill's daughters, Robin and Gail, making the milestone even more special.

## **Dawson Creek Elks**



Dawson Creek Elks Invest in Students' Futures

The Dawson Creek Elks Lodge No. 289 was proud to present \$1,000 scholarships to two graduating students to help further their education.

We extend our warmest congratulations to the recipients and wish them every success in their future plans.

Pictured: Shirley Brown (member), Rylynn Erickson, Lorraine Sumners (member), and Clinton Liu Nguyen.



## Trenville RP Elks



Trenville Royal Purple Elk Ladies Honour a Lifetime Member

The Trenville Royal Purple Elk Ladies #248 recently hosted a Memorial Luncheon in honour of their own, the late Pat Matthews, a cherished Lifetime Member. The afternoon was a heartfelt tribute, with a lovely memorial service followed by a spectacular luncheon.

Special thanks to Betty Boulton, Sheila Pennock, Kathy Faulk, Marilyn Rich, and Betty Jean Lippert for their baking and dedication in making this day meaningful for the Matthews family and friends



### **Alberta Elks Association**

2026 AGM June 10-13 Hanna Elks Lodge # 451

### Elks of Canada

2026 AGM July 14-16 Gander Elks Lodge # 310

### 🌞 Step Into Leadership with the Alberta Elks! 🌟

Are you ready to make a bigger impact? We're looking for passionate members who want to:

✓ Join the Provincial Executive

Serve as a Committee Member

✓ Take on the role of District Deputy

This is your chance to grow, lead, and help shape the future of the Alberta Elks Association. Whether you bring fresh ideas, special skills, or just a willingness to learn, there's a place for you on our leadership team.

FInterested? Reach out to your District Deputy or contact the Alberta Elks office to learn more about these opportunities.

Together We Can - And Together We Will!



