

ALBERTA ELKS NEWSLETTER

Summer 2026-Vol 3



It's a simple question, but one worth taking a moment to reflect on.

If you asked members across our Association, you would hear many different answers. Some joined because a family member or friend invited them. Others found purpose through serving their community, supporting local causes, or simply becoming part of something bigger than themselves.

Whatever your reason, it matters.

Across Alberta and beyond, volunteer organizations are navigating change. Communities are changing. Volunteerism is changing. Expectations are changing. The Elks are no exception. But change also brings opportunity.

Over the coming months, we'll begin introducing a new Community Development & Capacity Building Initiative designed to support Lodges in strengthening leadership, building community connections, increasing visibility, sharing ideas, and creating sustainable ways to engage members and volunteers.

This isn't about finding one solution for every Lodge.

Every community is different. Every Lodge has its own strengths, challenges, traditions, and opportunities.

Instead, this initiative is about providing practical tools, shared learning, mentorship, and opportunities for Lodges to learn from one another while building on what already makes them unique.

We'll begin this journey by returning to one simple question: **Why are you an Elk?**

Because before we can talk about growth, we need to remember what inspired us to serve in the first place.

Over the next several months, we'll be sharing ideas, resources, and opportunities to continue this conversation throughout the Association. Our hope is that every member will see themselves as part of building not only stronger Lodges, but stronger communities.

We encourage you to think about your answer—and perhaps ask another member theirs.

You may discover that our greatest strength has never been our buildings or our traditions.

It's always been our people.



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OKOTOKS ELKS



The members of Okotoks Elks Lodge #31 are proud to support the next generation by awarding two \$1,000 scholarships to deserving local students.

Congratulations to this year's scholarship recipients:

- Cale Carter, presented with his scholarship by Dave Milos (Vice President) and Jim Brown (Vice President).
- Mychael Lindenback, presented with his scholarship by Don Deakon (Exalted Ruler) and Jim Brown (Vice President), alongside Clayton Lindenback and Claire Mossing.

Congratulations to these outstanding students!

BRETON ELKS



The Breton Elks were proud to be part of their community's Canada Day celebrations, serving more than 500 people during the July 1 festivities. A dedicated team of volunteers worked tirelessly in the kitchen to prepare and serve meals, helping make the day a success for everyone who attended.

The celebrations also featured the Alberta Elks Foundation float in the Breton Canada Day Parade, proudly showcasing the Foundation and the Alberta Elks' ongoing commitment to serving communities across the province.

A heartfelt thank you to all the volunteers who gave their time and energy to make Canada Day such a memorable event!

ALBERTA ELKS FOUNDATION

58th ANNUAL RAFFLE

First Prize
\$30,000 CASH

Second Prize
\$10,000 CASH

Third Prize
\$5,000 CASH

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 11, 2027
3 prizes of \$750.00 Each

TICKETS
\$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00

FINAL DRAW DATE JUNE 24, 2027
All draws to take place at the Didsbury Elks Hall, 1914 - 20th St. Didsbury, AB

TICKETS AVAILABLE

Local Contact www.elksfalfberta.ca

75,150 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 78691

58th Annual Alberta Elks Foundation Raffle

It's raffle time again! The 58th Annual Alberta Elks Foundation Raffle is underway, and raffle tickets have now been sent out to Lodges.

We're asking all Lodges and members to help make this year's raffle another success. Every ticket sold helps support the important work of the Alberta Elks Foundation and allows us to continue making a difference in communities across Alberta.

A reminder to Lodges:

- Please distribute and sell your tickets as soon as possible.
- Ensure all required raffle paperwork is completed accurately.
- Return your completed paperwork and required materials to Margo as soon as possible.

Thank you to everyone who sells tickets, supports the raffle, and helps keep the work of our Foundation moving forward.

Together, every ticket makes a difference!



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BARRHEAD ELKS



The Barrhead Elks were out in the community this summer, taking part in the parade at the Barrhead Blue Heron Fair & Rodeo!

It was a great opportunity to join in the festivities, connect with the community, and show some Elks spirit along the parade route.

A great time was had by all, and it was wonderful to see the Barrhead Elks out and about in their community!

FERNIE ELKS



The Fernie Elks Lodge, with support from the Tabs for Tots program, recently helped provide a Pediatric Pin Kit for the Elk Valley Hospital.

Bro. Bernie Pulsifer and Bro. Willie Westerby presented a cheque on behalf of Tabs for Tots to hospital staff and administration, helping ensure this important pediatric equipment is available to support children receiving care in the Elk Valley.

Thank you to everyone who continues to support Tabs for Tots. Your contributions help local Elks Lodges respond to needs in their communities and make projects like this possible.

Photo: Bro. Bernie Pulsifer and Bro. Willie Westerby presenting the Tabs for Tots cheque to Elk Valley Hospital staff and administration.

WETASKIWIN ELKS



Wetaskiwin Elks Lodge #91 recently donated \$2,000 to the Hillside Community Club to support the ongoing renovation of its more than 100-year-old community hall.

This marks the second donation from Wetaskiwin Elks #91 to the Hillside Community Club, helping preserve a community space that holds generations of memories and continues to serve local residents.

Before presenting the cheque, Lodge members were given a tour of the historic hall and had an opportunity to see the renovation work underway.

Photo: Executive members of Wetaskiwin Elks Lodge #91 and the Hillside Community Club gathered in front of the community hall.



HIGH PRAIRIE ELKS



High Prairie Elks Celebrate the 64th Annual Elks Pro Rodeo

The High Prairie Elks once again brought the community together for the 64th Annual Elks Pro Rodeo, a much-loved tradition and one of the highlights of the year for High Prairie and area.

An event of this size is truly a community effort. A huge thank you goes out to the many sponsors, volunteers, supporters and attendees who continue to contribute their time, energy and support year after year.

For 64 years, this event has been a great example of what can happen when Elks and their community work together to keep local traditions strong.

Congratulations to the High Prairie Elks and everyone who helped make another rodeo a success.

64 years strong — Yee Haw! 🤠



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CARSTAIRS ELKS



The Carstairs Elks would like to thank the Carstairs Elementary School and the Hugh Sutherland School for their participation in the Tabs for Tots programs.

All in they collected approximately 275 lbs of tabs and aluminum containers in the program. For the class that collected the largest quantity by weight at each school, the Elks will be putting on a pizza party for students and teacher.

CES winner was Mrs. Wayne's grade 3 class and at HSS it was Ms. Cameron's grade 8 class.

RED DEER ELKS



Congratulations to Bridgette Jones, the Week 31 winner in the Red Deer Elks #85 Catch the Ace!

Bridgette selected Envelope #28, revealing the Ace of Spades and taking home an impressive \$5,666!

Congratulations, Bridgette, and thank you to everyone who continues to support Red Deer Elks #85 through Catch the Ace.

Photo, left to right: Gerard Hermary, Tawnie Hermary, Bridgette Jones and Colin Tetterzell.

STRATHMORE ELKS



The 2nd Annual Strathmore Elks Mental Health Golf Tournament was held on August 13 at the Strathmore Golf and Country Club — and it was another fantastic success!

The tournament was sold out and raised an incredible \$10,000, with proceeds supporting subsidized mental health initiatives for residents of Strathmore and Wheatland County.

Congratulations to the Strathmore Elks and everyone who golfed, volunteered, sponsored and supported this important community initiative. Events like this are a wonderful example of how our Lodges can bring people together while making a meaningful difference close to home.

And, of course, Charlie the Elk joined in on the fun!

Photo (left to right): Bros. Bill Jones, Gus Cammer, Charlie the Elk, Fred Sweere and Tony Giasson.



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BARRHEAD ELKS



Shannon met with a lively group Friday night at the legion meat draw to present Barrhead Legion president Shelly Oswald with a cheque for \$9000.00.

She will then apply for a matching grant from the Alberta government's Community Facility Enhancement Program. The money will be used to upgrade the heating in the Legion Hall.

PAST GRAND ALERT!!



What a great-looking group! A gathering of Alberta Elks Association Past Grand Exalted Rulers, representing many years of leadership, service and dedication to the Elks of Canada.

It's always wonderful to see familiar faces together and recognize those who have contributed their time and leadership to our organization over the years.

SUNDRE ELKS



The Sundre Elks #338 Annual Golf Tournament was another great success!

Congratulations to the winning team of Rene, Dale, Kevin and Lane with a score of 48, and to the "Most Honest" team of Mitch, Carly, George and Liam.

A big thank you to the organizers, tournament helpers, Forest Heights Golf Club, volunteers from The Den SYC, and everyone who helped make the day possible.

Thank you for another fantastic day of community, fellowship and fun!

SCAN ME



ISTAR 40th Anniversary Dinner Gala

Join us for an unforgettable evening as we celebrate ISTAR's 40th anniversary!

You're invited to the 40 Years of ISTAR Dinner Gala on Saturday, October 3, at the University Club.



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CORONATION ELKS



The Coronation Elks were honoured to sponsor the Battle River Pipes and Drums as they marched in today's Coronation Rodeo Parade!

From the unmistakable sound of the bagpipes to the powerful rhythm of the drums, they brought incredible energy, tradition, and community spirit to the celebration.

Founded in 2018, the Battle River Pipes and Drums has grown to more than 18 dedicated musicians, performing throughout east-central Alberta at rodeos, Canada Day celebrations, Highland festivals, Remembrance Day ceremonies, and many other community events. Beyond their performances, they're passionate about preserving Scottish heritage through cultural presentations, welcoming new members, and mentoring the next generation of pipers and drummers.

A heartfelt thank you to the Battle River Pipes and Drums for making today's parade even more memorable. We are proud to support organizations that keep tradition alive, strengthen our communities, and inspire others through music and service.

If you're looking for a unique addition to your next community event—or you've ever dreamed of learning the pipes or drums—be sure to check them out. You won't be disappointed!



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JUNIOR ELKS CLUB NEWS



A BUSY SUMMER FOR THE FORT MACLEOD JUNIOR ELKS

The Fort Macleod Junior Elks have been making a big impact in their community this summer, demonstrating what it means to lead through service, teamwork, and community involvement.

Members kicked off the season by volunteering at the Battle of the Businesses, where they helped run activities, encouraged participants, and enjoyed being part of one of the community's favourite events. They also joined the Fort Macleod Elks in sponsoring and serving the Community BBQ during the Western Canadian Senior Regionals at Westwinds Stadium, helping welcome visitors while supporting local baseball.

Throughout the summer, the Junior Elks have also been giving back one yard at a time by offering yard work in exchange for donations. The initiative has not only raised funds for the club but has also provided members with the opportunity to work together, build friendships, and make a positive difference for local residents.

One of the highlights of the summer was the club's first-ever Youth Movie Night, which welcomed local youth for a free showing of The LEGO Batman Movie. The evening featured Batman trivia, prizes, discounted concessions, free candy cups, and exciting raffle giveaways. The event was a tremendous success, bringing families together for an evening filled with fun, laughter, and community spirit.

The Junior Elks extend a heartfelt thank you to their sponsors, volunteers, and everyone who attended and supported their first community event. With such a successful start, the future looks bright for the Fort Macleod Junior Elks, and they look forward to continuing to serve their community while creating more opportunities for local youth.



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