



Alberta Hunter Education
Instructors' Association

Conservation Education Magazine



Get Outdoors!

Ice Fishing Basics
Top tips for the season

Winter Camping 101
It doesn't have to be hard

Outdoor Education For Everyone

Just Try It!
Cooking wild game for your family



Alberta Conservation
Association

wildlife | fish | habitat

It's an Alberta thing.





Conservation Education Magazine

Cover Photo by
Cassandra Hewitt



Contributors

Robert Gruszecki, Richard Brink, Aislinn Chapotelle, Sarah Marthaller, George Randall, Shane Vaughan, Len Gransch.

Digital Conservation Education Magazine

aheia.com/conservation-education-magazine

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Would you like to be published in Conservation Education?

If you, or someone you know, has an article of outdoor educational content or subject matter related to Conservation Education in Alberta that you would like us to publish in a future edition of our magazine, we would be happy to hear from you.

Contact AHEIA at info@aheia.com for more info.



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President's Message

By Bob Gruszecki

President, Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association

In these last few weeks of 2023, like most people, we are getting ready for the holidays and wondering “where did the year go?” It has certainly been a busy one at AHEIA, with our programs and events maintaining 100% capacity, renovation projects at several of our facilities, and assisting Albertans with their ever-increasing pursuit of conservation education. It is a time for reflection, and I am pleased to highlight some of our key accomplishments and successes this year.

In 2023 we witnessed, like never before, an insatiable enthusiasm from the public for learning and pursuing of outdoor interests, particularly from those who have not yet ventured into wilderness-related activities. This uptake has meant that we continued to maximize the impact of our teachings and program delivery, all while ensuring that safety, responsibility and most importantly, fun, was at the forefront of everything we offered, and continue to offer.

AHEIA's programs are designed to provide building blocks for further skill development in certain areas of interest, while presenting enough diversity that can overlap and encourage someone to try a new, yet related activity. Our online and in-class programs provide the foundation and are keystones for this type of growth.

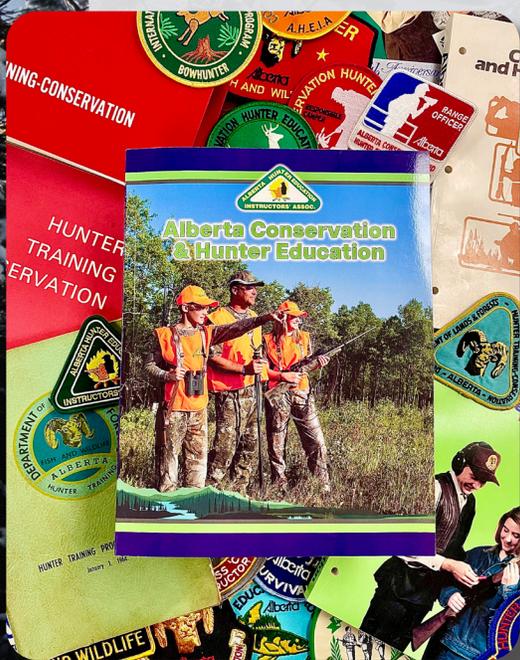
This fall, the number of graduates from our Hunter Education program has already exceeded last year's total number of graduates. The Canadian Firearms Safety Courses fill almost as quickly as they are announced, and both the Edmonton and Calgary offices continue to offer a full-slate of course dates while supporting our instructors who provide this same program throughout the province. We certified 30 more instructors to deliver the Firearms Safety Courses, and next year we will be certifying more to meet the demand.

You may have seen on social media the announcement of our new Conservation & Hunter Education manual. We are very excited to release this amazing publication, which follows many editions of this educational resource. It is not only meant for hunters, but anyone who wishes to enjoy our province's wild spaces and participate in outdoor experiences. This beautiful manual is not only beneficial when taking the Hunter Education Course, but also a fantastic resource which can be referred to again and again.

The youth in Alberta continue to benefit from our initiatives, specifically programs tailored to enhance school curriculum and assist teachers with their delivery of outdoor education. After only two years of overseeing the Report A Poacher (RAP) educational outreach program, the requests for school visits have skyrocketed. AHEIA staff take the RAP trailer, which is equipped with displays and videos, to schools throughout the province and provide opportunities for hands-on learning involving fur displays, educational games, and fun activities, all while introducing the students to general wildlife appreciation or specific topics.

AHEIA also continues to offer the National Archery in the Schools (NASP) program, educating and certifying teachers to provide archery to their students based on international guidelines. In return, we have one of the most successful NASP programs in the country where over 2000 certified instructors enabled 20,370 students to enjoy the sport over the course of the 2022-2023 school year. Program interest meant that we once again would run the AHEIA NASP Provincial Tournament during the Edmonton Boat & Sportsmen's Show, where over 1500 students competed over three days, making for an exciting event for everyone involved.

While reaching all corners of our province with conservation education programming, we also focused on renovations at two of our facilities – the Calgary Firearms Centre and the Alford Lake Conservation Education Centre for Excellence near Caroline, Alberta.



The Calgary Firearms Centre saw a complete renovation and upgrade of the clubhouse. Everything from an electrical overhaul to a kitchen renovation, new flooring and furniture, to the renovation of the second floor which involved removing walls to create a large area for entertaining as well as a new Alberta Provincial Trapshooting Hall of Fame and trophy room. Not only are we now able to host hundreds of people on site during private and AHEIA events, but we have room to provide additional CFSC and Hunter Education classes, as well as workshops. Outdoors the sporting clays course continued to come together and there are now plans for a new 3D archery course to be installed next summer.



Our Education Centre at Alford Lake has continued to see improvements to the buildings on site, especially the oilfields facility which houses volunteer instructors and staff during camps and special events. We are now fully recovered from the tornado that struck in 2022, with an overhaul of the 3D archery course, purchase of canoes, and general clean up of the affected areas of the camp. Due to the increase of schools and private groups utilizing the property, as well as high participation in AHEIA run programs, we will be adding new buildings to the grounds allowing for larger groups to access the camp.

It is without question that our traditional programs, courses, camps, leagues and shooting events continued to see substantial growth this year and are far too many to mention. I encourage you to come to our Annual General Meeting on February 25, 2024, at our Calgary location, where you will learn more about the significant inroads we are making in Conservation Education and will launch in the years to come.

2024 will be a significant year, as we will be celebrating the 60th anniversary of one of North America's largest and most respected associations of its kind. This milestone provides us opportunity to look back at our roots and the countless number of volunteers who have contributed to AHEIA's success. We recognize their roles in helping to create, encourage and contribute to our many accomplishments over the years, sharing our commitment and carrying our message of making fish and wildlife a part of the value system of every Albertan. We are grateful for your support and the influence you have had in AHEIA's achievements.

In February we will be celebrating this anniversary, along with inducting the newest member of the WISE Awards Hall of Fame, at the 20th WISE Awards and Banquet, being held on Saturday, February 10, 2023, at the BMO Centre at Stampede Park, in Calgary. It is our opportunity to showcase AHEIA to our members, dignitaries and the public, and your chance to support our cause. We promise it will be a festive event where you will be celebrating with friends and other supporters of Conservation Education. We encourage you to attend, for the success of such an important evening is impactful to the success of our efforts. You can purchase tickets through our Calgary office, (403) 252-8474, or online through our website, aheia.com.

As this year comes to its conclusion, I am happy to look back with gratitude and look forward with hope. May all that is beautiful, meaningful and brings you joy, be yours this holiday season and throughout the coming year. On behalf of everyone at AHEIA, Merry Christmas and the very best to you and your family in 2024.



Mark Your Calendar!

Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association

Annual General Meeting

Sunday, February 25, 2024 - 3:00 pm

Calgary Conservation Education Centre for Excellence

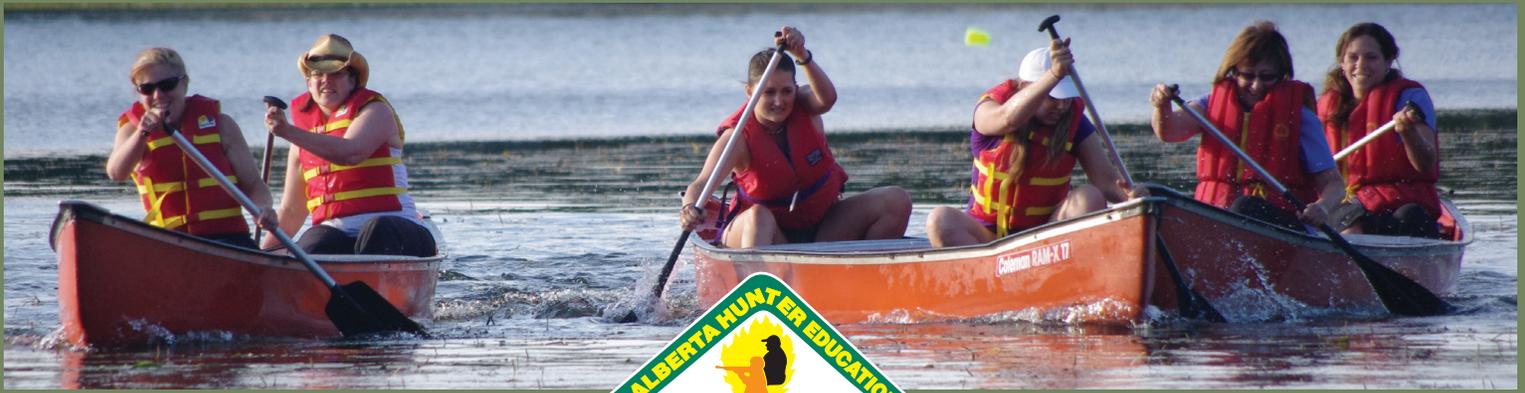
911 Sylvester Crescent SW

This will be an in-person meeting.

Beverages and light snacks will be available .

We hope to see you there!





CONSERVATION EDUCATION PROGRAMS

for Albertans

AHEIA works in cooperation
with several Alberta Government departments to deliver
these quality programs to you and your family:

- ALBERTA CONSERVATION AND HUNTER EDUCATION**
- CANADIAN FIREARMS SAFETY COURSE**
- PLEASURE CRAFT OPERATOR TRAINING**
- ALBERTA FISHING EDUCATION PROGRAM**
- FIRST TIME HUNTER MENTOR PROGRAM**
- HOME STUDY PROGRAM**
- OUTDOOR CAMP PROGRAMS**
- OUTDOOR WOMEN'S PROGRAM**
- OUTDOOR YOUTH SEMINAR**
- WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES SEMINARS**
- NATIONAL ARCHERY IN THE SCHOOLS PROGRAM**
- KIDWISE FIREARM SAFETY PROGRAM**
- INTERNATIONAL BOWHUNTER EDUCATION PROGRAM**
- BEAR ESSENTIALS ONLINE PROGRAM**
- BIGHORN SHEEP ESSENTIALS ONLINE PROGRAM**
- ARCHERY ESSENTIALS ONLINE PROGRAM**
- FIELD TECHNIQUES APP**



For further details on any of these courses, contact:

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ICE FISHING

By Aislinn Chapotelle

Assistant Conservation Education Program Coordinator

It's that time of year again. Time to pull out the winter socks, long underwear, snow suits, toques, and mitts along with your ice shacks, winter tackle boxes, tip ups, propane heaters and ice augers.

Nothing is more exciting for an ice fisherman than to see the mercury start to fall and the snow start to fly in Alberta. Hard water season is on the way and with the fun also comes hazards that you need to be aware of prior to venturing out.

The most important thing to remember is no ice is 100% safe.

What to bring

Be aware that when you head out onto the ice, you do so at your own risk, and it is your responsibility to do so safely. When we talk of ice safety and thickness, it is important to understand that minimum ice thickness is based on new, clear, hard ice. Ice strength will vary due to the quality of ice. Avoid any ice that is less than 15 cm (6") thick.

Safety equipment should be a necessary part of your ice fishing supplies and should include a shovel, tow rope, ice cleats, ice picks (to claw out of ice if you should fall in) and a first aid kit.

Know your ice

Ice on aerated ponds, near stream inlets and near open water are especially hazardous and should be avoided. These areas may possibly be signed, but that is not always the case. Never assume an area is safe. Avoid all areas where the ice has heaved (large ice ridges) as the thickness and integrity of the ice may be compromised.

Ice that is 15cm (6") is generally safe to walk and fish on. At 25 cm (10") the ice should support a snowmobile or small ATV. At 41 cm (16"), it may be safe for a mid-sized car or small truck. When driving a vehicle on the ice, take off your seat belt and open your window in the event you need to exit the vehicle. Do not drive above 10km/hour and do not follow closely behind another moving vehicle. When it comes time to park, do so away from other vehicles to reduce the stress on the ice.

Mid-sized trucks should not be driven on ice unless the ice thickness is at least 46 cm (18") and after the ice has reached 55cm (22"), it should be able to hold a ¾ ton 4x4 truck.

Plan ahead

Everyone that is in your fishing party should know what to do in an emergency. If you should happen to fall through the ice, break away the ice around the edges until it can support your weight. Use your ice picks to grip into the ice and pull yourself flat onto the surface, while spreading your weight out as much as possible. Once safe on shore, it's important to remove all wet clothing and get warm to prevent hypothermia.

Spending time on the ice with family and friends fishing is a great way to spend wintery Alberta days. By planning ahead and making safety a priority, it will ensure that you not only get safely where you are going but also return home to fish another day.



BASICS



Minimum Ice Thickness

For new, clear, hard ice.

NO ICE IS 100% SAFE



For an object in place from 2 hours but less than 7 days



Less than
6 inches (15 cm)
STAY OFF!

6 inches (15 cm)
walking, fishing

10 inches (25 cm)
snowmobile,
small ATV
< 500 kg

16 inches (41 cm)
mid sized car,
small truck
GVW 1,000 to 2,000 kg

18 inches (46 cm)
mid sized truck
GVW 2,000 to 3,000 kg

22 inches (55 cm)
3/4 ton 4x4 truck
GVW up to 5000 kg

Ice Safety Considerations

- Ice strength varies due to thickness and quality
- Stay away from stream inlets, aeration sites
- Do not travel over 10km/hr
- Avoid areas where ice has heaved

*Based on Work Safe Alberta Guidelines
Image by iconicbestiary on Freepik

WINTER CAMPING 101

By George Randall

Assistant Conservation Education Program Coordinator

Are you thinking about making the most of winter? Have you thought about camping in winter? Winter camping can be a challenge, but it is also rewarded with mountain views not seen in summer and a newfound sense of confidence as the cooler temperatures keep the masses at home.

Here is some advice for conquering the challenges of winter camping.

Vent your tent

It may sound contradictory but as we sleep, we breathe and release moisture into the tent. This moisture will build up as condensation against the fabric of the tent and then freeze. Even a small amount of air flow will prevent the build up of ice which will then melt making your equipment wet and you, miserable.

Bring extra batteries and keep them warm

All batteries are temperature sensitive and tend to lose power faster in the cold. Alkaline batteries are more susceptible to cold temperatures. Keeping spare batteries in your coat may increase their charge life. Portable battery packs and solar chargers are also a great light way to improve off grid useability.

Don't sweat it

It is easy to work up a sweat when you are layered up and setting up camp. If you do break a sweat, change your base layers as soon as possible. Wearing damp or wet clothes is very dangerous. Merino wool and synthetic base layers should be worn for their moisture wicking qualities. Cotton should be avoided as it also tends to hold moisture.

Clear it

When tenting, it is important to clear the snow in the area you are planning on setting up camp. Putting a tarp under the tent is also a good extra barrier against the elements. Sleeping mats are also important, they all have a "R" value, this refers to the mats insulating properties from 1 being low to 8 being high. A 5+ rating is recommended for cold weather. For an extra layer of padding, pairing a sleeping mat with a light weight folding pad is a lightweight addition to getting a good night sleep.

Calories are important

Spending even a short period of time outside burns more calories as the body tries harder to maintain its core temperature. Take adequate lightweight and high-calorie snacks. When cooking, one pot meals or dehydrated food is a low effort high yield suggestion as cooking and cleaning in gloves can be a challenge. Even when it is cold you can become dehydrated quickly, warm drinks are recommended as cold drinks can quickly affect your core temperature.

Finally, always check the weather and be prepared for sudden changes. Let someone know where you are going and when you are expected to be back. Be aware of predatory animals: wolves, coyotes, cougars. Bears should be sleeping but do occasionally become active mid winter or early spring.



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1-866-230-ARMY (2769)**



**ROYAL CANADIAN
ARMY CADETS**

Would You Like to be Published in
**Conservation
 Education?**

If you, or someone you know, has an article of outdoors educational content or subject matter related to Conservation Education in Alberta that you would like us to publish in a future edition of our magazine, we would be happy to hear from you. Articles of approximately 1,000 words with accompanying pictures are ideal. We also encourage readers to alert us to news for possible publication.

Contact AHEIA at info@aheia.com for additional information.



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 ASK FIRST**

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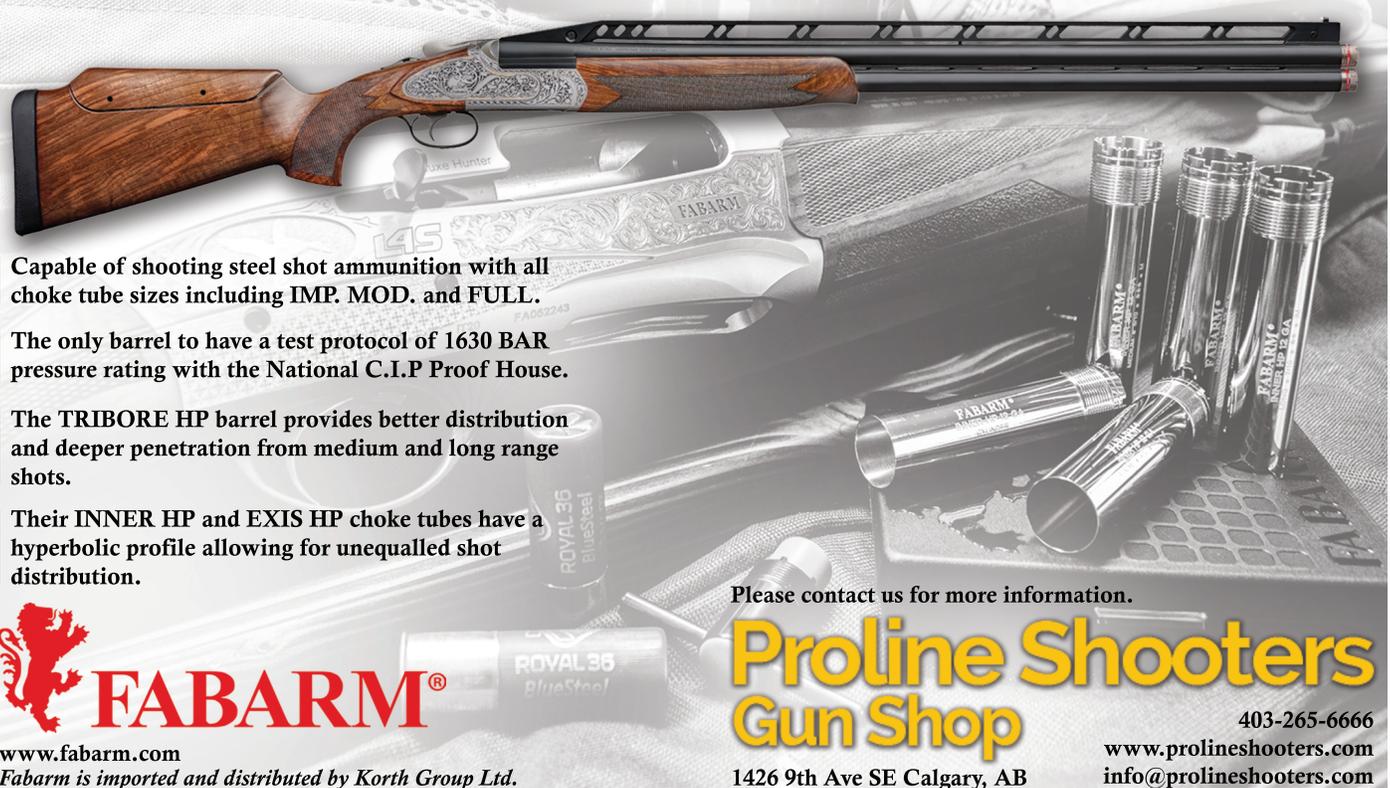
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Edmonton Report

By Len Gransch

Assistant Conservation Education
Program Coordinator

The following events are being held at our Alford Lake facility west of Caroline. Check our website for new online registration capabilities and more coming event information soon, or to be added to our notification list send your request to edmontoninfo@aheia.com.

Our 2024 Youth Hunter Education Camps are scheduled for June 30 - July 5, July 7-12, July 14-19, and July 21-26.

The 2024 Youth Hunter Education Camp is a five-day event of fun-filled learning activities. Financial support has been provided by Wildlife Habitat Canada. Experts will be sharing their knowledge and providing instruction in the Alberta Conservation and Hunter Education Program, the Canadian Firearms Safety Course and much more.

Students will be certified in the Alberta Conservation and Hunter Education Program and the Canadian Firearms Program. They will then qualify to apply for their Wildlife Identification Number (WIN Card) through any private license issuer and be able to apply for their Minor's Possession License for firearms.

If you are interested in volunteering as a camp volunteer/chaperone for one of these camps your help would be much appreciated. We are always looking for help and this is a perfect time to give back and would be much valued by everyone. If you are interested in helping with the Youth Hunter Education Camps, or any of our other events please contact me directly at len@aheia.com.

The 2024 Outdoor Youth Seminar is slated for August 16-18.

Designed to increase awareness of outdoor recreational opportunities, the Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association (AHEIA) is holding their 20th Annual Outdoor Youth Seminar for young outdoor enthusiasts (ages 7 and up) and their parent(s) or guardian(s). The seminar is a two-day event filled with fun and learning

activities. Numerous experts will be sharing information and instruction in various outdoor pursuits.

We continue to work at adding new sessions. Currently we have Crossbow basics, Rimfire shooting, Centerfire rifle shooting, Shotgun for beginners, Intermediate shotgun, Archery fundamentals, Introduction to trapping, Predator awareness, Whitetail techniques, Campfire cooking, and more.

2024 Provincial Hunting Day will be held on September 28.

The fourth Saturday of every September has become a special date within Alberta. The Alberta Government declared this day each year to be Provincial Hunting Day; the first annual event was held in 2007. This year's event marks the fourteenth annual event and is a reminder to all Albertans of our hunting heritage, and of the importance of securing a future for wildlife and wild places, especially within our province.

All sessions are hands on and provide the opportunity to learn by doing. This event is completely free and is fun for the whole family!

This is a partial listing of the sessions we are working on; Crossbow basics, Shotgun for beginners, Centerfire rifle shooting, Rimfire rifle shooting, Archery basics, Predator awareness, Black powder shooting, making survival kits, Whitetail awareness, plus more sessions will be added (subject to change). Choose your sessions on site the day of the event (as space permits).

Events will also be offered at the Calgary Firearms Center at DeWinton. Please contact our Calgary

office at 403-252-8474 or toll free at 1-866-852-4342 for this specific event at this location.

We continue to look for volunteer help for all our courses, sports shows, camps, events, etc. as well as with our day-to-day office workings. If you or any of your friends wish to become part of something rewarding, please let me know.

Online registrations will be posted as they become available. Can't wait? Get added to our notification list by emailing edmontoninfo@aheia.com with your request.

Take care and enjoy the Great Outdoors!



The Best Place to Learn: Alford Lake Conservation Education Centre for Excellence





By Richard Brink
Assistant Conservation Education Program Coordinator

As we learn about conservation education, where can we put the theory into practical knowledge? Well, the answer simple, Alford Lake.

As students learn theory in the classrooms, Alford Lake is a place where students can put it into practice. Alford Lake first off has facilities where they can house children in cabins that are heated for the winter months and places where they can sleep in the summer months. Alford Lake also has a full kitchen set up with a dining hall, we also have many activities which the kids can partake of.

One of those is a compass range. We have a set out compass range where you move from point to point-to-point learning how to use a compass and walking through a designated and designed map out area.

We have a 3-D archery range where the children can walk through a path looking for animals to practice their archery skills as they see the animals and come upon them.

We have two target ranges for archery as well, one down by the shooting range and another up by the lake were the kids can practice and learn their archery skills before they do the 3-D range.

We also have a full range where kids can learn safe handling and usage of firearms and be able to shoot 22 calibre rifles. If they're more experienced we can move them to the 223-calibre range which is 100 m, 200 m and 300 m in length to practice their shooting skills. From there, they can move to the shotgun range where they can learn how to shoot clay pigeons.

We also provide many opportunities for the youth to go to summer camps. The camps involve the child learning how to shoot those firearms safely, be able to get a minor's pal and also take the Alberta Hunter Ed course and get their license for hunting. These camps generally run for one week, the kids stay in the cabins, and we have a caterer come in on site who cooks for them all week long and trust me, there's no kid that will go hungry at these camps.

We also provide an outdoor women's program which provides the same opportunities for the women. We have leather, making, which allows them to make a rifle strap or a set of leather slippers, we have field to table which is how to skin and harvest the meat off an animal to package it, and how to cook it and serve it at the table. We also teach flyfishing for those ladies who wish to get into fishing, and once they learn how to fly fish, they can take a course on how to tie flies and put the two skills to use by going fishing on Alford Lake itself which is stocked with rainbow and trout fish.

In the camp we also have canoes, so that if the youth or the ladies wish to go out to the middle of the lake to do some fishing, they can do so. As well in the outdoor women's program, we have a lady who comes and teaches canoeing. So as you can see, we have a great variety of skills that we can teach the youth, women and men, if need be.

Being a part of this wonderful camp, for at least one year, now, I strongly suggest and highly recommend checking out Alford Lake to put the theory to practice.



CALGARY FIREARMS CENTRE

YOUTH ARCHERY LEAGUES

SPRING 2024 SESSION

May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5, 12

FALL 2024 SESSION

September 4, 11, 18, 25

LEAGUES WIND-UP SEPTEMBER 25. BBQ & PRIZES!

Sessions are **FREE!**

Instruction, bows, arrows and targets are provided.

AHEIA membership is required and, if necessary, can be purchased onsite, online, or at an AHEIA office. Coaching provided by certified archery instructors.

Starts anytime after 4:30pm, rain or shine, and you can join in until 7:00pm.

Sessions held at the

CALGARY FIREARMS CENTRE

242 Avenue and 32 Street SW, DeWinton, AB

To register go to our website

AHEIA.COM/CALGARYFIREARMSCENTRE or

contact the Calgary Firearms Centre at

403.256.0665

EMAIL CFC@AHEIA.COM

BEGINNER AND NOVICE ARCHERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!
Ages 12 and over.

LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE REGISTER TODAY!



CALGARY FIREARMS CENTRE

WOMEN'S ARCHERY LEAGUES

SPRING 2024 SESSION

May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5, 12

FALL 2024 SESSION

September 4, 11, 18, 25

**LEAGUES WIND-UP SEPTEMBER 25. BBQ
& PRIZES!**

Cost is \$60.00/session (\$40.00 for Fall session)
Instruction, bows, arrows and targets are provided.
AHEIA membership is required and, if necessary,
can be purchased onsite, online, or at an AHEIA office.
Coaching provided by certified archery instructors.

Starts anytime after 4:30pm, rain or shine,
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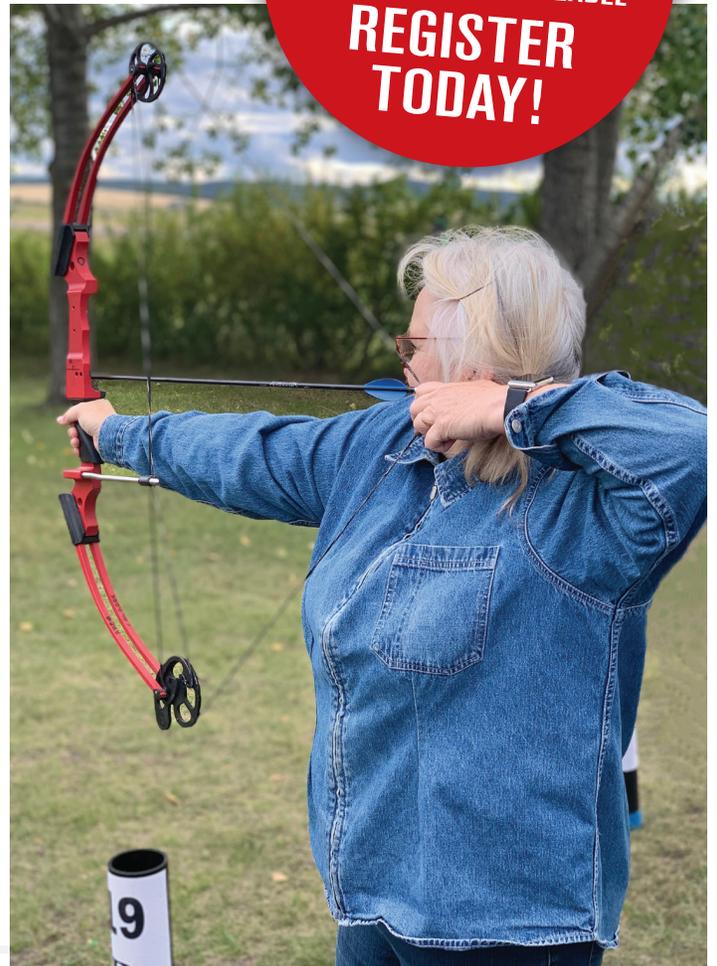
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**BEGINNER AND
NOVICE ARCHERS ARE
ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!**
Ages 18 and over.

LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE

**REGISTER
TODAY!**



SPRING 2024 SESSION

May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
June 5, 12

FALL 2024 SESSION

September 4, 11, 18, 25

LEAGUES WIND-UP SEPTEMBER 25. BBQ & PRIZES!

No target or firearm rental charges.

Use of CFC shotguns free of charge during league hours.
Ammunition will be sold at member pricing.

Please bring eye and ear protection.

No firearms licence required.
Coaching provided by certified shotgun instructors.

**Starts anytime after 4:30pm, rain or shine,
and you can join in until 7:00 pm.**

Sessions held at the
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CALGARY FIREARMS CENTRE

YOUTH SHOTGUN LEAGUES

ALL ABILITIES WELCOME

**INCLUDING THOSE WHO HAVE NEVER
HELD A GUN BEFORE!**

Minimum age 10 years old.



CALGARY FIREARMS CENTRE

WOMEN'S SHOTGUN LEAGUES

ALL ABILITIES WELCOME
INCLUDING THOSE WHO HAVE NEVER
HELD A GUN BEFORE!



SPRING 2024 SESSION

May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29,
June 5, 12

FALL 2024 SESSION

September 4, 11, 18, 25

LEAGUES WIND-UP SEPTEMBER 25 BBQ & PRIZES!

Cost is \$60.00 per session
(\$40.00 for Fall session)

Use of CFC shotguns free of charge during league hours.
Targets and ammunition will be sold at member pricing.

Please bring eye and ear protection.

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or contact the Calgary Firearms Centre at

403.256.0665

EMAIL CFC@AHEIA.COM



RENEWING YOUR FIREARMS LICENSE

By Shane Vaughan

Assistant Conservation Education Program Coordinator

There's a three different ways to renew your PAL before it expires, first after you receive your renewal letter from the Canadian firearms program you will have approximately three month to apply on line or mail it in by using form number RCMP5614 that you can get from the CFP website.

You will receive this information as long as you have notified the firearms center of any address changes that might have occurred in the last 5 years. Once you receive notification you can go to the Canadian Firearms website @ www.rcmp.ca/en/firearms check off individual web service, then check Proceed to secure Individual web service.

At this point you will need to setup an account either using partner or GCKey method. The partner is simpler you just use one of your bank cards and using your exciting password to enter site, you will also need your PAL to assist in the verification process. The GCKey method is very similar to setting up on line banking you'll need a username, password and recovery questions. Either way once you have filled the on line application this will be the fast way to get your PAL renewed. This method can be done up to the date of your license expiring.

You can still down load and print form RCMP5614 renewal application and mail it to Canadian Firearms Program in Miramichi N.B this can add up to a month to the process. The renewal application requires less information filled in as the firearm program has most of your information on file from your previous application 3 pages versus 5 pages

If you wait too long and your PAL expires you will need to fill out the long form RCMP5592, as long as this is completed and mailed before the 6 month amnesty period ends. After which time there can be legal issues ie. Being in possession of a firearm without a license or losing your prohibited status and in some cases the applicate may be required to do the CFSC / CRFSC again. Doing the RCMP5592 form requires you to obtain your spouse or common-law partner to signature if required, two references and a photo guarantor's signature. Which adds time to obtain your new license.

One of the biggest issues we have with students is answering question 20a & 20b regarding proof of course taken. Whether the CFSC / CFRSC if the individual has taken the course previously, when it asks for "proof attached" you write "On File". You do not need a copy of the course report to send with your application as the firearms program should have your information on file. To find out if the course report is on file simple contact the CFP at 1-800-731-4000.





CALGARY FIREARMS CENTRE GIFT CERTIFICATES ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

Gift certificates can be used for:

- Rounds
- Ammunition
- Merchandise
- Coaching
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- Firearms Purchase

Please call our Calgary office as gift certificates are issued from our head office:

403.252.8474

Gift certificates can be picked up in Calgary, at the Calgary Firearms Centre, or mailed.



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The entire trigger assembly can be removed with the push of a button for safe storage, transport, and ease of cleaning.

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Uses a torsion mechanism that is built into the bolt carrier to force the bolt head to rotate into battery no matter how soft the bolt closes.

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www.retayarms.com

PROVINCIAL HUNTING DAY



Calgary Firearms Centre

September 23, 2023





The Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association invites you
to our

2023 Christmas Open Houses

Join us for refreshments and to celebrate the holiday season!

Friday December 8, 2023

2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Calgary Conservation Education Centre for Excellence

911 Sylvester Crescent SW, Calgary, AB

Phone 403.252.8474 - 1.866.852.4342 - info@aheia.com

Friday, December 15, 2023

12:00 noon - 4:00 p.m.

Edmonton Conservation Education Centre for Excellence

#88, 4003 - 98 Street, Edmonton, AB

Phone 780.466.6682 - 1.866.282.4342 - edmontoninfo@aheia.com

Please kindly RSVP

We hope to see you there!



AHEIA MENTORED HUNTS

By George Randall

Assistant Conservation Education Program Coordinator

We have had an unusually mild hunting season this year starting with waterfowl hunts in October with 18 degrees clear sunny days. The fair weather paired with everyone's first duck or goose made the day even more enjoyable.

October also saw an all-women pheasant hunt. With the assistance of some very valued volunteers and their dogs: both pointers and flushers. The ladies were able to experience two different hunting techniques and harvest birds.

A small team went to Oyen to assist with the annual deer hunt headed by Dave Paplawski, although the day started with some thick fog making knowing which direction, we were headed difficult. The sun soon burned up the fog resulting in a calm sunny day that ended in most of the mentees successfully harvesting their first deer.

We have more deer hunts planned for the end November in WMU 132 and WMU 110. You will have to stay tuned for those results.

All the staff here at AHEIA enjoy spending time in the field this time of year and whether game is harvested. We all got to witness all sorts of sights one would not normally see without pulling over and spending some time looking through binoculars.







JOIN US!

for an evening of great
food and camaraderie
with like-minded
individuals while
helping to raise funds
for Conservation
Education.

The Conservation Education W.I.S.E. Foundation and Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association are pleased to announce the

Ninth Annual Spring Fling Banquet

Thursday, June 6, 2024 Star Edmonton Banquet and Conference Centre, 6930 - 34th Street NW, Edmonton, Alberta

Tickets \$80.00 each or \$720.00 for a table of 10.

Silent Auction & Cocktails 5:00 pm - Deluxe Buffet Dinner 6:30 pm - Casual Attire

For additional
information or to
purchase tickets
please contact:



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Phone 780.466.6682 or Toll Free 1.866.282.4342
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911 Sylvester Crescent SW, Calgary, AB T2W 0R8
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AHEIA's Mission is to Make Wildlife and Fish Part of the Value System of Every Albertan



The Conservation Education
W.I.S.E. Foundation and Alberta
Hunter Education Instructors'
Association are pleased to
present the

20th Annual W.I.S.E. Awards *and Banquet*

**Mark your calendar! Next
year's banquet will take
place on Saturday February
10, 2024 at the BMO Centre,
Stampede Park, Calgary AB.**

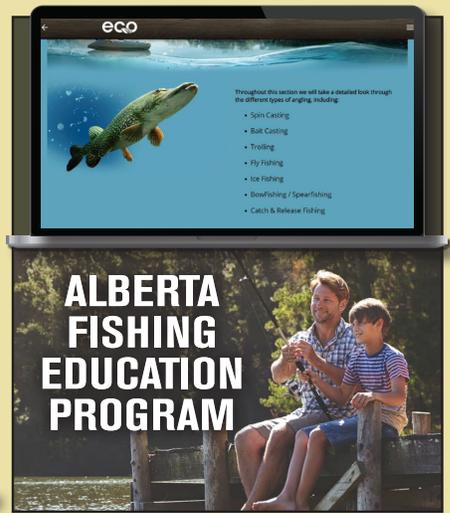
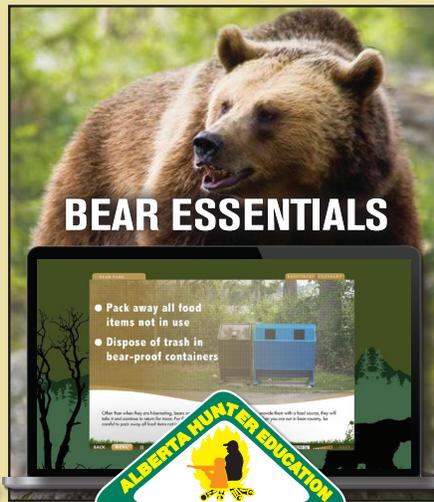
Tickets available this fall at

aheia.com

or telephone

1.866.852.4342





Go to our website www.aheia.com and click on "online training" to launch these programs, view demos or sign up.

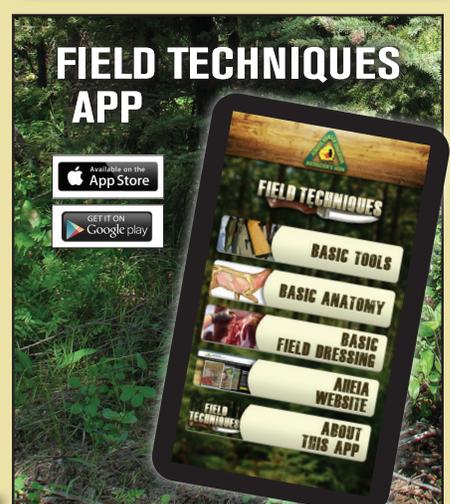
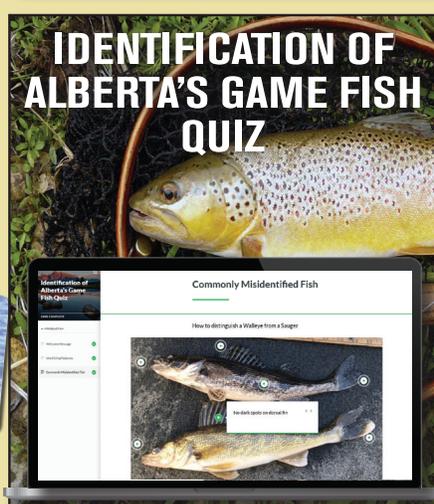
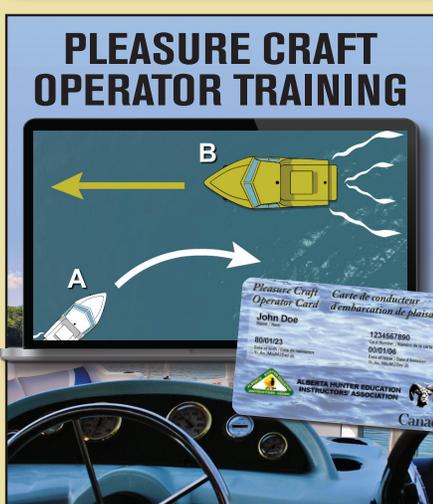
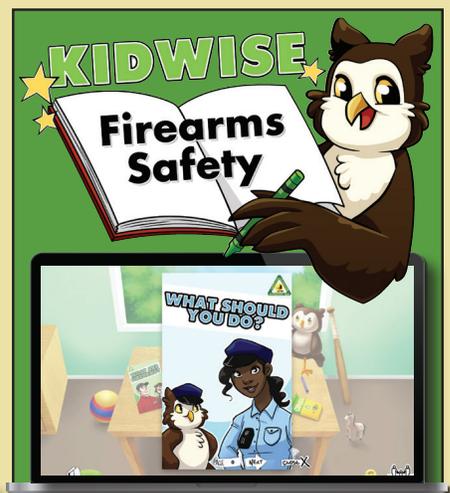
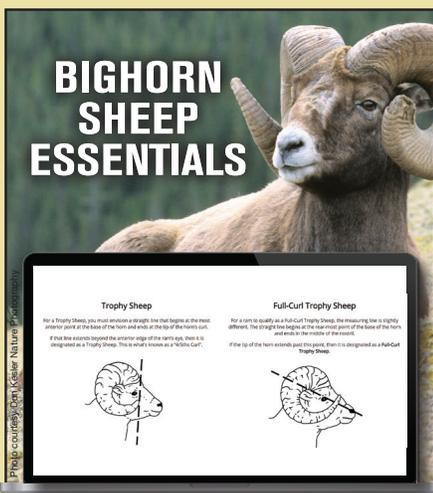


CONSERVATION EDUCATION ONLINE PROGRAMS

FOR FURTHER DETAILS ON ANY OF THESE COURSES, CONTACT:

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AHEIA EDMONTON OFFICE
Tel. 780.466.6682 • Fax 780.431.2871
Toll Free 1.866.282.4342
edmontoninfo@aheia.com



COMPLETED CAREERS

The Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association wishes to acknowledge three remarkable individuals who have left an indelible mark on our organization and the field of hunter education. With heavy hearts, we pay tribute to the legacies of John Crocker, John Sargent, and Robert Green, all of whom have recently passed away.

We extend our deepest condolences to their families and express gratitude for the immeasurable contributions they made to our shared mission.

Photo Designed by Freepik



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Just Try It!

By Sarah Marthaller

Assistant Conservation Education Program
Coordinator

"There is an empowering feeling when you can prepare a meal for your family that was harvested ethically and humanly and complimented by vegetables grown locally."

One of the conversations I have with ladies in my wilderness cooking session is introducing wild game to your family and friends who are unsure or who have never had the opportunity to try it.

Most often, they are unsure about how the meat will taste or even how to cook wild game. Perhaps they have been tricked into eating a dish with wild game to see if they could tell the difference.

The consensus was that we want to know where our food comes from, how it was handled and what kind of conditions it was raised in. With the increased costs of food, does it fit into my budget? Could I harvest an animal to feed my family if needed? These are campfire conversations we have with the women who attend our Outdoor Women's Program at Alford Lake.

As we lean more towards home gardens and backyard chickens, we also talk about harvesting wild game such as deer, elk, and upland birds and waterfowl to feed our families.

My suggestion would be to just do it, give it a try, it's not that complicated ... just do not overcook game. It is very lean with little fat so over cooking results in dry meat. With all the new fancy appliances and google you can be a first-rate chef with an Insta Pot.!

When introducing wild game, be honest with your family and guests and let them prepare themselves with the idea of eating an animal that was harvested. People do not like to be tricked or deceived. These tactics can deter them from trying game in the future.

There is an empowering feeling when you can prepare a meal for your family that was harvested ethically and humanly and complimented by vegetables grown locally.

Attached are a few ways to prepare pheasant or any upland bird for family members. This is quick, easy, and very tasty.



Photo Designed by Freepik



Creamy Pheasant Dip

- 4 Pheasant breasts
- Chicken stock
- Block of cream cheese
- Cups of shredded cheese
- 1 cup of shredded cheese for topping
- ½ bottle of Ranch Dressing
- ½ bottle Franks Hot sauce (to your desired hotness)
- ½ cup of diced pickled jalapenos

This dish can be served at any time. It is a great way to use parts of the bird that have been damaged by the shot or the dog on retrieval. You can adjust the dish to how spicy your guests will like. Begin by boiling the pheasant breasts in chicken stock till cooked for about 15 minutes. Remove from stock and either

mince or finely chop the breasts to desired consistency. Melt the cream cheese at low heat and add in a cup of grated cheese. Once combined, add your Ranch dressing and hot sauce. Combine the minced pheasant breasts and mix thoroughly. Pour the mixture into a baking dish. Sprinkle the top with shredded cheese and diced pickled jalapenos. To be festive, replace the diced jalapenos with banana peppers. Bake in the oven at 400 degrees until the top has bubbled, about 15-20 minutes. Serve with chips or nann bread.

Pheasant Bites

- 4 Pheasant Breast
- 2 cups of Shake n Bake
- 2 tablespoons of Mayonnaise
- Kosher salt
- Cracked black pepper
- Lemon juice

My kids love these! These quick morsels are easy to prepare after a long day's hunt. Begin by cleaning the breasts and removing all shot and feathers. Cube the breasts or cut them into small strips, remove the tenderloin this is a very tender part of the breast. Lightly coat the pieces in mayonnaise, and then coat the strips in either shake n bake or panko breadcrumbs. Deep fry for a minute and half, place the strips on a piece of paper towel. Season with cracked black pepper, Kosher salt and dash of lemon juice. Serve hot with a dipping sauce such as ranch or chipotle.





Conservation Education Points of Contact

Calgary Conservation Education Centre For Excellence

911 Sylvester Cr. SW
Calgary, AB T2W 0R8
Phone: 403-252-8474
1-866-852-4342
Fax: 403-252-3770
info@aheia.com

Edmonton Conservation Education Centre For Excellence

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Fax: 780-431-2871
edmontoninfo@aheia.com

Alford Lake Conservation Education Centre For Excellence

Box 369
Caroline, AB T0M 0M0
Phone: 403-722-2423
Fax: 403-722-2445
alfordlake@xplornet.com

A.H.E.I.A. Calgary Firearms Centre

242 Avenue & 32 Street SW
DeWinton, AB T0L 0X0
Phone: 403-256-0665

www.aheia.com

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Wildlife Seminars
Fishing Seminars
Pleasure Craft Operator Training
Identification of Alberta's Game Fish Quiz

Great Meals

from the **Harvest** *with Len Gransch*

Moose and Barley Soup

2 cups cooked moose meat (diced) 2 cups raw potatoes (cubed)
1 teaspoon canola oil 1 1/2 cups onion (chopped)
2 cloves garlic (minced) 1 cup celery (chopped)
1 cup carrots (chopped) 10 cups beef stock
3/4 cup barley 1 bay leaf
3 sprigs fresh thyme (chopped) salt and pepper to taste
1/2 cup red wine 1 1/2 cups chopped cabbage
1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce 1 teaspoon Kitchen Banquet browning and seasoning sauce

In a large pot over medium heat, combine the oil, onions, celery, carrots, and garlic. Saute for 5 minutes or until tender. Add the beef stock, barley, bay leaf, Worcestershire sauce, and thyme and simmer on low until the barley is softened but not mushy. Add the wine, potatoes, and moose.

Add browning sauce and simmer for 15 minutes. Add cabbage and simmer for another 15 minutes or until veggies are tender. Add salt and pepper to taste.

Feel free to substitute any wild game meat for the moose.

Next include some good rustic buns or rolls to complete everything.

Moose Liver

2 pounds moose liver (sliced) 1 1/2 cups 2% milk (or as needed)
2 large, sweet onions (sliced into rings) 2 cups all-purpose flour (or as needed)
1/4 cup butter (divided) salt and pepper to taste
1/2 teaspoon garlic powder 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce

Gently rinse liver slices under cold water and pat dry with paper towels.

Place in a shallow dish and pour in enough milk to cover. Let stand while preparing onions. The soaking process helps remove excess blood and bitterness.

In a skillet over medium heat melt 2 tablespoons of butter. Add onions and Worcestershire sauce and stir and cook until tender and soft, about 3 to 5 minutes. Transfer to a bowl and set aside along with the skillet.

Combine flour, salt, pepper, and garlic powder on a plate. Drain milk from liver and coat with the flour mixture.

Return skillet to stove at medium high. Melt the remaining butter and fry the coated liver sliced until lightly browned (a bit longer if you like), about 3 to 4 minutes per side. Place onions in skillet with the liver and reduce heat to medium. Continue to cook until onions are warmed through and the liver is slightly pink inside (longer if you like).

My favorite sides are mashed potatoes and peas.

Add a cold beer to complete the meal.

Enjoy!

AHEIA FUNDRAISING RAFFLES

CALL OUR OFFICES TO PURCHASE TICKETS!

You are not required to be present to be eligible to win. Tickets cannot be sold to persons under 18 years of age. Tickets may only be purchased or sold within Alberta.

3 GUN RAFFLE



1st Prize

Retail Value:
\$1,290.00

Winchester .270 XPR Bolt Action Rifle

24" Cerakote barrel, Hunter Strata camo, detachable box magazine



2nd Prize

Retail Value:
\$1,090.00

Stoeger M3500 12GA 3.5" Shotgun

Bronze coloured action & barrel — 28", Max 5 camo, c/w 4 adj choke tubes



3rd Prize

Retail Value:
\$450.00

Winchester Wildcat .22 LR Rifle

Semi Auto, Strata camo stock, black blued 18" barrel

Draw Date: Friday, April 12, 2024

Calgary Conservation Education Centre for Excellence
Licence #664848 • 7,000 Tickets Printed

SPORTING & WATERFOWLERS FIREARM



Retail Value:
\$1,650.00

One (1) Franchi Affinity 3.5, 12GA Semi Auto Shotgun

Waterfowl Marsh Camo, 28" Bronze Colour Barrel & Action. 3 extended choke tubes. Fibre optic sight. Vented rib for 2 3/4", 3" or 3 1/2" shells. Adjustable pitch spacers.

AND



Retail Value:
\$1,650.00

One (1) Franchi Affinity Sporting 3, 12GA Semi Auto Shotgun

Satin walnut wood stock with white anodized colour action & blued 30" barrel. 3 extended choke tubes. Vented rib, for 2 3/4" or 3" shells. Adjustable pitch spacers.

One winner receives both firearms — total retail value \$3,300.00

Draw Date: Friday, April 12, 2024

Calgary Conservation Education Centre for Excellence
Licence #665547 • 1,600 Tickets Printed

MATCHED PAIR OF CHARLES BOSWELL 20GA OVER UNDER SHOTGUNS



Note: Both firearms have seen some use but remain in excellent condition and have been appraised at \$19,500.00 Cdn.

Pair of Charles Boswell 20GA Over Under Shotguns

Shotguns are serial numbers 8409 (gun 1) & 8410 (gun 2). Boxlock actions with sideplates, single selective triggers and non-automatic safeties. Barrels are 26 7/8" long, c/w ejectors, mono Block construction and all are choked IC. Gun 1 weighs 7lbs, 13 oz. Gun 2 weighs 7lbs 12oz. Checkered walnut stocks and forends. Length of pull is 14 1/4", c/w leather covered recoil pads. Both firearms are engraved with Scroll & Bulino Style game scenes. Comes with case.

Draw Date: Friday, April 12 2024 Licence #664850 • 1,000 Tickets Printed

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AHEIA Fundraising Raffle Winners

Hunter's Delight Raffle

Drawn Friday, October 20, 2023
at the Calgary Conservation Centre for Excellence.
Licence #46429. 1,600 tickets printed.

Ticket # 477

is the winner of a Winchester XPR Rifle and Eberlestock J107
Dragonfly Camo Backpack

Upland Hunting Raffle

Drawn Monday, September 25, 2023
at the Calgary Conservation Centre for Excellence.
Licence #635516. 4,000 tickets printed.

Ticket #899

is the winner of three shotguns including a Franchi LX 12GA Break
Action Shotgun, Franchi Instinct L 20GA Break Action Shotgun and
Franchi Instinct L .410GA Break Action Shotgun.

Waterfowlers Dream Raffle

Drawn Monday, September 25, 2023
at the Calgary Conservation Centre for Excellence.
Licence #640146. 2,000 tickets printed.

First Winning Ticket # 52

is the winner of a Benelli Super Black Eagle 3.

Second Winning Ticket # 333

is the winner of a Benelli Super Black Eagle 3.

Third Winning Ticket #1636

is the winner of a Winchester Wildcat .22 LR Rifle.

*Thank you to all
who entered!*

AHEIA FUNDRAISING RAFFLES

CALL OUR OFFICES TO PURCHASE TICKETS!

You are not required to be present to be eligible to win. Tickets cannot be sold to persons under 18 years of age.
Tickets may only be purchased or sold within Alberta.

CUSTOM REFRIGERATOR RAFFLE

Tickets

\$5



Retail Value:
\$6,000.00

Rec Room / Man Cave Refrigerator / Art

One of a kind art piece & fully functional Hisense 17 cu. ft. refrigerator. New, never used fridge with adjustable door bins, stainless steel, top LED lighting, super freeze, clear crisper drawers, counter depth

31.1" W x 69.1" H x 28.9" D

Weight 203 lbs.

Custom art by renowned artist **Adam Schwengler**, owner of **Paintdruid Airbrushing Studio** (paintdruid.com). This original art of a majestic bull elk on the front and hunting memorabilia on the sides, is a product of the incredibly talented artist, then sealed under protective clear coat finish.

For every 400 tickets sold, AHEIA will donate \$100.00 worth of groceries to the Calgary Food Bank.

Draw Date: Friday, December 8, 2023

Calgary Conservation Education Centre for Excellence
Licence #650725 • 4,000 Tickets Printed

ELECTRIC BIKE RAFFLE



Tickets

\$5

Retail Value:
\$5,818.46

QuietKat Ranger E-Bike

1000 watt, Veil Poseidon Dry Camp Pathfinder 48V, 12.8AH Battery

Klopin Rhino Grip, 2 Grey Pannier Bags, Red & White Explorer 2000 LED Light Smart Tail-light, Front & Rear Fender Set

AHEIA would like to thank **TREVOR Hayter** of **eVELOCITY POWERSPORTS** for his generous donation of this amazing, all-terrain electric bike for our fundraising raffle. Please visit his website, e-velocity.ca, for a full line of exciting, electric powersports products.

Draw Date: Friday, March 22, 2024

Calgary Conservation Education Centre for Excellence
Licence #646348 • 4,000 Tickets Printed

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