



AHEIA's Youth Camps and Outdoor Youth Seminar

Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association \$37,000 Grant

This program trains a new generation of waterfowl hunters to be safe, responsible, and respectful. Participants are taught safe zones of fire; limitations and distance; general safety; and how to conserve, protect, restore and enhance habitat for the benefit of various waterfowl species and wildlife.

COMMUNICATION & EDUCATION

- 192 youth participants attended the camps and 124 attended the youth seminar.
- Participants were introduced to hunting, fishing, and conservation.
- About 50 of the attendees signed up for mentorship programs after receiving mentorship booklets that were created in partnership with WHC.



AHEIA's Outdoor Women's Program

Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association \$20,000 Grant

This is the longest running outdoor women's camp in Canada specifically focused on educating women and recruiting them to the enjoyment of hunting and hunting-related outdoor activities.

COMMUNICATION & EDUCATION

- 178 participants increased their skills and knowledge of hunting, fishing and conservation.
- Participants learned about the Alberta Conservation and Education Program, the Canadian Firearms Safety Course and the Canadian Boating Safety Course.
- Many participants attended other AHEIA courses following the completion of this program.



Photo credits: Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association.



Outdoor Bound Mentored Hunt Program

The Alberta Hunter Education Instructors' Association
\$13,000 Grant

This program provided youth and novice hunters with the chance to gain a better understanding of hunting, a respect of nature, and increased confidence while hunting, as well as in everyday life. It focused on interpersonal support and growth, guidance, material exchange, sharing of wisdom and experience, coaching and role modeling.

COMMUNICATION AND EDUCATION

- 339 Mentors provided mentorship to 3,410 youth and novice hunters.
- Partnerships were created with various NGOs and retailers.
- Recruits learned new skills, gained knowledge about Alberta's wilderness resources, and the importance of safety and cooperation in the outdoors.

What is a Mentored First Time Hunt, and Why is it Important?

Mentored first time hunts provide a quality experience, ensuring a safe and controlled training setting for youth and first time hunters. Having their hunt mentored means that first time hunters will not have to hunt alone, greatly increasing their safety and overall enjoyment.

These hunts increase awareness of hunting as a tool for conservation while actively managing wildlife. They teach individuals to be safe, confident, ethical, and to take responsibility for wildlife and wild places.



Mentors create opportunities for those who do not have a chance to explore the outdoors to learn a new skill, promote health, fitness and lifelong learning.





Parkland County Alternative Land Use Services Program (ALUS)

Parkland County
\$22,500 Grant

This project worked with farmers and ranchers in Parkland County to conserve, enhance and restore wetland and upland habitats, and support voluntary actions to restore and conserve species and their habitats on private land.

CONSERVATION PLANNING

- 12 in-person meetings were held with landowners and 22 phone contacts were made regarding proposed projects.

COMMUNICATION AND EDUCATION

- Support for habitat conservation was gained through newsletters, brochures, workshops, and speeches.
- Hosted 3rd annual ALUS Field Tour.

WETLAND AND UPLAND RESTORATION

- 4 project agreements were signed.
- Completed projects resulted in 25.02 acres of enhanced wetland habitat and 98.96 acres of enhanced upland and riparian habitat.



ALUS Parkland's Carla Rhyant and sheep.
 Photo credit: Parkland County

Reinvigorating the Important Bird and Biodiversity Programs in Alberta

The Federation of Alberta Naturalists
 (Nature Alberta)
\$8,000 Grant

These programs have led to tangible and positive changes for the environment and increased protection for birds in Alberta and Canada. Giving the opportunity for many people to become stewards and for participants to have an overall greater understanding of the programs offered, enables the implementation of programs in future years.



Great Horned Owl as part of the Birds Family Nature Night at Big Lake IBA August 2, 2017.

Photo credit:
 The Federation of Alberta Naturalists
 (Nature Alberta)

COMMUNICATION & EDUCATION

- 3 Important Bird and Biodiversity Area webinars were held, engaging 112 attendees.
- 3 Migratory Bird Events were held, with approximately 700 participants.
- 144 people participated in Birds Family Nature Night.
- 174 participants attended 6 wetland education workshops.



Waterfowl Nest Success in the Boreal Forest: Does Industrial Development Alter Predation?

University of Waterloo

\$69,225 Grant

This study sought to determine the relationships between industrial development and duck predator communities and nest success in the Western Boreal Forest. It did so by monitoring changes in predator communities, estimating nest success and identifying nest predators, and developing computer simulations to predict changes in predator communities and nest success. The results suggested that predation plays a major role in waterfowl nest success in the Western Boreal Forest.

SCIENCE

- Mammal communities in the study area were monitored over the nesting period with camera traps.
- 11 Cameras were set up on real nests, and 70 cameras were set up on artificial nests. These cameras were monitored every 7-14 days.
- 2 female ducks were marked with radio transmitters. Fur samples were collected. 32 temperature probes were deployed.
- Point count surveys were conducted throughout the field season.



Common raven



Moose with calf



Moriah Tanguay holding a banded drake mallard.
Photo credits: University of Waterloo .



Sandhill cranes