

ABA NEWS Feb 17, 2020 Vertical Response

Winter is finally near its end – the geese in NW Alberta will be back in a month or so. Bears will start to stir.

Early Spring is **Banquet/Convention time!!** We will be gathering March 21 at the Best Western Premier Calgary Plaza Hotel in Calgary (same location as couple years ago). Book your rooms as you need from either the Best Western website or any of the online booking sites (will get a better rate than what we could get).

Got a busy day ahead of us!! Exec meeting from 8:00 – 9:30. Then the AGM to 1:00. Quick break and then we have a “Game Head Caping Seminar” with Joey and Dee Busetto from 2:00 – 3:30!! And the cocktails for the banquet start at 5:30.

We have had a great response for volunteers from both the executive and the general membership. Thanks to everyone that stepped up to help – greatly appreciated!! If you’d like to help in future banquets let me know – free ticket and a free ABA shirt for these volunteers.

Tickets to the banquet are available on our online store or by contacting Brent (780-978-1195) ([Brent@albertabowhunters.com](mailto:Brent@albertabowhunters.com)). We will reserve tables of 8 or 10. Prices are \$65 for adult and \$25 for youth 12 and under.

Bring any mounts or horns/antlers that you would like. An open theme. After the awards we will once again have the Social – has been a great success the last couple of years!!

Hope you will attend the **AGM (9:30-1pm)**. We have some bylaw changes to consider/vote on. Notice given in this next newsletter that should be out very very soon. We have reports on the various things the ABA has been doing. And we have elections. We are actively looking for people to step up and be part of the ABA Executive Team. Need new ideas, perspective on issues or just help in the things we do. Without “people” to become involved, we are limited in what we can do. Please consider it.

Make sure you get your **Game Award** entries into Ryk ([ryk@ryk.ca](mailto:ryk@ryk.ca)) by the FIRM deadline of March 1, 2019. The best is to email them to Ryk but make sure you follow up with a call to make sure he did indeed get them. Don’t send high resolution pictures in bunches – do them one at a time so your email actually gets through. Sometimes things end up in Junk Mail so follow up with a quick call or email to make sure Ryk got your entry(s). You can also submit your game award entries through the website!!

We have had great response to the sale of our “**ABA Hats**” and they are available off the website. Check them out! Great looking hats!! Got some special banquet hats coming!! Very LIMITED number!!

Make sure you check your **membership** expiry date on the mailing label of your last newsletter. If you haven’t gotten the last newsletter or two, then you most likely are not a current member. With just a click or two of your mouse, you can join off our website so make sure you do that so you don’t miss nay newsletters etc. (NOTE the new address – <https://albertabowhunters.ca>).

You can select an auto renew box so your credit card is automatically billed so you don’t forget to renew, you get an immediate confirmation email, can print off your membership card. Make sure you don’t miss out on game award and 3D program eligibility, the insurance coverage, notice on the next RAFFLE and to help bolster our numbers when we attend these very important meetings with senior government staff and stakeholders on hunting/bowhunting regulations, developing and adjusting policy for game management in Alberta.

If you have questions on your membership, contact [Mike@albertabowhunters.com](mailto:Mike@albertabowhunters.com).

We are looking at doing **The “Outdoor Adventures” Raffle** again. We have had some trips opt out from participating and would like to fill those spots. Do you have any ideas on fishing/hunting trips that you think would be suitable for this raffle? Cost to us should be \$12000 CDN at the most. Let Brent know if you think of something.

Our last scheduled **AGPAC (Alberta Game Policy Advisory Council) meeting** was on Feb 12<sup>th</sup>. We reviewed some old recommendations and a couple of new ideas for the “Wildlife Regulation Review” – has been worked on since 2015 and with the new government and the new Minister, things are moving along really well and much faster.

FW went over a bunch of change items for this “Wildlife Regulations” review – which is the policy that guides them in their general decision making/provides a legislative framework for regulating hunting, trapping, possession and record keeping of Alberta’s wildlife. After the input of this meeting and the past discussions these items will move along and if and when they are formalized it will be announced publically.

Still lots of hoops to jump.

Below are the processes that changes need to go through after they leave FW (and before they leave there is consultation with stakeholders, First Nations and Metis):

*Amendments are developed with Environmental Law through Drafting Instructions.*

*Amendments are reviewed by Legislative Council.*

*Amendments reviewed by Reg Review Secretariat.*

*Compliance certificates issued RRS.*

*Cabinet reports required for OC and Joint Authority Amendments.*

*MO and OC are developed by Environmental Law and sent for Signatures.*

*Legislative Council reviews MO and OC and then files documents.*

*Posted through the Alberta Gazette and the Queen’s Printer then updates “Regulation”. It then becomes law.*

What you think should be easy is not. And can take quite a long time. (Not sure what some of the abbreviations stand for lol)

Next AGPAC mtg is April 8 – we will be going over the Allocation Policy Review items. Includes the archery season draw proposal, draw weight reduction, landowner tags, outfitter allocation process, hunter host, residency requirements, WMU allocation of tags instead of Species Mgt Areas. These things have been on hold as well for some time and this will just go over the issues, see if anything has changed, etc. Once this next meeting is over, the items will then go for public consultation, First Nations and Metis. And hopefully moving ahead.

Alberta Professional Outfitters Society are hosting a **“CWD Symposium”** either April 1 and 2, 2020. Will have lots of experts and speakers from across North America. Details can be found on the APOS website <https://apos.ab.ca/Community/CWD>. We have one of your executive (Terry Brew) attending.

FW are now working on drafting a “CWD Management Policy” as well which will guide how Alberta deals with CWD.

The ABA changed up its **3D Program** several years ago as a result of input from its membership, the 3D shooters within the ABA etc and it has evolved into a program that sees the ABA support its affiliated clubs who hold a 3D shoot with a bowhunting theme. We have had a great response and it makes much better use of the resources at the ABAs disposal. We have increased our donation to the affiliated clubs

who do a Hunter themed shoot from \$125 to \$200 – the increase is to be used to buy prizes for the youngsters at the shoot on behalf of the ABA.

ABA members who attend these shoots have their name put in for a draw at the ABA Banquet (March 21, 2020 in Calgary) and the winner has their choice of a \$500 Gift Certificate at the archery shop of their choice or an ABA Life Membership.

If you have any questions or comments about the ABA don't hesitate to contact me (or any of your executive – contact info in newsletter and on website) at anytime.

See you in Calgary!!

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2020 ABA President  
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