

Newsletter



Volunteering

We believe that giving back to the community



2026 Regional Convention

The A.C.T. Dominion Regional Convention. May 20 - 23, 2026 in Red Deer, AB



Council Activities

Councils coming together to give back to their communities.



This Issue:

Presidents report Pg. 1

Volunteerism Pg. 2

Regional Convention Pg. 3

Council Activities Pg. 4 - 17

Newsletter/Membership Pg. 18

Regional Presidents Report

Fellow members, Well the cold will soon be gone and the warm weather will be upon us. We hope. Your Regional Executive have been meeting every three months and have everything in order. We are anxiously waiting for our Regional Convention in May. We would like to thank Red Deer council 1021 and Thunder Bay council 1039 for co-hosting this years convention, they have been working very hard to make sure everything is in order. Four of the executive had zoom meetings with our fellow council in the Atlantic, we discussed what we are doing in our respective Regional Councils to continue the great work our clubs do for the needy. Unfortunately if was the consensus of both Regions that if we do not get new members on our councils the Regional Councils will disappear. On that note, I ask all members to please consider putting your names forward to step onto the line and join our board of directors. If we do not get volunteers to join our board it is likely we will not have a Regional council within a few short years, so please give it some thought and forward a short Bio to Anthony Rumsey. I truly believe the Regional Board of Directors is a vital component selling all that A.C.T. Councils have a chance to survive. Volunteering for the board is a very rewarding experience and is greatly appreciated by the many people in need, that we support. For those that will not be at the Convention this year to read my final report, I want to thank each and every one who put your faith and trust in me to guide this Organization for the past year. t was enlightening, and very rewarding on a personal level to know that i may have had a little part in guiding this club, and having a roll in helping so many people who greatly depended on our support. In closing I want to wish the new incoming President, Wayne Huber and this executive the very best of luck in the upcoming year and to let them know I look forward to helping them in and way I can.

Empowering Communities through Volunteerism

The Importance of Volunteerism

Volunteerism is a fundamental pillar of community development and social cohesion. By contributing their time, skills, and energy, volunteers enhance the well-being of their communities in significant and meaningful ways. In Canada, volunteerism is an essential component of the social fabric, addressing a wide variety of community needs and promoting an inclusive society.

Building Stronger Communities

Volunteering fortifies communities by fostering social connections and cultivating a sense of belonging. When individuals unite to support common causes, they build networks of trust and cooperation. These connections can lead to increased community resilience, as people are more likely to support each other in times of need. Furthermore, volunteerism can bridge gaps between different social groups, promoting mutual understanding and unity



Volunteerism

Volunteering is at the heart of what we do. Our members regularly participate in various initiatives, from local food banks and shelters to national campaigns and disaster relief efforts. By dedicating our time and skills, we help to bridge gaps and provide support where it's needed most. Resource Allocation In addition to volunteering, we allocate resources to amplify the impact of charitable organizations. This includes financial donations, supply drives, and other forms of support that help these organizations achieve their goals and expand their reach.

Impact and Outreach

Our efforts have touched countless lives across Canada. We take pride in the stories of hope and transformation that emerge from our contributions. By working closely with a diverse range of charitable organizations, we ensure that our support is far-reaching and inclusive..

“Volunteering is at the very core of being a human; no one has made it through life without someone’s help.”

Our Commitment

We believe that giving back to the community is a fundamental responsibility. Our members are passionate about creating a better world through acts of kindness, service, and generosity. Whether it's through fundraising events, hands-on volunteering, or providing essential resources, we strive to make a difference

The Impact of Volunteerism

on Canadian Charities

Canadian charities rely extensively on the dedication and passion of volunteers to achieve their missions. These organizations often operate with limited resources, and the support of volunteers can substantially enhance their

Future Goals

As we look to the future, we remain committed to our mission of service. Our goals include expanding our volunteer base, increasing our resource contributions, and forging new partnerships to address emerging needs within our communities.

At A.C.T. Dominion Regional, we are more than just a group of volunteers; we are a community of changemakers, united by a shared vision of a better, more compassionate world. Together, we will continue to support and uplift those in need, making a lasting difference for generations to come.



A.C.T. Dominion Regional Convention 2026

*May 20 - 24, 2026
Red Deer, AB.*

Red Deer Council #1021 and Thunder Bay Council #1039 are thrilled to announce that they will be hosting the highly anticipated 2026 A.C.T. Dominion Regional Convention in the vibrant city of Red Deer, Alberta, from May 20th to May 24th, 2026.

We eagerly await the opportunity to welcome all members to what promises to be an exciting and memorable week filled with engaging activities, inspiring discussions, and valuable connections. If you are interested in participating this year, please reach out to your local council secretary, who can provide you with the necessary form. Alternatively, you can conveniently download the form by visiting the website at www.actuct.com.

Join us for a fantastic experience in Red Deer!

DOMINION REGIONAL Council Activities

Kelowna West #1003



Presenting a cheque for \$2000 to Starbright Children's Development Centre (l to r) Penny Pearston - Socials Director, Rick Warner - President, Rhonda Nelson - Executive Director Starbright John Grant - Vice President, Susan Warner - Secretary

(l to r) Rick Warner, President, Susan Warner - Secretary, Donna Thibideau - Operations Director, Salvation Army, John Grant - Vice President, Penny Pearston - Socials Director presenting a cheque for \$2000 to the salvation Army.



Presenting a cheque for \$1000 to (c) Kane Blake - Okanagan Forest Task Force (l to r) Rick Warner - President, Susan Warner - Secretary, John Grant - Vice President. This volunteer group cleans up illegal dumping which includes party sites, abandoned vehicles, huge encampments as well as putting out dozens of illegal fires.



Council Activities

Kelowna West #1003



A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO VOLUNTEERED FOR THE CHRISTMAS KETTLE

**Jerry Heikel, - SA Representative,
Sheila Falk, Adrien Taylor, Ruth Smith, Rick
& Susan Warner, Marilyn Miller & terry Dowler.**

**Other volunteers not shown: Darlene Heikel, Fred
& Mary Figura, Penny & Lee Pearston, Jane
Bissell & Barry Keith**



Council Activities

Kelowna West #1003



On January 28th, Susan and I, Rick Warner attended the Central Okanagan Crime Stoppers annual appreciation luncheon on behalf of council @1003. Each year, we donate \$1,000 to support the work they do in our community. This luncheon is attended by some of our local Kelowna councilors, provincial elected representatives, and a federal MP from our area. I believe our attendance provides us with some local exposure.



Kelowna West 1003 President Rick Warner making a \$500 donation of Turkeys to the Kelowna Gospel mission



Kelowna West #1003
presenting a cheque of \$250 to the
West Kelowna Youth Ambassadors Program
I-r Rhonda Lowen - Chaperone,
Ricki Morin - Coordinator of the WKYAP
John Grant - Vice President - Kelowna West #1003
with the Young Ambassadors in the background.

Council Activities

Edmonton S. #1017



Members of Edmonton South Club 1017 joined forces to assemble and deliver 20 food hampers to families in need, supporting the Edmonton Christmas Bureau and spreading holiday cheer and generosity.



Council Activities

Edmonton S. #1017



A.C.T. Edmonton S. Club 1017 Annual Xmas Party. Fun was had by all



Council Activities

Edmonton S. #1017



Edmonton 1017 President Don Makowichuk presenting Jerry Bellikka and Lorraine McFaddin with their 15 yr. service pins



Edmonton 1017 President Don Makowichuk presenting Monique May with her 20 yr. service pin



Guest presenter Julie Matthews, formerly with Global Troubleshooter, shared insights and practical tips on how to recognize and avoid falling victim to various types of scams.

Council Activities

Sherwood Park #1022



Major sponsor of the Annual Winterfest event on December 6, 2026 in support of the Festival Place Cultural Arts Foundation (FPCAF). This foundation has presented the annual event for a number of years, with the proceeds going toward scholarships for youth that participate with various arts endeavors. We also conducted a 50/50 with the proceeds of \$500.00 to the FPCAF, and also had an information table set up related to our club activities' in Strathcona County.



Council Activities

Sherwood Park #1022



Keith Sandmaier presenting a cheque to the Festival Place Cultural Arts Foundation in the amount of \$5,000 as the major sponsor for their annual Winterfest event, and to the Be Brave Ranch/Little Warriors in the amount of \$2,000 as a general donation for their ongoing programs supporting child abuse victims.

Council Activities

Sherwood Park #1022



Keith Sandmaier is presenting a cheque to the Sherwood Park Minor Baseball Association in the amount of \$2,250. Accompanying this presentation is a photograph of the Under 11 team we sponsored, the Sherwood Park Athletics, who achieved the distinction of being the provincial champions for the 2025 season.



Council Activities

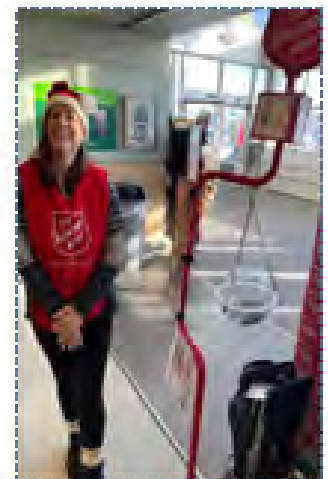
St. Albert#1024



Salvation Army Donation



Presented to
Captain Daniel
Rowe, for the St.
Albert Salvation
Army



Council Activities

St. Albert#1024

Fundraising Efforts

The latest updates



Giving
Hope
Today

Fundraiser efforts on November 28th, 29th & December 6th, 2025, for the Salvation Army's "Adopt a Kettle" program at Save-On-Foods Village Landing in St. Albert had an impressive start, raising \$1,632.00 on the first two days.

The St. Albert Salvation Army's 2025 Kettle Campaign was a tremendous success, raising significant funds and coming close to its \$360,000 goal, with more than \$330,000 collected by Christmas Eve.

These donations directly support vital local programs, including the Toy Store, which brought joy to over 900 children, as well as essential daily support for families facing rising living costs.

The campaign was powered by extraordinary community generosity, with thousands of volunteer hours contributing to its impact and helping ensure the provision of food, shelter, and other critical necessities throughout the year.

Council Activities

Thunder Bay #1039



UCT1039 holds a Valentine's Fun Night

President Janet welcomed the 150 guests to sit and enjoy a marvelous meal of turkey, veggies, and all the fixings, followed by a special Valentine's dessert. The ladies auxiliary branch 5 did an outstanding job.

This was followed by 12 games of "I LOVE U" bingo (12 in all) with winners getting gift certificates as well as good neighbors.

Then a 13th final bingo in the shape of a heart finished off the bingo portion. There were several door prizes throughout the evening, including flowers donated by the president, and finally a 50/50 draw that netted guest Willie Shulman \$522.50



Above it took 3 shots to fit all 150 guests in pics



The Ladies Axillary Branch 5 did up a fabulous supper,,
AGAIN, Thank you



Willie Shulman snagged
\$522.50 from our 5050 draw.

Council Activities

Sudbury #1051



L-R: Member Norm Pellerin, presenting Peter Gregory the Director of the Gathering Place a donation of \$2000



Doug Honeyford & Do Delongchamp presenting Mikaela Drouin and Nicole Sevigny of Lupus Ont. a donation of \$2500



Don Delongchamp presenting Kelly Irvine of the U20/U21 Curling a donation of \$1000



Sudbury Council #1051 making a donation of \$1,000 to Independent Living Sudbury Manitoulin.

Council Activities

Various Councils



Bud Gallo, president of Calgary Club 1014 presenting a cheque for \$3000 to Brittany from Providence Child Care Centre.



Bud Gallo, president of Calgary club 14 presenting a \$3400 cheque to Cliff Wiebe and James Wheeler from the Salvation Army.



Duane Demeria & President Berni Smithman of Red Deer #1021 making a donation of \$1000 to the Central Alberta Women's Shelter

NEWSLETTERS



This is a friendly reminder to all councils to please remember to submit their newsletters to the Regional Secretary throughout the year so that they can be reviewed and considered for entry into the competition. It's a great opportunity for the councils to showcase their work and stay updated with what other council newsletters are sharing. You can access and review all of the council newsletters on the regional website www.actuct.com at your convenience. Additionally, the website offers various information such as council rosters, membership applications for new members, and so much more. If there are any specific additions you would like to see in the newsletter or website, please don't hesitate to contact me, and I will make every effort to ensure it is included.

NEWSLETTER AWARD

Councils that submit five or more newsletters annually will be eligible for an award of \$100. If judged to be the best of all submissions, the newsletter will receive a \$250 award. This will be for all newsletters from April 1st, 2025, to March 31st, 2026. So please submit your council newsletters to Rose Scarrow PRP at rscarrow@outlook.com or to Anthony Rumsey PRP at actregional31@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP INCENTIVE

Each will receive a bonus or rebate of \$35.00 for every new member welcomed to A.C.T./UCT during the period/fiscal year. April 1st, 2025 to March 31st, 2026. The funds in the hands of the local council are unrestricted for use in any local council activity.

A.C.T. DOMINION REGIONAL
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MEMBERSHIPS

Reminder to all members & councils. When you are renewing your memberships, we accept Interact e-Transfers. If you are choosing to E-Transfer, you can send your dues to actuct31treasurer@gmail.com, and please put your name and member number in the notes so we know who it is from and for. If you would still like to mail your dues, please send your cheque made out to: A.C.T./UCT Dominion Regional Council #31, as they will not be accepted at the bank.

