

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

Alberta Chapter of The  
Wildlife Society



ALBERTA CHAPTER OF  
THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

# INTRODUCTION

Throughout 2021, The Alberta Chapter of The Wildlife Society continued moving our mission forward through virtual programming. Our first fully virtual conference was a great success and helped continue the momentum we had built with our virtual programming suite.

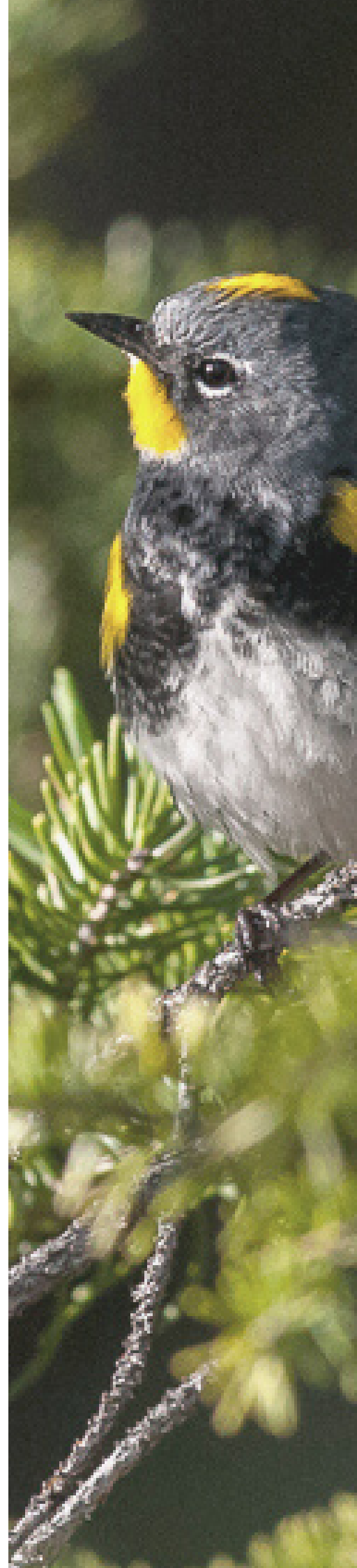
Throughout the year, we continued delivering high-quality webinars where speakers from around the world were invited to present the latest in wildlife research and habitat management relating to Alberta wildlife.

We also continued to advance the work of our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion committee through working with The Wildlife Society and other Chapters across North America. Our Conservation Affairs Committee responded to an array of local and regional issues.

Although, the pandemic reduced our ability to meet and share in person, The ACTWS continued to implement innovative programs that ensured we all had the opportunity to connect to further Alberta wildlife science and management.

## Operational highlights

- We continue to work with the Canadian Section of The Wildlife Society to obtain charitable status.
- Our 2021 webinar series focused on Hot Topics, providing members and supporters an opportunity to learn the latest science and discuss ways forward regarding current challenges facing Alberta wildlife.
- We participated in an International panel discussion at TWS conference furthering equity, diversity, and inclusion programs in the wildlife profession across North America.
- Our Conservation Affairs Committee was invited to participate and be a voice for robust wildlife and habitat science in multi-stakeholder consultation processes addressing caribou recovery, coal mining, and relationships with Government.





# OUTREACH SUCCESSES

The ACTWS aims to inspire and empower wildlife professionals, students, and enthusiasts to engage in and support science-based management and conservation of Alberta wildlife. Public and member outreach is essential to meeting this goal. Our virtual programming suite continues to reach new audiences and expand our reach across Alberta.

## Hot topic webinars

**249  
attendees**

Through 7 webinars, we shared the latest science about grizzly bears, human-wildlife coexistence, coal mining, climate change, and hunting and trapping.

## Workshops

**39 people  
engaged**

We hosted 2 virtual workshops on writing resumes, and writing science for non-scientists.

## Annual conference

**209  
attendees**

With 49 speakers covering a variety of topics, our 2021 virtual conference was a great success. Our virtual platform was a great networking tool with 52 discussion topics and 693 messages circulating amongst conference participants.

## Social media

**233 new  
followers**

Our social media presence continues to grow with an 87.6% increase in our Facebook reach, 123 new followers on Twitter, and 96 new follower on Instagram.



**450+**

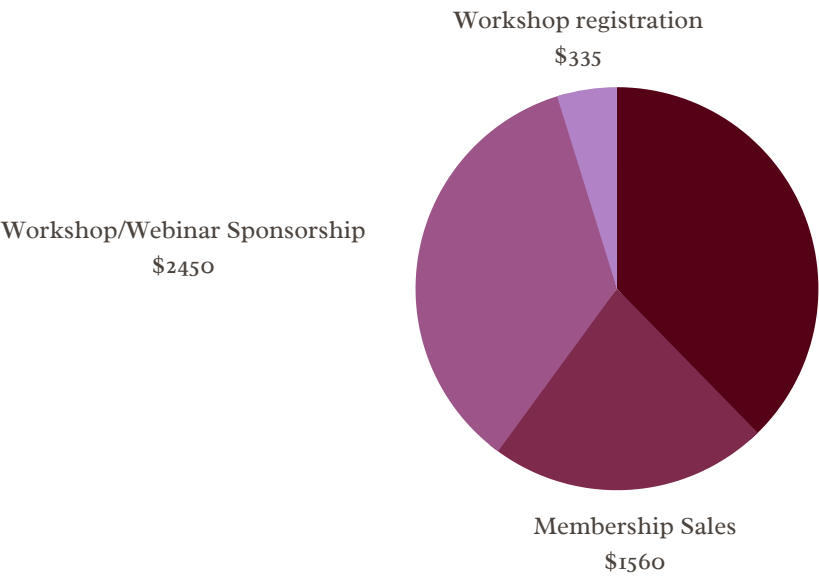
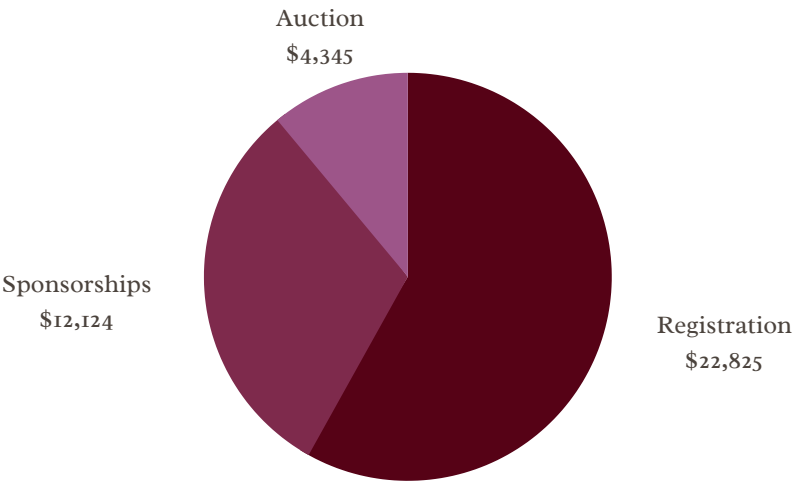
members served  
throughout 2021.

# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Our innovative programming suite continues to bring financial sustainability to The ACTWS through a variety of sources. Our largest fundraiser continues to be our annual conference, which raised \$16,898 for ACTWS operations in 2021.

## Conference fundraising

A breakdown of conference income is to the right. We spent \$17,975 to host the 2021 virtual conference



Wild LOVE fundraiser  
\$2627

## Fundraising successes

We raised \$6,972 from sources aside from the annual conference, including online fundraisers, corporate sponsorship, and membership sales.



\$24K+

raised in 2021 for ACTWS programs and operations.

# STUDENT SUPPORTS

The ACTWS values the next generation of "wildlifera" and continually strives to empower and support students in wildlife related programs at post-secondary institutions in Alberta. In addition to our webinars and workshops, which offer professional development opportunities, we distributed \$8500 in student awards in 2021.

## Student awards

**\$1500\*3**

We awarded 3 student scholarships at our 2021 conference.

## EDI Student awards

**\$1500\*2**

In the fall of 2021, our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion committee launched 2 new student awards for members belonging to marginalized communities.

## Presentation awards

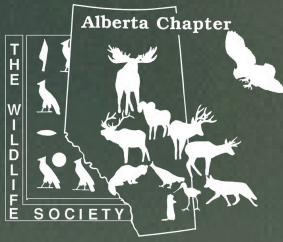
**\$1000**

At the end of our conference, we presented 2 students with presentation awards for the best poster and oral presentation. We also awarded 1 registration grant to provide additional support for a student to attend the annual conference.



**\$8.5K**

distributed to students to support their wildlife careers



# ALBERTA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

## 2021 Executive

President - Nicole Heim  
President Elect - John Paczkowski  
Past President - Alex Beatty  
Secretary-Treasurer - Erin Miller  
Director - Alyssa Bohart  
Director - Fauve Blanchard  
Director - Jordan York  
Director - Chuck Priestly  
Student Director - Phil Walker  
Executive Director - Sarah Elmeligi

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