

Hello and Happy New Year fellow Wheatland Conservation & Wildlife Association members. My name is Clinton LaRiviere and I have been elected the new president of our club. I hope the New Year has found you and your families in good health and spirits. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our outgoing president Carl Carlson on a job well done for the past two years. I would also like to thank all the outgoing executive team members for their time and efforts. I would also like to congratulate and introduce our new executive team on their appointments to their respective chairs they are:

First Vice President – Larry Olson

Second Vice President – Bruce Martland

Secretary – Mellissa Martland

Treasurer – Bill (Pops) Morton

Hunting Chair – Bob Williams

Fishing Chair - Vacant

Membership Chair – Doris Thompson

Environmental Chair – Josh Knapp

Programs Chair – Mike VanVertagem

Supper Chair – Larry Olson

Casino Chair – Darryl Blackley

I have been involved with the club for the last six years sitting as the environmental chair and have tried to get involved with all the different activities that the club has to offer. As a hunter and fisherman I have found it very rewarding to be involved in some of the fund raising and conservation projects the club has tackled. I am now going to try my hand as the president of the club. I hope with the help from the executive's and the club membership that we will have another successful year. One of our first tasks is to try and increase the involvement of the current members in some of our club projects and fund raising events. The club has some fantastic volunteers however it is usually the same people volunteering and most are growing older and are starting to suffer from volunteer burn out. We are in need of help from our membership to assist with our events and projects if they are to continue. To try and accomplish this I am going to try to send out a message in an e-mail to bring our members up to speed on current events and what the club is planning. I will try to let you know if volunteer's are required and who to contact if you are interested in helping out.

Although I know families today are very busy with numerous things going on the club needs its members to become involved when they can. Our clubhouse holds 25 people very comfortably yet it is rarely half full when we have monthly meetings. The club meets the 2nd Thursday of every month except for July and August when we break for the summer. The meetings start at 7:30pm and usually run for 2 hours. It sure would be great to see some new faces at the meetings along with new ideas. Our next meeting will be on February 14th where we will be discussing our 19th Annual Wild Game Supper coming up on March 2nd. We will be needing help with the set up of the hall, bar tending, the silent auction, bucket draws, gun raffles, youth draw table and ladies draw table. If you are interested in helping out give me a call at 403-901-5715 or shoot me an e-mail back.

Another upcoming event will be our annual Horn measurement; the event will be taking place at the clubhouse from 11:00am to 4:00pm on February 10th. If you have horns you want scored please bring them in skinned and cleaned. Horns that have rotten meat and are bloody will be rejected.

The junior shooting club will resume now that the holiday season is over. The juniors meet the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month at the rodeo grounds in the Quonset at 7:00pm for one hour. The students are mentored from club volunteers on safe handling and proper shooting technique of rifle (Air rifles) and compound bows. Once the weather improves the juniors start shooting out at the club house with 22's and shot guns.

As you may have noticed from the executives listed above the fishing chair is vacant. If you are interested in taking on the role but are unsure of what is involved, give me a call and we can discuss this chair position. The fishing chair would be a great start for someone who is looking to become involved with the executive team as it will require only a small amount of effort to start with. It sure would be nice to have someone new step up and become involved.

On a final note I look forward the challenges of the upcoming year and would appreciate any ideas you may have regarding the club. I will be sending out another E-mail shortly listing all our events and projects with the most up to date schedule I can give. If you would be interested in helping out at any of the future events or projects please attend one of the club meetings prior to the event or give me a call to find out more information. It would be a shame to let some of the great projects the club does go by the wayside because of a lack of interest by our membership.

Thank you for your interest hope to see and talk to you soon.

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President
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