

PHEASANTS FOREVER NEWS

SUMMER ISSUE
2025

PHEASANTS FOREVER CALGARY NEWSLETTER
Created for our members by our members.



30th Anniversary Dinner & Auction Recap Inside.
Thank you to our tremendous sponsors,
attendees, volunteers and supporters.



30th Anniversary Calgary Dinner & Auction

The 30th Anniversary Calgary Dinner & Auction held this past May was one for the record books, no matter how you want to measure it.

Congratulations to Co-Dinner Chairs, Glen Rumpel and John Robinson for leading the Chapter to its highest revenue generating dinner of all time.

The gross revenue for the event eclipsed \$850,000. This is by far the largest Pheasants Forever Dinner in all of North America. There has never been a larger Chapter event in the history of the organization.

This event marks the second time in 2 years that a record was broken. Never has as many raffle tickets been sold with over \$100,000 being sold in the cocktail hour.

The live auction was up over \$100,000 from last year with a record breaking \$400,000 being raised.

Big ticket items like the Naden Lodge Trip for 10 and a new Tacoma from Stampede, Charlesglen & Cochrane Toyota were the items that took the total to a record.

Hats off to auctioneer Bill Brown who got it all done by 9:20 that night. On top of that expenses were down considerably from prior year. All items sold for good prices, a testament to the quality of the attendees. We simply had the right folks in the room that night.

A big congratulations to the donors, sponsors, buyers, attendees & volunteers for a job very well done.



Auctioneer Bill Brown in the 2025 Tacoma donated by Stampede, Charlesglen and Cochrane Toyota..



The silent auction was loaded with unique items and engaged the crowd before dinner.



Clyde and Marilyn Vetter (right), *Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever President and CEO*, enjoys dinner after her keynote.



The sponsor banners greeted arriving attendees. Thank you to our amazing sponsors!



Raffles were hot this year, selling over \$100,000 in tickets during cocktail hour.



The wine lots are always a popular silent auction draw.



The star of the show - the Toyota Taco!



One of the many incredible trips was provided by Patron QCL.



Attendees always seem to have a great time!



On screen recognition of all our sponsors with the Live Auction posters displayed below.

Thank You to Our Impressive Corps of Volunteers

Maybe the most impressive aspect of the night was the efficiency of the volunteer corps. The execution that night was simply flawless. Attendees can attest to the many moving parts of the evening, and they happen fast. We have had the luxury of having the same solid volunteers for several years now and everyone knows their role and have quite frankly perfected it.



The raffle team!



The crew, ready to go and hard at work.



Terri's team.



Pre-game meeting of the volunteers.





PHEASANTS FOREVER ORG NEW LOGO ANNOUNCED

July 1, 2025 was the date of the big reveal of refreshed brand identities and logos for Pheasants Forever. The new look will inspire and exemplify a unified effort for wildlife habitat conservation amongst members, partners, and supporters.

This evolution – the first official change to the organization's brand since 1982 – sets the stage for greater presence, member engagement, and mission growth.

The logo transition will be taking place throughout the organization as a phased roll-out. The legacy logos will not disappear overnight; however you will start seeing the new logo as products are rolled out or require change.



Pheasants Forever is The Habitat Organization. Rooted in grassroots passion. Fighting every day for healthy landscapes, abundant wildlife, and future generations of upland conservationists. And you are an important part of our continued progress.

Although inspiring and adaptable logos are incredibly important, your support is the true symbol of our strength. Because of you, we will deepen our impact for upland wildlife habitat, public lands, hunting access, and the next generation of conservationists.

Thank you for helping to elevate our brands, and our critically important mission, like never before!



Membership/ Door Prize Winner

Attendees who filled in their complimentary membership (value of \$35) included with their 30th Anniversary dinner ticket (*forms were available on your table*) were entered in the membership/door prize.

**Congratulations to
Kyle Morrison
winner of a
Yeti Roadie!**





Summer UPLAND SPECIAL RAFFLE

CAESAR GUERINI MAGNUS LIMITED

28" - 28 Gauge Over & Under Shotgun

MSRP - \$9,000.00

Tickets: \$50.00

Draw Date – Sept 11/2025

AHEIA Firearms Centre

DeWinton, AB

License # 741666

250 Tickets

All proceeds to
Pheasants Forever Canada
Calgary Chapter.

Must be a resident
of Alberta, minimum
18 years of age with a valid PAL.

CAESAR
GUERINI

Tickets at pfcalgary.ca

or email terri@pfcalgary.ca or call 403.336.1145



22nd ANNUAL **AUSPICE** **DIRECTORS INVITATIONAL**

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2025
AHEIA Calgary Firearms Centre
De Winton, Alberta

- There will be a Calcutta prior to the shoot with 100% of the proceeds paid out. Depending on the number of teams a determination of the number of Calcutta winners will be made prior to the auction.
- Post-shoot cocktail reception and catered gourmet dinner in the big tent, right on site, followed by draws for door prizes and a few live auction items.
- Entry fee is \$600 per gun with net proceeds to Pheasants Forever.
- 5 shooters per team. Single registrations also accepted and will be put on a team.
- Lunch available at 12 noon.

- Practice rounds 1:00 pm
- Calcutta 2:00 pm
- Shoot 3:00 pm.
- Mix of trap, skeet and sporting clays
- \$600/gun

To reserve your spot:
Email: terri@pfcalgary.ca
Phone: 403.336.1145 (cell)
or 403.995.9960 ext. 101

Proceeds in support of Pheasants Forever.

Join Us for the Youth/Novice Fall Shoot

in conjunction with Provincial Hunting Day.

FREE!

If you are a youth or novice shooter aged 12 and up, please join us for an amazing day of free activities including shotgun coaching by AHEIA certified instructors, archery, crossbow, dog demonstrations, BBQ lunch and much more!

September 27, 2025 | 8:30am - 2:00pm
Calgary Firearms Centre, DeWinton, AB



Space is limited. Register Early.
Ph. 403-252-8474 • Email info@aheia.com

Made possible with the support of AHEIA,
Alberta Conservation Association and
Pheasants Forever Calgary



Provincial Hunting Day

The Government of Alberta has designated the fourth Saturday of September as Provincial Hunting Day. This day recognizes the Alberta traditions of hunting and conservation of our fish and wildlife resources.

More Information can be found at [My Wild Alberta](http://MyWildAlberta.com).

GET YOUR FIRST PHEASANT THIS FALL

at the
Post-Secondary
First Pheasant
Mentor Hunt



To Register:
terri@pfcalgary.ca
403.336.1145 (cell) or
403.995.9960 ext. 101

DATE & LOCATION TO BE DETERMINED

Check website for details.



LEARN ALL ASPECTS OF
PHEASANT HUNTING
FROM FIELD TO TABLE
Participants must be 16
years of age or older and
possess a valid PAL.

Sponsored in part by Alberta
Conservation Association.
Pheasants supplied by
MacFarlane Pheasants.

POST-SECONDARY
FIRST
PHEASANT
MENTOR HUNT



EXPLORING AN ALBERTA PROGRAM TO INCREASE HUNTER ACCESS



In an effort to increase hunting opportunities across southern Alberta while concurrently protecting habitat, Pheasants Forever Calgary Chapter is exploring the possibility of developing an initiative similar to the PATH (Public Access to Habitat) program delivered by Pheasants Forever in the U.S. and related programs delivered by many state governments.

These programs all provide a financial incentive for ranchers and farmers to enroll high-quality habitat into a multiyear habitat securement agreement that includes a public walk-in access component.

The initial phase of our exploration focussed on understanding the scale, scope and challenges associated with programs of this type in the various states that deliver them, some of which have been ongoing for more than 30 years.

We spoke with seven states and learned:

- Voluntary enrollees ranged from about 200 to as many as 3500 (Kansas).
- The average size of habitat parcels varies from 106 acres to 856 acres (South Dakota).
- The per acre payments ranged from \$0.50 to \$40.

Clearly there is considerable variability among the states and it will take further local research to determine if a similar program would be embraced in Alberta and, if so, what the parameters would be.

Early discussions with Alberta's conservation community indicated that there is general support for a program of this nature, with several citing the importance of finding new ways to ensure that landowners are recognized and rewarded for habitat stewardship, including as a means to retain and grow hunter access opportunities.

In the U.S., funding for these types of programs is largely provided by the federal and state governments. Pheasants Forever Calgary will examine all funding options as we continue to explore the feasibility of a similar program in Alberta.

Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever created the **"Public Access to Habitat" (PATH)** initiative in 2023. The program was modeled after the Aberdeen Pheasant Coalition, a highly successful public access initiative in Aberdeen, South Dakota — as well as the organization's past experience delivering "walk-in" access programs. The PATH initiative strives to provide focus, structure, advocacy, added capacity and increased funding to ensure the uplands are open to everyone.

[Read more regarding the U.S. PATH program at pheasantsforever.org.](https://pheasantsforever.org)

SUMMERTIME = BROOD TIME

A CRITICAL TIME FOR PHEASANTS

The brood season is a critical time in the life cycle of ring-necked pheasants.

This period begins shortly after hatching in late spring and lasts through midsummer. During this period, pheasant chicks—referred to as broods when with their mother—are highly vulnerable and depend heavily on suitable habitat, a rich food supply, and stable weather conditions to survive.

Once the eggs hatch, typically in June in much of North America, hen pheasants lead their chicks into brood-rearing habitat—areas rich in insects, ground cover, and shelter. Ideal brood habitat consists of undisturbed grasslands with a diversity of grasses and forbs, often mixed with low shrubs and adjacent to winter cover.

Good brood habitat must offer a balance of:

- Overhead cover to shield from aerial predators.
- Open ground for easy chick movement and foraging.
- Moisture-rich zones that support a high insect population.

Conservation lands, native prairie, lightly grazed pastures, and field edges with wild vegetation often provide the best mix of protective cover and foraging opportunities.

Pheasant chicks are highly insectivorous in their first weeks of life. Protein-rich insects are essential for growth, and include grasshoppers, beetles, ants, caterpillars and spiders. As they mature, chicks gradually begin to consume seeds, leafy vegetation, and grains. The availability of soft-bodied insects during the first 2–3 weeks is critical—chicks that don't get enough protein early on often fail to survive.

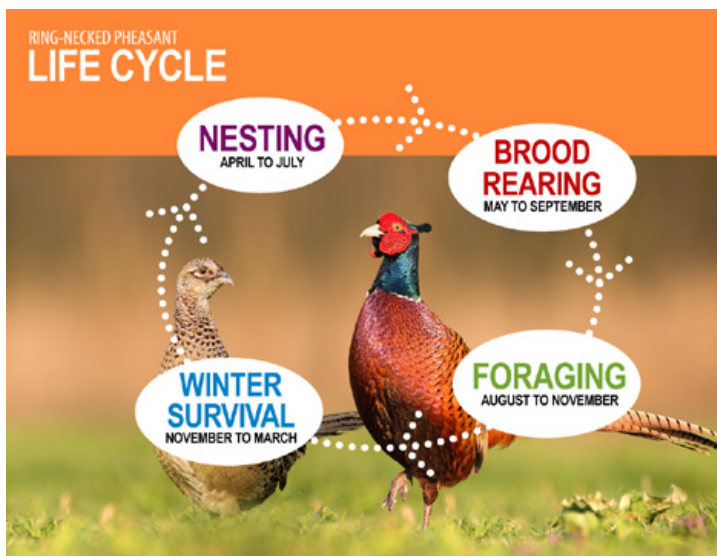
Various factors can contribute to high mortality during brood season including:

- **Predation:** Coyotes, foxes, skunks, raccoons, and raptors prey on both chicks and hens. Chicks are especially vulnerable before they can fly, usually around 10–14 days after hatching.
- **Weather:** Cold, wet weather can be lethal to young chicks, especially during the first week of life when they lack body fat and waterproof feathers.
- **Habitat Loss:** Intensive agriculture, mowing, and urban expansion reduce available brood cover. Chicks in poor habitat are more exposed and less able to find sufficient food.
- **Pesticide Use:** Chemical applications on cropland can diminish insect populations and directly poison young birds.

Studies show that only about 30–40% of pheasant chicks survive to fledging which is around 6 weeks of age. The success rate varies greatly depending on the extent of the mortality factors above.

The brood season is a delicate and decisive period in the ring-necked pheasant's annual cycle. Availability of high-quality nesting and brood-rearing habitat, rich in insects and cover, is essential for the greatest success.

Conservation efforts by Pheasants Forever play a major role in providing habitat for this vital period of the life cycle. [Read more on the life cycle of ring-necked pheasants.](#)



A TRANSFORMING LANDSCAPE

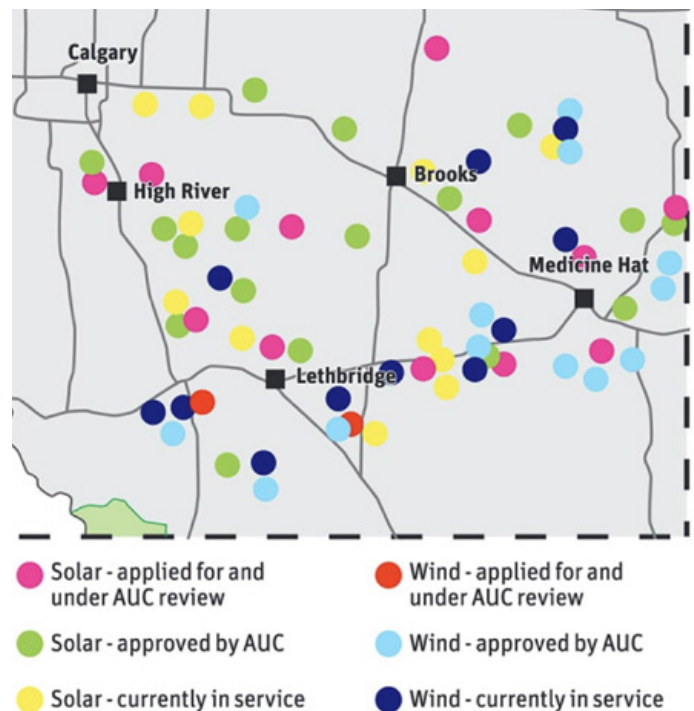
THE RISE OF SOLAR AND WIND INFRASTRUCTURE

Southern Alberta's landscape is undergoing a rapid transformation. The region, once dominated by vast expanses of native prairie grassland, has been shaped by agriculture and oil and gas, and now a growing footprint of renewable energy projects.

The rise of solar and wind energy across southern Alberta, while essential to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, comes with unintended consequences when sited in prairie grassland areas. They reduce habitat available for grassland-dependent wildlife, disrupt migration corridors, and can introduce invasive species or alter local hydrology.

The tension between climate mitigation and habitat conservation is growing in Alberta. While renewable energy may be a necessary part of the province's transition to a low-carbon economy, there is growing concern among conservationists, ranchers, and Indigenous communities about how and where these projects are being developed. Southern Alberta, where remaining native grasslands are irreplaceable and increasingly rare, seems to be a target for solar and wind projects. For example, the recently completed Travers Solar Project in the heart of southern Alberta is approximately 3,330 acres and the largest solar installation in Canada.

Protecting prairie ecosystems, critical to upland game birds and the many ecological services they provide, while advancing clean energy goals, requires better land-use planning, strong environmental screening processes, and meaningful engagement with stakeholders.



(See above) The Alberta Electric System Operator's list of renewable energy projects includes more than 60 proposed wind, solar and battery storage projects along the electrical transmission lines between Medicine Hat to Brooks, Oyen to Foremost and Hanna to Taber.

Source: [Renewable energy booms in southern Alberta](#) by Alex McCuaig, *Western Producer*, 2023.

Solutions that [conserve edge habitat](#) and programs like the [Marginal Areas Program](#) make a big difference to the health of the landscape. Pheasants Forever is always working to have a seat at the table when it comes to conserving habitat for upland game birds and other wildlife. By working together we hope to minimize the loss of native grasslands and conserve as many wild places in Southern Alberta as possible.



SAVE THE EDGES

Measuring the Impact of Trespass Farming



Intact, natural right-of-way.

In Alberta, public roadside ditches and undeveloped rights-of-way are important public lands that provide wildlife habitat and deliver valuable ecosystem services. Loss of these areas to trespass farming, in which cultivation extends past the farm field boundary and into right-of-ways and ditches, is extensive in southern Alberta. Pheasants Forever launched [Save the Edges](#) to raise awareness about the importance of leaving public roadside ditches and rights-of-way intact. The campaign is focused on southern Alberta municipalities including 13 municipalities that cover nearly 67,000 square kilometres.

Pheasants Forever requires baseline information about the extent of trespass farming within this area to be able to evaluate our efforts with [Save the Edges](#). Options for mapping and quantifying the extent of trespass farming include field surveys, manual interpretation of air photos, and classification of land cover based on remote sensing techniques. The first two of these options are very labour and time intensive, especially for large areas. Conversely, remote sensing provides a semi-automated and efficient way to map large areas; however, because this approach uses medium-resolution imagery, it comes with trade-offs with regards to the level of detail that can be mapped.

Today, we are happy to announce a pilot project is to test whether remote sensing methods can be used to differentiate between public right-of-ways and ditches that have been impacted by annual farming versus areas with perennial cover.

We need this information to quantify the extent of trespass farming. The pilot project will investigate the best methods for identifying land cover and land use associated with trespass farming and determining the best approach for quantifying the extent of trespass farming. The pilot will also evaluate the accuracy of the estimates.

The intent of this study is to test different remote sensing methods for identifying and quantifying trespass farming. We are hopeful to report on the findings later this year.



SUMMER = BARBEQUE

It's not summer until the barbeque gets lit!



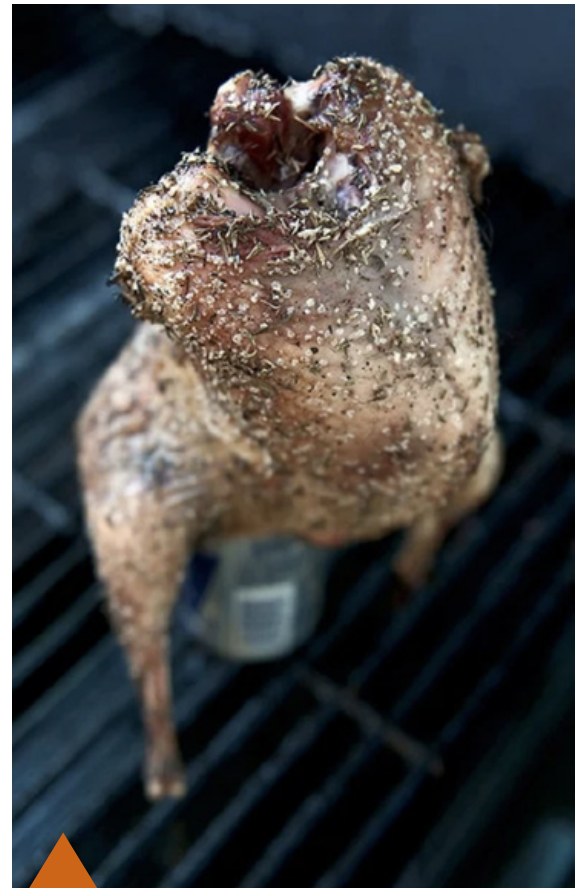
SPATCHCOCK PHEASANT

by Danielle Prewett/MEATEATER



Get the Recipe

Danielle Prewett is the author of the Wild + Whole cookbook and MEATEATER team member.



BEER CAN PHEASANT

by Hank Shaw



Get the Recipe

From the Hunter Angler Gardener Cook. Hank is a chef, author, and yes, hunter, angler, gardener, forager and cook.



KANSAS MESQUITE BARBECUED PHEASANT

by Jack Hennessy



Get the Recipe

Jack Hennessy started writing wild game recipes in 2014. Since then, his recipes have appeared with Petersen's Hunting, Backcountry Journal, Gun Dog Magazine, among many others.



SHOUT OUT TO OUR CUTEST MEMBERS!

A big shout out to two of our favourite members and grandchildren of Glen Rumpel.

A special thanks to Glen and family for being champions of Pheasants Forever Calgary and sharing the love for our organization.

We can't do this without you.

MEMBERSHIP EASIER THAN EVER!

Help conserve pheasant habitat!

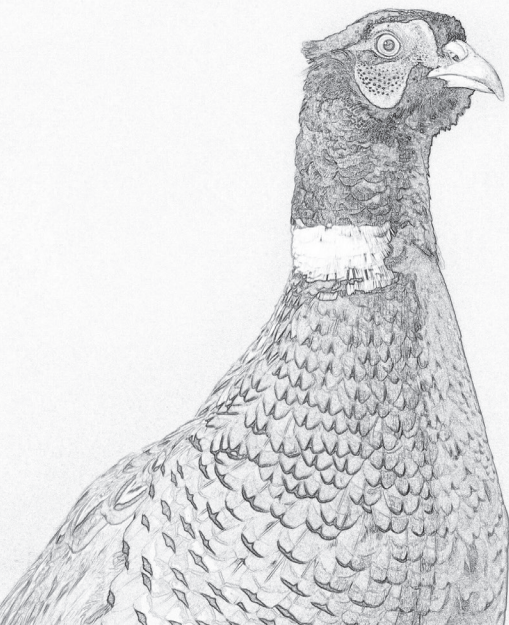
STAY CONNECTED



Annual Membership Only \$45

[pfcalgary.ca/membership](https://www.pfcalgary.ca/membership) or call 403-995-9960

Pheasants Forever Magazine and Quarterly E-News



Buy Your Membership Online

<https://www.pfcalgary.ca/membership/>

JOIN OUR INCREDIBLE GROUP OF SPONSORS

All sponsor logos will be included on pfcalgary.ca's homepage and in Pheasants Forever Calgary's quarterly e-newsletters.
Deadline for yearly logo recognition is April 15.

Gold Patrons

Contribution of \$25,000 or more.



CHARLES GLEN



COCHRANE



STAMPEDE



Patrons

Contribution of \$10,000 - \$24,999



Gold Patron - \$25,000

(\$25,000 and up)

The most prestigious sponsorship with extra large logo recognition as a **Gold Patron** at all events, within the printed Dinner & Auction program and powerpoint presentation during the Dinner.

Patron - \$10,000

(\$10,000 to \$24,999)

Extra large logo recognition as a **Patron** on Patron's banner at all events, within the printed Dinner & Auction program and powerpoint presentation during the Dinner.

JOIN OUR INCREDIBLE GROUP OF SPONSORS

All sponsor logos will be included on pfcalgary.ca's homepage and in Pheasants Forever Calgary's quarterly e-newsletters. Deadline for yearly logo recognition is April 15.

Gold Sponsors

Contribution of \$5,000 - \$9,999



Gold - \$5,000

(\$5,000 to \$9,999)

Large logo recognition as a **Gold Sponsor** on Gold Sponsor's banner at all events, within the printed Dinner & Auction program and powerpoint presentation during the Dinner.

Silver Sponsors

Contribution of \$2,500 - \$4,999



Silver - \$2,500

(\$2,500 to \$4,999)

Large logo recognition as a **Silver Sponsor** on a banner at all events and within the printed Dinner & Auction program.

Bronze Sponsors

Contribution of \$1,000 - \$2,499



Bronze - \$1,000

(\$1,000 to \$2,499)

Standard logo recognition as a **Bronze Sponsor** on a banner at all events and within the printed Dinner & Auction program.

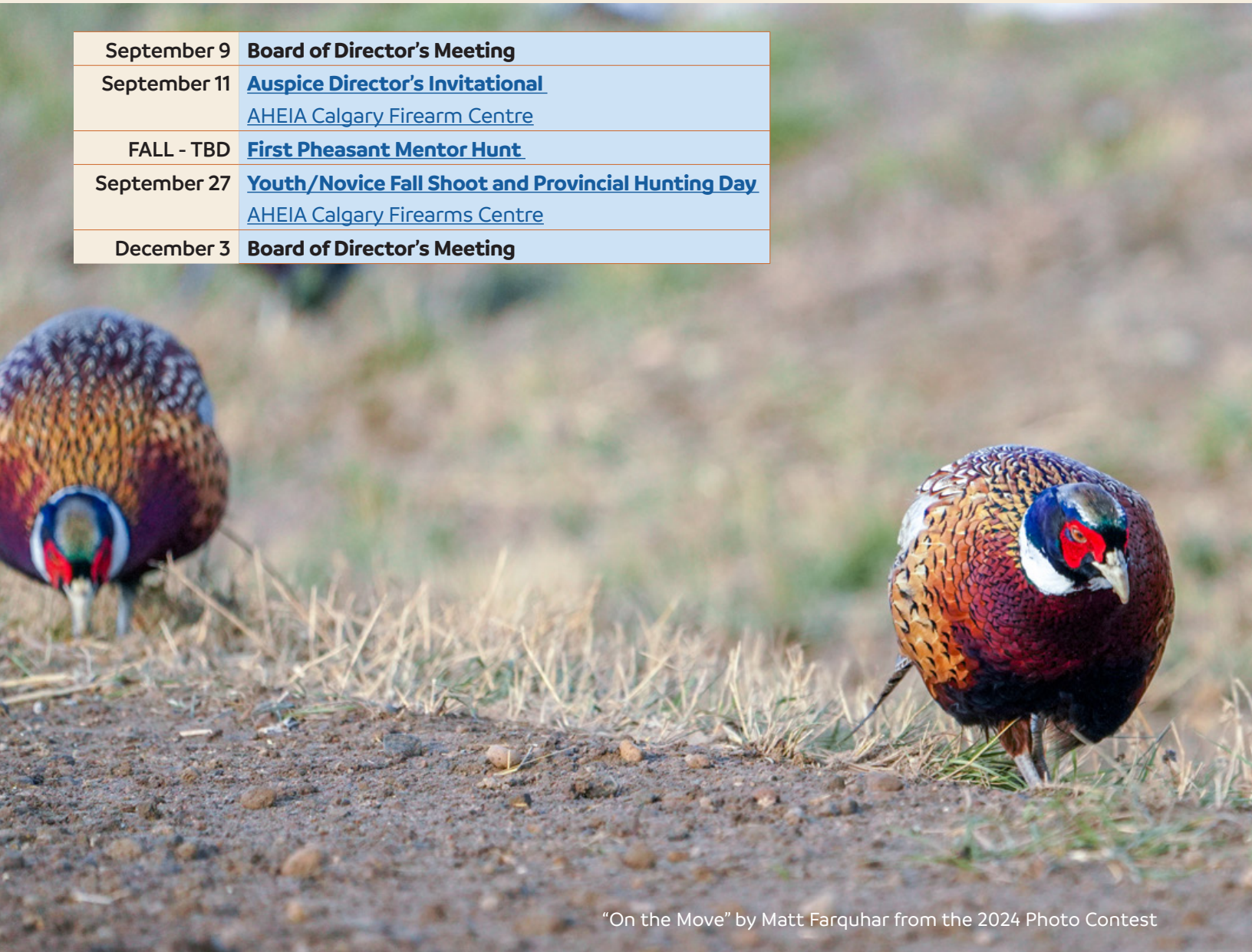
Friends

Conservation Partners



IMPORTANT DATES

September 9	Board of Director's Meeting
September 11	<u>Auspice Director's Invitational</u> <u>AHEIA Calgary Firearm Centre</u>
FALL - TBD	<u>First Pheasant Mentor Hunt</u>
September 27	<u>Youth/Novice Fall Shoot and Provincial Hunting Day</u> <u>AHEIA Calgary Firearms Centre</u>
December 3	Board of Director's Meeting



"On the Move" by Matt Farquhar from the 2024 Photo Contest



PHEASANTS FOREVER CALGARY
P.O. Box 5021, Station "A"
Calgary, AB T2H 1X1

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