



# PHEASANTS FOREVER NEWS

SPRING  
ISSUE  
2026



**PHEASANTS  
FOREVER**  
Calgary

**2026**  
*Dinner &  
Auction*



**SELLING FAST!**  
**Get your tickets today!**

**Wednesday, May 6, 2026**

**Doors open at 5:00pm**

Palomino Room BMO Centre  
Stampede Park, Calgary, Alberta



**We welcome our Keynote Speaker**  
**The Honourable Grant Hunter**  
**Minister of Environment and**  
**Protected Areas**

Grant Hunter was sworn in as the Minister of Environment and Protected Areas on January 2, 2026, after having previously served as the Associate Minister of Water, the Associate Minister for Red-tape Reduction, and as a Parliamentary Secretary for Agri-food processing.

Prior to his service as an elected official, Grant had been an entrepreneur for most of his life and has a deep passion and understanding for small business. Grant Hunter was first elected in 2015 and re-elected in 2019 and 2023 in the riding of Taber-Warner.

We look forward to hearing from The Honourable Mr. Hunter at the 2026 Dinner & Auction.

**Buy your tickets here!**

<https://www.pfcalgary.ca/2026-dinner-auction/>



**Wednesday, May 6, 2026**

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Palomino Room BMO Centre  
Stampede Park, Calgary, Alberta

# Powered by Partnership Toyota Dealers Lead the Way

2026  
*Dinner &  
Auction*

CHARLESGLLEN



COCHRANE



STAMPEDE



For the third year in a row, Charlesglen, Cochrane and Stampede Toyota have demonstrated outstanding commitment to conservation and community by generously donating a brand-new Toyota vehicle to the annual Dinner and Auction.

Their remarkable support has played a pivotal role in the success of our events, helping us raise critical dollars for habitat conservation. These funds go directly toward conserving and enhancing upland game bird habitat across southern Alberta—ensuring healthy ecosystems for wildlife and future generations alike.

Beyond their generosity, these three dealerships are known for their exceptional customer service,

knowledgeable staff, and strong community values. Whether it's helping customers find the right vehicle or supporting local initiatives, they consistently go above and beyond.

We are incredibly grateful for their continued partnership and dedication. We encourage our members and supporters to recognize and support businesses like Cochrane Toyota, Charlesglen Toyota, and Stampede Toyota—organizations that give back so meaningfully to southern Alberta.

*Together, we are making a lasting impact on conservation in our region.*

**Thank you to our Upland Advocates!**

**This year's Toyota**  
**A stunning Toyota**  
**Tacoma TRD in**  
**Mudbath!**



## What to watch for on the Live Auction

### 10 Day Luxury Condo Casa de las Olas

Panoramic ocean view, 3900 square foot condo. Enjoy 3 pools, hot tubs, beach bar, spa and restaurant. 4+1 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms - accommodates 8 to 10 people comfortably.



**NEW!**

# Luxury Vacations!

2026  
*Dinner &  
Auction*

## CASA DE LAS OLAS

AT THE ICON IN  
PUERTO VALLARTA



### Star for a Day Walk on Extra with Nomadic Pictures

Your chance to be a "walk on" extra from Nomadic Pictures - makers of Hell on Wheels and the Fargo TV series! You will appear in their next production filmed in Calgary or Vancouver, meet the stars, director and producers!



**NOMADIC  
PICTURES**

**NEW!**

# ALL ROADS LEAD TO HELL



**HELL ON WHEELS**

# EAGLE POINTE LODGE

All-Inclusive Salmon Trip for 12

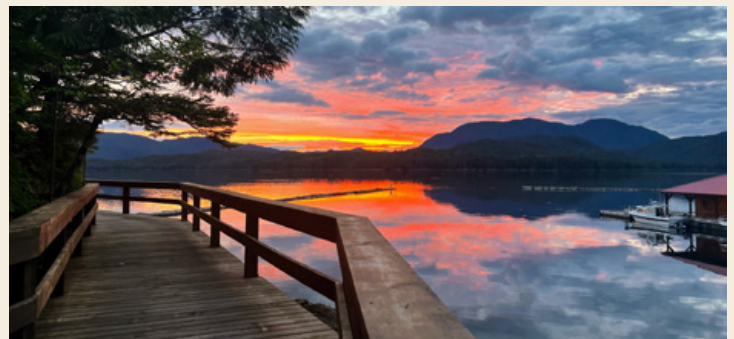
July 29 to August 1, 2026



**This is a once-in-a-lifetime salmon fishing trip for 12 people from July 29 to August 1, 2026 at Eagle Pointe Lodge.** Eagle Pointe guides are carefully chosen for their love of the outdoors, knowledge of the area and skill on the water. With their expert guidance, you will fish in the Portland Canal, Dixon Entrance and surrounding protected waters.

### Your all-inclusive fishing package includes:

- Round-trip helicopter transfer from Prince Rupert Airport
- Fully guided fishing experience for salmon, halibut & others
- Fully equipped 27' Skagit Orca boats, 2 guests per boat with guide
- Your catch will be cleaned, portioned, vacuum packed and flash frozen
- Saltwater fishing license for Canadian waters
- Premium rain gear provided
- Single room accommodations
- 5-star meals plus snacks, complimentary bar, and beverages
- Access to hot tub, sauna, kayaks & sightseeing
- Exclusive fishing retreat for up to 12 guests offering a personalized experience in a pristine wilderness setting



# The Best of Africa Returns

Please note: Items are represented with our best information at time of publishing.

## Zulu Nyala Photo Safari Adventure 6-Days for 2 People



**6 night's accommodation for 2 people at Zulu Nyala Heritage Safari Lodge** in the heart of Zululand, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa in a Camp Classic room or luxury tent. 2 game viewings per person per day on Zulu Nyala Game Reserve (morning and afternoon). All meals included.



## Numzaan Hunting Safari 7-Day Hunt for 4 Hunters

**Seven-day safari and lodging for 4 including all meals, beverages and laundry services.** Enjoy a magnificent view of the Waterberg mountain range from your accommodations while hunting over 200,000 acres of wild African plains game.



## South Africa Plains Game Luxury Hunt - 2 Hunters/2 Observers

**Experience Africa at its finest - where you will arrive as a client and leave as a lifelong safari friend.** Deko Safaris provides top class, bespoke hunting safaris. This hunt is for one zebra, one impala and one blesbok.



## Brand NEW from Africa!

### Upland Wingshoot All-inclusive

2 Hunters - 4 Nights at Glen Guinea Lodge



**A South African upland wingshoot for a mixed bag of terrestrial gamebirds, pigeons, doves and waterfowl out of the Glen Guinea Lodge.**

All hunts are carefully planned and guided by Professional Hunter and Gun Dog Trainer, Todd Luthman. Todd has more than 35 years of experience in the Industry, with an exceptional track record and a reputation that needs no introduction.



## LAS VEGAS VIP EXPERIENCE!

**RETURNING!**

**NOT TO BE MISSED!**

An amazing experience for 4 people including tickets to a Raiders home game and Westjet VIP Vacation package!



As Frank Sinatra once said, "I Did It My Way" Now, it's your turn!

Donated by Alex & Cyndie Baum and Ryan & Carli Baum.

# Honker's Landing PREMIER WATERFOWL HUNT

  
**CAM CLARK FORD**



**This trip is for 2 days, 3 nights and 4 hunters. This is an all-inclusive hunt at a world-class waterfowling destination.**

Honker's Landing is a legendary duck and goose camp in the heart of the Mighty Peace Country. The camp is located north of Grimshaw on the shores of Cardinal Lake, teeming with staging waterfowl in September and October. Donated by Cam Clark Ford.



## An Amazing Van Ginkel! NO ESCAPE



**We are very pleased to once again have an original Van Ginkel on the live auction.** This 60x60 oil painting is one of a kind and a true show stopper! Paul embraces the challenge of painting many different subjects which inevitably inspires new techniques and styles.

*VAN GINKEL*

**Buy your tickets here!**

<https://www.pfcalgary.ca/2026-dinner-auction/>

**ON  
SALE  
NOW**

**No Escape** by artist Paul Michael Joseph Van Ginkel.

## More Classics!

### Bow River Camp Overnighter JULY 27 & 28, 2026



**The ultimate Bow River experience. This is a 2 day, 2 night trip for 2 people fishing the 55 kilometre stretch of the Bow downstream of Calgary.** No rush to be anywhere, no dinner reservations and no boat launch to reach each afternoon. This is an incredible outdoor camping experience without all the hassles. Delicious, hot meals, spacious canvas wall tents and comfy cots and plush sleeping pads.



### Infield Suite for 12 at the COWBOY RANGELAND DERBY



**That pounding of hooves and trembling of the ground can mean only one thing; the world's premier Chuckwagon event has begun!** Enjoy an evening at the Calgary Stampede with this infield suite for 12 people during the Cowboys Rangeland Derby. Includes food & beverage. Buyers may purchase up to 4 additional tickets and upgrade menu if desired.

## Cut & Wrapped Beef Steer

From the Famous 66 Ranch



**A mouth-watering freezer full of AAA Prime Alberta beef from 66 Ranch.**

Over 60 years ago Lee Beasley had a vision that southern Alberta could produce good quality cattle, so he raised his family in that strong ranch life resulting in 66 Ranch after the original cattle brand. *Donated by Bonanza Drilling.*

## Yukon Dream Fishing Trip for 2 for 3 Nights

Kluane Wilderness Lodge



**You and a friend will enjoy 3 nights accommodations and 3 days fishing on Yukon's Wellesley Lake.**

Lakers over 50 pounds will make your dreams come true. With 24 hours of sun and fishing time during June and July or the Aurora Borealis in August and September this is a true angling paradise. Includes return flight from Whitehorse to the lodge, accommodations and meals.



## Upward and Onward by Rick Taylor

Limited Edition

**Rick Taylor is back!** Long-time supporter of the Pheasants Forever Calgary Dinner & Auction, Rick has offered a limited edition bronze of a long soldout series from his personal collection.



## One of kind, exclusive experiences!

### Chief Mountain Great Gopher Getaway

2 Nights - 2 Days at private guest house!

At 9,080 feet, Chief Mountain stands tall on the eastern edge of the Rockies overlooking southern Alberta's native grasslands.

This gopher getaway is for 3 people at a private guest house. All you need to do is arrive. The home will be stocked with all the necessities to make it your home away from home!



### El Colibri - Los Cabos Luxury Condo

Enjoy this beautiful home - accommodates 18!

**ELCOLIBRI**  
at Shipwrecks Beach Los Cabos



**5 Nights at Casa Colibri in Cabo San Lucas's East Cape**, north of San Jose on Shipwreck Beach. Amazing list of amenities and fantastic location.

### RETURNING ITEM!! Sunwest Aviation Private Jet Weekend for 8 Passengers

**SUNWEST**  
AVIATION



**Indulge in a luxurious private jet weekend retreat** (Friday to Sunday) featuring up to 3 hours of flight time aboard a private eight-passenger Learjet 45. This item includes a round trip private jet charter with two nights of holding time.

# Perennial Pheasant Favourites!



## SOLDOUT Stavely Elks Pheasant Derby



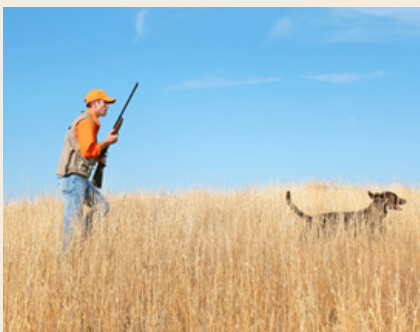
**For 20 years, the Stavely Pheasant Derby is a sellout. Team of 6!** The only way to experience this event is buying it at our Auction. **NOVEMBER 13 & 14, 2026**



## Bow Valley Ranche Wild Game Dinner for Eight



**This annual favorite is back.** Enjoy an enchanting evening at the historic Bow Valley Ranche Restaurant for eight guests, featuring a four-course wild game dinner carefully crafted by their chefs, and wine pairings by their sommelier.



## Spruce Creek Upland Club Pheasant Hunt

**The venerable Spruce Creek Upland Club is offering this 1-day hunt for 4 people** for 60 pheasants at the venerable Spruce Creek Upland Club at Torrington, Alberta. Your party will be guided by club manager & owner of Teal's Gundogs, Ashley Gee.



## 16th Annual Kansas Governor's Ringneck Classic

**A guided hunt in Northwest Kansas on private land. Classic guides, dogs and handlers are among the best in all of northwest Kansas.** One of the premier pheasant hunting events in North America!



## Georgia Quail Invitational Guided Quail Hunting



**The Georgia Quail Invitational provides an authentic quail hunting experience** with attendees visiting some of the finest quail hunting plantations and farms in the United States. **JANUARY 28-30, 2027**

# PREMIUM SILENT Auction Preview!



**You're a real contender for the win with a Citori 725 Sporting in your hands.** This shotgun is the evolution of John M. Browning's legendary B25 Superposed, now with the modern performance advantage of a low-profile receiver. Browning Citori 725 20 ga over & under shotgun 30" barrels - donated by Bob Merkley.

## Browning Citori 725 - 20 Ga Over & Under



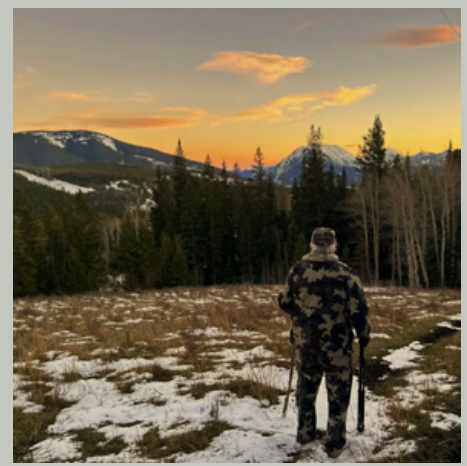
**"Deer at Creek"**  
by American Artist, Jack King (1920-1988).



**"Double Litho No.1"**  
by Calgary Artist Roger Tipton Evans (1940-2022).



**Two \$1500 Gift Certificates**  
Donated by Earls Westhills.



**PREMIUM SILENT AUCTION - Livingstone Lodge - 2 Nights for up to 12 Guests**  
The lodge offers a private entry, spacious 4 bedroom with 3 bathroom ensuites, small outdoor kitchen, large common area and kitchen for entertaining big groups and breathtaking views. The area is rich in wild game and looks onto Alberta's renowned Waldron Ranch and just walking distance from the banks of the Oldman River.



# Become a Sponsor



**\$10,000**  
**Upland Enthusiast<sup>1</sup>**  
(\$10,000 to \$24,999)

**\$25,000**  
**Upland Steward<sup>2</sup>**  
(\$25,000 to \$49,999)



**\$50,000**  
**Upland Advocate**  
(\$50,000 to \$99,999)

**\$100,000**  
**Conservation Ally**  
(\$100,000 to \$249,999)



### Top Tier Recognition Includes Extra Large Logo/Name:

- On Banner at all Sporting and Mentor Events
- In Program, on Banner and Powerpoint at Annual Dinner & Auction
- On the Website
- In Pheasants Forever Calgary's Newsletter

### Entry Level Options Also Available



**\$5000 - Gold**



**\$2500 - Silver**



**\$1000 - Bronze**

1. Formerly Patron, this level will now be recognized as Upland Enthusiast effective April 1, 2026  
 2. Formerly Gold Patron, this level will now be recognized as Upland Steward effective April 1, 2026

For more information contact Perry McCormick or visit [Become a Sponsor](#).



403.995.9960



perry@pfcalgary.ca



## PHOTOS FROM PHEASANT FEST

The annual Pheasant Fest and Quail Classic, a premier consumer show for outdoor enthusiasts, recently concluded in Minneapolis. This event drew a crowd of 28,000 passionate upland hunters and wildlife lovers, habitat conservationists of all descriptions, land owners, bird dog fans and families alike. The event combines a national consumer show, wildlife habitat seminar series and family event complete with puppies, tractors, shotguns and wildlife art. **It's an atmosphere you have to experience first-hand to truly appreciate.**



PF QF CEO Marilyn Vetter addressed 1500 people at the Saturday Night Gala.



On X and The Flush aired a live podcast featuring an Upland Feud Game Thursday night at the famous Hell's Kitchen restaurant.



**Check out the Behind the Scenes Video**



Hank Shaw teaching tricks on foraging.



Thursday Night Upland Rally.



Travis Frank emcees the Upland Feud Game with (l to r): George and Ben from The Flush TV show.

National Pheasant Fest & Quail Classic 2027 will be held from March 5-7, 2027, at the CHI Health Center in Omaha, Nebraska.



Artist Laine Sladen painting at the show.



Another artist putting finishing touches on her painting.

# SPRING NESTING - Habitat is Critical

## LIFECYCLE OF THE PHEASANT

**After surviving the hardships of winter, pheasants enter a period focused on breeding, nesting, and raising the next generation.**

The success of this stage depends heavily on suitable habitat, abundant food, protection from predators, and the ability to overcome the challenges posed by weather and changing agricultural landscapes.

In spring, pheasants require a variety of habitat types to support courtship, nesting, and brood rearing. Ideal landscapes contain a mosaic of cropland, grasslands, wetlands, shelterbelts, and field edges. These habitats provide the structure and resources pheasants need during the breeding season.

**The most important spring habitat is undisturbed nesting cover.** Hens typically select dense grasses or residual vegetation from the previous growing season to conceal their nests. Roadside ditches, undeveloped right-of-ways, idle field corners, hay fields, pasture edges, and conservation plantings often serve as nesting sites. Residual vegetation from the previous year is particularly valuable because it provides immediate cover before new plant growth begins.

Proximity to wetlands, irrigation canals, and grassy riparian areas is also beneficial. These locations support higher insect populations, critical for young chicks once they hatch. Shelterbelts and fencelines also provide travel corridors and protection from wind and predators.

Adult pheasants feed heavily on leftover grain from harvested fields, including wheat, barley, oats, and other

cereals that remain available after winter recedes. And as temperatures warm up, insects become important. Hens preparing to lay eggs benefit from the protein provided by beetles, grasshoppers, caterpillars, ants, and other invertebrates. These nutrients help support egg production and overall health during the breeding season. Healthy grasslands and wetland edges produce the insect abundance needed for successful brood development.

Predation is a major threat to pheasant reproduction at this stage. Eggs and nesting hens are vulnerable to skunks, raccoons, foxes, coyotes and ground squirrels. Raptors may also prey on adult birds and chicks. As hens nest on the ground, concealment in grass and vegetation is their primary defense. Young pheasants are small and relatively weak flyers, making them vulnerable to both predators and birds of prey after they hatch.

Agricultural activities can create risks. Spring fieldwork, seeding, and early haying can disturb nesting habitat or destroy nests if operations occur before chicks hatch. By stopping **trespass farming** (read more at [savetheedges.ca](https://www.savetheedges.ca)) we can retain edge habitats that are attractive for nesting pheasants.

**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.](#)





# CASINO VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Deerfoot Inn & Casino  
Calgary

Free meal, snacks and  
refreshments with your shift.

**Help Raise \$\$\$ for Pheasants Forever**

**September 16 & 17, 2026**

To volunteer email  
[terri@pfcalgary.ca](mailto:terri@pfcalgary.ca)



**PHEASANTS  
FOREVER**  
Calgary



# SAVE THE EDGES NEW RADIO AD SET TO THIS MONTH!



Hear the ad at [SAVETHEEDGES.CA](http://SAVETHEEDGES.CA)

After 5 years, we thought it would be time for a new radio ad.

The new radio ad will begin airing in April on the following southern Alberta stations:

- Drumheller 910 AM Real Country
- Brooks 105.7 FM Real Country
- Olds 96.5 FM The Ranch
- Lethbridge 95.5 FM Wild Country
- Calgary 105.1 FM Country 105
- Medicine Hat 94.5 FM Wild
- High River 99.7 FM Sun Country
- Strathmore 104.5 FM More Country
- Cochrane 91.5 FM Cochrane Now

Our goal of the spring campaign, which also includes print ads in a number of southern Alberta weeklies, is to continue to encourage keeping public roadside ditches and right-of-ways intact. For years these edges have provided some of the last vestiges of habitat for upland game birds and remain a priority concern for the organization.

Natural non-cropped areas, specifically in roadside ditches and undeveloped right-of-ways provide a broad suite of societal benefits and we're excited about being able to continue to spread the word.



### BENEFITS OF KEEPING EDGES INTACT:

- Filtering excess nutrients including phosphorous and nitrogen, preventing them from entering our rivers, lakes and groundwater systems.
- Minimizing overland flooding by storing, slowing and absorbing excess water, helping to protect roads, culverts and agricultural fields.
- Storing thousands of tons of carbon, preventing it from entering the atmosphere.
- Providing homes for pollinators like bees, butterflies, moths and beetles.
- Sustaining species that prey on agricultural pests.
- Providing thousands of acres of habitat for grassland-dependent mammals and birds, including pheasants and grey partridge.

# READY FOR SPRING STUFF



## CALDO TLALPEÑO

by Hank Shaw

*"The name basically means 'soup those ladies in Tlalpan make.' Normally done with chicken, any white meat will work here, as would pork."* - Hank Shaw



**▶ GET THE RECIPE**

Another delicious soup recipe from the **Hunter Angler Gardener Cook**, the Internet's largest source of recipes and know-how for wild foods. Hank is a chef, author, and yes, hunter, angler, gardener, forager and cook.

## BECOME A MEMBER

- *If you attend the Dinner & Auction, your membership is included (remember to fill out the membership card).*
- *Need to Renew? Save \$\$\$ by renewing at [pfcalgary.ca](http://pfcalgary.ca). Pay only \$45 CAD vs \$45 US!*

### Renew or Buy Online

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

# JOIN US!

# PF



**Only \$45**

[pfcalgary.ca/membership](http://pfcalgary.ca/membership) or call 403-995-9960  
Includes Pheasants Forever Magazine and Quarterly E-News



**YOUR MEMBERSHIP SUPPORTS HABITAT CONSERVATION, MENTORSHIP & ADVOCACY**

# JOIN OUR TOP TIER GROUP OF SPONSORS

For more information visit [Become a Sponsor](#).



**\$25,000**  
**Upland Steward<sup>1</sup>**  
(\$25,000 to \$49,999)



**\$10,000**  
**Upland Enthusiast<sup>2</sup>**  
(\$10,000 to \$24,999)

Contribution of \$25,000 to \$49,999



**CAM CLARK FORD**



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



1. Formerly Gold Patron, this level will now be recognized as Upland Steward effective April 1, 2026  
2. Formerly Patron, this level will now be recognized as Upland Enthusiast effective April 1, 2026

# ENTRY LEVEL SPONSORSHIPS NOW AVAILABLE

## Gold Sponsors

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



**Gold - \$5,000**  
(\$5,000 to \$9,999)

For more information visit [Become a Sponsor.](#)

## Silver Sponsors

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



**Silver - \$2,500**  
(\$2,500 to \$4,999)

## Bronze Sponsors

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



**Bronze - \$1,000**  
(\$1,000 to \$2,499)

## CONSERVATION PARTNERS



# IMPORTANT DATES

May 6

Calgary Pheasants Forever  
2026 Dinner & Auction

June 23

Board of Director's Meeting &  
Field Tour

September 8

Board of Director's Meeting

September 10

Auspice Directors Invitational

September 12

First Pheasant Mentor Hunt

September 16 & 17

2026 CASINO

September 26

Youth Novice Shoot & Provincial  
Hunting Day

December 2

Board of Director's Meeting



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

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

Scott Price - President  
Bob Merkley - Vice President  
Tim Pickering - Past President  
Mike Mannas - Treasurer  
Grant MacKenzie - Co-Secretary  
Mike Perkins - Co-Secretary  
Perry McCormick - Managing Director  
Beth Barrett | Harvey McKernon  
Doug Ramsey | Glen Rumpel  
Jim Saunders | Nick Stanford

## Administration

Terri Bass & Nicole Borghese

## Leave a Legacy

It's not every day we ask ourselves,

### *What is my legacy?*

But once in a while, perhaps after the passing of a close relative or longtime friend, we take a moment to step back and ask ourselves this important question.

- David R. Bue, Pheasants Forever

*When you think about leaving a legacy, there is generally one of three goals you likely want to accomplish:*

1. *Passing on something of value to future generations;*
2. *Leaving something of yourself for others to remember; and*
3. *Creating memories of significance for your family.*

There are many sound reasons for planning your estate today, and in doing so, you take a final shot at securing your legacy. Make Pheasants Forever Calgary a beneficiary in your will and know that your legacy will live on for generations.

Please visit [Leave a Legacy](#) or email [info@pfcalgary](mailto:info@pfcalgary) for more information.