



Still time to register for Selections 2018!

4-H Alberta's Selections - May 4-7, 2018 at Olds College

Join other 4-H senior members from across Alberta and experience a journey of a lifetime. A journey full of tear-creating laughter, life-altering experiences and friendships that will truly last a lifetime. Oh, and your journey may just take you to a national or international trip or conference. Oh, and what if we said your epic journey might even include being named a 4-H Alberta Ambassador or the Premier's Award Recipient? All truly awesome!

Trip opportunities that may be offered at this year's program:

- ◇ 4-H Canada National Members Forum (November 2018)
- ◇ 4-H Canada Citizenship Congress (May 2019)
- ◇ Northern Alberta & Northwest Territories Camping and Agriculture Development Tour (July or August 2018)
- ◇ 4-H California Leadership Conference (July 2018)
- ◇ USA National 4-H Members Conference (April 2019)

It's a weekend not to be missed!

Registration deadline: March 15, 2018

Register here: <https://www.4habregistration.ca/~login.php>

4-H Horsemanship Clinic (Levels 1-3)

June 16 & 17, 2018

Olds Regional Exhibition

Join equine leaders from across the province and gain a fuller understanding of 4-H Levels 1-3 in a hands on environment. Work with other leaders and the clinician to learn how to properly teach members the skills required for the Mounted Assessments. In pairs, one leader will be mounted and other teaching to practice the new techniques and skills learned. A limited number of rider participants will be accepted; spectators are welcome to join. Come and learn about the 4-H program rider mounted levels!

Registration will open April 1st through the online registration system.

WE'VE JUST MADE YOUR SUMMER PLANS!

We're excited to announce our provincial summer camp, show and program dates for the Summer 2018!!

Junior Camp: July 8 – 12 and July 29 – August 2
@ the Alberta 4-H Centre

Combined Camp: July 15 – 19 @ the Alberta 4-H Centre

Intermediate Camp: July 22 – 26 @ the Alberta 4-H Centre

AIM Camp: August 5 – 10 @ the Alberta 4-H Centre

Combined Camp: August 12-16 @ the Alberta 4-H Centre

Counsellors in Training: July 2 – 6 @ the Alberta 4-H Centre

Club Week: July 29 – August 3 @ Hinton AB

Check out our NEW [4-H Alberta Camp video!](#)

Sheep Show: July 10 – 13 @ Olds AB

Beef-Heifer Show: July 9 -12 @ Olds AB

Multi Species Judging: August 10 – 12 @ Vermilion AB



Proud to Bee a 4-H'er

4-H Canada and Syngenta Canada are excited to once again present Proud to Bee a 4-H'er for the fifth year. This fun and exciting club outreach initiative provides 4-H'ers from coast-to-coast with the opportunity to:

- Spread the news about 4-H and the fun, meaningful and engaging activities offered
- Learn all about the amazing and fascinating work of Canada's pollinators.
- Get outside and enjoy nature. Plant, grow and tend a bee-friendly garden.

To register visit <https://4-h-canada.ca/proudtobee>. Registration closes March 31, 2018.

COMING SOON...

CLICK EACH LINK FOR
MORE INFORMATION

March 2018

Selections

Date: May 4 – 7, 2018

Deadline: March 15, 2018

Location: Olds College, Olds AB

Who can apply: Senior Members (Delegates must be 16 years old by July 1, 2018)

*Note: your 4-H Diaries must be submitted to your 4-H Specialist no later than February 15, 2018

The Finnish 4-H Federation Exchange

Deadline: March 15, 2018

Canadian/Japanese Exchange Program

Outbound Application Deadline March 15 (Month-long) | Inbound Application

Deadline June 15 (Month-long)

Who can apply: Families, Intermediate (12-14 years old), Leaders, and Seniors (15-20 years old)

CAUTION: EVENT TIMES AND PLACES MAY CHANGE

Every event or opportunity listed above is a link to the 4-H Alberta Calendar or to a relevant website. **ALWAYS** check the link for updated information.

April 2018

Summer Programs, Camps and Shows Registration Opens!!!!

4-H Alberta Provincial Communications

Date: April 7, 2018

Location: Reynolds Museum, Wetaskiwin

Highway Clean Up

Date: May 5, 2018

Deadline: April 20, 2018

Always check the calendar of events on the 4-H Alberta website for a full list of updated events.



What's Happening In The Northwest Region

Most clubs and districts have wrapped up their **communication** events and we are looking forward to the regional competitions. Congratulations to all members for stepping up to the challenge of speaking in front of a group and sharing your thoughts, knowledge, and passions! Special congratulations and good luck to those who have moved on in competition. Remember the top senior in each half of the region, in each of public speaking and presentations, will move on to the Provincial Communications Competition on April 7th.

The **Northwest Regional 4-H Council Meeting** will be held at **Lillian Schick School**, Bon Accord, on **March 17th**. The general council meeting will be called to order at **9:30 am**. Regional committee meetings will follow after lunch.

The **deadline** for the **Regional Fair** is **March 10**. **Thorhild** has some exciting workshops planned for **April 7th** and are looking forward to hosting members, leaders, and parents from around the region.

The regional **Consumer Decision Making and Multi-Species Livestock Judging** competitions will be held in **Barrhead April 21st**. Information is available on the 4-H website calendar, and has been sent to each club. There is a workshop for beginner judges as well, but space is limited. Registration **deadline** is **April 10th**.

Join us again in **Thorhild** from **July 5-8** for **Focus on 4-H**...the 20th anniversary edition! Registration will be open in the next few days. Watch your email!

Finally, a thought on the next piece of the pledge:

For my club: The year begins and we are enthusiastic, eager, and committed to making the year ahead the best one the club has ever had! We pledge our heads, hearts, hands, and health to think, do, and be, with loyalty, for our clubs. As winter drags on and other activities pick up it's easy to lose some of that enthusiasm. The basic 4-H Alberta member requirements include a minimum of 70% participation, and completion/participation in some basic activities. While 4-H does not ask for 100% commitment, like most teams, it is important to understand that your club is like a team. Without your involvement and presence, the club will not run as smoothly, or be as able, as it would be otherwise. 4-H understands that you are busy and being involved in other activities makes you a well-rounded person, but your club will only be as strong as the commitment you make to it. As clubs start planning for their achievement events and wrap up activities, whether a BBQ, awards night, or fun camping trip, remember that you've made a commitment to your club and people are depending on you to finish the year as enthusiastically as you began it! We all look forward to celebrating the year's successes!

Remember to check out the calendar at www.4h.ab.ca for up to date district, regional, provincial and national opportunities! Many districts offer workshops throughout the club year, check out these fantastic opportunities to have a well-rounded 4-H experience!

For more information about what's happening in the Northwest Region contact:

Stacy Murray
4-H Specialist - 4-H Section
2nd fl Provincial Building
6203 49 St
Barrhead AB T7N 1A4
Phone: 780 674-8250
Fax: 780 674-8309
email: stacy.murray@gov.ab.ca

PLAN AHEAD...

Click each link for more information

Western Canadian Judging Competition

Date: **March 9, 2018**

Location: Lakeland College, Vermilion AB

Regional Communications Competition (EAST HALF)

Date: **March 10, 2018**

Location: Westlock Memorial Hall

Regional Communications Competition (WEST HALF)

Date: **March 10, 2018**

Location: Niton Junction

Regional Council General Meeting

Date: **March 17, 2018 @ 9:30 am**

Location: Lillian Schick School, Bon Accord AB

Where's the Beef?

Date: **March 24, 2018**

Location: Josephsburg Moyer Recreation Centre, Josephsburg AB

Regional - 4-H Fair

Date: **April 07, 2018 9:00 AM**

Deadline: **March 10, 2018 4:30 PM**

Location: Thorhild Central School - 21410 Hwy 18, Thorhild AB

Consumer Decision Making Competition and Regional Multi Species Judging Competition

Start Date: **April 21, 2018 9:00 AM**

Deadline: **April 12, 2018 4:30 PM**

Location: Barrhead Seniors Centre

5103 53 Ave and Barrhead AG Barn 4802 67 Ave

For all your District-specific events and opportunities check the calendar on the 4-H Alberta website.



Remember, that dates (and generally registration information) can be found on the 4-H website calendar (<http://www.4h.ab.ca/4hweb/public/calendar/calendarView>) for all the events happening in the region and province! You can filter the events you see with the checkboxes at the top of the calendar.



4-H Council of Alberta

Cleaver Kids Lesson Planning Ideas

It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold: when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade. - Charles Dickens



March brings with it the First Day of Spring or the Spring Equinox or the Vernal Equinox. Whatever you call it, it occurs on March 20 this year. We don't feel the earth spinning and revolving, but it does. Equinox means "equal night" and, on March 20, daytime and night time will be about the same length. Remember the lesson planning suggestions for winter solstice we shared in the December SCOOP. The Spring Equinox is another opportunity to bring astronomy, science and star gazing into your Cleaver Kids meetings. And, the days are still short enough to star gaze in the early evening. If you missed that write-up in SCOOP, contact Council and we can forward a copy to you.

There are many traditions and legends around the world about the Spring Equinox. One funny, superstitious belief is that on the first day of spring, you can stand raw eggs on their end. It is based on an old Chinese tale that claims good luck would follow on the success of this feat. Are you going to try it? Mark your calendar for March 20, 2014 at 10:15 a.m. MDT (Mountain daylight time) and give it a whirl!

Although spring rarely arrives in Alberta as early as March, we generally can't wait for it to get here even if we do love winter. Who doesn't enjoy the first cleansing rains and the fresh, crisp, light greens that signal the waking up of the earth after winter's sleep? In anticipation of those freshening rains, here is an activity to welcome spring and, perhaps, as legend predicts, hasten those spring rains.

RAINSTICKS

(also see <https://buggyandbuddy.com/how-to-make-a-rainstick-instrument/>)

Written by: Andrea Mulder-Slater/KinderArt.com

Summary: Learn how to make a rainstick using a cardboard carpet tube, nails and sunflower seeds.

From the Author:

Legend has it that the Chilean Indians invented the rainstick to make rainy weather. The rainstick is a type of tubular rattle that throughout the ages, has been used by many cultures in various ways. The rainstick has an unusual internal structure. An interior maze formed of either cactus spines, wooden pegs, bamboo or palm slivers distinguishes the rainstick from other tube rattles. The cylinder is filled with pebbles, hard seeds, beans, sand, rice, or tiny shells. One traditional method of making rainsticks is to use cactus. The spines or thorns are "hammered" inward and lava rock is poured inside the hollow tube. The sounds created when the lava rock hit the many thorns inside the cactus tube, mimic the sound of rain falling on the leaves. You can make a rainstick using materials you and your kinderartists can find around the house.

What You Need:

- Cardboard tubes in a variety of sizes. Eg: Toilet paper rolls, paper towel rolls, gift wrapping, mailing or carpet tubes.
- Corrugated cardboard
- Packing or masking tape
- Hot glue or white glue
- Drill (only necessary if using carpet tube)
- Flat head nails or toothpicks
- Hammer
- Scissors
- Acrylic paint or poster paint
- Paintbrushes
- Fabric (a small amount of burlap, cotton, etc.)
- Decorations to glue on the rainstick (leaves, jute, twine, shells, yarn, sand etc.)
- Objects to put inside the rainstick (rice, corn kernels, sunflower seeds etc.)



What You Do:

1. Try to use 3" to 4" in diameter carpet tubes that you can find at any carpet and flooring store. If you are lucky, the stores will give you the tubes that they would otherwise throw away. The first step is to cut the tube to an approximate length of three to five feet. You can also use smaller tubes such as paper towel rolls.
2. Next, you should drill tiny holes (smaller than your nails) around the entire area of the carpet tube. This will make hammering the nails much easier and safer. **Note:** If you are using smaller tubes from toilet paper or wrapping paper, then all you need to do is poke holes with an awl or other sharp instrument.
3. Using a hammer, insert flat headed nails into the holes that you have drilled. When you look into your tube, you should see an absolute maze of nails. Note: If you are using smaller tubes ie toilet paper or wrapping paper, then all you need to do is stick toothpicks through the holes you poked earlier.
4. You are now ready to "plug" one end of your tube. You can use many different things but we find that the best material is corrugated cardboard. Simply place the tube on a piece of cardboard, trace around the tube and cut out the circle. Repeat the process so you have a circle for both ends. You can attach the cardboard circle using hot glue, white glue or tape.
5. When one end of your tube is sealed, put a few cups of sunflower seeds, rice, corn kernels or a combination of all three, into the tube. You will start to hear just how many or how few cups it will take achieve the desired sound. Remember, you don't want to make the rainstick too heavy, so take it easy on the filling.
6. Once you are satisfied with the sound, you can seal the other end of the tube with the second circle.
7. OK, now you are ready to paint using acrylic paint. The designs are entirely up to you. The key is to keep it simple and to repeat patterns and colors.
8. When the paint is dry, you might want to add some decorations using hot glue or white glue. Sand, shells, raffia or material are all good ideas.
9. All that's left to do is to play your rainstick and wait for the thunder.

Cleaver Kids resources for leaders are available online at <http://4h.ab.ca/Partners/council.html#CleaverKids>. There, you will find the **Cleaver Kids Leader's Guide**, the Cleaver Kids Quick Reference Guide and Resources sheet. **And, remember, if you think you have a great lesson and/or activity, please send it along to us and we may feature it in a future edition of SCOOP. You could win a prize!**

Reminder:

Mark your calendars and register for the next Cleaver Kids Webinar! The topic will be on the 4 skill development areas for Cleaver Kids. The Webinar will provide you activity ideas for each area. March 20, 2018 at 7 pm. You only need your computer with sound and internet connection. Its FREE!

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Z7mGsx0qQXSj-KjCpe3mSQ After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Cleaver Kids Resources have been mailed or couriered to on of your clubs Cleaver Kids Leaders. If you have questions please contact us.

*To all our fabulous 4-H
Alberta Leaders who
completed leader screening!*

*thank
you!!*



Foundation News & Opportunities

Scholarships

4-H Alberta Scholarships

The 2018 4-H Alberta Scholarship online application is open as of March 1, 2018, closing on May 15, 2018 at 3:00 pm. When completing the application, please carefully read the instructions as the application has changed from years past. Instructions can be found in the online application and a webinar will be scheduled later in March. To access the application, click on the following link: <https://registration.4hab.com/Login.aspx>

Please feel free to contact Bianca von Nagy at scholarship@4hab.com if you have any questions.

The Elmer and Ona Hansen Memorial Scholarship

As mentioned in previous Scoops, we are pleased to announce that the Elmer and Ona Hansen Memorial Scholarship is currently under review. Exciting changes are underway, so stay tuned for a special announcement coming out later this month.

Growing Alberta Scholarship

Please note that the application deadline for the Growing Alberta Scholarship was **January 31, 2018**. Throughout the month of February, scholarship applications underwent a careful review and evaluation process and recipients will be notified in early March 2018.

Recycling

The 4-H Foundation of Alberta 4-H Rural Tire and Electronics Roundup is a partnership between the Alberta 4-H Foundation and the Alberta Recycling Management. Its purpose is to collect scrap tires and televisions, computers, printers, monitors, laptops and accessories from Alberta farms, acreages and residences.

The program runs year-round and clubs can register for both programs by contacting the Alberta 4-H Foundation at 780-682-2153 or via email at centre@4hab.com.

Submission of the tire and electronics forms that are fully completed without errors ensures efficient processing of all claims. It also ensures payment is issued without unnecessary delays.

Some things to keep in mind:

- Clubs must ensure full addresses are included on each form, not P.O. Boxes.
- Clubs must ensure that the full name of each collection site is used on each form. Shortened names or initials are not acceptable.
- Material **MUST** be claimed in the quarter that it is collected to ensure that payment is received. Any material being claimed from a previous quarter must be detailed on a separate summary sheet.
- Club leaders who gather material on an informal basis **MUST** track where it has come from. Club leaders are not permitted to claim all of this material as their own and submit one collection form. Each individual collection must be tracked.

Good luck with your collections!

Ribbons

As of March 1, 2018 4-H Alberta will no longer be distributing ribbons this show season. If you require a supplier orders can be placed with Pinz Plus of Lacombe. For more information contact info@pinzplus.com.

Show Numbers

It is now easy to create your own show numbers! A fillable show number template is available on the 4-H Alberta website.

Ear Tags

As of March 1, 2018, 4-H Alberta will no longer be distributing ear tags.

Fundraisers

Click [Here](#) to see information on Calahoo Meats, Phil's Fudge, Meadowbrook Greenhouse and My Deals Discount Card Fundraisers! Email fundraisers@4hab.com to see what is available! https://www.4h.ab.ca/News_Events/fundraisers.html

Ivomec BoxBack Program

We have been advised by 4-H Canada that the Ivomec BoxBack program has been discontinued. The 4-H Foundation of Alberta will continue to look for additional fundraisers to help clubs support their projects and events.

Thank You Sponsors Emerald Clover Sponsors



Communications

Congratulations to all of the Club Communications Winners and thank you for all of the photos and cards sent to AltaLink! As soon as funds are received, an email will be sent out indicating when the funds will be deposited via EFT (Electronic/Email Funds Transfer). Districts and Regions will also be receiving funds similar to last year and will be notified via email.

Nutrien

The following resource is offered through our generous partnership with Nutrien, and available to 4-H'ers across Canada:



Caring for our Watersheds™ contest, an environmental

educational campaign that encourages creativity and rewards students for the solutions they identify. This program partners with communities to create focused solutions to local watershed issues. 4-H members in grades 7-12 are invited to enter the Caring for Our Watersheds contest by detailing their ideas to improve their local watershed. If chosen as one of the top ten entries, they could win up to \$1,000 for themselves and \$1,000 for their club, plus funding to implement their idea!

Visit www.CaringforOurWatersheds.com to learn more

Alberta 4-H Centre

RR1 Westeros, Alberta, T0C 2V0
Bookings: 1-877-682-2153 or centre@4hab.com





Leader Screening

Again, we repeat the message that not all are hearing.

We hope you've been reading the SCOOP and the magazines and our other communications (including emails from leaderscreening@4hab.com) over the past months and, really, over the past two years. We have been writing about this and talking about it and trying our best to make sure you all know that this change is coming. And, this change is good! It is good for our 4-H members and

clubs and the 4-H Alberta program as a whole. This is ALL about keeping our members and the program safe and sound. The number one way in which we endeavour to provide a safe environment is by screening our volunteer leaders.

If your screening was **NOT** completed, you will find your status changed to volunteer. Your club's general leader will be advised of your change in status. **If you called and reported a delay due to fingerprinting, remember to forward your police check as soon as you receive it. Extensions granted for this or any other reason are not indefinite.**

When you are re-registered in the online system as a volunteer, you will receive new login credentials as your leader login will no longer work to access the online registration system. Volunteers' usernames and passwords allow them to log in to the system and register for events and opportunities such as Leaders' Conference. Volunteers are not able to screen or access club data in the system. Once your status has changed to volunteer, you will have to wait until next year to be re-elected and re-registered as a leader with 4-H Alberta.

Leaders re-registered as volunteers must not work with Members, Cleaver Kids or in other positions of trust without a screened leader present at all times. Volunteers also play an important role but it is different than that of Leader. You can find detailed definitions of the roles of Leader and Volunteer at www.4h.ab.ca.

4-H Alberta Leaders complete leader screening to help ensure a safe environment for delivering learning opportunities and mentorship for 4-H Members and Cleaver Kids. Until screening is completed, Leaders remain at Volunteer status and must be accompanied by a screened leader whenever working within the 4-H Alberta program. Non-certified (i.e. unscreened) leaders or volunteers must always have a successfully screened leader with them when they are working with 4-H members or in any perceived positions of trust.

For more information, call 1.877.682.2244 or 780.898.3037 or email leaderscreening@4hab.com.

Pheasants

This 4-H year registered for the Pheasant project, there are 115 members from 44 different clubs, within every 4-H region across the province! 11,180 chicks have now been ordered and will be arriving in Alberta from Wisconsin USA in approximately May, for these members to care for and raise for release. The exact date and the delivery route will be communicated with all of the registered members and leaders, once all details have been determined. Watch your emails!

The project has grown again this year, and our partner, the Alberta Conservation Association is very happy to see the continued growing interest as more and more members sign up. We've come along quite well from the project's revitalization in 2014 when we had 20 members in 3 clubs taking on 1400 chicks. Way to go everyone! And if you see a pheasant out there somewhere, it may have a 4-H connection!

A reminder to the Pheasant members to please ensure that you have a Premise Identification Number for the location of your facility. Many members already have a PID if they currently have livestock, or if you are sharing a facility, the landowner may already have one so please check with them first. If you don't have a PID, please have your parents assist to apply here: [https://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\\$Department/deptdocs.nsf/all/trace12354/\\$FILE/PID%20Application.pdf](https://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$Department/deptdocs.nsf/all/trace12354/$FILE/PID%20Application.pdf)

If you have any questions about the pheasant project, please contact ginny.smith@gov.ab.ca.

4-H ALBERTA STORE

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT!

4-H Council of Alberta has taken over the management of 4-H Alberta Merchandise.

The 4-H Foundation of Alberta has led the charge of branding items with the recognizable 4-H Clover and providing merchandise for sale since the 90's. Thank you to all the Foundation Staff and Directors for their dedicated time to this service over the years.

Transitioning the management of merchandise will bring changes to how this service is administered. Please take note of these changes effective February 1, 2018.

- To purchase 4-H Alberta merchandise NOW contact: 4-H Council of Alberta Phone: 1.877.682.2244 or 780.682.2648
- Order payments and shipping will be only be processed on Wednesdays each week - Please don't delay if you require merchandise by a certain date.
- For February 2018, items will be in limited quantities only.
- New items or sales will be added each month - Visit www.4h.ab.ca for the most current catalogue.
- We will accept cash, cheques, Visa, MasterCard.
- No order will be processed without payment.
- Shipping costs will apply to all orders being sent by Canada Post and are subject to change, based on size and weight of the order. Please note: no orders will be sent through Government Courier services.
- Arrangements can be made to pick up merchandise at the Alberta 4-H Centre, Council/Foundation office with prior notice. If you are attending an event at the Alberta 4-H Centre, please pre-order items for pick up. Same day, walk in orders are not available at this time.

Don't forget that deals on **4-H Alberta Centennial Merchandise** are still available for larger quantities purchased. This is perfect for club prizes or gifts! T-shirts, caps, USB wrist bands, paintings and cards are available!

Youth Service Leader applications are now open!

Don't miss out on this chance to be part of a unique 4-H experience! Applications opened February 1st and run until March 16, 2018. As a Youth Service Leader, you will be ambassadors and role models for the Hands to Larger Service program, going across Canada to promote the value of service learning and volunteerism, and to mentor younger 4-H members through community service projects. This is a unique opportunity for 4-H members (aged 16-25) looking to give back to their communities and country on a whole new level. Get involved today by visiting <https://4-h-canada.ca/handstolargerservice>.

Connect with 4-H Alberta on Social Media

