



**ALBERTA CAMPING
ASSOCIATION**

2025 ANNUAL REPORT





ALBERTA CAMPING ASSOCIATION

WHY WE EXIST

VISION

Enriching the lives of all Albertans through high quality, safe, inclusive and fun camp experiences.

MISSION

The Alberta Camping Association facilitates networking and professional development, advocates for the camping industry, communicates the value of camp and mandates high standards of quality and safety through accreditation.

VALUES

- Sustainable
- Community
- Quality
- Impact
- Growth

MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Reflecting on the past year, it would be an understatement to say the ACA has navigated a period of significant transition. We have faced difficult financial hurdles, heard member frustrations, and felt the weight of questions surrounding the very future of this organization.

When I joined the Board last year, I did so with a desire to support the camping community and did not anticipate the role I would eventually undertake. Following the Board's independent decision to part ways with our previous Executive Director, a vacancy was left that required immediate attention. To ensure the ACA did not lose momentum during this search for a new path, I accepted the Board's request to step in as Interim ED. My goal has been to provide a bridge, ensuring we do not just "hold on," but begin the necessary work of rebuilding and carving a path forward.

While the challenges have been real, I feel the narrative began to shift at our recent conference. The engagement, the honesty in our discussions, and the shared passion in those rooms were great reminders of why the ACA exists. We aren't just an administrative body; we are a community of camp people dedicated to the transformative power of camp. The energy from those conversations has laid the groundwork for our next chapter. We are currently re-evaluating our financial model to ensure long-term sustainability, deepening member engagement to ensure our services align with your needs on the ground, and refining our vision to ensure the ACA remains a vital advocate for Alberta's camps.

I am genuinely excited for the future. The commitment and knowledge our members carry is our greatest asset, and seeing so many camps ready to roll up their sleeves and shape the future of this association gives me great confidence. We are moving from a season of crisis management into a season of intentional growth. Thank you for your patience, your honesty, and your commitment to the children and families we serve.

Yours in Camping,



Brad Halsey
Interim Executive Director

MESSAGE FROM CHAIR OF THE BOARD

We cannot deny that this has been a year of significant challenge and transition for the Alberta Camping Association. The ACA has had to navigate some difficult realities, and we have experienced some jarring transitions. For context, I am the third ACA Chair to accept the role since last year's AGM and there was a significant portion of the past few months where this work has taken a significant number of my daily hours in addition to some hours I usually use for sleep.

While this year has been challenging, I have been sleeping better lately. The commitment demonstrated by so many experienced, thoughtful, and talented people has helped us to chart a path forward that holds promise. The recent conference helped highlight this. I was so grateful for the honest and passionate conversations, the dozens of good ideas (that I am definitely going to steal), and for all the encouragement and support both for the ACA, and for the work we do in our corners of the province. I would like to take a moment to express our gratitude to Jessica Miller Switzer for four years of service as our Executive Director. Jessica is a believer in camp and worked to support our mission. On behalf of the Board, I extend our appreciation and wish her every success in the next chapter of her journey.

I would also like to recognize Brad Halsey for his willingness to step first into the role of Interim Chair and then to the role of Interim Executive Director. Brad has provided steady leadership and thoughtful guidance at a time when both were greatly needed. His readiness to serve, coupled with his understanding of our mission, has helped ensure continuity and stability as we move forward.

While we are in an encouraging position, there is still work to do. We need to discern our staffing needs, plan strategically for the future of the Association, and map a path forward. We will need help on the board and on committees such as Standards and Accreditation and Member Care. We will need your input and support.

Thank you for your continued support, engagement, and belief in the work we share. Together, we will continue to create spaces where lives are shaped, communities are built, and experiences of growth and belonging are made possible.

Together in Camping

Yours in Camping,



Jon Olfert
Board Chair

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS OF DEC. 31, 2025

ALBERTA CAMPING ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2025

ASSETS

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
CURRENT		
Cash (Note 2)	\$ 26,798	\$ 9,131
Accounts receivable		3,966
GST recoverable	403	740
Prepaid expenses	<u>3,250</u>	<u>2,058</u>
	30,451	15,895
INTERNALLY RESTRICTED FUND (Note 3)		38,328
EQUIPMENT (Note 4)	<u>430</u>	<u>615</u>
	<u>\$30,881</u>	<u>\$54,838</u>

LIABILITIES

CURRENT		
Accounts payable	\$ 1,881	\$ 3,369
Payroll deductions payable	3,174	1,665
Deferred income (Note 5)	<u>35,065</u>	<u>32,768</u>
	<u>40,120</u>	<u>37,802</u>

ACCUMULATED NET ASSETS

ACCUMULATED NET ASSETS		
Invested in capital assets	430	615
Unrestricted	(9,669)	(21,907)
Internally restricted fund		<u>38,328</u>
	<u>(9,239)</u>	<u>17,036</u>
	<u>\$30,881</u>	<u>\$54,838</u>

APPROVED ON BEHALF OF THE ASSOCIATION

"BRAD HALSEY" CHAIR

"MARK CHARTIER" TREASURER

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

AS OF DEC. 31, 2025

ALBERTA CAMPING ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
REVENUE		
Government of Alberta Grant (Note 5)	\$ 51,498	\$ 51,490
Membership fees	26,942	25,210
Investment income	15	28
Annual conference		30,395
Administration services		2,475
Other income		2,913
	<u>78,455</u>	<u>112,511</u>
Personnel	87,342	91,374
Marketing services	5,088	17,175
Administrative services	5,764	3,864
Professional fees	3,280	3,280
Board expenses	1,286	970
Finance and fund raising	1,183	2,277
Marketing and communication	602	644
Amortization	185	263
Annual conference	<u> </u>	<u>32,557</u>
	<u>104,730</u>	<u>152,404</u>
(EXCESS EXPENSES OVER REVENUES)	\$ <u>(26,275)</u>	\$ <u>(39,893)</u>

STANDARDS & ACCREDITATION REPORT

This past year has been one of transition for the Standards Committee. With significant turnover among members, the committee has recently begun the process of regrouping and re-establishing priorities for the year ahead. This period has allowed for a reset as we work to strengthen the committee's effectiveness and provide clear direction moving forward.

One of our key priorities is to explore a staged onboarding process for new camps. The current process of learning and implementing all ACA Standards at once can be challenging, particularly for new or developing camps. A phased approach is being considered to make implementation more manageable, while maintaining the integrity and intent of the standards.

The committee will also be reviewing existing standards to identify any that do not align with current industry regulatory bodies. Where discrepancies are found, updates will be considered to ensure consistency and clarity for member camps navigating multiple requirements.

A significant focus in the coming months will be updating zipline standards in response to new regulations introduced by Alberta Elevating Devices & Amusement Rides Safety Association.

For camps that operate ziplines, new Government of Alberta regulations now require each zipline to be inspected and approved by a Structural Engineer prior to applying for an operating permit through AEDARSA. This is not an ACA-specific requirement; it applies to all operators of ziplines within the province. To support camps through this process, the Standards Committee will be developing a step-by-step guide outlining the requirements, from inspection through to permit application. The goal is to provide clear, practical direction to help camps achieve compliance efficiently.

The committee appreciates the continued engagement of ACA members as this work progresses and looks forward to providing further updates as priorities advance.

Sincerely,



Courtney Armstrong
Standards and Accreditation Chair

MEMBERSHIP AND ACCREDITATION

2025 ACCREDITATION VISITS

- Camp Kasota West
- Kasota East Camp
- Lone Prairie
- Pioneer Bible Camp
- Strathcona Wilderness Centre
- YMCA Calgary Day Camp locations
- YMCA Riveredge
- Teen Time of Edmonton
- Camp Cadicasu
- Intersarsity Pioneer Camp
- HeLa Ventures
- Hardisty Lake Camp
- Easter Seals Camp Horizon
- Covenant Bay
- Beyond the Trees

52 MEMBERS AT END OF 2025

Q4 2025

