

NATURE NEWS

From Nature Calgary

www.naturecalgary.com



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VOLUNTEER

Volunteer*@naturecalgary.com
for general inquiries, or contact
Melanie Senevieratne
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815-1275) for specific events.

LEAD A FIELD TRIP

To suggest a location or lead a trip
email fieldtrips*@naturecalgary.com

Check the website frequently for
new trips and updates. 

MANAGE MEMBERSHIP

Individual: \$20/year
Family: \$25/year

Contact Val 403-288-7441 or
membership*@naturecalgary.com

Join or renew online. 

GET IN TOUCH

Nature News is published 8 times per
year. Send suggestions to:
newsletter*@naturecalgary.com.
Next deadline: Nov 08, 2018

Mailing address:
Nature Calgary, Box 981 Stn. M
Calgary, AB T2P 2K4

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Effective October 1/18, Nature Calgary will charge a \$5 fee for non-members to attend the monthly Bird Study Group and Speaker Series meetings. Members need to produce their membership cards at the door to enter at no cost.

Speaker Series

Wed Oct 17: Drones – A New Tool for Bird Research and Conservation with Dr. David Bird. The use of drones is rapidly evolving as wildlife biologists and managers all over the world adopt them for conducting monitoring and research. In the last ten years, Dr. Bird has experimented with using drones to monitor raptorial bird species in Saskatchewan and Montana, common terns in New Brunswick, seabirds in Newfoundland and the Arctic, and least bitterns in Quebec. Drones can be cheaper, greener, less obtrusive, and much safer than other alternatives. And more recent research suggests yet another benefit – acquiring more accurate and precise counts of target wildlife. But as Dr. Bird points out in his presentation, we still have much to learn before fully embracing this technology.

Wed Nov 21: Oceanbridge -Connecting to our oceans and rivers through youth engagement. Speaker Hannah Lucas will describe how the program is engaging youth across Canada to actively participate in waterway and ocean health and education. Hannah grew up in the UK and graduated from Plymouth University with a degree in marine biology and a passion for the natural environment and educating others about it. She moved to Calgary in October, just in time for the winter, and in March was offered a place on the Oceanbridge program. Hannah also works full time at the Calgary Zoo.

Nature Calgary's monthly meetings are held at 7:30pm the 3rd Wednesday of the month at a new location: Cité des Rocheuses, 4800 Richard Rd SW. Free for members, \$5 for non-members.

[View map | www.citedesrocheuses.com](http://www.citedesrocheuses.com)

Our Condolences

Del LaVallee, a valued Nature Calgary supporter and former board member, has passed. Nature Calgary extends its condolences to her family and friends.

Issues, Events & Updates

Nature Calgary is participating in the Rock' N'Fossil show at Nose Hill Public Library. Scientists from the Geological Survey of Canada will answer questions about rocks, minerals and fossils, and show you specimens from their collections. Learn more about the geology and paleontology from experts! Drop in for a visit between 11:00am and 3pm for this free event. Saturday, October 13th, 1530 Northmount Dr NW.

A resolution to increase membership dues will be presented at the Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, December 19/18. The rationale for this resolution will be mailed to all members in mid-October.

Volunteer Opportunities

A volunteer is required to do a presentation to the Airdrie Junior Forest Wardens (mostly grades 1 -6 with some older kids) on Birds of the Wetlands. Location is in Airdrie, needed for Wednesday January 9, 2019 from 7-8pm. Presentation will be provided.

If you are interested, please contact Melanie - melaniesene*[*@*gmail.com](mailto:melaniesene@gmail.com)

Bird Study Group

Wed Nov 7: Antarctic Adventure by Diane Stinson Always interested in our natural world, Diane started birding in 2012, when she retired. Since then she and her husband, Rob, have been traveling extensively.

Nature Calgary's Annual Fall Banquet

Musical performance by

The Wardens



Saturday, November 10th
Cocktails 6:00pm | Dinner 7:00pm

The Wardens are a Banff National Park-based trio who sing about experiences as park wardens and the land they've protected for a collective 60+ years. They will also present a slide show.

\$55.00 for members
\$65.00 for non-members

Irish Cultural Society - 6452-35 Ave NW

Pay by cheque: Box 981, Station M,
Calgary, Alberta T2P 2K4 indicating meal
preference (beef or vegetarian)

Pay online:

naturecalgary.com/events/banquet
(Tickets available until November 8th)

For further information call Penny Smith
at 403-807-8137.



Rare Bird Alert:

report rare bird sightings to Bird Alert Compiler, Terry Korolyk at 403-300-1067
For latest sightings check: [Albertabird](#) or [BirdTrax](#)



Now Diane birds both locally and while travelling. Photography is integral to her birding, helping her to identify birds and display their brilliance. In addition to the joy of birding, Diane is thrilled to have made new friends who share this passion.

Diane will take us on a photographic journey where she will try to re-create visually the incredible experience of visiting the Antarctic. She will lead you through the 20-day voyage from Ushuaia, to the Falkland Islands, South Georgia, the Antarctic and back to Ushuaia across the Drake Passage. Highlights include seven species of penguins, the southern-most songbird in the world, five species of albatross, a Southern Right Whale, and the majesty of glaciers and icebergs.



King Penguins | © Diane Stinson

Bird Study Group is the first Wednesday of every month at Cardel Theatre (180 Quarry Park Boulevard SE), with the exception of January 2019, where the group will meet the 2nd Wednesday.

Free for members, \$5 for non-members.

[View map | www.cardeltheatre.com](http://www.cardeltheatre.com)

Field Trips

Participants are responsible for bringing their own food, water, sunscreen, bug spray and any other equipment or supplies the duration and location of the trip may require.

Sat Oct 6, 9:30am to approx 4pm: Fall birding in and east of Calgary to Chestermere Lake, Weed Lake and other locations for late migrating Songbirds, waterfowl, Raptors, Gulls, and others. Meet at Parking Lot C at North Glenmore Park. Trip will go until approximately 4 P.M. with a mid-trip break. Bring lunch. Carpooling. Leader Terry Korolyk, 403-254-1878.

Fri, Oct 12, 6:45pm to 9:30pm: Star Night. Meet at the baseball diamond parking area east of the Shouldice Aquatic Centre off Bowness Road. We will drive out to the Jumping Pound Demonstration Forest on the Sibbald Creek trail. Plan to be back to the city by 9:30 PM. Trip is weather dependent. 10 people maximum. Bring appropriate clothing. Call leader John McFaul to register, 403-289-9517 or president@naturecalgary.com.

Nature Kids Events



Sun Oct 14, 11:00am - 12:30pm: Nature Kids Explorer Day Activity - Discovery Walk: Seeds and Animals Signs. Come and join us for a fascinating walk through Pearce Estate Park. All that you require is keen eyes, listening ears and lots and lots of curiosity! As space is limited, please register with Katie Donahue at katiedonohue26@gmail.com, **by October 10.** Meet at Pearce Estate Park - 1440 17A St. S.E.

Nature Kids is for youth (4-12) and families who like to learn, have fun and explore. Members have access to Explorer Day events with local chapter leaders, quarterly editions of NatureWild e-Magazine, and the Nature Heroes program. To connect with the Nature Kids team email us at nkcalgary*@*naturealberta.ca

Sat Oct 20, 9:00am: Inglewood Bird Sanctuary. The Sanctuary is located at 2425 - 9 Ave. SE (From the Deerfoot Trail, take the Blackfoot Trail westbound exit to 19 St. SE, then turn left from this onto 9 Ave.) Meet in the parking lot. Leader: Janet Gill, 403-230-5671.

Sat Oct 27, 9:00am to noon: Bird North Glenmore Park. Meet in parking lot C just W of Rowing Club, accessed from S end of Crowchild Tr SW. Leader Penny Smith, 403-249-5997.

Sun Oct 28, 9:30am to approx 4:30pm: Wind your way through the hills south of Calgary to Pine Coulee Reservoir west of Stavely for migrating waterfowl, Raptors, migratory Songbirds, Gulls, and others. There will be a stop at Chain Lakes and the scenery will be incredible. Meet at the large parking lot at Fish Creek

PP Glenfield off Bannister Road in the southeast corner of the Canyon Meadows Dr.-Macleod Tr. Overpass. Bring lunch and camera. Carpooling. Leader Terry Korolyk, 403-254-1878.



Elephant Seal | © Diane Stinson

Thu Nov 1, 9:15am to 12:45pm: Monthly Elbow River Birding Survey. Meet Stanley Park, 42 Av SW, just W of Macleod Tr. Walk to Glenmore Reservoir, ride back (3.5 hours). Call leader Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248, to ensure vehicle space for return.

Sat Nov 10, 9:30am to 4pm approx: Birding in and east of Calgary for late fall migrants and early winter visitors. Chances for rare and uncommon gulls and waterfowl from the north as well as raptors and songbirds. Bring lunch. Mid-trip break. Carpooling. Meet in the Parking Lot at Fish Creek PP's Visitor's Centre on Bowbottom Trail. Leader Terry Korolyk, 403-254-1878.

Sat Nov 24, 9:00am to noon: Bird North Glenmore Park. Meet in parking lot C just W of Rowing Club, accessed from S end of Crowchild Tr SW. Leader Penny Smith, 403 249-5997

Sun Nov 25, 9:00am: Bebo Grove in Fish Creek PP. Take Glenmore Tr SW to 14 St SW. Go S on 14 St to Anderson Rd. Turn right (West) and go to 24 St SW. Turn left (South) and follow it to its end in the parking lot. Leader Howard Heffler, 403-284-2961.

 = registration required



Be sure visit NatureCalgary.com for trip updates, including additional trips for November.

General Interest

The ghosts of Fish Creek - Oct 23, 24 and 29. Join us for this spooky and informative tour led by Wayne Meikle, Friends of Fish Creek Founding Director. Don't forget to dress up in your favourite costume. Bring a travel mug for complementary hot chocolate! Only \$7 each.

[Registration and more information can be found here.](#)

Free Birding Software for Young Birders - Pete Thayer of Thayer Software is celebrating his 70th birthday and has given Nature Calgary a code to download the Thayer Birding Software for free - for young birders up to grade 12. This software has lots to offer young children and is just for computers, not smartphones. [Get the code at naturecalgary.com.](http://naturecalgary.com)