



2025 AISC Annual General Meeting Agenda

March 5th, 2025, Olds College

Agenda:

1. **Adoption of Agenda** – Sebastien Dutrisac
2. **Review of 2024 AGM Minutes*** - Sebastien Dutrisac
3. **Introduction of Board and Staff** - Sebastien Dutrisac
4. **Chair Report** - Sebastien Dutrisac
5. **Financial Report *** - AISC Staff
6. **Appointment of Auditor** – Sebastien Dutrisac
7. **2025 budget*** - AISC Staff
8. **Report on Operations & Communications***- AISC Staff
9. **New Business** – Sebastien Sutrisac
 - **Fiscal Year-End Change, proposed bylaw change***
 - **Weed ID Guides***
10. **Director Recognition** – Sebastien Dutrisac
11. **Elections** – Patrick Hanington*
12. **Big EDD Award** – Patrick Hanington
13. **Adjournment** – Sebastien Dutrisac

*See QR Codes on next page

Visit <https://abinvasives.ca/news-and-events/2025-aisc-conference/> for the latest AISC Conference and AGM documents. For more information email execdirector@abinvasives.ca; or call 587 999 0954.

Link To:

2024 AGM Minutes



2024 Financial Report



2025 Budget



AISC 2024 Infographic



Board Nomination Forms



Voting for AISC Members Only

Link to Special Resolution
Vote



Link to Weed ID Guide Vote



Link to Election Poll



ALBERTA INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL (AISC) 2024 AGM MINUTES

March 20, 2024

2024 AGM Agenda:

- No amendments

2023 AGM Minutes:

- No amendments

2023 Chair Report:

- Sebastian referred to the four board meetings held throughout the year.
- Delivered 76 releases with the Biocontrol Release Program.
- Also hired two new staff, new AIS Technician and new Terrestrial Technician.
- Looking to the continuation of building policies for AISC and securing additional funding sources.

2023 Financial Report:

- Statement of change in assets.
- Increase grants led to increased expenditures.
- Excess – surplus, 77K for 2023
- Sonya Raven seconded Ian McDonald to accept audited finances
- Appt of auditors for 2023: Two members Rick Niwa, second Carla Preachuk
- Kelly Cooley appointed unanimous carried
- Two auditors for 2024
 - Nicole Kimmel nominated Ian MacLeod, Carla Preachuk nominated Cody McIntosh
 - Motion - Atty Bresler Doug Macauley Seconder Carried
- Sonya Raven motion, 2nd Quinten Beaumont that the ED recommend auditors to the board.
- Motion to adopt 2024 budget as presented Laura Polie Doug Macauley 2nd
- Carried

2023 Operations and Communications Report:

- Paige presents what they did over the year – see Year in Review 2023 poster.
- Meagan five minutes to highlight a year's work
 - thanks to rural municipalities as partners
 - lots of members and partners for 2024 already
 - review continues for factsheets, 2 new created for goldfish and crayfish
 - 2023 conference was first in-person in 3 years with 20 speakers and 293 attendees
- Campaigns supported by AISC
 - Squeal on Pigs secured \$100,000 to promote further
 - WFF 21 participating counties
 - DLIL continue with Pet Store Program
- Farrah Fischer motion to accept operations report no seconder recorded.
- Carried

New Business:

- Applied for \$2.5 million in new grants with projects on rats, biocontrol, AIS, video game, species at risk
- AISC is entering growth stage
- Successful in \$2.2 million for AIS work

Board Acknowledgements:

- Director Recognition: Ashley Tkachyk gets plaque for 2 terms – must retire according to TOR.
- Connor Frizzley and Natalie LaForest

Board Nominations:

- Patrick conducts elections and Secretary recording nominations.
- Industry with 2 vacancies:
 - Kallum McDonald
 - Craig Mushens
- Other with 2 vacancies:
 - Sebastien Dutrisac
 - Emma Stroud

- Provincial government with 1 vacancy:
 - First call for NFTF (nominations from the floor) 1, Karen Wickerson is nominated by Farrah Fischer, who is the Provincial Rat Patrol Chief.
- 2nd & 3rd call made, hearing none, nominations closed.
- No attendance taken total votes was 90 – see below
- Nicole nominated Mike Jenkins DK Nicole’s Kimmel
- Other government with 1 vacancy:
 - Jay Byer
 - Melissa Logan
 - Electronic voting by Menti - Melissa wins 60 to 30 vs Jay (See note above re attendance – could have been difficulties with electronic voting?)
- Welcome to new board members and elections concluded.

Big EDD Award:

- Patrick awards the EDDMAPS Belt Buckle for who submits most reports in the year Ashley Gallon submitted 7 reports.
 - Was not in attendance to accept award

Sebastian calls for any new business, 3 times no, **2024 AGM adjourned.**

ALBERTA INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

Financial Information

For The Year Ended December 31, 2024

ALBERTA INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

Financial Statements

For The Year Ended December 31, 2024

	Page
Compilation Engagement Report	1
Statement of Financial Position	2
Statement of Changes in Net Assets	3
Statement of Operations	4
Notes to the Financial Statements	5

Compilation Engagement Report

On the basis of information provided by organization, we have compiled the statement of financial position of **Alberta Invasive Species Council** as at December 31, 2024, the statements of changes in net assets and operations for the year then ended and Note 1, which describes the basis of accounting applied in the preparation of the compiled financial statements. Management is responsible for the accompanying financial information, including the accuracy and completeness of the underlying information used to compile it and the selection of the basis of accounting. We have performed the engagement in accordance with Canadian Standards on Related Services (CSRS) 4200, Compilation Engagements. Which requires us to comply with relevant ethical requirements. Our responsibility is to assist management in the preparation of the financial statements. We have not performed an audit or a review engagement in respect of these financial statements and, accordingly, we express no assurance thereon. Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purposes.

LMSPC Professional Corporation

LMSPC Professional Corporation
Chartered Professional Accountants

Brooks, Alberta
February 23, 2025

ALBERTA INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

**Statement of Financial Position
December 31, 2024**

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Assets		
Current		
Cash and cash equivalents	326,467	468,331
Accounts receivable	167,536	94,735
Goods and services tax receivable	<u>12,576</u>	<u>3,185</u>
	506,579	566,251
Property, Plant and Equipment (Note 2)	<u>101,349</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>607,928</u>	<u>566,251</u>
Liabilities		
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	9,414	8,680
Deferred revenue (Note 3)	<u>104,465</u>	<u>127,577</u>
	<u>113,879</u>	<u>136,257</u>
Net Assets		
Net Assets	<u>494,049</u>	<u>429,994</u>
	<u>607,928</u>	<u>566,251</u>

Approved by the Board

Director: _____

Date: February 23, 2025

ALBERTA INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

**Statement of Changes in Net Assets
For The Year Ended December 31, 2024**

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Balance , beginning of year	429,994	352,465
Excess of revenue over expenses for the year	<u>64,055</u>	<u>77,529</u>
Balance , end of year	<u>494,049</u>	<u>429,994</u>

ALBERTA INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

**Statement of Operations
For The Year Ended December 31, 2024**

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Revenue		
Government grants	471,042	325,127
Partnership	111,500	74,395
Biocontrol ORP	101,517	67,301
AISC conference	56,059	38,815
Casino	53,688	27,909
AISC revenue	16,555	30,496
Memberships	<u>5,080</u>	<u>7,209</u>
	<u>815,441</u>	<u>571,252</u>
Expenses		
Advertising and promotion	197,567	81,845
AISC conference	49,608	30,652
Conferences	1,849	2,819
Directors fees	276	605
Freight	10,761	4,418
Insurance	1,639	1,434
Memberships and licences	4,670	1,009
Office	23,234	9,253
Professional development	-	9,044
Professional fees	8,492	4,715
Sub-contracts	134,662	25,540
Supplies	13,861	67,246
Training and education	-	4,237
Travel	21,116	28,377
Wages and employee benefits	<u>268,250</u>	<u>219,669</u>
	<u>735,985</u>	<u>490,863</u>
Income (loss) before amortization, interest and taxes	<u>79,456</u>	<u>80,389</u>
Interest and bank charges	966	2,860
Amortization	<u>14,435</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess of Revenue Over Expenses For The Year	<u><u>64,055</u></u>	<u><u>77,529</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

ALBERTA INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended December 31, 2024**

1. Basis of Accounting

The basis of accounting applied in the preparation of the financial information is on the historical cost basis, reflecting cash transactions with the addition of:

- Accounts receivable
- Property, plant & equipment amortized over their useful life
- Accounts payable and accrued liabilities

2. Property, Plant and Equipment

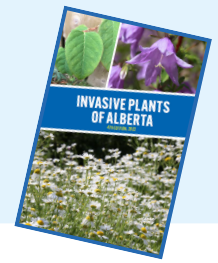
	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Net Book Value	
	\$	\$	2024	2023
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Automotive	57,143	8,571	48,572	-
Equipment	<u>58,641</u>	<u>5,864</u>	<u>52,777</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u><u>115,784</u></u>	<u><u>14,435</u></u>	<u><u>101,349</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>

3. Deferred revenue

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Rat on Rats	41,189	-
CAP Squeal on Pigs	-	70,733
Dept. of Fisheries and Ocean	29,524	54,022
Casino Funds	<u>33,752</u>	<u>2,822</u>
	<u><u>104,465</u></u>	<u><u>127,577</u></u>

2024 YEAR IN REVIEW

abinvasives.ca



OUTREACH EVENTS

ATTENDED BY AISC

38 IN-PERSON

13 VIRTUAL

51

BIOCONTROL RELEASES



OF LEAFY SPURGE BEETLES, DALMATIAN TOADFLAX WEEVILS AND SPOTTED/DIFFUSE KNAPWEED WEEVILS

84

93 DIFFERENT SPECIES

REPORTERS

5,480

REPORTS

EDDMapS
find · map · track

5,692,996 INFESTED ACRES

147

SOCIAL MEDIA

STATISTICS



2,000+
NEWSLETTER
SUBSCRIBERS



300
POSTS



350,000+
REACH

1090



495

NEW
500+
FOLLOWERS

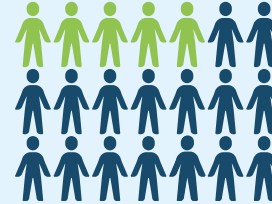
2701

WEED FREE FORAGE

21 PARTICIPATING COUNTIES

AISC AT A GLANCE

5 STAFF MEMBERS



16 BOARD MEMBERS

39
PARTNER
ORGANIZATIONS
ACROSS ALBERTA

183

INDIVIDUAL & STUDENT
MEMBERS

28,000+ WEED ID GUIDES

DISTRIBUTED TO DATE

CAMPAIGNS

SUPPORTED BY AISC

9



FACTSHEETS

FOR INVASIVE PLANTS, ANIMALS, INVERTEBRATES & DISEASES

50+ VIDEOS

200+ PHOTOS

150+

11TH

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

2 DAYS HELD IN-PERSON

7 APPLICATOR CREDITS OFFERED

240 ATTENDEES

9+ HOURS OF CONTENT

18 SPEAKERS



Notice of Proposed Bylaw Amendment: Change to Fiscal Year-End

Dear Members,

The Alberta Invasive Species Council (AISC) is proposing an amendment to its bylaws to change the organization's fiscal year-end. Currently, AISC operates on a **January 1 – December 31** fiscal year. However, the majority of our funders follow an **April 1 – March 31** fiscal cycle. This misalignment creates challenges in budgeting, financial reporting, and forecasting, making it more difficult to manage funding streams effectively.

To improve financial planning and reporting consistency, we propose changing AISC's fiscal year-end to **April 1 – March 31**. Implementing this change will require a transitional period, during which additional financial reporting will be necessary. The transition plan includes:

- Completing a fiscal year from **January 1 – December 31, 2025**
- A short fiscal year from **January 1 – March 31, 2026**
- Beginning the new fiscal cycle from **April 1, 2026 – March 31, 2027**, and continuing annually thereafter

While this transition will require additional effort and administrative costs in the short term, it will ultimately streamline financial management and align our operations with funding cycles. This proposed bylaw amendment will be presented for approval at the upcoming Annual General Meeting.

Proposed Changes to the Alberta Invasive Species Council Bylaw:

Current Section 1 - Definitions Current

1.6 The fiscal year of the AISC shall be the calendar year, commencing on the first day of January each year.

Proposed to be changed to:

1.6 The fiscal year of the AISC shall be March 31, commencing on the first day of April each year.

Reprinting of the Invasive Plants of Alberta Guides (Weed ID Guide)

We are seeking your input on how to proceed with reprinting the **Alberta Weed ID Guide**. In the past, we've secured funding to offer the guide at a subsidized rate of \$1 per copy (handling fee), compared to the actual printing cost (\$3-\$6 per copy). However, we are currently out of stock, and the expected funding for a new print run did not come through.

Additionally, we anticipate changes to the list of regulated species, meaning some information in the guide may become outdated, though we don't yet know when those changes will be announced.

We'd appreciate your feedback on the best way to move forward. Please let us know which option you prefer:

1. Offer pre-orders and print at \$3 - \$6 per copy.
2. Wait to secure grant funding to keep the guide subsidized (uncertain timeline; copies may not be available for spring training).
3. Other suggestions?

Your input will help us make the best decision for our members.

Board of Directors Nomination Form

Name: Kelsey Cartwright

Email: kelsey.cartwright@gov.ab.ca

Phone: 587-574-9930

Mailing Address: 242, 782 Main Street Box 1420 Pincher Creek, Alberta T0K 1W0

Job Title: Rangeland Programs & Issues Lead

Employer: Government of Alberta - Rangeland Stewardship and Land Use Policy

1. Identify the sector you would be representing:

- Government of Alberta
- Other Government (Indigenous, federal, municipal etc.)
- Industry
- Other (including individuals, academia, research, non-government organizations)

2. Describe your professional, volunteer and/or work experience, and describe how it relates to our work.

My appreciation for native plant species is as deep as some of their roots! I went to U of L for both my BSc (Environmental Science) and MSc (Geography) before starting my full time rangeland career with Cows and Fish, and then Alberta Conservation Association. I also held undergraduate summer jobs with the Nature Conservancy of Canada and Agriculture & Agri-food Canada. I am very familiar with NGO funding cycles and the collaborative approaches required to achieve goals and deliverables. Now that I've been with the provincial government for almost 5 years as well, I have had various opportunities to travel to and work in different parts of the province and gain a better understanding of local ecology, plant species and land use challenges, including invasive species. I believe this mix of administrative and ecological experience is very valuable to have as an effective AISC board member.

3. What skills, experience or perspectives would be of particular value to the Alberta Invasive Species Council?

Outside of work, I also have cattle and horses which helps me relate to other key audiences that AISC may be trying to promote programs and materials among. Outdoor recreation and biodiversity are also important to me, therefore I can see from many different perspectives how invasive species are a concern and the collaboration required to take meaningful action.

4. Describe any relevant experience you have involving non-profit Boards, charities, community groups, professional associations, etc.

I volunteered with the Oldman Watershed Council during university and completed a student work term with the OWC as well. I also have served on the technical advisory council for the Grassland Restoration Forum and was an executive officer for the Inter-Mountain Section of the Society for Rangeland Management. I was a 4-H Alberta member for nine years which involved volunteering and participating in formal group meetings from a young age as secretary and other elected roles.

5. Tell us why you want to serve on our Board?

The high caliber of folks involved in AISC is no secret so that is a big part of it for me! I am not currently serving on any boards and heard that the government representative position would become vacant in 2025.

6. Other relevant background or information.

I recently became the Rangeland Programs and Issues Lead after Darrell Smith was promoted.

If elected to the AISC Board of Directors, I will adhere to the AISC's Code of Conduct Policy.



Please send your completed form to excdirector@abinvasives.ca



Board of Directors Nomination Form

Name: Lindsey Davidson

Email: lindsey.davidson@natureconservancy.ca

Phone: 403-339-7451

Mailing Address: PO Box 3356, Pincher Creek, AB T0K 1W0

Job Title: Natural Area Manager - Waterton Park Front

Employer: Nature Conservancy of Canada

1. Identify the sector you would be representing:

- Government of Alberta
- Other Government (Indigenous, federal, municipal etc.)
- Industry
- Other (including individuals, academia, research, non-government organizations)

2. Describe your professional, volunteer and/or work experience, and describe how it relates to our work.

As a Natural Area Manager in SW Alberta, I work closely with rangeland ecosystems, where managing invasive species is critical to maintaining biodiversity, soil health, and forage production. My role involves developing and implementing strategies to mitigate the spread of invasive species, advising landowners on best management practices, and monitoring their ecological impacts. This work aligns directly with the Alberta Invasive Species Council's mission to protect Alberta's ecosystems.

In my previous role as an Agricultural Fieldman, I was responsible for enforcing the Weed Control Act and coordinating invasive species management programs. I gained valuable experience collaborating with municipalities, producers, and provincial authorities, as well as implementing prevention, early detection, and rapid response strategies to address invasive species.

My combined experience has given me a strong understanding of the challenges and opportunities involved in managing invasive species across Alberta's landscapes. I've developed skills in stakeholder engagement, fostering collaboration, and applying science-based solutions, all of which I believe are critical to supporting the Council's objectives. I'm passionate about protecting Alberta's natural resources and am eager to bring my expertise and dedication to the AISC board for a second term.

3. What skills, experience or perspectives would be of particular value to the Alberta Invasive Species Council?

I bring a diverse set of skills, extensive experience, and unique perspectives that align well with the Alberta Invasive Species Council's mission and would add value to its Board:

Technical Expertise:

My current membership with the Alberta Institute of Agrologists and former experience as an Agricultural Fieldman equips me with a deep understanding of invasive species management in both rangeland, agricultural and even urban contexts. I have experience with prevention, early detection, rapid response, and control strategies that are vital for effective invasive species management.

Regulatory and Policy Knowledge:

Having enforced the Weed Control Act in my previous role, I am well-versed in regulatory frameworks that underpin invasive species management in Alberta. I understand how to navigate legislative processes and work within policy constraints to achieve environmental outcomes.

Stakeholder Engagement:

I have a proven track record of collaborating with a broad range of stakeholders, including landowners, leaseholders, municipal governments, industry partners, and conservation organizations. My ability to build relationships and foster communication ensures alignment and cooperation toward shared goals.

Strategic Problem-Solving:

I excel at developing practical, science-based solutions tailored to specific ecosystems and land-use goals. I've applied adaptive management techniques to address complex challenges, balancing environmental conservation with agricultural productivity and diverse interests in land use.

Diverse Perspective:

My work has spanned diverse landscapes and involved a variety of stakeholders, giving me a broad perspective on the challenges and opportunities in invasive species management. I bring a balance of operational insights and long-term strategic vision, which is crucial for informed decision-making.

Commitment to Education and Advocacy:

I am passionate about raising awareness and educating others about the importance of invasive species management. Whether through workshops, public engagement, or working directly with producers, I strive to empower others with the knowledge and tools to make a positive impact.

By bringing these skills and experiences to the AISC Board, I am confident in my ability to contribute meaningfully to the Council's initiatives and help advance its mission to protect Alberta's ecosystems from invasive species.

4. Describe any relevant experience you have involving non-profit Boards, charities, community groups, professional associations, etc.

I bring valuable experience to the AISC Board from my work with Agricultural Service Boards, where I have been directly involved in addressing invasive species issues, developing policies, and supporting agricultural sustainability. My role with the Nature Conservancy of Canada has deepened my understanding of operational nuances of registered charities. Additionally, my leadership within the Turtle Mountain Riding Club has honed my skills in governance, strategic planning, and non-profit management. As a member of the Alberta Institute of Agrologists, I uphold professional standards in my practice, contributing expertise in range management and agriculture. This will be my second term on the AISC Board, and I am eager to continue supporting its mission with my diverse perspectives and experience.

I bring valuable experience to the AISC Board from my work with Agricultural Service Boards, where I have been directly involved in addressing invasive species issues, developing policies, and supporting agricultural sustainability. My role with the Nature Conservancy of Canada has deepened my understanding of operational nuances of registered charities. Additionally, my leadership within the Turtle Mountain Riding Club has honed my skills in governance, strategic planning, and non-profit management. As a member of the Alberta Institute of Agrologists, I uphold professional standards in my practice, contributing expertise in range management and agriculture. This will be my second term on the AISC Board, and I am eager to continue supporting its mission with my diverse perspectives and experience.

I bring valuable experience to the AISC Board from my work with Agricultural Service Boards, where I have been directly involved in addressing invasive species issues, developing policies, and supporting agricultural sustainability. My role with the Nature Conservancy of Canada has deepened my understanding of land stewardship and environmental conservation through collaboration with diverse stakeholders. Additionally, my leadership within the Turtle Mountain Riding Club has honed my skills in governance, strategic planning, and non-profit management. As a member of the Alberta Institute of Agrologists, I uphold professional standards in my practice, contributing expertise in range management and agriculture. This will be my second term on the AISC Board, and I am eager to continue supporting its mission with my diverse perspectives and experience.

5. Tell us why you want to serve on our Board?

I want to serve on the AISC Board because I am passionate about protecting Alberta's ecosystems, agriculture, and natural landscapes from the threats posed by invasive species. With my background in range management and environmental stewardship, I see the Board as an excellent platform to contribute my expertise and collaborate with like-minded professionals. Being active on the AISC Board also keeps me informed about ongoing threats, concerns, and new initiatives in invasive species management that directly impact the area where I work, enabling me to plan and react proactively. I value the opportunity to influence policy, raise awareness, and develop practical solutions to invasive species challenges. Continuing my service on the Board aligns with my commitment to fostering sustainable land management and ensuring Alberta's resources remain resilient and productive for future generations.

6. Other relevant background or information.

The growth and progress of AISC over the past three years have been remarkable, and the accomplishments during this time are truly impressive. I want to commend Megan, Paige, and the dedicated AISC staff for their outstanding efforts and contributions. It has been an honor to serve on an active and forward-thinking Board of Directors that provides valuable guidance and support to an organization whose importance will only continue to grow in the future. Whether or not I remain involved, I am confident AISC will continue its excellent work. Keep it up!

If elected to the AISC Board of Directors, I will adhere to the AISC's Code of Conduct Policy.



Please send your completed form to execdirector@abinvasives.ca

Board of Directors Nomination Form

Name: Brandi Doerksen

Email: brandi.doerksen@eid.ca

Phone: 4033639694

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 128, 550 Industrial Road W, Brooks, AB T1R 1B2

Job Title: Land Administrator - Aquatic Invasive Species

Employer: Eastern Irrigation District

1. Identify the sector you would be representing:

- Government of Alberta
- Other Government (Indigenous, federal, municipal etc.)
- Industry
- Other (including individuals, academia, research, non-government organizations)

2. Describe your professional, volunteer and/or work experience, and describe how it relates to our work.

3. What skills, experience or perspectives would be of particular value to the Alberta Invasive Species Council?

4. Describe any relevant experience you have involving non-profit Boards, charities, community groups, professional associations, etc.

5. Tell us why you want to serve on our Board?

6. Other relevant background or information.

If elected to the AISC Board of Directors, I will adhere to the AISC's Code of Conduct Policy.



Please send your completed form to execdirector@abinvasives.ca

AISC Board of Directors Nomination Form

Prepared by: Brandi Doerksen, Eastern Irrigation District

2. Describe your professional, volunteer and/or work experience, and describe how it relates to our work.

Since 2019, I have managed the Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Prevention Program for the Eastern Irrigation District (EID), overseeing a mandatory watercraft registration system designed to protect EID reservoirs from aquatic invasive species, specifically zebra and quagga mussels. In 2020, in collaboration with the County of Newell, I was involved in the development of the first-of-its-kind AIS Bylaw, further strengthening protections for irrigation reservoirs in the region. Prior to this, I worked with the Government of Alberta as a Fisheries Guardian at the Dunmore watercraft inspection station for two years, one of the busiest and highest-risk AIS checkpoints in the province, inspecting and decontaminating watercraft from across North America. Beyond my professional work, I was selected to participate in OceanWise's Ocean Bridge program, a year-long volunteer initiative where I traveled across Canada to educate communities on the importance of protecting our waters. As someone from a landlocked province, I focused on raising awareness of the devastating impact AIS - particularly zebra and quagga mussels - could have on Alberta's agriculture and irrigation industry. With experience in policy development, program management, and public education, I am eager to bring my expertise and passion to the Alberta Invasive Species Council's Board of Directors. I look forward to contributing to the council's mission of preventing and managing invasive species across the province.

3. What skills, experience or perspectives would be of particular value to the Alberta Invasive Species Council?

With over five years of hands-on experience in the AIS field, I have gained deep insight into both the challenges of AIS prevention and the widespread lack of public awareness regarding invasive species in Alberta. I have seen firsthand the risks invasive species pose to our waterbodies, particularly in the agriculture and irrigation sectors. My previous role as a Fisheries Guardian at the Dunmore watercraft inspection station reinforced the critical need for rigorous prevention measures and proactive education efforts. In addition to frontline AIS management, I have worked to bridge the knowledge gap by engaging with the public, industry stakeholders, and policymakers.

I bring a well-rounded perspective that combines direct field experience with broader educational and policy-driven initiatives, and I am eager to contribute my skills to further the council's work in invasive species prevention and management.

4. Describe any relevant experience you have involving non-profit Boards, charities, community groups, professional associations, etc.

For the past three years, I have served as the Chair of the City of Brooks' Environmental Advisory Committee, EcoBrooks, which promotes environmental sustainability and fosters eco-friendly practices within the community. In this role, I have helped lead initiatives such as the Yellow Fish Road program through Trout Unlimited Canada, educating residents on the importance of protecting our local water supply. Additionally, our committee has focused on raising awareness about invasive species prevention,

including the "Don't Let It Loose" campaign, which highlights the risks of releasing non-native species into the environment.

5. Tell us why you want to serve on our Board?

I have always admired Megan's dedication to invasive species management and her ability to bring people together to educate and take action on this critical issue. The opportunity to work alongside like-minded individuals who share the same passion and commitment to protecting Alberta from invasive species is something I deeply value. Serving on the Board would allow me to contribute my experience while also learning from others who are equally driven to make a difference. This role would not only enhance my professional expertise but also strengthen my personal commitment to AIS prevention and environmental stewardship.

Board of Directors Nomination Form

Name: Travis Marfleet

Email: marfleetvet@gmail.com

Phone: 403-793-3633

Mailing Address: Box 756, Duchess, AB T0J 0Z0

Job Title: Veterinarian

Employer: Marfleet Veterinary Services Ltd

1. Identify the sector you would be representing:

- Government of Alberta
- Other Government (Indigenous, federal, municipal etc.)
- Industry
- Other (including individuals, academia, research, non-government organizations)

2. Describe your professional, volunteer and/or work experience, and describe how it relates to our work.

Since 2017 I have worked as a food-animal veterinarian (primarily cow-calf/feedlot/dairy operations) in Southern Alberta and more recently into Southwest Saskatchewan (Maple Creek).

The demographic of clients I have worked with operate in a variety of environments but primarily native prairie grasslands. While I have not consulted directly on invasive species management and control, invasive plant species are a major concern for the health of prairie ecosystems for these producers. Additionally, the added threat of wild pigs in Western Canada is a growing concern for producers and I feel veterinarians can be a direct source for stakeholder education & awareness, surveillance, and reporting.

I am currently enrolled in a CFIA-led course on Foot and Mouth Disease aimed at training veterinarians in disease identification and outbreak management. In 2017-2018 I had direct involvement in herd trace-out testing following the bovine tuberculosis outbreak in Southern Alberta, and generally have an interest in the wildlife-livestock interface and disease transmission in the prairies.

3. What skills, experience or perspectives would be of particular value to the Alberta Invasive Species Council?

I think my time spent within the ranching community and connections to producers that are grazing and managing native prairie ecosystems is the major perspective and experience most recently. In the past I had heavy involvement in academic research which brings a further understanding into the academic world, research funding, and study design.

4. Describe any relevant experience you have involving non-profit Boards, charities, community groups, professional associations, etc.

I have most recently served on an Alberta Veterinary Medical Association food-animal advisory board as a member and briefly as chair. In the past I served on numerous student volunteer committees (ex. Let's Talk Science, Canadian Blood Services donor promotion) and a canine rescue organization, and have volunteered with local 4H groups for brief on-farm learning sessions.

5. Tell us why you want to serve on our Board?

I would like to both learn about the invasive species organization, the work your council does, and find ways to benefit this council through my experiences in the food-animal industry in Alberta.

6. Other relevant background or information.

In our free time my partner Danielle and I love hiking in the badlands with our dogs and generally spending time outdoors. At any given time I can be found playing hockey, golf, or volleyball, or out on lake ice fishing. My favorite activity is time spent fishing, hiking, and relaxing at the family cabin in Northwest Saskatchewan.

If elected to the AISC Board of Directors, I will adhere to the AISC's Code of Conduct Policy.



Please send your completed form to excdirector@abinvasives.ca

Dr. Travis W Marfleet BSc. DVM

203026 Range Rd 132; Box 756

Duchess, Alberta, T0J 0Z0

(403) 793-3633

marfleetvet@gmail.com

Academics

- August 2013 to May 2017 - Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan, Doctor of Veterinary Medicine.
- May 2009 to July 2012 - University of Saskatchewan, PhD student, Microbiology & Immunology. Thesis title: *Development of Th1 immune imprints using recombinant Mycobacterium bovis BCG: Implications for vaccination against various pathogens.*
*Program incomplete.
- September 2004 to April 2009 - University of Saskatchewan, Bachelor of Science - High Honors, double major in Biochemistry and Microbiology & Immunology.

Veterinary Employment

- April 2024 to present – Locum Veterinarian at Maple Creek Veterinary Services, Maple Creek, SK. Primarily cow-calf consulting and general herd services including pregnancy diagnosis, bull breeding soundness, obstetrics, general bovine surgery and other general bovine procedures.
- August 2024 to present - Locum Veterinarian at Harges Veterinary Services, Turtleford, SK. Primarily cow-calf consulting and general herd services including pregnancy
- October 2023 to present – Owner/CEO of Marfleet Veterinary Services, Duchess, AB. Private food-animal veterinary consulting with focus on herd management, herd records and value-added on-farm programs. Specialty programming delivery and auditing such as slaughter or breeding animal import & export, EU Beef GEPS program delivery.
- May 2017 to April 2024 – Associate Veterinarian at Cattle Health Management (previously Bow Valley Livestock Health), Brooks, AB. All aspects of cow-calf herd services, feedlot consulting and services, as well as general dairy herd health services. Herd services ranged from obstetrics, pregnancy diagnosis, bull breeding soundness, general surgery, herd health program development and record management. Additional consulting services included animal import/export to US and Mexico, overseeing CFIA EU Beef GEPS program for cow-calf and feedlot clients.

Research Experience

- July 2018 to June 2020 - Project Lead: Dr.'s John Campbell & Dinesh Dadarwal; Bovine fetal sexing utilizing cell-free fetal DNA in maternal peripheral blood. Role: project inception & design, herd enrollment, sample collection and reporting.
- May to September 2014 - Undergraduate research project. Supervisor: Dr. John Campbell; Hair cortisol analysis as an objective measure of post-castration pain and stress in beef calves.
- May 2009 to July 2012 - PhD Thesis; Development of Th1 immune imprints using recombinant Mycobacterium bovis BCG: Implications for vaccination against various pathogens.
- September 2008 to April 2009 - MCIM 491 Undergraduate Honours Project. Supervisor - Dr. Barry Ziola. Project focused on PCR based techniques ("genome walking" and "bubble" PCR) and bioinformatics to aid in bacterial genome assembly process.
- May to September 2008 - Research assistant, College of Medicine. Supervisor: Dr. Sophie Robichaud. Conducted majority of research involved with a clinical study. Extensive PCR work, latex agglutination assays, microbial culturing and sub-culturing, data analysis.
- May to October 2007 and May 2008 to September 2008 - Research assistant, College of Medicine. Supervisor: Dr. Fawzy Elbarbry. Basic research responsibilities such as enzyme assays, microsomal preparation, Western Blotting, data entry and analysis.
- Extensive laboratory techniques in clinical microbiology, biochemistry and molecular biology including animal research techniques.
- Introductory bioinformatics capabilities (BLAST, EMBOSS, primer design, genome assembly software). Experience with GraphPad Prism graphing and statistical analysis software.

Teaching Experience

- September 2009 to July 2012 - Undergraduate laboratory teaching assistant, MCIM 390 (Experimental Microbiology & Immunology). Teaching assistant duties such as demonstrating techniques, conducting experiments for weekly labs, and grading student reports. Full year accumulation of teaching hours is approximately 12-15 hours.
- September 2009 to April 2010 - Undergraduate laboratory teaching assistant, BMSC 240 (Introductory Biomedical Sciences). Teaching assistant duties and weekly

assignment marking. Full year accumulation of teaching and marking hours is approximately 90-100 hours.

- September 2008 to March 2009 - Undergraduate laboratory teaching assistant, MCIM 214 (Introduction to Microbiology). Approximately 85 hours. Technical demonstrator and teaching assistant.

Extracurricular Activities

- A wide variety sports such as hockey, volleyball, badminton, snowboarding, tennis, golf, and slo-pitch.
- Hiking outdoors with our two dogs, Pete and Stella, and our cat Remus.

Publications

Elbarbry F, Ragheb A, **Marfleet T**, Shoker A. (2012) Modulation of Hepatic Drug Metabolizing Enzymes by Dietary Doses of Thymoquinone in Female New Zealand White Rabbits. *Phytotherapy Research*, 26(11): pp. 1726-1730.

Pittet V, Abejunde T, **Marfleet T**, Haakensen M, Morrow K, Jayaprakash T, Schroeder K, Trost B, Byrns S, Bergsveinson J, Kusalik A, Ziola B. (2012) Genome and plasmid sequences for the beer-spoilage organism *Pediococcus clausenii* ATCC BAA-344^T. *Journal of Bacteriology*, 194(5): pp. 1271-1272.

Marfleet, T.W. (2011) Exploitation of Conservation: Alternative Approaches to Influenza Vaccination. *Student Perspectives on Contemporary Virology*, 3:e6.

Elbarbry F, Ragheb A, Attia A, Chibbar R, **Marfleet T**, Shoker A. (2010) Cyclosporine-induced changes in drug metabolizing enzymes in hyperlipemic rabbit kidneys could explain its toxicity. *Xenobiotica*, 40(11): pp. 772-81.

Marfleet, T.W. (2010) Cytotoxic T cell response and conserved viral epitopes - considerations for vaccination against newly emerging pandemic influenza strains. *Health Science Inquiry*, 1(1): pp. 13-14.

Power C, **Marfleet T.W.**, Qualtiere L, Xiao W, Bretscher P. (2010) Development of Th1 imprints to rBCG expressing a foreign protein: implications for vaccination against HIV-1 and diverse influenza strains. *Journal of Biomedicine and Biotechnology*, 2010: pp. 1-9.

Elbarbry F, **Marfleet T**, Shoker A. (2008) Drug-Drug Interactions with Immunosuppressive Agents: Review of the *in-vitro* Functional Assays and Role of Cytochrome P450-Enzymes. *Transplantation*, 85(9): pp. 1222-9.

Presentations & Abstracts

Marfleet TW, Janz D, Stookey J, Campbell J. (2014) Hair cortisol analysis as an objective measure of post-castration pain and stress in beef calves. Western College of Veterinary Medicine Undergraduate Research Presentation.

Marfleet TW, Deneer H, Blondeau J.M., Lim H.J., Bhatt H, Leung S, Robichaud S. (2010) Detection of *Streptococcus agalactiae* (Group B *Streptococcus*) colonization in pregnant women using direct antigen detection, StrepB Carrot Broth™, culture and PCR. *110th Meeting of the American Society for Microbiology*, San Diego, CA.

Marfleet TW. (2009) *Assembly and characterization of the plasmid profile of the beer-spoilage bacterium Pediococcus claussenii*. MCIM 491 Honours Research Thesis Presentation, Department of Microbiology & Immunology, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK.

Marfleet TW, Pittet V, Paramel T, Abegunde T, Haakensen M, Kusalik T, Ziola B. (2009) *Plasmids of the beer-spoilage bacterium Pediococcus claussenii*. University of Saskatchewan Life Sciences Research Day, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK.

References

- **Joseph Stookey PhD**, Professor, Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK (306) 966-7154.
- **Dr. John Campbell DVM**, Department Head and Professor, Large Animal Clinical Sciences, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK. (306) 966-7158.
- **Dr. Bobbie Lundquist DVM**, Vice President (Operations), Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Saskatoon, SK. (306) 966-7169.



Board of Directors Nomination Form

Name: Fiona Spitzig

Email: fiona.spitzig@edmonton.ca

Phone: 780-293-9878

Mailing Address: #509 - 11307 99 Avenue NW, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 0H2

Job Title: Invasive Plant Outreach Program Lead

Employer: City of Edmonton

1. Identify the sector you would be representing:

- Government of Alberta
- Other Government (Indigenous, federal, municipal etc.)
- Industry
- Other (including individuals, academia, research, non-government organizations)

2. Describe your professional, volunteer and/or work experience, and describe how it relates to our work.

In my professional experience, I have learned about invasive plants in Alberta and how they impact biodiversity, industries and Albertans. I have become well-learned about the terrestrial plants on the Alberta Weed Control Act and best practices for removal and/or management. My role and my program with the City of Edmonton is focused on outreach and education, and I am keen to unify messaging about invasive species in Alberta to ensure clarity, consistency and the most positive behaviour change possible from our communities. I have hands-on experience with mechanical control of invasive plants, and work closely with teams that regularly practice other aspects of IPM in the City of Edmonton.

Through my work, I have also been granted the opportunity to sit on the committee reviewing the Alberta Weed Control Act. This has allowed for me to learn more deeply about select plants, and hear a large variety of perspectives on their regulation.

With a goal of connecting Edmontonians with natural areas to increase appreciation of biodiversity, thus inspiring the management of invasive species, I believe my work is parallel to that of the AISC and I am so grateful to work with you in all the ways we can!

3. What skills, experience or perspectives would be of particular value to the Alberta Invasive Species Council?

I am knowledgeable about the state of invasive species in and around Edmonton, and interact regularly with Edmontonians and can represent their perspectives and needs regarding invasive species well. I am also a skilled, professional communicator and have extensive knowledge about best practices in environmental education, nature interpretation and social marketing and would be delighted to put these skills to use regarding invasive species management.

4. Describe any relevant experience you have involving non-profit Boards, charities, community groups, professional associations, etc.

My experience as a member of the committee reviewing the Alberta Weed Control Act, where I gather and contribute the perspectives of Edmontonians and City of Edmonton staff to making a well-informed decision on weed regulations, has been insightful regarding decision-making by consensus and majority, and towards gaining new and diverse perspectives on invasive plants. As well, through working in the non-profit sector for two years in my career, I have learned the limitations as well as the advantages non-profits have regarding funding, communication and more. I am a member of my Community League in Edmonton (Wihkwentowin), and have previously held a Biologist in Training professional designation from the Alberta Society of Professional Biologists.

5. Tell us why you want to serve on our Board?

I would be excited for the opportunity to serve on the AISC Board to not only increase the breadth of my professional experience, but to also continue learning with and from others who work towards managing invasive species. I would love the opportunity to network with like-minded, yet diverse professionals and enthusiastically share my thoughts and ideas. I am excited to unify messaging about invasive species across the province, including in Edmonton, and work towards a future where biodiversity is maintained. I am passionate about invasive species and I want to share my passion!

6. Other relevant background or information.

I avidly use the resources created by AISC and respect the work that this council has done for invasive species awareness and management in Alberta. I enjoy working with the staff on your team and am excited for the opportunity to collaborate more on events and programming this season!

If elected to the AISC Board of Directors, I will adhere to the AISC's Code of Conduct Policy.



Please send your completed form to execdirector@abinvasives.ca

Board of Directors Nomination Form

Name: Bettina van Nieuwkerk

Email: bvann@clearwatercounty.ca

Phone: 1-780-781-3334

Mailing Address: PO Box 550, 4340-47 Ave Rocky Mountain House, Alberta

Job Title: Landcare Supervisor

Employer: Clearwater County

1. Identify the sector you would be representing:

- Government of Alberta
 Other Government (Indigenous, federal, municipal etc.)
 Industry
 Other (including individuals, academia, research, non-government organizations)

2. Describe your professional, volunteer and/or work experience, and describe how it relates to our work.

I have worked in municipal government for the past 10 years working with invasive species management from weeds to aquatic invasive species. I have worked on both the enforcement and public education side of it and have found it very rewarding seeing first hand the damage invasive species have on our natural environment and the impact appropriate management can have. I am the Central Region AAF representative of the provincial Bio-Control committee developed this past fall and also designated as the AAF representative with the AISC for the next 2 years. I also work closely with NGOs such as Trout Unlimited and have an appreciation and understanding of how delicate our native species are and why it is crucial that we limit the spread and introduction of invasive species throughout the province, whether invertebrates, plants or terrestrial pests.

3. (info for section below) I feel I have a broad perspective and understanding of invasive species locally, regionally and beyond. Having grown up on a grain and cow/calf farming operation in Central Alberta, along with being a dual citizen and seeing first hand destruction of invasive species globally along with my husband and I having a farming operation of our own I have first hand experience seeing the importance of public education and enforcement of invasive species and the impact they can have on our local native species and environment as well as economically.

3. What skills, experience or perspectives would be of particular value to the Alberta Invasive Species Council?

4. Describe any relevant experience you have involving non-profit Boards, charities, community groups, professional associations, etc.

I have not held any NGO Board positions in the past but am familiar with the governance and process of Boards, being directly involved with the ASB and various sub-committees. I do sit on our local Community Hall Board as the Secretary/Treasurer and am working towards my professional designations.

5. Tell us why you want to serve on our Board?

I have a personal interest in invasive species management and understand importance of EDRR in invasive species management and I want to help support and promote that where I can.

6. Other relevant background or information.

If elected to the AISC Board of Directors, I will adhere to the AISC's Code of Conduct Policy.



Please send your completed form to execdirector@abinvasives.ca