

Autumn Splendour 2015

Autumn leaves and crisp clean air at the Snow Valley ski club in Edmonton gave a welcoming embrace as we arrived to set up for our annual evening of conversation and celebration with Edmonton area members, supporters, and friends of AWA. Guests began arriving early, looking forward to enjoying great food, a little wine, and a chance for lively conversation with old friends and new acquaintances. It was an evening for conservation, folks we hadn't seen for some time were excited by some of the decisions

of the new provincial government but still concerned about the future for conservation in Alberta. Lively discussions took place as folks mingled and took the opportunity to enjoy a moment or two with people such as Richard Secord, our president, and AWA's amazing team of board members and staff. Volunteers raised funds for AWA with balloon pops, clinking of glasses and more than a little spirited bidding during the silent and live auctions. We reviewed AWA's 50 Years of Conservation and the positive impact we've had thanks to the

dedicated efforts of past and current staff alike. We talked optimistically about our hopes for the future. Guests lingered long after the bidding was over and the food was finished and left hopeful and supportive of AWA – the only conservation association working towards a network of protected landscapes throughout Alberta that will serve the full spectrum of wildlife and ecosystem needs and ensure we have a healthy, biodiverse environment in years to come.

Christyann Olson



AWA Board members Richard Secord and Clint Docken took charge of the ice-breaking contest we'll call "Last One Standing" – a label we hope we'll never have to use in describing Alberta's range of flora and fauna.



AWA was very pleased to have Linda Duncan, MP for Edmonton Strathcona, join us for Autumn Splendour. Linda is pictured here with Cliff Wallis, AWA's Secretary Treasurer



A few of the attractive and valuable items donated for the evening's silent auction.

Posy Johnston's vocals and guitar provided a delightful musical background for the evening's conversations



The crowd at the Edmonton Snow Club heard about some of the AWA's past achievements and future plans during the Autumn Splendour event.