

Executive Director's Report for AGM 2023—Reporting on the Prev. Yr. 2022

Dive Alberta 2022 Events: some events cancelled due to COVID. But note that over the years, many events have had to be cancelled due to wind storms, floods, forest fires and even blizzards. So we can now add Global Pandemic to the list. Fingers crossed that many of the new & exciting AB Dive Events/lake cleanups will take place in 2023. Both new events & old (many with amazing continuity) and a proud history of support of local diving here in Alberta! Some annual events are approaching more than 35 years—and some are very new!

Kudos: I'd like to thank the entire crew of hard working dive club/store volunteers who created & hosted their fun events & lake cleanups in 2022 and/or ably assisted at the AUC sponsored events & lake cleanups.

60th ANNIVERSARY! AUC celebrations of our 60th year as a non-profit association in Alberta were held at Divescapes 2022 in Edmonton (Oct 28, 29, 2022). Special guests attended & were honoured there. What an amazing achievement for our Council.

Communication – Dive Calendar, eNEWS, AUC Website & FACEBOOK informs our membership of current news & events. SO don't forget to JOIN US on AUC's Group FACEBOOK Page!! Social Media becomes more & more popular and is an easy tool to help keep in touch with active AB SDC (Scuba Dive Club) members, AB LDS (Local Dive Shops) and underwater hockey clubs.

Liaison - I look forward to continuing to represent the AUC and working with our businesses, government , etc.

Thankfully, the AUC has excellent rapport with the Jasper National Park & Banff Park's staff has developed during the Jasper Aquathon, Banff lake cleanups, plus Town of Canmore and Town of Sylvan Lake's Mayor, Councilors' & staff.

Thanks to many AB Scuba Clubs, LDS (local dive shops) & all AUC volunteers who helped out at 2022's AUC Dive Events/ Lake Cleanups—which were slowly getting back to normal after COVID.

Thanks to local UW hockey community leaders for their patience as we restart the "Intro to UW Hockey" program for interested schools in & near the Edmonton capital region.

Thanks to our Board Members for all their support and hard work over past 3 yrs. with many challenges due to COVID.

Thanks to our Divescapes Committee plus all the supportive Ticket Holders, Speakers, Exhibitors & Sponsors for all their patience & support. The AUC & Divescapes Committee will need to continue to develop & rebuild the Divescapes momentum again. But Divescapes 2022 was off to a good start and looking forward to Divescapes '24 (fingers crossed).

Resources - a small non-profit often lacks resources - both human and financial. The AUC relies heavily on its volunteers to operate, often resulting in volunteer fatigue and turnover. It's tough to maintain growth with the challenges of limited resources. BUT the AUC has been enriched greatly by the generous & often visionary volunteers & members - both past & present. Now continuing into the future, our volunteers will help make the AUC relevant to its members and Alberta's dive business community.

Challenges: After a few months spent recovering in 2022, I now look forward to the new challenges and growth that the upcoming year will bring. I hope to have the opportunity to report on the AUC's 2023 Year's activities next year for the benefit of all of underwater enthusiasts of Alberta.

Appreciation: My sincere thanks to every one of you: our many generous and committed AUC members, clubs, dive businesses, instructors, volunteers and AUC & Club Board members and their spouses, families, etc., for your sincere dedication and support.

Can't do it without you, our AUC Volunteers! With your enthusiastic involvement, we have and will continue to grow, to meet the ever-changing needs of Alberta's diverse underwater sports community.

Happy & Safe Diving,

Cathie McCuaig, Executive Director, Alberta Underwater Council

THANK YOU!

Executive Director's Report—An Over-view of AUC Stats for Prev. Yr. 2022

Summary of AUC Events' Attendance in 2022 (COVID YR. #3):

Event Name, Location & Sponsor/Host	2022	2021	2020	2019
AGM (under COVID in 2020, 2021, 2022)	15	17	17	20
Jasper Aquathon w/Athabasca River Race, Lake Cleanups & Dive Event	12	0	0	14
Dive Outfitter's July 1st UW Poker at Twin Lakes	-	0	0	41
Padi Women's Day of Diving Calgary	12	0		-
Also Ocean Sports at Twin	10	11	0	20
Also in Wainwright	12			
Wet & Wild Diving Society of Fort Mac Host: Cold Lake UW Rodeo & Lake Cleanup	14	14	12	22
Awesome Adventures' Bear-Grass Dive & Lake Cleanup: Waterton	?	8	0	12
Banff Lake Cleanup—or Quarry Lake, (Canmore in 2013-15,17,19), At Lake Minnie's Cliff Dive Site 2007 -12,16,18,21, 22	20	19	23	18
AUC's Sylvan Lake Cleanup (includes divers, shore support, paddlers)	cancelled	6	11	28
Alberta Adventure Divers' Wainwright's Pumpkin Dive & Lake Cleanup	30	33	28	22
The Dive Shop's Lake Chaparral Clue - Calgary	18	0	0	20
Ocean Sports' Narrow Lake Cleanup	0	0	0	23
UW Outlaws Pumpkin Dive	16	11	0	17
Divescapes '22: Gold Pass Holders + (1 st was held in 1995)	184	-	-	n/a
Totals: Divers +Shore Support/Friends/Families, etc. TOTAL	141 <u>184</u>	114	121	285
+DIVESCAPES TOTAL Estimated :	325		n/a	n/a

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Comparing stats over the years can be an interesting gauge of the health of an organization. It is not the only basis on which to judge the success of any given year, especially considering on how Alberta's weather, lake conditions, and now COVID-19 directly affect Dive Alberta Events & Lake Cleanups' attendance & therefore memberships, but it can be a useful tool.

AUC MEMBERSHIP STATS - as of Dec 31 yearly!

<i>Membership</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>2021</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>2019</i>	<i>Notes:</i>
General	233	228	336	525	
Discover Scuba- Youth	289	125	210	610	
UWH Intros –Youth	86	25	0	220	
<i>TOTALS:</i>	<i>608</i>	<i>378</i>	<i>546</i>	<i>1355</i>	

*KUDOS and our sincere GRATITUDE to all of the Volunteers
& Participants who assisted at the
AUC Dive Events, Lake Cleanups hosted in 2022
(please see stats for these events on next page!)*

*Thanks to Alberta Dive Centres & AB Scuba Clubs for continuing to add their events to the
AUC Dive Alberta event calendars and for their outstanding sponsorship & support for
"Discover Local AB Diving & U/W Lake Cleanups".*

*The grand total attendance is slowly increasing during Yr. 3 of the
COVID Global Pandemic with approx. 325 diver participants,
shore support, volunteers, plus additional friends & family in 2022*

Hope to see you underwater

Or meet you above the surface.....

At an upcoming Dive Alberta 2023 Event/Lake Cleanup

*PLUS: Mark your Calendars: next DIVESCAPES: Oct 18, 19, 2024
at Deerfoot Inn & Casino in Calgary*

Thank You!