

# Alberta Bird Record Committee

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## *Constitution*

1. The *Alberta Bird Record Committee* (hereafter the *Committee*) is an independent body answering to no particular group.
2. The objectives of the *Committee* are to:
  - a) Evaluate past and present records of rare birds for the province of Alberta, and to categorize them according to a set of established criteria;
  - b) Actively gather and store documentation on such records;
  - c) Publish periodic reports of the *Committee's* decisions on records it has considered;
  - d) Encourage the proper documentation of rare birds, and explain the value of good documentation;
  - e) Keep a species list for the province, with information on status;
  - f) Publish a list of species that need documentation, and revise it as needed.
3. The *Committee* will consist of seven voting members, including a chairperson and a secretary to be chosen by the members of the *Committee*. The chairperson is responsible for calling meetings of the *Committee* at least once per year to review records submitted to the *Committee*, for distributing copies of such records to members for adjudication, and for soliciting records from the birders throughout Alberta. The secretary is responsible for maintaining permanent records of meetings of the *Committee* and for preparing annual reports on *Committee* decisions and for arranging for publication of such reports as appropriate.
4. Members may serve on the *Committee* as long as they wish (but see article 5 below), to help ensure some stability to the membership. When vacancies arise, new members will be chosen by the continuing members of the *Committee* from a list of candidates prepared by the chair, after soliciting suggestions from *Committee* members, bird clubs, and knowledgeable individual birders. *Committee* members are to be chosen on the basis of their experience in the field, knowledge of relevant ornithological literature, access to collections and books, and other attributes or experience relevant to evaluation of bird records in Alberta. Efforts will be made to have regional representation from across the province.
5. A member may be removed from the *Committee* by a vote of five members if it is felt that he or she is not abiding by the *Principles of Adjudication*.
6. A minimum of one meeting must be held annually, and must be attended by at least five members (quorum).

7. The *Committee* will establish and maintain a set of *Principles of Adjudication* to guide the evaluation of records and a set of *Rules of Code Assignment for the Provincial List*.

8. Changes to the Constitution, the *Principles of Adjudication* and the *Rules of Code Assignment for the Provincial List* can be made on the basis of a minimum of five supporting votes and a maximum of one dissenting vote. Members unable to attend a meeting at which such changes are considered may provide a written proxy authorizing another member of the *Committee* to vote on their behalf.