



ALBERTA'S HUNTING LICENSE SYSTEM

The Facts

1. Alberta's automated licensing system is one of the best in North America. Licenses are offered 365 days a year on a 24-hour basis. Over 460 license issuers in 218 communities across Alberta sell hunting and fishing licenses.
2. The system is designed to serve multiple users:
 - The hunter who wants speed, accuracy and availability to purchase licenses.
 - The license issuer who wants to sell licenses accurately and efficiently.
 - The Conservation Officer who needs to ensure compliance with laws and regulations.
 - The Wildlife Manager who wants more effective management information.
3. Over 100 hunting and fishing licenses are available for purchase at all license vendors. Alberta has one of the most diverse numbers of game species in Canada.
4. The system has been designed to be fast and efficient. Sales volumes have peaked at 53 transactions per minute and 2,356 per hour on the busiest day. As many as 15,000 licenses have been sold in one day.
5. The automated paper-licensing system is more accurate and provides more information to the hunter, license issuer, Conservation Officer and Wildlife manager than did the old manual system. The paper hunting tags are less costly to produce than the old metal tags.
6. Future improvements being considered include: combining licenses and tags, reducing the size of licenses and Internet access to the system. The challenge is to continue to enhance the system to meet customer demands, while keeping costs low.

TIPS FOR SUCCESS:

1. **Be Prepared:** Information is available to help you. Read and understand the Alberta Guide to Hunting Regulations and the Alberta Hunting Draw booklet. Obtain further information from your local Alberta Fish and Wildlife office or visit the Alberta Government – Hunting in Alberta web site at www3.gov.ab.ca/srd/fw/hunting/.
2. **Carry your WIN card with you.** The WIN card allows the license issuer to "swipe" much of your application information from the card, which increases speed and accuracy. Over 10% of hunters and anglers do not bring their WIN cards when they purchase licenses. This creates delays for the license issuer and for other customers who are waiting to purchase.

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3. Know the specific license products you want to purchase. You may need to refer to the Alberta Hunting Draw booklet or the Alberta Guide to Hunting Regulations when purchasing special licenses.
4. Purchase your products from knowledgeable license issuers.
5. Before you leave the license issuer, read your license and tags carefully to ensure that the information is correct. The license and tags specifically identify the WIN number, the species, the WMU and special conditions associated with the license.
6. When hunting, remember to carry your hunting licenses and tags.

WHAT THE SYSTEM TELLS US:

1. There are over **98,000 licensed hunters** in Alberta annually.
2. The total number of **hunting licenses sold in 2001 was 250,012**.
3. The sale of **bowhunting permits increased by over 6%** from the previous year.
4. The number of **youth hunters decreased by 7.5%** from the previous year.
5. **Female hunter numbers have increased annually** and in 2001 represented 5% of the Alberta hunting population.
6. The number of people that participated in the **Moose partner license* increased from 319 in 2000 to 909 in 2001**. (* This license was introduced as a pilot in 2000 and therefore the availability of these licenses was restricted to resident hunters and certain WMU's.)
7. The **average age of an Alberta hunter is 42 years**.

KEY CONTACTS

**Alberta Sustainable
Resource Development
Fish and Wildlife Division**

Dial 310-0000 and ask for the nearest Fish and Wildlife office
Web-site: www3.gov.ab.ca/srd
Go to "Fish and Wildlife" then to "Hunting in Alberta".

RELM Call Centre
(License Issuers & WIN Card Information)

1-888-944-5494

**Canadian Firearms Centre
Federal Firearms Legislation**

1-800-731-4000
Web-site: www.canadianfirearms.com

HUNTING FOR TOMORROW FOUNDATION

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