The Alberta Mycological Society ... spreading fungal knowledge...

Mission Statement: "The Alberta Mycological Society is dedicated to the responsible, sustainable, and ecologically sound study and appreciation of fungi in Alberta and western Canada, with a commitment to scientific and educational activities, conservation of biodiversity and natural habitats, and fostering fellowship through continuous learning."

Vision Statement: "Our vision is to be a leading network in advancing the knowledge and conservation of fungi, fostering a deep appreciation for their ecological importance, and promoting responsible practices for the betterment of our environment and society."

Values:

- 1. **Scientific Rigor:** We uphold the highest standards of scientific inquiry, promoting evidence-based research and fostering a culture of curiosity and exploration.
- 2. **Environmental Stewardship:** We are committed to the responsible stewardship of our natural environment, recognizing the critical role fungi play in ecosystem health and sustainability.
- 3. **Education and Outreach:** We value the importance of education and outreach, striving to share knowledge and promote a deeper understanding of fungi among our members and the wider community.
- 4. **Conservation:** We actively support the conservation of biodiversity and natural habitats, acknowledging the interconnectedness of all living organisms.
- 5. **Responsibility:** We prioritize responsible practices in the collection, use, and consumption of mushrooms, ensuring safety and sustainability in all our interactions with fungi and nature.
- 6. **Collaboration:** We believe in the power of collaboration and partnership, working together with likeminded individuals and organizations to achieve common goals.
- 7. **Continuous Learning:** We embrace a culture of continuous learning, valuing fellowship and the exchange of ideas as essential components of our society.
- 8. **Diversity and Inclusivity:** We celebrate diversity in all its forms and strive to create an accessible, inclusive and welcoming community for all individuals interested in mycology.

Goals:

- 1. To continue to survey macrofungi across various locations in Alberta annually and to record these identified fungi in an ever-growing database; eventually identifying all macrofungi in Alberta with good knowledge of their distribution.
- 2. To create and maintain a comprehensive collection of macrofungi within the Alberta Mycological Society Fungarium, facilitating further study and research by both our members and the broader scientific community.
- 3. To provide ongoing opportunities for scientific exploration and educational engagement related to fungi, offering a platform for learning and discovery.
- 4. To highlight the integral role of fungi in maintaining ecosystem health and support the conservation of biodiversity and protection of natural habitats.

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- 5. To encourage and facilitate responsible, sustainable collection, and to promote safe preparation and consumption practices.
- 6. To champion responsible environmental stewardship practices, ensuring that our actions align with ecological responsibility.
- 7. To cultivate a sense of fellowship among our members through a shared passion for mycology and continuous learning opportunities.