



OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP SCHOOL AT GLENBOW RANCH

Glenbow Ranch Park Foundation is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the protection and preservation of Glenbow Ranch Provincial Park and other lands that possess important heritage and ecological value. Established in 2007 through the generosity of the Harvie Family, our Mission is to protect and promote Glenbow Ranch Provincial Park through engagement, education, collaboration and conservation.

Located just 15 minutes west of Calgary, Glenbow Ranch Provincial Park is an easily accessible oasis of fescue grassland, wetland, and riparian habitat, offering breathtaking views of the Rocky Mountains. As a working Ranch, the park is also home to over 200 cattle that graze the grasslands throughout the year. Glenbow Ranch Provincial Park is an incredible living showcase of the various habitats and wildlife found within Alberta, housing over 30% of the types of flora and fauna that can be found within the province.

Just as the Bow River winds through the landscape, the story of the people that have used this land winds through its rich history. From Indigenous Peoples camping by the river and hunting bison, through to homesteaders and the residents of the Town of Glenbow, many have called this land home. Today, we are able to see this history in incredible detail following archaeological research, and through a wealth of documents and photographs. The park houses TIPI rings,

remains of homesteader buildings, the Town of Glenbow General Store dating back to 1909, and is still a major route for the CPKC Railway, with the line through Glenbow having been originally built in 1883.

In partnership with Alberta Parks, Glenbow Ranch Park Foundation has a unique opportunity to protect, preserve and promote Glenbow Ranch Provincial Park. GRPF operates the visitor center, offers historical and bird watching park tours, school field trips, summer camps, and park talks, as well as conducting conservation programs and advocacy work to protect this incredible space.

Glenbow Ranch Park Foundation is proud to host Outdoor Leadership School in partnership with Campus Calgary. Through journaling, walking in stunning natural surroundings, learning about the rich history of the land, and getting hands on with artifacts, an immersive week at Outdoor Leadership School gives students a unique opportunity to slow down, to listen, feel, and to look beyond the obvious. As we ask, what connects us to nature, how do we balance the needs of growing communities whilst preserving natural spaces, how can the past help to shape the future, and as future stewards, what can we do to raise awareness of and preserve this special place for generations to come?

Glenbow Ranch Provincial Park is truly a gift to the people of Alberta and beyond.