

Alberta Square and Round Dance Federation (ASRDF) report  
Canadian Square and Round Dance Society AGM, Fredericton, NB  
July 2022  
Submitted by: Bud Sedman, President, ASRDF

As in every area, there has been no dancing in person for almost two years due to COVID. Lorne Smith from Calgary has been calling for square dancing over Zoom for the two years. There have been some other callers that have done some Zoom calling as well. Mary and Bruce Nelson from Edmonton have cued for Round dancing over Zoom as well.

The 52<sup>nd</sup> annual ASRDF convention was to be held in Edmonton in Sept 2021, but the week before it was to happen, it was cancelled due to COVID. The 52<sup>nd</sup> convention is now known as the convention that never happened but made a profit. Some registrations were donated by dancers to help cover the expenses incurred. Some registrations were transferred to the 53<sup>rd</sup> convention and some registrations were refunded. In the end, the convention covered expenses and had a profit. We thank the 52<sup>nd</sup> convention committee that worked so hard for at least three years to try and make it happen.

The 53<sup>rd</sup> annual ASRDF convention will be held in Lacombe on Sept 3 to Sept 5, 2022. It will be hosted by Calgary and District Square and Round Dancers Association. The number of registrants at this time is 110 which is low for an Alberta convention. We are hoping that a total of, at least, 150 registrants will attend. We have Steve Edlund from Surrey, BC and Tom Dakers from Calgary calling for the Friday night Trail In dance.

The 54<sup>th</sup> ASRDF convention will be held in Lacombe on Sept 4 to Sept 6, 2023 and it will be hosted by the Central Dance Clubs (Zone 4).

The ASRDF committee usually meets three times a year. Since March 2020, our meetings have been held by a telephone conference call or a Zoom meeting. This saves travel time and the cost of travel for the Federation. We will probably continue to hold meetings on Zoom in the future.

Dancing has been slow to start again after COVID. Some clubs danced outdoors in the summer of 2021. Some clubs tried to start dancing in the fall of 2021 but with taking precautions for COVID. The winter and spring of 2022 saw more clubs try to start dancing. We estimate that 40-60% of the dancers will be returning to dancing. This means we need to really promote the dancing to get new dancers out.

This spring, we formed a committee with representatives from Edmonton, Red Deer and Calgary to discuss the promotion of dancing through social media. The results of this committee have been to look at revamping the ASRDF website to be more user-friendly to new dancers. We will also have a Marketing company help with promotion through social media. We are hopeful that this will help promote our activity in the community.

We look forward to the new dance season starting in the fall.