



# Alberta 4-H Bison Project



Member Level Three



## Alberta 4-H Bison Project – Member Level Three

### The 4-H Motto

“Learn to Do By Doing.”



### The 4-H Pledge

I pledge:

My **Head** to clearer thinking,  
My **Heart** to greater loyalty,  
My **Hands** to larger service,  
My **Health** to better living,  
For my club, my community and my country.

### The 4-H Grace

(Tune of Auld Lang Syne)

We thank thee, Lord, for blessings great  
on this, our own fair land.

Teach us to serve thee joyfully,  
with head, heart, health and hand.

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#### 4-H Branch

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Check out our web site at <http://www.4h.ab.ca>

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# Welcome to the 4-H Bison Project

**Howdy!**

Welcome back! We're excited that you chose to return as a member of the 4-H Bison project. We hope you have a great time this year making new friends, taking part in 4-H activities, and learning more about bison and their native value!

## **To complete your project year in 4-H bison, you must**

- Complete four to six of the units per club year of the manual material
- Take part in at least 70% of club activities
- Do a communication project
- Complete a record book
- Take part in your achievement day
- Have a lot of FUN!

## **About the bison project material**

Congratulations! By now you have learned a great deal about bison and their value. We hope that you have been able to keep all of your past manual information and updates all together in one place. Now you will have the opportunity and challenge of working through the information in this manual. As you know, this industry continues to evolve, and as a result new information is constantly coming in. This is your third and final member manual. You are well on your way to having your very own personalized "Bison Handbook". In the years to come, this book will become a valuable keepsake, as you continue to witness the progress of this growing industry.

Because you have completed the other manuals, and you have a good understanding of the basics, your role as a senior member is going to change this project year. The activities covered in this manual will become more involved and will require greater effort than the past manual activities.

## About your record book

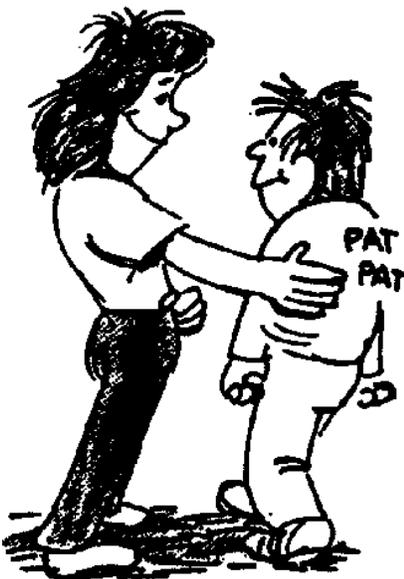
Depending on the project you wish to do, you will have a choice in what record book you can complete. If you decide that you would like to do a project involving the Exploring Bison you may wish to use a craft, generic record book available at the provincial 4-H office, or create your own record book that explains your project from the beginning of the 4-H year through to your achievement. If you wish to create a record book of your own you need to include the components that are listed at the back of this chapter.

If you choose to do the Bison Herd Observations project, you can use the Alternative Livestock Record book to complete this project. All applicable information would need to be completed in this book by the date specified by the club.

The Carcass Bison project is another project that you may wish to create your own record book for, or you could use the generic record book depending on the nature of your specific project. Once again, if you choose to create your own record book for this project, please refer to be last page of this chapter for a guideline of required topics.

## Achievement day requirements

For achievement of this project, you may be required to prepare a display of your information depending on the individual project you have selected to do. This may be done using pictures, words or even demonstrations. Provincially, you are strongly encouraged to attend the Wild Rose Show and Sale held in Camrose. This show will provide all members the opportunity to meet other youth from across the province, and will teach you valuable skills needed in the industry. For more information you can contact the Bison Centre of Excellence web page at [www.bisoncentre.com](http://www.bisoncentre.com) or phone toll free using the rite line at 310-0000 then coding in 780-986-4100.



## Other opportunities in 4-H

Your bison project is only a small part of 4-H. There are many fun and exciting activities that are offered at club, district, regional and provincial levels. These activities will provide you with the opportunity to attend social events, where you can meet other people your age. Clubs are encouraged to invite special guests, plan fun activities, tours and trips. Your district and regional 4-H councils may sponsor workshops, camps and exchanges as well as fun events. At the provincial level, members are encouraged to attend camps, shows and development programs. Many scholarships are also available to 4-H members continuing on with their education. You deserve to get the very most you can out of the entire 4-H program!!





**Activity**

## The ultimate challenge!

Explain what you believe to be the most important points of the bison advantage, and why? Remember, everyone has their own beliefs about what the bison advantage is.

Based on everything that you have learned up to now, why do you think that the preservation of the bison as an agricultural industry is important. Your challenge is to prepare a short 5 – 10 minute activity, presentation or story about the “bison advantage”. You will be responsible for presenting this activity at your club meeting to introduce others to the bison advantage. Have fun with it and the others will too!



I have to think of a new and exciting way to get the new members ready for the project year.

How can I spark creativity and teach the importance of the bison industry?

If you are having difficulties thinking about what you can do, talk it over with your leader, family and friends. What is one thing that you have really found interesting in other years, perhaps you can share that with the club.

Have fun!!!!

## **Create your own record book**

**Congratulations on challenging yourself to complete a project that will be unique to you!**

### **Why do you keep records in 4-H?**

- To record information about your bison project.
- So you can see the actual costs involved in completing your project.
- To learn how to keep accurate records.
- To record your club activities and other activities.

### **What is involved in a good record book?**

- Completeness – a good record book has all the required information completed.
- Accuracy – your information and costs should be accurate.
- Neatness – neatness is important in your record book. Because you are working on your record book throughout the year, always do your best to keep your book neat.
- Personality – This is your record book. Be original and personal in the information you keep in your book. Add photographs, newspaper and magazine articles on you, your club, your project area and 4-H in general. Make your book unique. It will be an excellent record of your project and the 4-H year!
- What is needed to create your own record book?

**In order to create your own record book you will need to include a few essential components.**

### **About me**

- Full name
- Address
- Phone number
- Age
- Number of years in 4-H
- Why did you join 4-H?
- What do you hope to achieve this year?

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### About my club

- Club name
- Number of members
- How long has the club been operating
- 4-H district that you belong to
- 4-H region that you belong to
- Club Leader(s) – names and phone numbers
- Club Executive – President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Club Reporter, Historian, Other Positions.

### About your project

- Explain what your project is.
- Set up a list of objectives and goals that you wish to accomplish.
- What is the best thing you have done with your project over the year?
- What would you like to do if you had the opportunity?
- What techniques and skills did you need to learn or did you learn to do this project?
- What did you like the best about completing this project?

### Equipment and supplies

- List all equipment and supplies you personally own or obtained to do your project. As accurately as possible determine what the real cost of doing your project might be.
- Record all the costs you incurred for this project.
- Remember to record dates of purchase, item and cost.
- Pictures from your club year.
- Beginning of project year, during club year photos, fun times, whatever you think will help you to explain your project and club year to others.
- Record of Your Club's Activities
- Keep a record of all the meetings and activities your club has had this year. Provide details and don't forget to mention any special responsibilities you had.
- Remember to record the date of the meeting or activity.

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### Project story

- Write a summary of your 4-H year and project just to summarize everything that you did. You can include photos and news articles, etc. (If you do use news articles remember to reference and date them.)
- Congratulations you have created your own special record book that is completely unique to you and your project!!!

