



C. Neil Downey, Chairman of the Board, Ducks Unlimited Canada



Neil Downey, CA was elected as DUC's 38th president in June 2007, and assumed the position of chairman of the board in June 2009.

Neil received his CA designation in 1971 and founded the firm Downey Swainson Roth LLP, located in Red Deer, Alberta. He has brought a wealth of leadership experience in business and the non-profit sector to his positions on the DUC board and with other conservation associations.

Neil has been a DUC volunteer for nearly 30 years. In 1981 he was instrumental in founding the Red Deer committee, serving as chair in its second year. He served as zone and district chair before becoming Alberta provincial chair from 1988-1990. During his tenure as Alberta's provincial volunteer chair, Neil also served on the national board of directors. He was re-elected to the board in 1995.

A member of the Red Deer Fish and Game Association for more than 30 years, Neil has served in a number of different capacities, including association auditor. Neil's commitment to conservation and stewardship truly begins at home, where he and wife Marilyn have devoted 200 acres of their Red Deer area farm to conservation efforts in the aspen parkland.

In 2008, Neil was named as a recipient of the Order of the Bighorn Award, Alberta's most distinguished wildlife conservation award, recognizing his long-standing commitment to conserving wildlife habitat in the province.

Neil has many interests, including horses and antique automobiles. He is an avid outdoorsman, spending much of his leisure time in the pursuit of hunting and fishing opportunities.