

# More Birds Around Alberta

## Common Nighthawk



A body about the size of a robin, but wings much longer angled and pointed. Look for a white bar across the wings in flight.

Not really hawks at all, they feed on insects in flight. They perch on the ground or lengthwise along branches. Listen for a nasal BUZZZZZ.

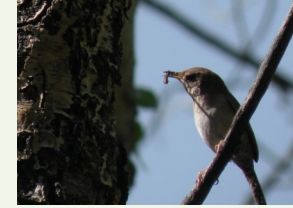
## Great Blue Heron



Great for sure! The largest and heaviest heron we have with a wingspan approaching 2 m.

Elegant grey blue colours overall. A silent and patient hunter of fish, amphibians and invertebrates.

## House Wren



Smaller than a chickadee, but big in voice with a loud, varied, rattling, bubbling song.

They are streaky grey brown overall with long slender bills for reaching into crevices. Common in areas of dense brush and woods.

## Merlin



A medium sized falcon with a streaky breast, white bands on a black tail and solid brown or grey on the back.

Like all falcons it is streamlined with pointed wings and is a fast flyer. It hunts mostly small birds, but will also hunt dragonflies on the wing.

## White-breasted Nuthatch



Chunky with a stubby tail, black head white front and blue grey back, a little bigger than a chickadee.

Look for it climbing head-first down tree trunks as it looks in cracks and crevices for insects and seeds.

## Ring-billed Gull



Seagulls are all the same! Not really and this one has the perfect name. Look for the black ring around its bill.

The most common gull in North America found on all types of water bodies, but also in farmers fields or restaurant parking lots.

## Ruffed Grouse



A chicken-like ground bird named for the black neck ruff of the males seen when displaying.

Known for the thump-thump-thump drumming of males in the spring. They can be found in most wooded habitats, but are not common.

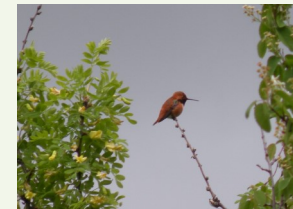
## Yellow Warbler



A common and wide-spread warbler in Alberta. Similar in size to a chickadee, but with a stout, pointed bill.

Generally bright yellow overall, males may show reddish streaks on the breast while young birds may be more drab.

## Rufous Hummingbird



Males are reddish orange overall with a iridescent red throat patch, females show more green on the back.

Magical flying jewels, hummingbirds are tiny, but amazing creatures with an incredible array of physical abilities.