The Rural Alberta Advantage

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THOMAS SCHMIDT & ALEX HILSENFELD

Many Rural Alberta Advantage songs have a common theme: the nostalgia of growing up with old friends and lovers and figuring out how the past shapes us. While the band's musical themes are typically reflective in nature, the three-piece formed something entirely new when they first came together, with nothing to rely on except their chemistry. Fortunate for music connoisseurs and back-up singer Amy Cole connected instantly with drummer Paul Baresat and lead singer Nils Edensjö when the three found each other rather randomly in the Tempest Tavern.

"We all got involved in this open mic night at this place called the Win-chester in Toronto, which is now a Tim Hortons," Cole explains. "Nils started coming because he was a Fan of mine and Paul came in that Paul and I saw. We once played a show with just the three of us and it just really worked."