



# SAASE News

The Newsletter of Saskatchewan Association of Agricultural Societies and Exhibitions

www.saase.ca

## Colonial Days Goes Extreme with Bulls and Bikes

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Over 3,000 people packed the Lloydminster Exhibition grandstand for Newcart's Canadian Extreme ABBI Bulls & Bikes Show! The show was one of SAASE's latest Venture Projects and was a huge success.

This incredible event combines the daring stunts of dirt bike riders with an amazing bull bucking event! This unique show encourages you to root for the bull, not the bull-rider as ABBI Canada (American Bucking Bull Inc) is choosing the best of these bulls to buck at the Calgary Stampede! The Futurity Rides took place in the afternoon. The 2 year old bulls had dummy riders placed on them for a 4 second period. The bulls were each given a score based on how they performed. The main show took place in the evening as the full grown bulls bucked real riders. The bucking bulls alternated with the extreme freestyle riders, who jumped the bucking chutes while performing some unbelievable stunts. Top bull riders from the Canadian circuit competed trying to ride some of the rankest bulls that Canadian rodeo contractors had to offer. The bulls clearly won, with only 2 qualifying rides taking place. In between the bull riding 3 of the worlds top freestyle motorcycle riders thrilled

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## President's Message: Jocelyn Ritchie

Hey all - hope everyone has had an excellent fair season. The weather has been hit in miss in some areas, but it certainly looks like everyone is gearing up for harvest.

It has once again been a very busy and exciting summer for SAASE. The Food for Saskatchewan-Food for the World provincial agricultural education program and Provincial Safety day programs continue to evolve as they each grow with the development of new partnerships. The agricultural education modules made many stops throughout the summer and I would certainly encourage any Agricultural Society that wants a great educational display to talk to the office and get it scheduled.

A huge thanks goes out to all of our Agricultural Societies who hosted Safety Days this year. It is because of you that our Safety day program has become one of the biggest and best in Canada. Working with youth has always been a priority of our Agricultural Societies and this great program is just another way that our Agricultural Societies continue to show leadership within our communities. Thanks to all of our partners on the program for continuing to show their support - the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture, SaskPower, Progressive Agriculture, Community Initiatives Fund (CIF), Farm Credit Canada and the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association. If you are not hosting a safety day and are interested there is a safety day coordinators workshop taking place October 12th in Regina you should attend. The workshop is a great place to learn what you need to do to host a safety day, as well as what resources are available to you. Through our partnership with the CIF - all the expenses are paid for those wanting to attend. Give Glen a call at the office if you are interested.

The Venture Project program provides seed money for new events, as well as enhancing existing events. There are a number of projects highlighted in September's newsletter. The SAASE Board of Directors has put together a committee to review the Venture Program and recommend changes. We will be taking a look at it over the next few months, with any changes being highlighted at our convention in Weyburn. Our convention will be taking place in Weyburn February 23rd - 24th, with the board of Directors working with the host committee on this year's program. Peavey Mart will once again be sponsoring our key note speaker - we have had some excellent ones over the last couple of years. The SaskEnergy Volunteer Champion Awards will again be taking place at the luncheon on Saturday the 24th. Our volunteers are what make our Ag Societies the great organizations they are - nominate that special volunteer for the SaskEnergy volunteer Champion Awards. I look forward to seeing everyone in Weyburn.

The SAASE Clark and Anne Lewis/Dalgliesh Family Scholarship program continues to help out young people throughout Saskatchewan. Our 4 outstanding scholarship recipients have been announced and their stories are included in the newsletter. Congratulations to all of the participants and winners at this year's 4 H Provincial Judging competition, which was held in Prince Albert.

Talk to you in December - have a great harvest and fall.

*Jocelyn Ritchie - President*

The Newsletter of Saskatchewan Association of Agricultural Societies and Exhibitions Inc.

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SAASE Newsletter is printed quarterly and emailed out in February, May, August and November. Additional copies are available from SAASE Office.

Contributions to SAASE Newsletter are welcome and will be included as space allows.

The SAASE Office is located in the Canada Centre complex at EVRAZ Place (Regina Exhibition Park) grounds, next door to the Saskatchewan Livestock Association office on the 2nd floor. Visitors are always welcome—give Glen a call at 565-2121 and drop in.



the crowds by performing stunts while jumping over the bull riding chutes.

This project is a three year initiative, with the end result being the first of its kind in Canada - The Canadian Heritage Classic and Futurity. This rough stock event is directly tied to putting Canadian bucking bull stock contractors on the top of their industry. There is an educational component to the program as well as the obvious entertainment. During the show both the rural and urban sectors that were in the stands were

told the story and history of Canadian bucking bull development. Video screens on each side arena, as well as the announcer told the story, as well as showing stats on both the bulls and riders.

Years 1 and 2 of the event will be called Canada's Extreme Bikes and Bulls, and will lead up to the Canadian Heritage Classic Futurity in year 3. In 2019 there will be well over 100 bulls bucking in the competition and approximately \$100,000.00 in prize money. The event will be the highest

paying bull futurity in Canada, putting the Canadian Heritage Classic and Futurity on the map North America-wide. The top 3 bulls will automatically be given a spot in the bullriding finals held in Las Vegas each year - this has never been done before.

With the success of the first year - the Lloydminster Exhibition, stock contractors, riders and fans are already looking forward to the Extreme Bulls and Bikes competition that will be happening at next year's Colonial days in Lloydminster



# SAASE Ag Education at the Fairs

The Food for Saskatchewan - Food for the World, SAASE Agricultural Education modules were on the road this summer at Saskatchewan Fairs. Over the course of the winter and spring the displays visited agricultural education events such as Agribition in Regina, various Pizza Farms, Ag in the City in Saskatoon, Discover the Farm in Swift Current and the Prince Albert agricultural education program. This summer the displays visited Territorial Days in North Battleford, Colonial Days in Lloydminster and the Regina Exhibition. This fall the displays

will be at Harvest Showdown in Yorkton, as well as Canadian Western Agribition.

As we continue to move forward on the project there continues to be opportunities to develop new partnerships and new modules. The display is telling the story of agriculture and is a great compliment to the current agricultural education programs being run. SAASE has been working with CN on an interactive display that will show the importance of the railway and agriculture, as well

as an interactive train safety display that will be used at safety days. Look for an announcement when this exciting display has been completed and on the road.

Agricultural education of our youth is critical to the future of agriculture in Canada. As fewer and fewer people are involved with agriculture, the understanding of how our food is produced and brought to market has never been so important. The youth of today, will be our leaders of tomorrow making decisions on agriculture. It is



important that factual information on agriculture is brought to our youth and communities to ensure that everyone understands and appreciates the importance of the agricultural industry and the companies connected to it.

People need to know where our food comes from, as well as the connections that companies have to not only the production of food, but the transportation and end sale of agricultural products. A healthy agricultural industry supports communities and the economy of Saskatchewan. Youth also need to be made aware of the careers that are available within agriculture. This mobile display certainly contributes to making our youth more aware of the agricultural industry in Canada



# SAASE Announces Scholarship Recipients

The recipients of this year's Clark and Anne Lewis/West Coast Amusements Dlagleish Family memorial scholarships have been announced. The selection committee had a very difficult job this year, as there were a tremendous number of exceptional young people that applied for the scholarships. SAASE would like to thank all of the Agricultural Societies that submitted applications, as well as Bob and Wendy Hauser from West coast Amusements for their continued support of our scholarship program. Below are our recipients for this year.

**Rachel Erickson – nominated by the Maryfield Agricultural Society**



Rachel will be attending the University of Saskatchewan in the faculty of Agriculture and Bioresources – she will be pursuing a career in feed and nutrition for cattle. Rachel attended the Maryfield High School, and in addition to very high grades she was very involved in extra-curricular activities. She has been involved in volleyball, curling, badminton and track and field. In both track and field and curling she competed provincially. She was also an active member of the yearbook committee and sat on the student council.

In addition to being very involved at school Rachel is also very busy outside of school. She loves animals and has been helping on the family farm since she was very young working with cattle and horses. During calving season she assists her father with checking up on the cows, as well birthing and tagging of the cattle. She also helps out on the grain side by driving the grain truck. She has been very involved with competitive curling – she has competed in nine provincial championships – winning two, as well as representing Saskatchewan at both a national and international level. She has been involved with the “Little Rockers” program at the local curling club. She has worked with instructing younger children for the past five years, as well as assisting with youth clinics.

She also spends a great deal of time volunteering in the community. She helps with getting the ice put in the curling rink in the fall, as well as helping out in the kitchen of the concession and working to help set up for Rec Board fundraisers. She has also been involved in the local Maryfield Agricultural Society Fair – where she has been an exhibitor, as well as a volunteer. With everything that Rachel does, she has also found time to work at the Arlington Hotel the past two years, as well as Hogarth Lawn and Garden doing landscape work.

**Luke Wyatt – nominated by the Broadview Agricultural Society**

Luke Wyatt was nominated by the Broadview Agricultural Society and will be attending the University of Regina in the

fall in the College of Kinesiology. Upon completion of university Luke will be pursuing a career in sports psychology.

Luke was very active at the Broadview High School – in addition to being on the honour roll in each of his four years he was very active in school activities. He has been president – vice president on the student council, as well as sports rep and on the WE Day committee and volunteered at the school concession. He has been on the school's volleyball, badminton, track and field and football teams. As quarterback, he was named Most Valuable Offensive Player. Luke also participated in junior drama for three years. Luke has played hockey for the past 15 seasons, as well as playing baseball/softball for eight seasons.

In addition to being very active at school, Luke has volunteered extensively in the community. He has helped out at the many community suppers hosted in Broadview, as well as volunteering at his church. He has also volunteered for the MS Society at both their bike tours and walks. He was a member of the Broadview 4 H club for 5 years – participating in projects, fundraising and public speaking. He has also participated in the Broadview Horticulture show



and the Fall Fair. This past winter he volunteered at the Melville Canadian tire with their First Shift Initiative by fitting young people with their first set of hockey equipment. He attended the Lumsden Beach Camp Leadership Training program and volunteered at the camp. He was then hired as a staff member to work at the camp. In addition to working at the camp, Luke has worked at the family farm for years.

**Emily Letendre – nominated by the Prince Albert Exhibition**

Emily Letendre was nominated by



the Prince Albert Exhibition and will be attending the University of Saskatchewan in the fall. She plans on getting a degree in Animal Science and becoming a veterinarian specializing in livestock.

Emily has been an honor roll student at St. Mary High School in Prince Albert over the past 4 years and she has been very active within her school and community. She has been very involved as Stage Manager with Upstage Productions Theatre Company at her school over the past 4 years, as well as being on the Student Leadership Council.

Emily has been very involved volunteering

outside in the community. She has been involved with 4 H for the past 8 years - president of the club for the past 5 years and district president for 2. She loves riding horses and has helped out by volunteering at the Prince Albert Exhibition as a ring steward, as well as volunteering at their agricultural education day teaching over 400 students about horses and horse safety. Because of her love of animals, Emily has volunteered at Park Range Vet Services for the past 3 years to not only help them out, but to also prepare herself for becoming a vet. She has also volunteered at the Spruce Home Activity Centre where she has helped with setups and tear downs for community suppers and other events.

In addition to her activities at school, as well as all the community volunteering she does, Emily has found time to work at Lammle's Western Wear and tack since 2015, where she is the longest serving employee at the Prince Albert store.

**Lane Bexson - nominated by the Lloydminster Exhibition**

Lane was nominated by the Lloydminster Exhibition and will be attending the University of Saskatchewan in the fall in the Engineering Program. Upon graduation Lane plans on getting a job as a Civil Electrical engineer.

Throughout his career at Lashburn High School - in addition to being on the Excellence Academic list every year Lane has also been very involved in school activities. During his school career Lane participated in numerous school sports including - badminton, curling, volleyball, rugby, cross country running, He was nominated for student



of the year in 2015 and 2016 - winning the award in 2016.

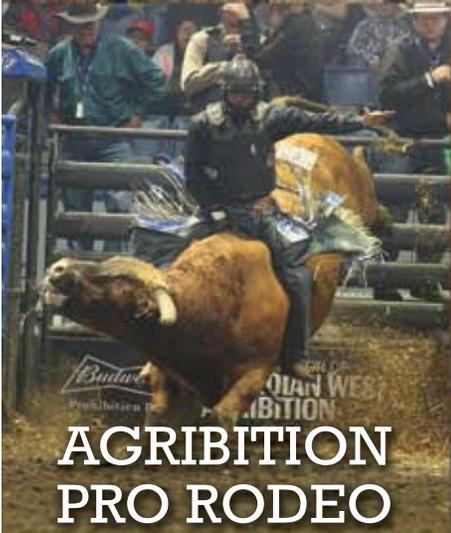
In addition to being very involved at school, Lane has also been very busy in the community. He has volunteered for many community events including Telemiracle, community food drives, volunteering at hockey games and town clean ups. He has also volunteered with the Lloydminster Exhibition during their fair. Lane has also played minor hockey in for 12 years and curled at the Lashburn Curling Club.

Lane has also found time in his busy schedule to work a number of jobs. He has worked with the Lloydminster Exhibition, and at Sweetheart Pollinators. He drove a special needs student in 2015 to and from school and to the clinic in Maidstone. With all that Lane is involved in he has also managed his time to be able to look after his special needs sister daily after school.



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# Abernethy Celebrates 110th Anniversary

Saskatchewan's Agricultural Societies have been meeting places for our communities and integral in making our communities better places to live. In this issue of the newsletter we have two Agricultural Societies celebrating significant anniversaries. Abernethy is celebrating 110 years and Fairmede 125 years. Each is a testament to the dedication of our volunteers across Saskatchewan who work so hard to make our province the great place it is to live. The article below was submitted by the Abernethy Agricultural Society.

Abernethy Agricultural Society celebrated its 110th anniversary and Canada's 150th year of confederation with its annual ABERFAIR on Friday, July 28. With a record of never being rained out, ABERFAIR was once again opportunity for several hundred people to gather on a +30° C. day.



An all-day horse show, pancake breakfast, over 1100 inside exhibits from Labrador to BC, 30+ trade-show exhibitors, a pet show in its 4th decade, over 130 children and adults participating in races and Highland games, a BBQ pork supper, and fireworks were part of the day. New inside classes included honey, bannock, gluten-free bread, and decorated cakes celebrating the 110th.



The roots of the Aber Ag Society began in the mid-1880s in the community of Pheasant Forks northeast of Abernethy. Descendants of some of those early directors and new residents of the community and many others 'in-between' are all part of the huge volunteer contingent who make the Aber Fair and Aber Dinner Theatre happen each year.

Celebration cakes, the singing of O Canada, and a presentation to honour the 110 years by SAASE Executive Director Glen

Duck added to Fair Day. A 3-day weekend with events planned by other community groups included a classic car show, family dance, and ecumenical church service.

Like all small Agricultural Societies, Abernethy ponders their future yet the enthusiasm by young volunteers present on the 110th indicates that energy abounds in the midst of significant changes in rural Saskatchewan. Nurturing those younger volunteers and responding to contemporary possibilities while maintaining important historical aspects of the Society are all part of the challenge of the future. For more information, check out: <http://www.aberagsociety.sk.ca>.

~ Submitted by Catherine Barnsley, Pet Show & Races Director



**Glen Duck from SAASE presents Chad and Tanya Penny and Edna McCall the SAASE and SaskEnergy Anniversary Awards**



# Prince Albert Hosts 4 H Provincial Judging

SAASE and SAASE's Agricultural Societies are committed to Saskatchewan youth and agriculture in Saskatchewan, and as part of that each year SAASE's Agricultural Societies host numerous 4 H events across Saskatchewan. In addition to achievement days, sales, and other programs, 6 Agricultural Societies host Regional 4 H Judging competitions, with the winners moving on to the provincials, and then a provincial team being picked to move on to the national competition at Agribition.





The 6 Agricultural Societies hosting regional shows are - Prince Albert, Swift Current, Lloydminster, Saskatoon, Whitewood and Weyburn. Each of those locations in turn hosts the provincial competition, with this year's taking place in Prince Albert, hosted by the Prince Albert Exhibition. Below is a summary of the competition, which was submitted by the Prince Albert Exhibition.



The Saskatchewan Provincial 4-H judging competition was hosted this year at the Prince Albert Exhibition on Saturday, August 19. There were competitors from the six regions in the province. The competitors judged; rabbits, beef heifers (with orals), dairy heifers (with orals), light horses (with orals) and replacement ewes (with orals). The competitors also did a written exam.

The competitors also did a written exam.

Here is the Saskatchewan Team that will be competing at Agribition - Doug Sroka, Megan Wasden, Shelby Evans, Ariana Verbonac (Mulder), Kolton Yasienuik, Tyler Yasienuik, James Pruum, Wyatt Dyck and Blythe Clemence. The overall high point was Doug Sroka. The alternates this year are - Clayton Neudorf, Wyatt Millar, Mikayla Blaschuk and Kennedi Libke. A special thanks to all of the volunteers, livestock suppliers and judges that took time from their busy schedules to help host this event.

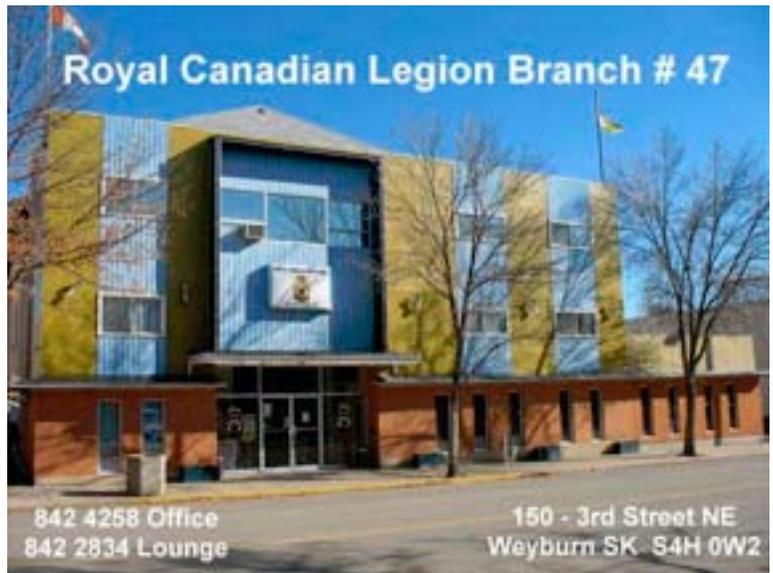
Judges: Katie Wright, Brennin Jack, Art Pruum, Clayton & Janelle Franc, Donna Nagy, Sara Grassick, Donna Furi and Barry Swanson

Stock Suppliers: Alex Manson, Art Pruum, Brennin Jack, Katie Wilson, Clayton & Janelle Franc.



## 2018 SAASE Convention in Weyburn

The SAASE 2018 Convention and Annual Meeting will be taking place in Weyburn - February 23-24, 2018 - hosted by the Weyburn Agricultural Society. The convention will take place at the Weyburn Royal Canadian Legion Hall - 150 3rd St. NE. Our host hotel this year is the Weyburn Microtel - 88 Grace St, Weyburn, SK S4H 3N9. The rate for the rooms is \$119 per night + taxes and you must book your room by January 21, 2018. The phone number is (306) 842-5700.



The past 2 years SAASE has offered a pre-convention workshop on the Friday - with registration for the convention happening Friday night. We had such tremendous feedback with the social media session done last year that we looked to see how we could expand it this year.

Christina Franc - CAFE's Executive Director, who did the session last year - will be leading our Friday workshop. Christina will go much more in depth on what social media can do for your event. The focus of the workshop will be hands on, with those attending leaving the workshop with a social media plan/campaign that they will be able to use for their event. This is a workshop that you will not want to miss - it is free with your convention registration, but you must register in advance. Look for the registration forms in the convention packages when they come out.

SAASE has been working with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture on getting SAASE members to get a Premises ID number if they host livestock on their grounds over the course of the year. At our convention this year a representative from the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture will be doing a presentation on the program. If you have livestock on your grounds you will want to make sure that you take in this workshop to find out what will be required.

Our past two conventions we have given delegates an opportunity to network and interact with each other by having round table discussions. With numerous topics, delegates have been able to talk to others about what is working - where there have been challenges and what other Agricultural Societies have been doing. We will again be incorporating round table discussions into the convention.

The convention packages with all the information will be out in the fall, but make sure that you keep the dates open for this year's SAASE convention in Weyburn - February 23 - 24.



# SaskEnergy Volunteer Champion Awards

The SaskEnergy Volunteers Champion Awards will be taking place at 12 noon on Saturday February 24 in Weyburn at the SAASE Convention and Annual Meeting. SaskEnergy have been the presenting partner on our awards for a number of years, and SAASE would like to thank them for their continued involvement and the support of all the great volunteers that we have across the province.

The SaskEnergy Volunteer Champion Awards categories include Volunteer of the Year, Honorary Life Membership, SAASE Achievement of the Year and the Agricultural Society Anniversary Award. The applications for nominations are being sent out with the Director's Reports form in the next few weeks. The criteria for the various awards are as follows:

## **HONOURARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP:**

This honorary award is based on a member's lifetime contribution to the local society, to the community in which they live, to the Province of Saskatchewan and, where applicable, to the national scene.

## **VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR:**

Presented to an individual volunteer or a volunteer couple, associated with a member society, who has/have made a significant contribution to the society.

- High priority will be given to leadership qualities, innovative ideas, and exceptional service to the society.
- Involvement or participation in agricultural society related activity.
- Knowledge of and dedication to the agricultural society industry.

## **ACHIEVEMENT OF THE YEAR:**

An award presented to the agricultural society organization who is deemed to have achieved the most significant achievement during the year. Achievement is defined as a special accomplishment such as :

- the introduction of a notable new idea or concept;
- a major facilities or grounds development;
- dealing with extreme adversity;
- involvement with industry partners;
- demonstrated community support for the organization

## **AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY ANNIVERSARY YEAR AWARD**

- Awarded to an agricultural society celebrating a significant anniversary year milestone. Agricultural societies wishing to be recognized will fill out the form in the Awards package being sent out and send it to the SAASE office. A certificate will be presented to that agricultural society at the annual convention.

SAASE President Jocelyn Ritchie says that, "SAASE would like to thank SaskEnergy for their continued support of our Agricultural Societies through the Volunteer Champion Awards, as it reaffirms SaskEnergy's commitment to not only SAASE, but also to the communities and our volunteers that our Agricultural Societies represent. The support for this program and our convention helps SAASE make sure that we are able put on a first class awards ceremony. Our volunteers are our lifeblood and this program ensures that we are able to recognize their contributions to our Agricultural Societies and the communities they represent." Make sure you get your nominations in for this year's SaskEnergy Volunteer Champion Awards.



Proudly supporting SAASE and their volunteers who share their time, energy and spirit across Saskatchewan.

**SaskEnergy**

Champion of Volunteers

# Mortlach Saskatoon Berry Festival A Big Success



July 8th, the village of Mortlach welcomed visitors to the 10th Annual Mortlach Saskatoon Berry Festival sponsored by the Mortlach Community Development and Agricultural Society (MCDAS). Despite the hot weather and neighbouring community events, our attendance matched the average attendance over the past four years about 1500 to 2000 people. The day was a success because the community of 350 came together to make it happen again this year. The Preschool Moms pancake breakfast, local food booths, ice cream truck, and restaurants all provided food for the day. A new treat we have not had before was a Mexican food truck from Regina. A variety of vendors displayed their wares – antiques, art, books, crafts, candles, sparkle tattoos, Tupperware, Watkins, walking sticks. Transportation throughout the village was provided by Blair Bickford and his horse drawn wagon and Besant Park's people mover.

New this year was a demonstration by the Moose Jaw Remote Control Model Airplane Club. Their display was situated on the football field at the school. They started their flying demonstration an hour earlier than was planned since the wind started to pick up; around 2:30, after two unfortunate crashes which destroyed two aircraft, they ceased flying. It was enjoyed by quite a few people.

100 Saskatoon pies, from Prairie Berries Saskatoon Farm at Keeler Saskatchewan, were pre-sold this year through Pay Pal on [www.mortlach.ca](http://www.mortlach.ca). 450 pies were either consumed by the piece with ice cream at the festival or taken home to be enjoyed another day. Robert and Penny Cumming, parade marshals, have organized the parade for a number of years. This year our parade was led by the RCMP, and featured a Veterans Flag Party, children with their bikes and pedal tractors, antique cars, fire trucks, tractors, and a horse pulling a two-wheeled cart called a sulky. Music filled the air – Just 'n' Tyme entertained the breakfast crowd; SRW, Duke of Country, and Bonnie and the Jets entertained in the Mortlach Memorial Hall in the afternoon. Children were entertained at Vimy Park – pedal tractors, bouncy



castles, face painting, bubble blowing, and crafts.

The day ended with a dance to the music of 3 Finger Shot Band and a stop at the Beer Garden manned by the Mortlach Recreation Board. Thanks to Robertson Equipment from Moose Jaw and the Moose Jaw Co-Op for contributing prizes for a door prize draw. “Meet Me in Mortlach” for the 2018 Mortlach Saskatoon Berry Festival - 5000 people with purple teeth can’t be wrong. Report submitted by the Mortlach Saskatoon Berry Festival



# Safety Day Coordinators Workshop - October 12



SAASE in partnership with the Progressive Agriculture Foundation, Canadian Agricultural Safety Association and the Community Initiatives Fund will be hosting a Safety Day Coordinator training on October 12 in Regina. The training workshop will be taking place in the Canadian Western Agribition Lounge, which is located in the Canada Centre Building on the Regina Exhibition grounds. The workshop will be led by Glen Blahay from the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association, who will not only talk about how to run a safety day, but will also go through all the resources available through Progressive Ag and the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association. If you are hosting a safety day in 2018 you should have someone present for the training. It is a 1 day workshop and will begin at 8 am and finish up around 4. Through our partnership with the Community Initiatives Fund (CIF) we are able to provide 1 nights hotel - the hotel is the Regina Airport Days Inn (same one as last year). In addition to the hotel we are also able to provide registration for 2 people/Agricultural Society, as well as the food cost at the workshop. This training is allowing us to develop a network of trained safety coordinators around the province, ensuring that our safety day program continues to grow. Let Glen know at the office who will be attending the coordinators training - see you there.



# Biggar Fair Days a Big Success

The Biggar Agricultural Society put together a Venture Project for a new event outside their fair. The event was called the Biggar and District Fair Days. Below you will find the final reports from the event – including the report on the minor baseball portion, which was also included in the Fair Days.

Biggar and District Fair Days was an incredible success! Trailers started pulling into the valley Thursday night with precious cargo, kids, horses, dogs and excited competitors alike. The weekend festivities formally started on Friday July 14th in the morning with open riding. The Little Buckaroo Rodeo ran from 12-2 pm. The kids, parents, grandparents, aunties, uncles and spectators cheered on the fun. Events for the kids such as barrel racing on real horses, stick horse race for those children who did not ride, weiner race, egg race, roping were just some of the activities at the kids rodeo. After the kids rodeo we rolled into the first go round of the Biggar Bucks Barrel Race. Supper was served compliments of Kelly's Kitchen in our booth at the valley. Delicious hot food was waiting for the tired competitors. The kid's cabaret was the next event on the list for Friday. The cabaret was from 7-9 in the Quonset with a DJ, sparkle tattoos, flashing disco lights, treats, games and all the fun you can pack into two hours.



Saturday July started with a pancake breakfast, setting up for the trade fair and homemade goods competition. Biggar Bucks Futurity event ran at 10am with the Derby following at 11am. The children's games, face painting, sparkle tattoos, bouncy castle and hockey tournament were busily happening in the Quonset for the non competitors. Unfortunately there were no entries for the car show due to the gravel road entry to the valley. At 1 pm the big event, Biggar Buck's Slot Race began. The entry fees were large for the opportunity to compete for some cash! The competitors did not disappoint the crowd. New arena records were set in our arena this weekend, high level competitors from all over the province graced the valley presence. We were thrilled to host



such rodeo royalty in our little valley. We had past Canadian Champions, multiple Canadian Finalist Qualifiers and many other talented riders and trainers competing in the multiple events offered. Over 200 entries in the futurity, derby, slot races, 4D jackpot, team barrel race, youth and peewee events. Saturday night beach volley and a social were held after the 1st go round awards were presented. Sunday started with a Bacon and egger breakfast for anyone interested and then on to the second round of the futurity and derby. Crowds had the opportunity to see the upcoming horse and rider talent. At noon we crowned the winner of our Fair Queen competition. This years queen of the valley is Miss Ashley Heather. At 1 pm the second slot race began with great excitement for all competing and watching the amazing jockey and horse combos. Donnie Phillips, announcer added to the fun and entertainment all weekend long. He is a fan favorite. The last event on the weekend agenda was the short go qualifiers from the 4D jackpot. The top 12 in each category, 1D, 2D, 3D, and 4D were offered an opportunity to compete for cash and prizes.

We had incredible feedback and response to our event. Many competitors and spectators asked if this would become a yearly event. When the winter months are upon our little committee we will see if our energy is rejuvenated to start the planning stages of something else big for Biggar! All of the other activities in the valley aside from the barrel racing were engaged and appreciated by many people. We would definitely plan an

event where there is something for everyone once again. In addition to the rodeo there was also the Biggar Minor Ball's Portion, with the report from Lisa Haynes.

Biggar was host to the 2017 U14 girls provincial "C" Championships with over 10 teams in attendance. The teams were from Biggar, Redvers, Swift Current, Esterhazy, Humbolt, Turtleford, Kindersley, Unity, Macklin and Tisdale. The weekend was a huge success with around 500 people on site each day. The weather was beautiful and the diamonds were in perfect shape. It was a great opportunity to showcase our community and everything we have to offer. There were many comments from the other teams saying how great the community, facilities and hospitality was and how they were impressed with how such a small town could host such a 1st class event and put many of the bigger centres to shame. It was a great opportunity to partner with the Rec Valley and offer more events for the people to partake in while in town. We saw many cowboy hats at the diamonds and people were taking advantage of being able to take in both great events while in the area, we also had people checking out the maps on how to get to the valley and the schedule of events so we know the ball players were popping back and forth too. It also has helped strengthen our relationship with the Biggar Rec Valley and was a great partnership with another very important volunteer group in our community. We would like to thank SAASE and the Biggar Rec Valley for us to partner on this event with them and be able to take part in the Venture grant. Without the support our event would not have been such a huge success and we would not have been able to raise the much needed funds to help make improvements to our facilities. Great partnerships make great things happen!



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# Vanscoy Ag. Society Hosts Safety Day in Asquith

The fall safety day season kicked off with a great safety day in Asquith - hosted by the Vanscoy Agricultural Society on September 19th. 230 students from Asquith, Delisle, Vanscoy and Perdue took part in the safety day.

The 12 safety stations that the students rotated through were - disability awareness (vision), tractor safety, electrical safety, animal safety, chemical safety, grain safety, pto safety, handwashing, first aid, water safety and mechanical safety. The safety day began at 10 am, with the students breaking for lunch and then finishing up at 2:00. An officer from the RCMP finished the day off by talking to the whole group.

The day ran smoothly, with



many volunteers and presenters helping out to make it a great day. Bob Simpson from CTV came out and did a story on the safety day for the provincial CTV news and Farmgate. A big thanks goes to the many volunteers from the Vanscoy and District Agricultural Society and all the companies that helped out by manning the stations. This is the 3rd safety day that Vanscoy has hosted - they host them every two years, so their next safety day will take place in 2019.

## Ag Exchange Group SAASE's Newest Member



### Grain Marketing Transparency - Just a Click Away

The Ag Exchange Group - a Saskatoon based company - is the latest Service Member to join SAASE. In February of 2017 the company launched their online marketing platform to create a transparent, efficient marketplace for western grain producers. The platform offers producers access to local, national and, eventually, international buyers. Ag Exchange group's CEO, Lyle Ehrmantraut explains the system, "A simple online account connects producers with a broad range of buyers from small independents to large national grain companies. Our independent platform ensures that no single company controls the market. Producers can receive bids from any buyer 24 hours a day, 7 days a week - they're always aware of current pricing and they can choose to sell when the terms are right for them."

The Ag Exchange Group's online platform also allows producers to see multiple contracts that grain buyers are offering at any given time allowing them to compare terms and pricing. "We heard that producers wanted to control cash flow by selling when they wanted and on terms that worked for their business," explains Ehrmantraut. "They don't want to sit by the phone waiting for a contract offer or sift through texts, faxes, emails and calls."

Farmers are responding. Ag Exchange Group has heard from commodity groups and individual producers that market transparency is critical to efficiency and profitability. "Farmers are learning to navigate a new reality post Wheat Board and the buyers are looking for a better way to connect with farmers. We've been told that our platform offers the access and options that all parties are looking for." The Ag Exchange Group was formed based on Ehrmantraut's personal experiences with grain trading. He's built a team of people with a keen understanding of producers and the grain industry. "We want our marketplace to become the #1 choice of both producers and buyers trading agricultural commodities."

For more information on the Ag Exchange Group contact - Mike Witkowicz - VP Strategy and Business Development at 1-204-930-1544 - [mw@agexchange.com](mailto:mw@agexchange.com) - 224 - 111 Research Drive - Saskatoon, SK S7N 3R2



# Fairmede Celebrates 125th Anniversary

July 29th, 2017 – A day that will go down in history for the Fairmede Agricultural Society, as we celebrated the Society’s 125th Anniversary. We are very proud to have been able to stay active this long. Our success is because of the hard work of the volunteers that the Society has always been able to depend on to help us through the years.

Our day began with a trail ride. Seventeen riders started out from the Fairmede Ag grounds at 8:00 am and trekked through the valley and hillsides of the Little Pipestone Creek, through the fields and onto the old road allowances for approximately 6 miles. It ended back at the Fair grounds for lunch.

Our Church Service at 1:00 pm was held at the old Fairmede Church. A Cowboy Church service was lead by Lorne Bonk , and Darren Fisk and his daughter Morgan supplied the music and led the singing. Darren is the General Leader of the Fairmede 4-H Beef Club.

After church it was back to the Fair Grounds for our opening ceremonies. Dignitaries Steven Bonk MLA for Moosomin Constituency, Glen Duck, Executive Director of SAASE, Cheryl Branvold President of the Fairmede Ag Society and Rhonda Hall, Secretary-Treasurer of the Society rode into the grounds on a wagon drawn by a team of horses owned by Wayne Grose. Cheryl Welcomed our special guests and those attending our Anniversary Celebrations. Glen Duck from SAASE & MLA, Steven Bonk, each brought greetings of congratulations.



**SAASE Executive Director Glen Duck presents Cheryl Branvold Fairmede President with the 125th Anniversary Certificate**

Two special signs were unveiled as well. The first sign was for “The Gathering Place”, and is to recognize the new building that the Society built in 2015. This building is for the people who come to our fair or other gatherings, to have shelter from the sun or the rain, to watch the day’s activities, a place to sit and visit and have lunch. The Second sign was donated by George Hodgins, a former resident of the Fairmede District, and this sign is to replace the old one that hangs on the South side of the Fairmede School. It reads - “Fairmede S.D. No. 134. S.E. ¼ S. 14 - T.13 - R.1 W.2nd”.

Following the opening ceremonies, the beer gardens were opened and guests sat in The Gathering Place & in a tented area and visited with family and friends, some of who had come from as far away as Courtney, BC, Regina, Weyburn, Wolsely, and the surrounding towns. Darren & Morgan Fisk entertained once again, much to the pleasure of their audience. The Louis & Karen Hebert family provided a bouncy tent for the kids to play in. Horse & wagon rides were also available as well. There was something for all ages.

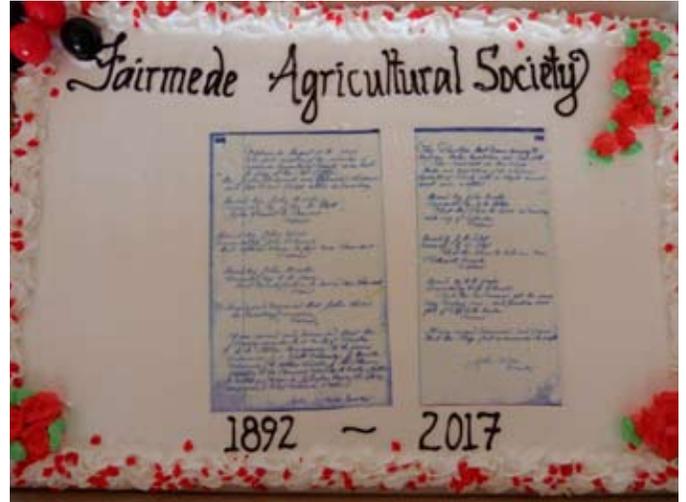




A catered supper was served by Shelley & David Slykhuis from Carlyle. Two cakes were served as dessert – one was decorated with a copy of the first meeting minutes of the Fairmede Ag Society dated August 29th, 1892, and the second cake showed a photograph of the 1908 directors of the Society, the oldest photo that we have.

This year’s prize list book was “Dedicated to the Leaders of our Community, who in 1892 came together to form an Agricultural Society; And to all of the Volunteers, Participants & Visitors – Past & Present, Who Have Generously Rallied Together To Make the Fairmede Agricultural Society & its Fair, An Ongoing Success for 125 years.” We look forward to many more!

**Submitted by the Fairmede Agricultural Society**



Back Row (L to R): Gordon Fisk, Murray Doane, Louis Hebert, Darren Fisk, Gordon Clements.  
 Middle Row (L to R): Betty Wyatt, Linda Fisk, Kathy Doane, Karen Hebert, Darlene Fisk, Marie Clements, Joanne & Hudson Clements.  
 Seated (L to R): Pat Clements, Cheryl Branvold, Darlene Doane, Rhonda Hall, Jase Clements.

# SAASE Coming Events

## October 2017

3-5	Ag Experience	Saskatoon
4	Safety Day	LeRoy
6-8	Chokecherry Festival	Lancer
6-8	Horse Show	Moose Jaw
7	Flavours of Fall Festival	Weyburn
12	Safety Day Workshop	Regina
13-15	Horse Show	Moose Jaw
14	Trade and Fall fair	Denzil
18-21	CCA Finals & Southwest Showcase	Swift Current
19-22	Horse Show	Moose Jaw
20-21	Bull Riders Canada Finals	Lloydminster
26-29	Skate Canada International	Regina
27-29	Dog Show	Moose Jaw
27-28	Craft Show	Moose Jaw
28	Pumpkinfest	Nokomis
31	Kids Cabaret	Biggar
31	Harvest Feastival	Lloydminster

4	Burrowing Owl Fundraiser	Moose Jaw
8	Safety Day	Moose Jaw
10-12	Our Best to You Craft Show	Regina
20-25	Canadian Western Agribition	Regina
25	Christmas Bash	Lloydminster
25	Turkey Bingo	Vanscoy

## December 2017

1	Sparkle Up	Mortlach
1-2	BRC Finals	Lloydminster
2	Small Business Christmas Party	Prince Albert
2	Small business Christmas Party	Saskatoon
9	Small Business Christmas Party	Saskatoon
31	New Years Eve House Party	Saskatoon

## November 2017

1-4	Annual Stockade Roundup	Lloydminster
1-4	Grain Millers Harvest Showdown	Yorkton
4-5	Mistletoe Craft Show	Battlefords
4-5	Focus on Christmas	Prince Albert

If you have any events you would like to add to our list, please contact the SAASE office at 306-565-2121 or email [gduck.saase@sasktel.net](mailto:gduck.saase@sasktel.net)



As West Coast Amusements Travelled across Saskatchewan this summer on the Fair circuit - they celebrated Canada's 150th Birthday wherever they stopped. This was West Coast Amusements with the staff and volunteers at the Prince Albert Exhibition.