

Venture Projects 2022

Prairieland Park Hosts 2022 Entertainment Expo



The Saskatoon Entertainment Expo brings film and TV entertainers, as well as pop culture and comic book creators, under one roof for a unique cultural experience in Saskatoon!

This year marked Prairieland's first year self-producing the popular Saskatoon Entertainment Expo. Following on the heels of the pandemic, we offered a three-day event versus the two-day event offered in the past. Our new Cosplay Red Carpet event on the Saturday night was very well attended with standing room only in the Expo Theatre. We also moved the show dates from fall to spring, which will continue for 2023, as well.

With over 10,000 people attending the show this year, we added a Friday night event called Pretty Funny: A Drag Show which was very well received.

We look forward to a full celebrity line up next year and an increased number of exhibitors. Dates for the 2023 show will be April 28, 29 & 30.





Everything Equine on the Border

Lloydminster Agricultural Exhibition Association (LAEA) director Dallas Eaket started talking to area equine enthusiasts regarding a spring equine event. This group soon became a committee and the “Everything Equine on the Border” turned into an April equine showcase. The Midwest area where Lloydminster is located has seen a rise in participation in the equine industry over last few years. There is not another equine event that showcases horses and riders within 300 kms of Lloydminster that also incorporates an industry trade show.



We have heard from equine organizations in the Midwest that they drive 3+ hours to attend seminars/clinics. They had indicated that there is a need for more events and activities that involve English and Western disciplines. Through our committee's conversations a 3-day program was developed that will support and enhance the Midwest equine industry and its continued development. The event was held April 8-10, 2022.

The event filled a void, bringing prominent equine clinicians, trainers, and participants together in one place to showcase both English and Western disciplines. Everything Equine satisfied our equine fans being an extreme event, it proved to be a large draw for the area riders, families, and industry leaders.

We had a very successful first year and our dedicated committee showcased 3 extraordinary clinicians; Alexander Grayton, Bronwyn and Jason Irwin provided training in show jumping, barrels, and young horse training. We were also able to offer a Trainer's Challenge featuring Kade Mills, Travis Beaton and Rod Olsen who took 3-year-old colts from halter broke to riding in just three short days. This was well received by the public and extremely successful – we will be implementing this again.



We added in a speaker's corner, which saw several region veterinarians providing insight on equine nutrition, reproduction, general health and problems for horses and owners. The Fashion Show which highlighted three area boutiques and local 4-H members, CPCA drivers and families acting as models was well received. We intend to continue this element of the Everything Equine as it saw many purchases of showcased outfits, providing the boutiques with great exposure.

We had our tradeshow during the event with outstanding vendors from across the Western provinces, the crowds were able to find both gifts and information. We had over 1200 guests pass through the gates and several stayed to enjoy the evening drill team performances. The committee is planning for great evenings in 2023 by expanding the entertainment to include trick riding, battle of the breeds and many more performances. We appreciate SAASE's support of this new equine event in the Midwest region!



Lloydminster Running With the Bulls



The Lloydminster Agricultural Exhibition Association (LAEA) was looking for a new program/attraction to fill a void at our Lloyd Ex Fair. The event is held during our Lloyd Ex Fair program on Saturday July 16th afternoon.

This event filled a void that was created when we made a significant change in our fair programming, where we added in a 9-day chuckwagon event Chuckwagon racing to the schedule. With the addition of the North American Chuckwagon Championships that saw us get rid of the thrilling (dangerous) events like Monster Trucks and bull riding as the track can't be disturbed to the level that those events would. The new event satisfied the thrill seekers that love to see those events. Being an extreme event, it proved to be a large draw for the urban sector and will bring them to a rural event that will see cowboys, urban thrill seekers and cheering fans come together.

The project has started with a three-year outline. The end goal will be to see this event place Lloyd Ex Fair on the map for thrill seekers who want to put their bravery up against some bucking bulls. To achieve this significant goal, we needed to implement a stepping stone approach. We started with the first year running the event Saturday afternoon and saw 25 contestants face off against 3 rounds of 3 bucking bulls each round. The contestants were judged on best interaction with the bulls, bravest and longest to stay in the ring. The judges who were employees of our major sponsors as well as a rodeo judge were thrilled to be volunteering and had a blast! We perched them in a scissor lift and gave them score cards. Our local radio station 106.1 The Goat provided announcers as well as music and made it into a WWE Wrestling atmosphere.



We truly didn't know what to expect – we were thrilled when an hour before the event the grandstand started filling up! After talking to many of the guests it was apparent many had come to the fair just to see running of the bulls!

A winner was crowned in boxing match style where our main sponsor took them on stage and raised the arm of the winner! It was truly a thrilling afternoon! We appreciate SAASE's support of this new and upcoming fair event!



Biggar Hosts First Roughin' Rally

The rain started to fall five days preceding our event at Biggar Recreation Valley. We were so thankful for the rain for the pastures and crops, but in the back of our minds we also knew we needed to get 100 rigs into and out of the valley on the weekend. The weather worked in our favour for the entire weekend, it was windy on Friday but died out for Saturday and Sunday giving us absolutely perfect conditions for all the different events we had going this year.

At one point one of the competitors had went around and counted 110 truck and trailers rigs, 75 spectator cars and too many horses to count. The roughstock riding, Codie Prevost concert, dummy roping, face painting, bouncy castle, beer gardens, team roping, barrel racing were a total success. The support from Biggar and surrounding community is second to none.

New York is Big but this is Biggar!!!



Steer Riders hit the Biggar Rec Valley for thrills and leadership skills

Article that appeared in the May 19th, 2022 - The Independent - Biggar.

Life lessons, digging hard and learning how to persevere is the aim at this weekend's Ireland Steer Riding's Leaders of Leaders School at the Biggar Recreational Valley. Featuring United States Marine Corps Staff Sergeant Aaron Guyett, and one of the best bull riders to come out of Canada in a long time, Dakota Buttar from Eston.

The intent of this school is to introduce new kids to the sport of rodeo, and to give kids who are currently involved in rodeo an opportunity to further enhance their skills.

The main component of this school that is different then others is to introduce the kids to leadership skills that will help to make them champions in the arena and out of the arena.

"Throughout life we see young kids set out with very specific goals in life, only to be derailed by worldly influences," explained Chad Ireland, of the Ireland Steer Riding School. "By giving the young kids the tools of Leaders of Leaders and the lessons learnt from the sport of rodeo, we believe that this would create a solid foundation for the young children, so when the worldly influences come, they are better able to handle these situations."

This school is twofold. There is the riding portion, which will be instructed by Buttar, a skilled rider who shows true humility with confidence outside of the arena, and Guyett, founder of the Leaders of Leaders program. Unfortunately Guyett was unable to make it up to Canada but will still be doing his portion of the school virtually with the kids.

"We are hopeful that next year he will be able to make it in person," Ireland said. "Having the kids be around guys of Dakota and Aaron's quality will just enhance the experience for these young men and women. I truly couldn't speak higher of both those guys. I am truly blessed to know both of them."

During the weekend kids will be asked to do things that appear to be hard to accomplish. This is all being done so they can see what they can do when they get outside of their comfort zone and push through it. "For the kids they are already doing something that a lot of people see as being hard or crazy, by getting on a bucking animal," Ireland adds. "They should be commended for this, and they will be. As this is the first time for a lot of the people signed up, they will possibly have a lot of emotions that they have never experienced before. Fear, nervousness, anxiety,

The challenges on the back of a bucking animal translate to life, being challenged and getting out of a comfort zone.

The school starts Friday morning with the bucking animals shortly after lunch. The school continues on Saturday, Sunday will be a steer riding jackpot for the kids, with the winner taking home some cash and a buckle. Sunday's action starts at 1:00 pm and people are invited to come down and watch the action. People can also come down over the course of the weekend.

"I really want to mention that a huge thanks needs to be given to all the people offering help and to do things like this article. I also need to send a huge thanks to Monika Schultz and Clark McNulty, without both of them, this event wouldn't be anywhere near as good as we are hoping it is going to be," Ireland concluded.

**IRELAND STEER RIDING
LEADER OF LEADERS SCHOOL**

MAY 20-23, 2022 AGES 8 - 15 BIGGAR, SASK

BEGINNER TO INTERMEDIATE STOCK FEE: \$350

featuring instruction from:

AARON GUYETT
US Marine Staff Sergeant
Leader of Leaders
Program Founder

DAKOTA BUTTAR
3-time Canadian Champion
Reigning PBR Canada
Champion

**\$75 Leader of Leaders Program
Monday
Open to Public
Ages 8-15**

**\$500 Added Jackpot
Sunday
Awards to be given**

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Battlefords Hosts Grain Bin Rescue Course

Article submitted by the Battlefords Ag. Society

We are very happy to announce that Battlefords Agricultural Society held its first Grain Bin Rescue Course at the Agrivilla April 8-10. This was planned for 2021 but was postponed a few times due to Covid restrictions. The participants were all firefighters from the R.M. of North Battleford 437 Fire Department. The course was run by certified trainer Bill McCombs from Trans Care Rescue Ltd. based out of Langham, Sask. It was 3 full days of intense training and instructions.

With farms and grain operations expanding we felt that this course was very vital to our community. Many participants gained knowledge and were put through unique situations. If a person falls into a bin filled with grain there is great pressure from the weight of the product. The simulated grain bin



course and many exercises help to ensure if any accidents do occur on farms or in farmyards our participants will be certified to assist and will be aware of what needs to be done.

Great gratitude was expressed for Battlefords Agricultural Society hosting this course. Battlefords Agricultural Society feels confident that these volunteer firefighters have gained knowledge and skills that will be very vital to all of our community. We sincerely hope that they are never required.

Many thanks go out to SAASE for approving our Venture Project application to help- with funding enabling us to host this course.



Perdue Ag. Society Hosts Calves n' Cans



On the August 13 – 14th weekend in Perdue, Sk. The Perdue Agriculture Society hosted their first Annual Calves n' Cans Event. This event was open to include anyone from our community and anyone who wanted to compete in barrel racing and breakaway roping. We welcomed over 160 competitors to our events over the weekend along with many spectators from near and far, who came to cheer on and watch the competitors.

This event took time to prepare and many hours of work to ensure our grounds were in top notch shape to host an event such as this. We had to move our, in and out gate, to the centre of the arena instead of being offset, which creates safer entrances and exits into our arena. We also installed a new roping chute for our event to make its use easy for our cattle wranglers all while looking forward to hosting many more roping events in the future.

We have also begun to add sand to our arena to make it more all-season. We found if we experienced heavy rains that we would have mud puddles in the middle of our arena, this created uncertainty in hosting events and worry that inclement weather could postpone or cancel an event. While doing this we also found we needed to level and work the grounds. We were very lucky that we had community businesses that were willing to lend a hand with machinery to help us get this job done in time for our event. We also had great support of our community and surrounding areas, many businesses jumped on board to support our event, and we partnered with a media group in Saskatoon to help get the word out about our event. Coupled with fantastic volunteers on our boards and of course family members solicited into helping, we pulled off a seamless event. Many competitors complemented our committee on how well ran, fun and



easy going our day was and especially marvelled at our unique buckles that were handed out for top prizes.

Our final event we offered that day was Goat Roping, and it was the most fun, most of us have had in a long time! We had 15 teams enter, and only one ended up victorious, as many may have misjudged how fast these little goats can run!

Our committee enjoyed this event immensely and while most went well, we definitely learned from this experience and made notes on how we can make it even better next year. All in all this was a fantastic event and we look forward to hosting again next year!

The Perdue Agriculture Society would like to thank SAASE for their support in the events we have hosted, and their continued support is part of the reason we host events such as these.



Perdue Cattle Show 2022

Agribition - CN Beef Supreme Qualifying Show

The Perdue Ag Society hosted the Perdue Cattle Show Agribition - CN Beef Supreme qualifying show on July 22nd and 23rd this summer. This 2 day event had 50 cattle exhibitors, that entered 160 entries with 143 head of cattle present. We had a great turnout and really great weather. Our judge for the purebred show on Saturday July 24th was Rob Voice of Clavet, SK. Erixon Simmentals had Supreme Champion Bull and Wheeler stock farm had Supreme champion Female. We look forward to seeing Cattle Represented under our Banner at Agribition in the Supreme ring at the finale.

On Friday we Had a local Brittany Hirschfeld judge our Market steers, Prospect Steers and Jackpot Heifer show. Also on Friday commercial cattle show and Junior show was judged by Emily Froelich. We rented a tent again to accommodate exhibitors with lots of room for night tie outs around our horse arena.

In June we developed a new wash rack area for our exhibitors which was very well received. We used Morgan Ing as our Photographer of Prairie Rose Graphics She did an amazing job capturing our 2 day event.

Exhibitors came from Birchills and Moose Jaw and all over Saskatchewan so we had a great turn out. It was great to host our beef show as a CN Beef Supreme qualifying event as it is really helping to build a name for our Perdue Ag Society.

I can't thank our board members enough for making this show success and all the many volunteers who run our concession and do all the leg work, as it is awesome to have the barns full again with cattle and host a great event.

Also the Perdue Ag Society would like to send a special thanks to SAASE for supporting the Perdue Cattle Show in second year of this venture grant.

We look forward to working with you next year. Thank you.





Kids Fall Festival 2022 – Perdue Ag Society



wanted to create a fun and educational event where we could highlight some of the fun things that agriculture has to offer and the importance of fall festivities at a level of comprehension for small children. Our board gathered and brainstormed different fun activities that we could host and came up with the below:

Pin the Hat on the Scarecrow Pumpkin in a Pantyhose Can Swing
Feed the Pig Bean Bag Toss Air Bobbing for Apples

Eyeball in a Hay Stack Photo Stands/Set Ups
Pumpkin Decorating

We accompanied the above with a Face Painter and a small Haunted House to add some Halloween Fun, and had a Kids Halloween Dance for the last hour of our event. Each station had a small treat to hand out to the kids once completed, and their door-prize for attending was a “Popcorn On The Cob.” We also partnered with the local schools Grad Class and they offered a Hot Dog Sale as means for a fundraising opportunity. The rental of the hall was donated to us, and all the pumpkins used for the decorating were donated as well.

We advertised the event via social media, and created a Facebook Event for updates and to generate excitement as we prepared for the Kids Fall Festival. This was all linked up to our Perdue Ag Society Facebook Page. Attendance was moderate, and we chalked that up to hosting the event on a day that did not coincide directly with Halloween. In subsequent years, we would look at doing the event the same day as Halloween (as the trick or treaters will already be in town and out and about). We would plan to change up the stations with some other ideas we had so that we are not doing the same stations each year, and alternate them year-to-year depending on how they were attended. We would also make sure to assign a person with the specific task of taking photos. We are a small committee, so lots of volunteer hours were put in decorating and preparing! The feedback we received from members of the community were all well received and complimentary, and that kids had a lot of fun! We look forward to putting this on again next year, with differing and exciting ideas!



Rosthern Ag Society Relocates Fair Grounds - Hosts New Events



The Rosthern Agricultural Society made the decision to move their fair grounds to a new location and upgrade their facilities to accommodate new equine events, including SBRA Barrel Racing Jackpots, as well as providing a safe place to practice with proper footing. There will be many benefits to the local area, as the new events will bring many people into the area. The partnership with Seager Wheeler National Historic Farm will also bring traffic to the farm

Partners on the project included the Seager Wheeler Historic Farm, Local Hardware and Grocery Store, local 4 H, town of Rosthern, R.M. of Rosthern, as well as a new community partners encompassing the entire valley area.

The process of creating our new arena space was delayed this spring due to late snow melt. The Ag Society began work on the May long. When drilling the holes and setting up the panels the arena was made to SBRA qualifying size of 150ft x 250ft. In early June the sand was ordered and they hosted their first Light Horse event June 25 and first SBRA barrel racing June 28th. They look forward to shows in 2023.



RCMP Musical Ride in Yorkton

Musical Ride! We were the first Saskatchewan stop on their summer tour and were very pleased to host the RCMP members and riders as well as their drivers, crew and of course 29 beautiful and majestic horses!

Along with SAASE, we had many great partners support the event with the Legacy Co-op taking on the presenting sponsorship. Other partners included Lakeview Insurance, Days Inn, GX94, FoxFM, Custom Printers, City of Yorkton, Shawn Patenaude, Melville Veterinary Clinic, The Rock, Westland Insurance, Vitality Veterinary Services, MBC, CKDM, Home Inn & Suites, Holiday Inn Express, Painted Hand Casino, SIGA, Penguin Refrigeration, Maple Ag & Outdoor, Mazergroup, Crestvue Ambulance, Flaman Sales, Molsons, RH Electric and Triple A Directional Drilling.

Superintendent Kevin Fahey and Sgt. Jeremy Dawson first arrived on site Thursday, June 2nd for a quick inspection of the grounds and stables. The RCMP members and horses arrived soon after and were able to settle in quickly and make sure all of the horses were comfortable, fed and watered.

The City of Yorkton, Yorkton Business Improvement District and Yorkton Chamber of Commerce partnered with the Yorkton Exhibition in hosting a reception for the members, drivers and crew Thursday evening. It was a great social event that allowed our staff and Board of Directors to interact and get to know a little more about the members and the musical ride itself. A delicious steak supper and refreshments were served and enjoyed by all.

We were very fortunate to be able to offer three performances of the ride to our community. Friday and Saturday evening were held in conjunction with the CPCA Yorkton Classic and Saturday afternoon's performance was Musical Ride only. Invitations were given out to the Yorkton elementary schools for their students to attend. Teachers were also given the opportunity to connect with Ride co-ordinator Cpl. Kim Chamberland for a virtual tour of the stables along with a Q & A. Many classrooms took advantage of this opportunity and was a great learning experience for all!

We are very pleased to report that the RCMP Musical Ride performed to a full grandstand every show! Dave Farrell, a past president and Senator of the Yorkton Exhibition made the trek from his home in BC to announce the show for us. Dave is also a former member of the RCMP. Each performance had a guest of honour to accept the salute from Superintendent Fahey those being Tribal Chief Isabel O'Soup, long time Yorkton resident and volunteer Gerry Pepler and Yorkton Exhibition Past President and Senator Craig Burkell. We also started each show with a prayer by Elder Ross Cadotte who was accompanied by the Yorkton Tribal Council Drum Group and Precious Cadotte beautifully sang O'Canada in three languages - English, French and Saulteaux.

The Musical Ride trucked out to Melville for a performance on Sunday, June 5th and stabled in Yorkton until Tuesday, June 7th when they continued on to their next Saskatchewan stop. It was an absolute pleasure to host this event and the show certainly exceeded our expectations. We were so happy that the members and co-ordinators were so pleased with our facilities and hospitality. We are hopeful for the opportunity again in the future! Thank you very much to SAASE for the supporting the RCMP Musical Ride through your Venture Project Grant!



Arcola Fair Returns for 2022



The Mel Grimes Family Memorial Junior Steer & Heifer Show

After a 2-year hiatus, the Arcola Fair emerged from Covid-19 bigger and better than ever on June 25, 2022! The wind and rain would not deter our events nor our spirits – and we certainly had downpours, mist, and the ever-constant Saskatchewan wind! Despite the weather, we had a great day! The day began with cattle trailers rolling onto the fairgrounds in record numbers while the Arcola firefighters served up a delicious pancake breakfast! Pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, coffee, and juice were enjoyed by a large crowd. This year's breakfast was held in our Ag Pavilion, close to all the cattle action!

On the other side of town, parade entries began to line up and judging commenced. We were thrilled with 31 entries, along with 4 horses, and a dozen youth who decorated their bikes! Community members lined the parade route awaiting waves and of course, candy! Many were surprised with the turn out of antique tractors in the parade and a fair favourite...the 101-year-old Ol' Rumley. The parade ended at the fairgrounds, where many events awaited attendees! The Slo-Pitch Tournament had 5 teams of 10+ players who battled each other and the weather for all-day play and a cash prize of \$1,000.00! The winning team was from Arcola!

Close to the ball diamonds, the 94-year-old Exhibit Hall hosted the handmade exhibits. Our Exhibit Committee worked hard to clean the hall and hosted exhibit drop offs Thursday and Friday morning. The judging began at 1pm on Friday, with a full display of exhibits and their prizes beginning on fair day Saturday! We were pleased to have 39 competitors who vied for over 90 categories. The Arcola School grades 1, 2, 3, & 4 students also entered their artwork for judging. In the end, the prize winnings totalled \$324 for junior and senior competitors. Next year, our committee hopes to have many more competitors and be able to fill the Exhibit Hall with all kinds of handmade items!

Over in the 4-H Show Ring, The Arcola Fair Society was excited to host our first-ever, Mel Grimes Family Memorial Junior Steer & Heifer Show. With a generous donation of \$20,000.00 from Stacey Wempe (nee Grimes) honouring her father Mel, mother Margaret, and brother Clinton; the first ever Arcola cattle show was created. We were pleased to host 132 entries and awards over \$21,000.00 in prizes to the junior competitors. Those vying for the judge's favour travelled from as far away as Claresholm, Alberta; Lloydminster, Saskatchewan; and Virden, Manitoba to compete for the top prizes. Spectators were awed by the incredible showmanship and cattle that these junior competitors raised. Our judges had 4 difficult decisions and the top awards went to:

Grand Champion Heifer – Zane Short from Milestone, SK

Reserve Champion Heifer – Ava Loveridge from Melville, SK

Grand Champion Steer – Dawson Fladeland from Gladmar, SK
Reserve Champion Steer – Kayden Michelson from Ituna, SK

While the rain poured down outside, across the street at the Prairie Place Hall, the Arcola Optimists Kid's Zone was rocking! The Inflatable Zone had a massive Jurassic Park mega inflatable along with a western theme bouncer, an 18' slide, and axe throwing! The carnival games excited the little ones who were thrilled to earn many mini prizes for the bean bag toss, the animal race, and The Nose – a giant green nose where kids stick their hands up the nose to be treated with a prize or tricked with slime (snot) eww! The little ones also took their turn on the stick horse rodeo equipment! Bucking broncos and wild bulls bounced up and down the hall and bust out of the mini chute! There wasn't anything cuter than those lil cowpokes!

All day in the Kid's Zone, The Adventure Wranglers delighted fairgoers with the chance to see and pet various species of turtles, snakes, and lizards! Their shows at 1pm and 3pm had large audiences who had the opportunity to learn about the animals, their habitat, and how to protect these species. Many brave souls held large snakes and pet very large lizards! The turtles were a hit among those not brave enough to hold the snakes! Also in the hall, a trade show delighted parents who shopped while their kids were entertained! With 14 vendors, the trade show was a huge hit! The antique tractor display showcased our rural agricultural heritage. We had 30+ tractors lined up for display and many questions were asked of their owners as to how they were restored. The 101-year-old Ol' Rumley putted up and down the street to delight fairgoers.

While the weather was lousy, the food booth cranked out delicious burgers, hot dogs, and pulled pork to fill hungry and cold tummies from 9:30am to 7:30pm! The food booth committee and busy volunteers served over 500 burgers, 200 hotdogs, and 275 pulled pork sandwiches! All customers were very happy! At 4pm the Qu'Appelle Valley Heavy Horse Pull Club was to put on a show; however, with rainy weather and a wet arena, the show was cancelled. It was a disappointing loss for the day, but no one can predict mother nature in Saskatchewan!

Under the big tent, many fairgoers kept dry and enjoyed a cold beverage at the Arcola Fair beer gardens. The beer gardens committee with Arcola Rodeo committee volunteers, served happy patrons. After the day's events, the beer gardens played host to local musical entertainment of Chris Byrne. Well-known in our rural area, Chris amused fans with his vocal and guitar talents and jokes. It was the perfect ending to a busy, fun-filled Arcola Fair. Our Arcola Fair Society Inc. board and committees would like to express our deepest appreciation for SAAASE's Venture Project Grant program. With financial backing, our board was able to step towards a rejuvenated Arcola Fair – a huge thank you!

