
Peace Area Riding for the Disabled Society (PARDS)

Annual Report

For the year ending December 31, 2016

*Annual General Meeting
April 24, 2017*



~ Our Mission ~

Peace Area Riding for the Disabled Society is committed to providing high quality Equine Assisted Therapy to Peace Country residents

~ Belief Statement ~

We believe in the inherent worth of all people

We believe in the dignity & healing power of horses

We believe all individuals have the right to independence, self-confidence, community presence & involvement

We believe all individuals have the right to access quality supports and services to assist them to achieve independence, self-confidence, community presence & involvement

We believe the community as a whole is strengthened by developing and providing services that enhance quality of life for individuals of all abilities

We believe the development and support for services for individuals with disabilities increases their opportunity to become equal, engaged and contributing members of the community

We believe the community as a whole has a responsibility to support social programs which are able to demonstrate benefits to society

~ Our Aim ~

We strive to develop a client-centered organization with skills, knowledge and resources that are in keeping with current and innovative therapeutic riding approaches

We are committed to working in partnership with our community to meet these goals

~ Our Vision ~

To support individuals of all ages and abilities to maximize their growth and potential; physically, cognitively, behaviourally and socially, through equine assisted programs and activities.

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On behalf of the PARDS Board of Directors, I am pleased to present to you our Annual Report.

Looking forward, 2017 is going to be an exciting year for PARDS riders, staff, and volunteers with our big move to the new facility!

It has been a lot of hard work for all of those involved and I just wanted to take a moment to thank everyone for their dedication, volunteer time, donations and support. You are valued, appreciated and held in the greatest esteem.

PARDS operates under a governance model and as such the Board governs through policies that establish the organization's aims and management limitations. Through these policies we define the relationship between the Board and the Executive Director. These policies set the framework from which the Executive Director oversees the day to day operations of the organization. They allow the Board to monitor the performance of the Executive Director and ensure that the organization is following its mission and vision and that we are accountable to our stakeholders.

In preparation for our move to our new facility, the Board determined it would be an ideal time to review our policies, ensuring they are compatible and compliant with best practices for a Governance Board. The Board created a Governance Committee consisting of a few board members and our Executive Director. The committee met regularly over the last year to review and update our policies and enlisted the aid of Fletcher Bootle to help guide us through the process. Although there is further work to be done, our efforts under Fletcher's guidance have resulted in a stronger foundation upon which to continue building and growing PARDS. We have also implemented a policy review schedule to ensure they continue to serve us as we evolve as an organization.

In the coming year we will be focusing on review of our strategic plan, recruitment to the board and committees, as well as supporting Jennifer in a smooth transition to our new home.

In closing, I would like to thank our Executive Director, Jennifer Douglas and all the PARDS staff for their dedication and commitment to our riders, as well as our volunteers for being so giving of their time. With a strong team and the ongoing support from our donors and sponsors we look forward to the new challenges and achievements ahead in 2017!

~Christina Balcom, Board Chairperson

2016 has been a fabulous year for our riders!

The Cart Program has been expanded so we are able to serve even more individuals with diverse needs who want to enjoy the benefits of Equine Assisted Therapy but do not want, or are unable, to participate in our mounted riding program; turn to page 5 for a beautiful testimonial from a mother's perspective.

Our client base continues to grow and we are so humbled to have the opportunity to be a part of each of our riders' journey to being the best version of themselves. All of our riders are so inspirational and, like every other person in this world, they each have their own special gifts and talents; it is truly an honour to help them discover, build upon and celebrate them. Kamryn's story is on page 9.

Our Youth Leadership Program continues to support the Life Skills Development objectives of Grande Prairie and Area youth. Although we hit a brief snag in losing our facilitator for the program in the fall, Board Member and volunteer extraordinaire, Adrea Simmons stepped in to fill the void on a volunteer basis as she holds her Equine Assisted Personal Development Certification. Thanks to Adrea, the program continued without a hitch and she is now mentoring another staff member to take over facilitating the program in the fall. Turn to page 12 to learn about the impact this program has had on one of our youth participants.

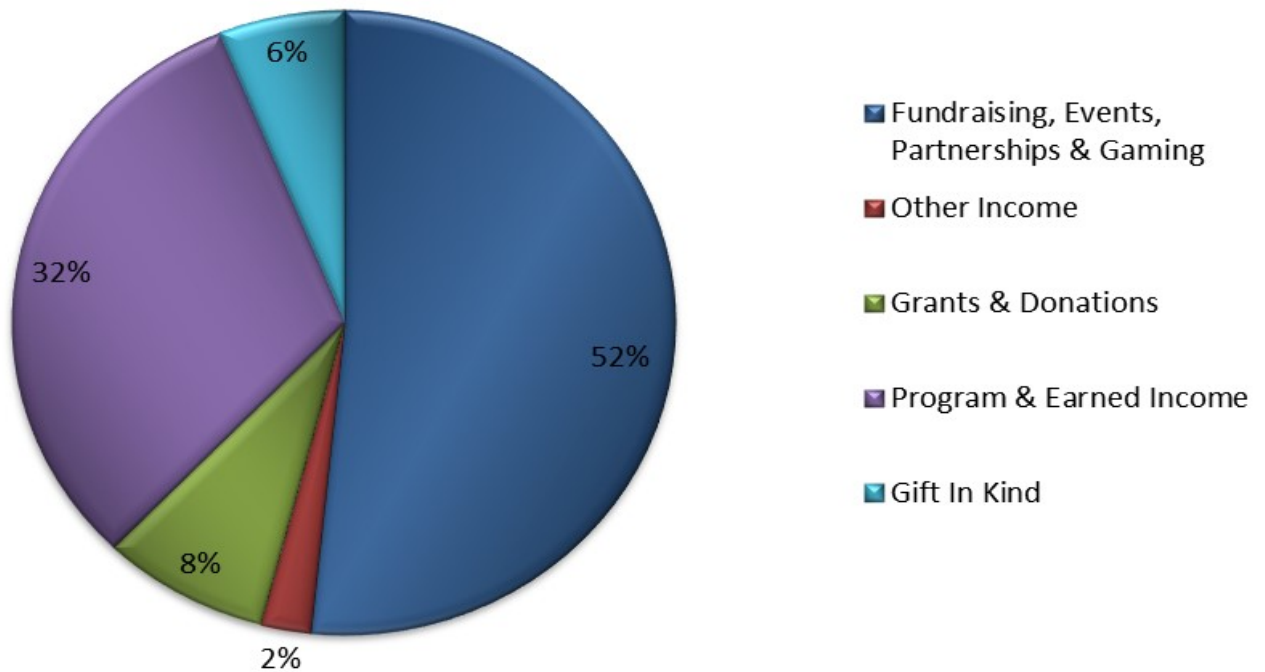
Many of our riders continue to access Equine Canada's Video Competition Series and their results are amazing! The benefits of sport and competition are well documented and we are so pleased to be able to offer this opportunity to our riders and so very proud of each and every one of them. Check out page 13 in this report to learn more.

There can never be enough said in recognition of the amazing people who have come together in various capacities to help ensure our community continues to benefit from the existence of Equine Assisted Therapeutic programs and services. All are an intricate piece of the puzzle without whom the picture could not be complete. You will see many examples of selflessness, philanthropy and commitment as you view the following pages and we hope you find the information interesting, insightful and inspirational. To our riders, Board members, volunteers, donors and staff; Thank you, thank you, thank you!

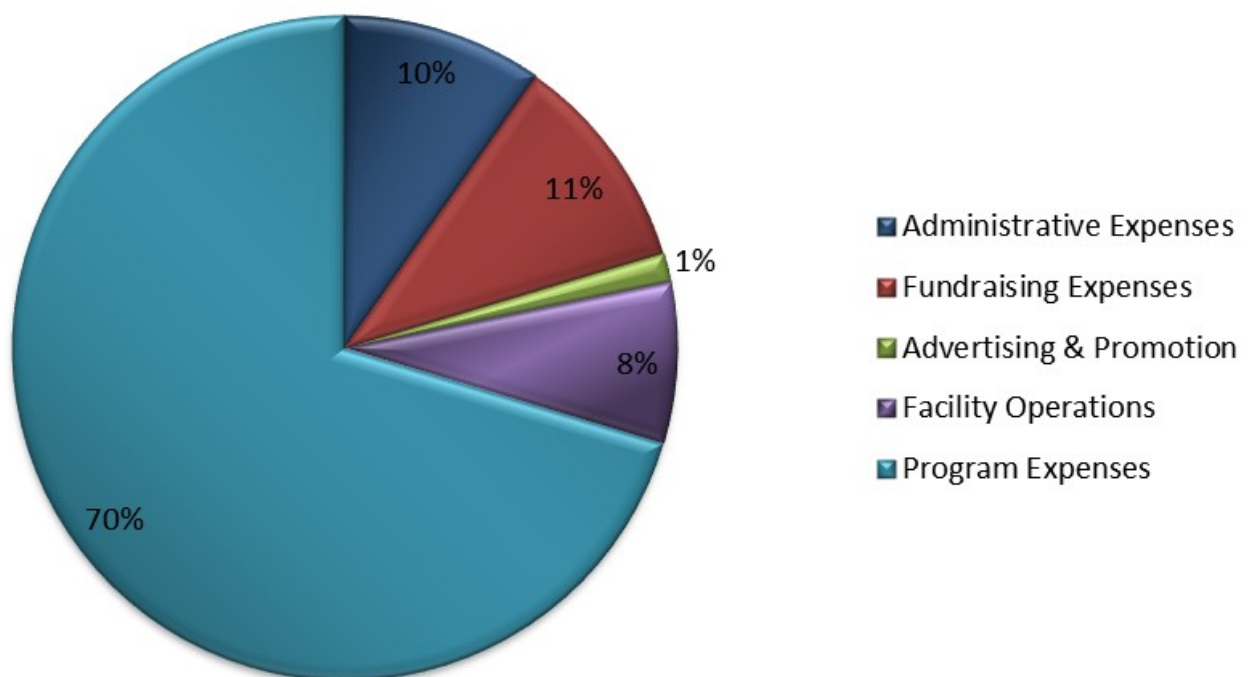
~Jennifer Douglas, Executive Director



Where Do the Funds Come From?



Where Do the Funds Go?



I'd like to take you through our own personal experience with PARDS. I have two sons, both of whom are on the Autism Spectrum. My younger son, Shayne, functions on about a 12 year old level although he's almost 17 and has no interest in horses or riding them. My older son, Josh, is 18 and functions on a toddler level. Josh is non-verbal but one of his few independent words is "horse". I believe this is, in large part, due to the positive experience he's always had at PARDS. He's a member of their family. He belongs.

As you can imagine, Josh doesn't get to belong in too many situations. The very nature and severity of his diagnosis keeps him on the fringes of most places and activities. Not at PARDS. There, he's celebrated for who he is. He's been coming to PARDS since we moved here seven years ago. At that time, the lessons were subsidized by the school district and took place during school hours with Josh's school aide, Mr. Moon. After the school district discontinued the program, we continued to bring Josh to PARDS because one of Josh's few independent words is "horse". And when the regulation came down last year that Josh, at 6'1" and 200 lbs, was too large to safely ride the horses and that PARDS had developed a new cart driving program for some of their clients, we continued to bring Josh to PARDS because one of his few independent words is "horse". Josh saves his independent words for things that really matter to him. Clearly, going every week to see the "horse" really matters to him. He loves the cart-driving program. The cause and effect of using the reins to guide the horse while it's pulling the cart seems to be much more fulfilling to him than it was while he was actually on the horses. The dedicated staff and volunteers of PARDS were determined not to see any client left behind. Josh comes out of every session with a smile on his face so they obviously came up with a winner there as far as Joshie is concerned.



Then, as often happens when things are running smoothly, we hit a bump in the road; Josh had a grand mal seizure. While we're hoping this is a one-time situation and doesn't usher in another delightful layer for our family, PARDS has a policy that seizures must be under control for 6 months before clients can ride or drive a cart. A necessary policy, certainly, but one that would exclude Josh. What PARDS has done, rather than take his PARDS family away from Josh, is to, once again, implement a new program so that everyone can be included. They've instituted a ground-driving program for Josh. He can still practice the driving skills he's learning, simply walking behind the horse rather than riding in a cart. For those with special needs in Grande Prairie, and their families, PARDS is an absolutely necessary island of inclusion and love.

PARDS is where Josh has had his first, and only, up to now, independent experiences. The staff at PARDS is so skilled and so accepting of Josh that he, non-verbal and functioning on a toddler level, can attend the adult day camps without an aide. The first day, when we came in and put his lunch in the fridge, then I said, "See you at 3:00" he was very confused. He'd never been anywhere by himself before. The next day, he put his lunch in the fridge and all but pushed me out the door. He was his own man at PARDS day camp and he did not need Mom hanging around anymore.



Wherever we go with our boys, they're tolerated. We've encountered very little outright cruelty or intolerance. But being tolerated is a cold, ugly thing. It sends a message of being less than those who are tolerating you. It sends a message that, no matter your merits, no matter your strengths, no matter what you bring to the table, you're only allowed to be there because of their good will. To be honest, it's almost as soul-destroying as intolerance. And all we can do, as parents, faced with a world that's determined to tolerate our children and keep them in their place, is to find as many places like PARDS as we can, where our boys are not tolerated, they're welcomed and accepted and celebrated for the totality of who they are. I can only speak for my family, but, for us, PARDS has made a world of difference.



~ Donna VanVeen, mother of PARDS rider, Josh

NEW FACILITY...

Over the past 10 years, our capacity to serve the children and adults within the disability community has reached a critical stage. We have found ourselves having to turn away many who need us. In an effort to remedy this situation, we broke ground on our new facility in 2013 and, thanks to the many generous organizations, individuals and corporations who have contributed to the project, our riders will be engaging in their therapeutic programs for their 2017 fall riding session from their new barn and arena! This facility takes away all barriers to growing, expanding and serving those in the Peace Region that experience physical, developmental, behavioural and social challenges.

There are so many people who have contributed to make the move to our new facility a reality. We recognize and appreciate all those donors and sponsors that specifically supported this project, but we can not truly share our story without remembering that throughout our 33 year history, there are many heroes who made it possible for PARDS to grow into the organization it is today. Without our rich history, we wouldn't be looking toward our bright future.

In 1983, a group of equine enthusiasts and physio therapists heard about a couple of therapeutic riding centres that had started up in the Peace Region. After visiting the facilities and learning more about the practical skills required to run a program, they determined that they wanted their community of Grande Prairie to create a similar program to support children and adults with disabilities living in the area. In October of 1983, Kay Griffiths, Ruth Finch and Cheryl Kuhn took the lead and developed the organization now known as PARDS.

In those early days, PARDS operated out of Fred Tissington's farm, 3R Stables (now Wedgewood Estates), with volunteers and horses borrowed from Ed Lightfoot. Within a few years, PARDS leased space from Evergreen Park and operated out of the Lewis Hawkes Arena. In 1992, Ed and Terri Haberman made a tremendous gift of 20 acres of land where we could build our very own facility. Chris DeWit provided \$100,000 toward the construction and the remaining funds required were raised through donations and gift-in-kind materials and labour. In January of 1994, the first lesson was offered out of the new PARDS. For over 20 years, our current home has served the community well. From 5 riders at inception, steady growth now sees over 350 therapeutic riders in our arena each year. The Haberman Family continues to support PARDS through providing letters of support and words of encouragement as we enter into our next phase. Their original gift continues to give as well, as we are able to sell the land to help fund our future.

This has been a long time coming and we appreciate the support and encouragement we have received.

Thank you to all who have supported our very special riders for so many years. Without you, there could be no us. Your generosity lives on through each and every rider, past, present and future, who are able to develop and grow beyond what they ever thought possible because you believed in their potential and the benefits of therapeutic horsemanship.

As the construction schedule allows, we invite all of our project partners to come out for a tour to see first hand the impact your contribution has made to the project and to all the riders that will benefit.

~Jennifer Douglas, Executive Director



New Facility Updates

7



RIDING ARENA



BARN



VIEWING AREA

Thank You to our Project Partners



Tom Brown 1000 Mile Ride



**Rotary Club
of Grande
Prairie**

**Ed & Terri Haberman
& Family**

Robert & Ruth Finch



**SOUTHWEST
Design & Construction Ltd.**



Dean & Sheilah Swanberg

Bowes Family

Karen Blais



**Swan City
Rotary Club**



**BEHLEN
Made Strong**



**Rotary Club of
Grande Prairie
Sunrise**



☞ Glen's Graders ☞ McLeod Family ☞ Sanjel Corp. – Staff Fund ☞

☞ 1266823 AB Inc. ☞ Diamond J Equine Services Ltd. ☞ Hans Vallen Painting ☞

☞ Sheepto Fencing ☞ Charlie & Marilyn Cramer & Family ☞ Dulux Paint ☞

☞ Evaskevich Family ☞ Joe Peskunowicz ☞ St. Gerard School - Leaders of the New World ☞

☞ AccuPro Real Estate Appraisal & Consulting ☞ Bryan Tink & Family ☞

☞ Roy Borstad ☞ Roy Bickell ☞ Wade Mayer ☞



He likes the trotting and loves a bit of a challenge. I have noticed an improvement with his confidence on and off the horse.

Thank you so much for all your hard work and patience with our daughter. It shows in her excitement to come to lessons as well as her confidence.

Tristin is always happy after riding

Rebecca always enjoys her time at PARDS. The instructors are excellent with her and don't let her get away with being lazy. Huge thank you to the volunteers that help with her lessons couldn't do it without you!

PARDS has been a great learning experience for my students for listening skills and physical skills.

My daughter has shown significant improvement in her upper body strength since joining the rider program. As a result of being born with Cerebral Palsy, she used to easily lose her balance and fall often. With the increased strength and balance she has gained from riding, she is able to catch herself to avoid a fall. It was a very emotional moment the first time I saw her able to stop herself from falling. My daughter gets easily sidetracked so needs a firm, consistent instructor. One example is the issue of her not always using her affected left hand. I am aware of her limitations, as is her instructor, but from the positive, encouraging coaching she receives at PARDS, I see my daughter always wanting to try.

Robyn goes above and beyond our expectations. Karlee loves her! She is always looking at ways to help Karlee grow in her experiences!

Josh is non-verbal, but he can say "horse". I believe this is, in large part, due to the positive experience he's always had at PARDS. He's a member of their family. He belongs.

It has helped our teens both physically as well as strengthened their social skills and confidence.

Our daughter has come so far; she has become completely independent and we are so proud of her. We believe this is due to her comfort level with the staff and environment. We hope to see her keep progressing.

I can only speak for my family, but, for us, PARDS has made a world of difference. All they want to do, through their new, larger facility, is make that same difference for everyone who needs it.

Kamryn is one of our young riders who has recently begun her riding journey with PARDS. In addition to her therapy, sport, recreation, and educational goals, Kamryn aspires to be a jumper. As a quadruple amputee, Kamryn has made great strides in her riding. In five short months, Kamryn went from having a leader and two side walkers to only requiring a leader. She started riding with no reins, quickly progressing to using neck reining as her method of steering. One of Kamryn's first mounts, Montney, has a background in the western discipline and neck reining, making them an amazing team! One of her goals was to ride in the Para Dressage Video competition. Kamryn worked hard to prepare herself and Montney for their first riding competition and together completed their competition video the last week of April and placed first in her division of Coast to Coast Class 2. Since then, Kamryn has continued to participate and excel in video competitions.

When asked about Kamryn and her experiences with PARDS, Kamryn's mother, Dale shared some insight into Kamryn's life journey. Thank you Dale, Kamryn is an inspiration for all!

"Born healthy on March 15, 2010 Kamryn fell ill at the age of 11 months. After spending a week on life support, two months in the Stollery Children's Hospital and 6 months away from her home, Kamryn returned home to Grande Prairie in August, 2011 as a quadruple amputee.

"Kamryn has proven from day one that she is a fighter and full of energy and life. She spends her free time keeping up with her brothers and every day discovers new ways to do all the ordinary tasks that we all too often take for granted. Like any typical child, Kamryn loves sports and keeping busy. She has tried dance, swimming and gymnastics and constantly overcomes any challenges to be successful in all that she does.

"Kamryn has also been an animal lover and in particular very fond of horses. Kamryn attended her first riding lesson at PARDS and both her and I knew immediately that this was going to be a perfect fit.

"As a child with quadruple amputations, Kamryn has found a way to be successful in all that she does, however it comes with a lot of work and often times isn't easy. At PARDS, Kamryn immediately felt comfort and success with that first lesson; a feeling that she often has to work much harder to experience. Kamryn rides once a week, however she asks to go seven days a week. With each new week Kamryn's confidence grows leaps and bounds. She is able to vocalize everything that she does and her demeanor exudes pure confidence and pride as she recaps every moment of each lesson.

"As mentioned, she has found a way around the barriers and has been successful in all that she does, however this experience is beyond anything we have experienced with any sport. Immediately Kamryn succeeded and nothing had to be altered for her to do so. She doesn't have to use special equipment, doesn't have to take breaks and, most importantly, she has been able to find her passion in something that is realistic for her abilities now and as she grows.

"Having two brothers who both participate in competitive sports, Kamryn yearns to also be a competing athlete and PARDS is making this a reality for her.

"As a parent of a child with quadruple amputations it's a constant struggle of wanting to ensure that Kamryn experiences everything that any other child may experience while still preserving her self esteem and confidence. PARDS has given us the perfect opportunity for Kamryn to be active, gain skills, find a passion and experience success while following her current dream of entering competitions."

PARDS is glad to be a part of your dreams
Kamryn!

~Jennifer Wolf with Dale Bond



Video Competition Day!!



What does PARDS look for in a therapeutic program horse prospect?

We don't look for a specific breed, as each horse is viewed as an individual. Traits we look for include: soundness, three good clear gaits (no gaited breeds) at walk, trot and canter, a nice temperament, low flight response, a minimum of 14HH and ideally between the ages of 10 and 17. We look for horses that are well-schooled in either English or Western. Experience in 4H, Pony Club and the competitive riding disciplines is a huge asset. They should have good ground manners and be able to tolerate the attention of many people.

Not every horse has what it takes to be a PARDS therapeutic riding horse. It takes a specific skill set combined with strong training and unique character traits for a horse to be accepted as a therapy horse partner.

It is sometimes necessary for us to seek out horses who have very specific skills and attributes in order to maintain a well-rounded herd for the benefit of all of our riders and often, these horses are not available as a donation.

With this in mind, PARDS created the Horse Sponsorship Program. To ensure a safe and beneficial riding experience, we seek community members and companies to sponsor the purchase price including associated costs (vet check, vaccinations, etc.) of a suitable therapeutic program horse. Sponsors are encouraged to name "their" horse, and signage is provided on the stall door with the horse's name along with the name of the sponsor.

All horses, whether donated or purchased, undergo a lengthy assessment and vet check before they come into the program as a PARDS 'Trial Horse'. During a trial period of approximately 7 weeks, PARDS qualified staff will further assess the horse before accepting them into the program.

2016 Horse of the Year

Congratulations to Windsor, PARDS' 2016 Horse of the Year!

Windsor is a Bay Anglo-Arab Gelding, and he stands at 15.3HH. Windsor was born in 1997.

Windsor started as a Therapeutic riding horse in 2014 and is sponsored by Windsor Ford Grande Prairie.

Windsor had a very active show career before he started with PARDS. He was a familiar face on the dressage circuit, and competed up to Training Level.

Riding Windsor is beneficial to riders with neurological disorders such as Multiple Sclerosis. His three smooth gaits (walk, trot and canter) can help improve muscle tone, balance, coordination, protective reactions and overall physical condition. His narrow base is comfortable for riders with tight/spastic legs muscles.

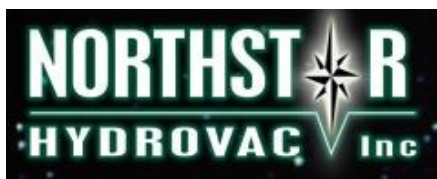


Horse Sponsorship

Star

Starlight is an Arab/Welsh mare, and she stands at 13.1HH. 'Star' as she is known at PARDS, was born in 2009, which makes her one of the youngest horses in our herd. Star has been with PARDS since September 2015 and those who have met this little firecracker know she has proven to be a natural fit for our programs. Star has been generously sponsored by Northstar Hydrovac.

Due to her small stature, Star is a fabulous horse for our young riders. Her quick and rolling step makes her a wonderful horse for our riders who are riding with the goal of improving their speech. The movement she gives to riders allows for muscles in the jaw and neck to become supple which can help some riders to vocalize. She's also wonderful for smaller riders looking for independence and her responsive but sometimes sassy nature allows them to advance in their skills by asking them to work through obstacles and work as a team with her. In 2016 Star competed in her very first Equine Canada Video Competition with one of her riders.



PARDS could not exist without the generosity of sponsors and donors. Words might not suffice to thank them for everything they do but we hope they find their thanks in the eyes and faces of the children and adults who work with the horses here. Every sponsor of PARDS is helping make a direct positive impact on hundreds of lives. In 2016, the following companies and organizations helped us to raise funds, or raised funds on our behalf. Thank you so very much!



Sunnybrook &
Brookside Community
BBQ



ACT Ladies
(GP) Club



Telus Days of Giving

Prairie Dusters
Drill Team

St. Joe's HAS for
Caring Hearts

Mike Levesque
Real Estate

PARDS Summer Camp



PARDS summer camps provide an inclusive environment where those of all abilities are encouraged and supported to identify and build on their own strengths as well as recognize and appreciate the strengths of others.

2016 was another great year of Summer fun at PARDS in all of our Riding Camps. We hosted 5 weeks of PARDS Inclusive Summer Day Camps and 2 weeks of Adult Therapeutic Camp. We also partnered with Camp Tamarack for 3 weeks of their riding camps.

Our camps are full of fun and friendship. They are also full of all kinds of learning and personal discovery hidden within the games, activities and adventures. Almost all of PARDS programs are incorporated into the day camps including Riding, Grooming, Cart Driving and Youth Leadership. It's a fantastic way to learn the basics of horse care, riding, horsemanship, cart driving and much more. The last day includes a horse show where campers are individually celebrated for their achievements.

We are pleased to report that all riders throughout the summer had a ton of fun!

We look forward to being in our new facility for the 2017 Summer Camps!



Terri (not her real name), is 12 years old. Terri joined the Youth Leadership Program after experiencing the abandonment of her mother. Her father works in the oil & gas industry and they have no extended family in the area. Terri's dad has had to place a heavy reliance on outside assistance to provide supervision and care for Terri. During her intake interview before joining the program, Terri shared that she felt it was her fault that her mother left and that her father "chose" to work at his current job because it allowed him to be away from her. She presented as shy, bubbly, sullen and sad at different times throughout the interview. When asked why she wanted to participate in the program, she responded that "horses are pretty cool" and "I have nothing else to do". Terri shared no expectations as to her goal in the program beyond her preference for "Black Beauty" types of horses.

Our first activity with any Youth Leadership group, after initial introductions of all group members, is to go out to the paddock and simply observe the horses in their own space. The horses are chosen for this activity based on their demeanor and characteristics suitable to the needs of the program participants. Beyond selecting the herd, there is no one horse intended to partner with any specific participant at this stage. Participants are instructed not to call to the horses or try to engage them in any way. The purpose of this exercise is to identify any signs of anxiety and to give both the participants and the horses an opportunity to become comfortable around one another. Terri did not even appear to be paying any attention to the herd, she was simply wrapped up in her own thoughts. Within a few minutes, Hot Wheels, a precocious miniature horse with a pronounced under bite and 80's rock-star mane, approached Terri and simply stood in front of her on the other side of the fence and waited for her to notice him. After a couple of minutes, when she did not respond to him, he pulled at the bottom of her jacket with his teeth and "forced" her to pet him. When it was time to move into the arena with the chosen horse partners, Terri shared that she really liked the tall, stocky chestnut horse, but she felt bad for Hot Wheels because he seemed to really like her and she didn't want him to feel bad that she didn't pick him. So, Terri decided that she would work with Hot Wheels for the lesson, but made sure with the facilitator that she wouldn't get "stuck" with him for future lessons. The facilitator agreed that she could work with the chestnut horse the following week.

The first arena activity the participants did with their horse partners was to remove the halter and stand a distance of 10 feet away and try to get the horse to come to them. As this is the first meeting between horse and participant, the horse typically ignores their human and wanders the arena. The purpose of the exercise is to develop a slow and steady pace in developing trust and friendship. When it came time for Terri and Hot Wheels to do the exercise, Hot Wheels walked right up to Terri, nudged her hand with his head and refused to move away. We could all visibly see the relaxation in Terri's shoulders before she dropped down on the arena floor, silently crying. Hot Wheels then dropped his head down into her lap and continued to nudge her for more pets.

For any individual to experience that level of acceptance and trust so immediately is profound; for someone who feels unlovable, lonely and scared, it is a life line. I'm sure it comes as no surprise that Terri chose to partner with Hot Wheels for the entire 6 week session!

This is just one of many stories of the impact of the human horse relationship. The program offers the chance for youth to tell

their story and work on their challenges by attributing their hopes, fears and behaviours to their horse partners. This creates a very safe space to explore feelings, work on interpersonal skills and engage in building relationships.

~ The Youth Leadership Team



Program funding provided in part by:



Equine Canada Para-Equestrian Video Competition

For individuals with a disability, Para-Equestrian sport can represent an opportunity to enjoy freedom and movement by learning to ride a horse, competing alongside their peers, and progressing to high-level competitions such as the Paralympic Games or the World Equestrian Games. Challenges can be overcome and the experience is so rewarding.

There are many benefits to Para-Equestrian Sport for individuals with a disability. Para-Equestrian Sport:

- ◆ Provides riders with goals and focus
- ◆ Improves or restores self-confidence and feelings of satisfaction as a result of acquiring the ability to work in partnership with the horse to achieve success
- ◆ Provides a sense of empowerment and the ability to acquire the knowledge, skills, and confidence to become effective advocates for themselves and others
- ◆ Enables riders to compete alongside their peers
- ◆ Focuses attention on abilities and moves the disability to the shadows

(The Power of Para-Equestrian Sport, 2015)

"Disabled children are equally entitled to an exciting and brilliant future. We must see to it that we remove the obstacles... whether they stem from poor access to facilities; poor education; lack of transport; lack of funding; or unavailability of equipment such as children's wheelchairs. Only then will the rights of the disabled to equal opportunities become a reality." - Nelson Mandela, December 1995

"Competitive sports have proven to be an effective vehicle to promote equality, inclusion, accessibility and awareness about the capabilities of those with a physical disability. ...and dispel the stigma surrounding disability and illuminate the realm of possibility." - <http://www.paralympic.org>; Roger, 2005, p. 51

Para-Equestrian Sport 2016 Video Competition Video Series

Some of our riders took part in Equine Canada's Video Competition Series in 2016 and they achieved some wonderful results. We are so proud to be a part of their accomplishments and their efforts to achieve their own personal goals. Congratulations to all that participated!

April 2016 Coast-to-Coast Video Competition

Class #2 – Steering Pattern Class for Riders with a Leader and 1 Side Walker

1st / Kamryn Bond

Class #9 –Equitation/Horsemanship for Independent Riders (Walk, Trot/Jog, Canter/Lope)

1st / Zayda Charles 2nd / Abbygaelle Bruels de Tiecken

May 2016 Coast-to-Coast Video Competition

Class #2 – Steering Pattern Class for Riders with a Leader and 1 Side Walker

1st / Kamryn Bond

Class #3 - Steering Pattern Class for Riders with a Leader

1st / Kevin Simon 2nd / Matthew Withers

Class #5 - Obstacle Course with a Leader

1st / Nicole Wasylchew

Class #6 - Obstacle Course for Independent Riders

1st / Andrew Bienert

Class #9 –Equitation/Horsemanship for Independent Riders (Walk, Trot/Jog, Canter/Lope)

4th / Justeen Schneider 6th / Zachary Bienert

5th / Zayda Charles 7th / Leilani Rubie



31st Annual Fund Ride & Community Carnival

FUND RIDE SPONSORS



You're at home here.



Peace Fuel Distributors(2012)
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Northern Bottling Ltd.
Devon Tretiak

Northern Metalic
Wapiti Shell
Sheldon Hannah Ins.
The Co-operators
Fentie's Petroleum

Field Engineering & Assoc.
Costco Wholesale
Horse Trekking Adventures
Vector Communications

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Chris Wolf
CIKT Q99
Cineplex
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Freson Bros. IGA North
Freson Bros. IGA South
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Sue Waslychew
Superior Fire Control Ltd
The Butcher Shop
Trin Potratz & Ariane Cote



PARDS 31st Annual FUND Ride was a huge success, as fun was had by all!
We couldn't have done it without the amazing volunteers who gave hours of their time.
We thank you!



Thank you to the ROTARY CLUB of Grande Prairie Barbeque Crew for providing an amazing pancake breakfast and BBQ lunch

TRAIL CHECKPOINTS

Rick Parsons—Captain
Brian Nock
John Potts
Mike Cassidy
Dennis Bancesco
John Gilge
Lee Johnson
Heinz Schar

REGISTRATION

Gayle Mayer- Captain
Carolynne McBride
Lorri Predy
Sue Wasylchew
Barb Wald
Shirley Kyle
Dave Perks
Nancy Ingram
Marge Elliott (Trail Boss)

COUNTY OF GRANDE PRAIRIE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Kevin LeBlanc and crew

PONY RIDE

Robyn Boudreau— Captain
Shauna Wells— Captain
Amanda Udey— Captain
Carol Balcome
Doug Balcome
Louis Ducsharm
Marilyn Walker
Laura Jansen
Nicole O'Flaherty
Nicole Crowley
Lynda Brown
Arlene Stubbs
Rose Donnelly
Barb Wald
Laurie Prichuck
with ponies Tory & Jetta

Horse Hauling

Alysoun Wells
Vince Hauber

VOLUNTEER BBQ & FUND RIDE DINNER

Sue Wasylchew— Captain
Shirley Kyle
Cathy Withers
Rob Lovely
George Boudreau
Dan Buchaski
Charlie Cramer
Daniel Bartlett

PEACE DRAFT HORSE CLUB

Gordon Frentz with his team, Scout & Chief

TRAIL SETUP

Mort Timanson— Captain
Darrel Sweetman
Gordon Frentz

SITE PLANNING SETUP & TEARDOWN

Jenn Douglas- Captain
Jim Rawlek - Captain
Dave Westwell
Jenn Ash
Terry Proulx
Corrina Boudreau
Tyler Boudreau
Mark Van der Raadt
Martin Paradis
James Holton
Robyn Boudreau
Amanda Udey
Cal Isley
Matthew Withers
Rick Parsons
Jennifer Wolf
Gayle Mayer
Nicole Wasylchew
Josh Dyck
Katie Mayer

Thank you to Trin & Ariane for our dinner time entertainment!



MEDIC

Connie Steigenberger

CARNIVAL

Jennifer Wolf— Captain
James Holton— Captain
Dave Westwell
Dale Roth
Bill Jones
Josh Dyck
Wade Mayer
Grande Prairie 4H
Achiever Club
Caitlyn Holton
Kim Aickelin
Rebecca Charles
Charlie Cramer
Kailey Coombs
Ellen Bowles

Marcella Flasha
Bernadette Gordon
Lon Rubie
Sharon Wilson
Audrey Raskaukas
Lisa Reid
Grace Bordas
Shelby Douglas
Brandy Boudreau
Lindsey McNeil
Nancy Ingram
Katie Mayer
Judi Harker
Sally Perkins
Eve van deBeek
Jane Penson

Robyn Wells
Presley Wells
Dave Perks
Amber Walsh
Jillian Coughlin
Lacy Schramm
Jami Clark
Jenn Steele
Kashe Clark
Stephanie Clement—
Lacroix
Kaydence Gerwatoski
1st Grande Prairie Rangers
Emma Linfield
Emily Andrews

Loren Gomez
Renee Morvan
2nd Grande Prairie Pathfinders
Courtney Stadelman
Molly Linfield
Peyton Blinston
Holly Stark
Cassandra Wohlgemuth
Leaders:
Adrea Simmons
Carolyn Schmid

PARDS RIDER'S

Donna Hatton
Zayda Charles
Kevin Simon
Nicole Wasylchew
Michael Knox
Gloria Bigstone
Aly Keay
Hayley Greig
Matthew Withers
Laura Flett
Todd Perks
Jaiden Walsh
Anevay Fraser

FUND RIDE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Jim Rawlek Dave Westwell James Holton Rick Parsons Mort Timanson Sue Wasylchew Marge Elliott
Shirley Kyle Carolynne McBride Robyn Boudreau Gayle Mayer Jenn Ash Jenn Douglas Jennifer Wolf

Outstanding Community Support

Need For Feed

To ensure our incredible herd stay healthy, PARDS launched a 'Need for Feed' campaign where we sought donations of high quality hay from Peace Area farmers. It took many hands, tremendous amounts of hard work, cooperative weather and lots of generous people to make this campaign a success. We were so pleased to successfully secure an entire year's worth of feed for our herd. Thank you to everyone who made the campaign a success.

Baled Hay Donations

Dean & Sheliah Swanberg, Kenneth & Sherry Drysdale, Larry Betker, Bob & Barb Viravec, Warren Wohlgemuth, Gregg & Joanne Panteluk and Northern Doors

Hay Field Donations

Harold & Darcy Schalin of GP Landscaping Ltd and Bob & Bev Campbell with Dave & Jen Gatto

Haying & Equipment Donation

Vincent Hauber & Douglas Lake Equipment

Hay Transport Donation

Randy Smashnuk of Smash & Sons Contracting, Justin Binks of Teepee Creek Hauling & Joe Francoeur Trucking

Volunteers: Justin Binks, Cortney Antypovich, Kaden Drysdale, Kobe Drysdale, Craig Drysdale, Wayne Benn, Jim Rawlek, Dave Westwell, Eric Douglas, Robert Douglas, Ray Binks and his group of Grande Prairie 4H Achievers, Jenn Ash, Shauna Wells, Robyn Boudreau, Amanda Udey, Leigh Melligan, Alex McLean, Kerry Kyle, Anna Kittilsen and Patsy Wachter and her volunteers!

Dime At A Time

PARDS "Dime At A Time" is a year long campaign to raise funds toward equine staff healthcare through the collection of recyclables. Below is a list of generous campaign partners and donors who helped us raise an astonishing **\$14,887.10** for PARDS Therapeutic programs!

Campaign Partners

Crown & Anchor
Better Than Fred's
Urban Red Rock
Great Northern Casino
Sawmill Prime Rib & Steakhouse

Campaign Partners

Shark Club
Earl's
Boston Pizza
Pita Pit
Starbuck's

Campaign Donors

China Rose
Joey's Urban
Richie Brothers
Ramona's Pizza
Tractor Jacks
Centre West Car Wash
Generous Peace Area Residents

Great "Neigh"bour

PARDS would like to thank the following businesses of Grande Prairie & Area for their tremendous support of PARDS Great 'Neigh'bour Campaign. Together, they raised \$4,116.81 for PARDS Therapeutic Programs.

Keddie's Tack & Western Wear

Vacation Kennels

Midwest Furniture Rentals

Grains Bakery

Peavey Mart

The Butcher Shop

ICFR Grande Prairie

Mr. Mike's Steakhouse Casual

Happy Trails RV

Mama & Papa's Café

UFA

Country Club Animal Clinic

Bear Creek Animal Clinic

West County Animal Clinic

Daddio's Pizzeria

Coffee Crave

Greenhawk Harness & Equestrian

Home Hardware

Calvert's Department Store

D'Luxe

Apline Water

Freson IGA

Auto Village Car Wash & Detailing

Beachcomber Hot Tubs & Home Leisure





Agri Show & Home Show—PARDS was excited to attend both the Agri Show & Home Show for the first time with Gator Raffle partners, PrairieCoast Equipment. We enjoyed our time at the shows meeting both new and old friends while selling Gator tickets and promoting PARDS. Thank you to PCE for sharing their booth space and the volunteers who manned the booth.



ATB Jail & Bail—PARDS was excited to partner with ATB Financial for their annual Jail & Bail to raise money for the Stollery Children's Hospital. To help raise funds, PARDS signed both Petunia & Hot Wheels up to collect pledges. This meant that they were arrested by local police officers for 'speeding' and went to jail until they raised \$1000. Hot Wheels & Petunia enjoyed meeting everyone who stopped by the branch. Thank you to ATB Financial for the opportunity to raise money for such a great cause while creating awareness for PARDS.



Better Than Fred's—This year John invited PARDS to be the benefitting charity for 2 of Better Than Fred's amazing concerts. As always, the place was packed, music was good, and company was great! PARDS volunteers had a great time selling tickets at both concerts! Thank you John for the invite and to the volunteers who gave their time to sell 50/50 tickets.



Canadian Brewhouse—This year the Canadian Brewhouse invited PARDS to host several 50/50 nights as well as a silent auction with all proceeds going to PARDS Therapeutic Programs. Our volunteers had a great time!



Wembley Mud Bogs—This year PARDS was generously given booth space at the Wembley Mud Bogs. Our volunteers braved the cold, wet and windy weekend with front row seats to some very exciting races! Despite the weather, everyone enjoyed a great event. Thank you to the Wembley Mud bogs for the invite and the volunteers who braved the cold to man the booth and sell 50/50 tickets.



South Peace Horse Club—The South Peace Horse Club gave PARDS a booth to provide new facility tours, discuss our programs and sell Gator Tickets at their events. Thank you for the invite, PARDS staff had a great time manning the booth.



Chamber Spring & Fall Shows—PARDS had booths at both the Spring and Fall Chamber Showcases where we met many great people. We caught up with old friends and made many new ones while sharing about PARDS programs and fundraisers. As always, the food was delicious and the company was great!



Peace Horse Draft Club—PARDS was excited to help the Northern Spirit Light Show out this year by making hot chocolate & apple cider. We had 7 volunteers out for the occasion and everyone loved the super toasty cabin and sleigh rides! We also had a staff member who got to spend a lot of time with the club being trained to drive this season. We all had such a great time, we're already counting down until next time!



PARDS had an extremely busy summer filled with Rodeo adventures! Thanks to the generosity of the following rodeos we attended and were able to promote PARDS programs as well as sell Gator tickets: **Grande Prairie Stampede, Rio Grande Rodeo, Rycroft Race the 8, Valleyview Fair & Rodeo & Grimshaw North Peace Stampede.** Thank you so much for including PARDS in your events.



Pomeroy Guitars & Wagons—Not only did we promote our programs and sell Gator Raffle tickets, but PARDS was also chosen to be the 50/50 beneficiary for the entire show, including the concerts!



TP Creek Stampede—We had a great time celebrating their centennial year with them! PARDS had a booth in which we offered games by donation and spoke to many great people about our programs. Our volunteers truly enjoyed the sunshine and water fights that seemed to break out with the duck races. PARDS also partnered with the Stampede to host the Saturday morning breakfast. Volunteers had a blast working together and feeding some very hungry and appreciative folks. We certainly enjoyed our 4 days in the wild!

~Jenn Ash, Community Engagement Coordinator

PARDS 19th Annual Dine & Dance "Hoofprints & Heartbeats"

"Mane" Event Co-Sponsors



SOUTHWEST
Design & Construction Ltd.



Hearts, Hooves & Courage



John Perkins Insurance,
agent of



GP North Group of Companies—Clairmont



Horseshoe

Great Neighbourhood



DEW-Line Enterprises



Champagne Reception



Midnight Lunch



Thank you so much to the following individuals & business for their
donations to PARDS' 19th Annual Dine & Dance...

4 Paws Dog Grooming	Costco Wholesale	Grande Prairie Therapeutic Massage
Abelone Petersen	Countryside Motor Sports	Grant Berg Art Gallery
Action Car & Truck Accessories	Crystal Catering	Gramma Puff's Poppery
Adrea Simmons	Culligan Water Conditioning of GP	Great Northern Casino
All-West Northern Glass Ltd.	Cute as a Bug's Ear	Greenhawk Harness & Equestrian Supplies
Al's News	Daddio's Pizzeria	Gregg Distributors
Anderson Hearing Aid & Audiology Service	Dale King	Grovedale Golf Course
Anita Weiss-Pierce	Darren Bosomworth Trucking	Happy Trails RV Inc.-Peter & Susan Teichroeb
Anna Kittilsen	Den Pub & Carvery	Helen Moore-Partylite
Assure Lock	Domino's Pizza	Hertz
Baileigh Wardill	Don Golden Auto Body Ltd.	Holly J Crichton
Bear Creek Animal Hospital	Douglas Lake Equipment	Home Hardware West
Bear Creek Funeral Home	Down to Earth Petting Zoo	Homesteader Health
Bear Creek Golf Club	Dressed to Dry Kitchen Towels-Elly VanDyk	House of Spades Boutique
Better Than Fred's	Earl's	Houses by Design -Elly VanDyk
Best Western	Edward's Factory Outlet	Inland Heidelberg Cement Group
Big Timber Archery & Hunting	Egan's Pub	Inspectrum Testing Inc .
Blackman's Butcher Shop	Encana Events Centre	Janice Lutsenko's Flower Art
Bliss Be Fit	Ernie's Sports Experts	Jamie Oliver
Boston Pizza Westend	Evelyn Viens Dobish-Royal LePage	Jenn Ash
Brown's Socialhouse	Evergreen Park	Jennifer Douglas
Calista's Career & Bridal Wear	Expert Mobile Communications	Jennifer Wolf
Canada Post	Expressions Home Décor	JH Interiors
Canadian Brewhouse	Famosa Neapolitan Pizzeria	Joan Prankie
Captured Wishes-Marlene Massam	Fashionista	Joe & Jan Gass
Carolyn Sinclair	Fenton's Greenhouses	John Perkins Insurance
Cat the Rental Store	Forever with Deanna	Jonathan's Gold & Diamonds
Cedar Products	Foster's Covered Wagons	Jysk
Cheeky Chic	Gayle Mayer	Kelly Rawlek
Chiropractic Wellness Centre	Giant Tiger	Kelly Sutherland
Chris Wolf	Global Pet Foods	Kelsey Hesse - Arbonne
Cinder Creations	GP Animal Hospital	Klassica Fashions
Cindy Rau	GP DownTown Association	KMSC Law LLP
Cineplex Odeon	GP Express	Laurie Duncan - South Hill Designs
City of Grande Prairie, Mayor's Office	GP Lawn Doctor	Laurie Duncan - Color by Amber
Clearstream TV	GP Live Theatre	Leather Plus
Coffee Crave	Grande Prairie Coffee Co	Lee's Sheet Metal
Commandeur Mechanical	Grande Prairie Golf & Country Club	Leyman Distributors Ltd.
Connie Steigenberger	Grande Prairie Kubota	Lori Zaichkowsky
Contractor Dad	Grande Prairie Stompede	Love Boutique
County of Grande Prairie Fire Dept.	Grande Prairie Storm Hockey Club	

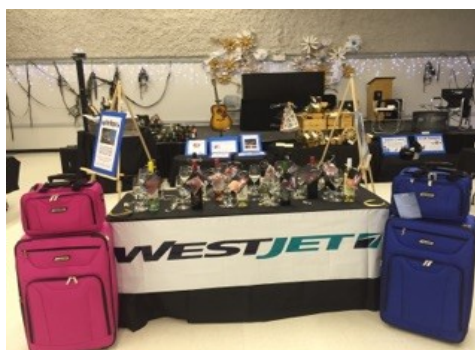
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Lyne Hallman & Silver Barn Fabs
 Marge Elliott
 Marlin Travel
 Marmot Basin
 McDonald's
 Michael Hill
 Milano for Men
 Miss Faith Esthetics
 Monaco Shoes
 Motion Fitness
 Mountain Park Lodges
 Moxie's
 Nevada Bob's Golf
 Nitehawk Recreation Area
 Nicole Crowley
 Northern Bottling Ltd.
 Northern Lights Metal Art
 Norwex Enviro Products
 Odessa Doors Ltd.
 Paintings by Shirley
 Pala's Vitamin Honey Farm Ltd.
 Paradise Inn
 Park Lane Jewelry
 Pat's Auto
 Peace Country Western Dance Club
 Peace Draft Horse Club
 Peavey Mart
 Phillip J Currie Dinosaur Museum
 Picture Perfect Frame & Gallery
 Pita Pit
 Pizza Hut
 Plank Health Coaching/GP Peace Pillows
 Powder King Mountain Resort
 Pure Home Design
 Pye Family
 QEII Hospital Foundation

RCMP—Grande Prairie Detachment
 Reach 96.3 FM
 Red Rock Urban BBQ
 Reilly Transfer
 Resource Purchasing & Supply
 Revolution Auto Group
 Rio Grande Rodeo
 Riverbend Golf Course
 Rocky Mountain Equipment
 Rocky Mountain Roasters
 RONA
 Royal Spirits Wine & Ale
 Safeway – Northside
 Salon West
 Sandvold Family
 Save-On Foods
 Sawmill Prime Rib & Steakhouse
 Sawridge Inn & Conference Center
 Scentsy –Baileigh Wardill
 Service Plus Inns & Suites
 Seven Generations Energy
 Scott & Tina Gaylard
 Shirley Kyle
 Stanford Hotel Grande Prairie
 Sterling Upholstery
 Stonebridge Hotel
 Strandz Styling
 Stringham LLP
 Suddenly Slender
 Sue Wasylchew
 Susie Gardiner
 Sylvia's Ventures
 Synergy Aviation Ltd.
 Synergy Promotions
 Teepee Creek Stampede
 The Gift Box

The Health Hut
 The Vine Luxury Spa
 Tina Finch
 Tim Hortons – The Allard Group
 Todd Perks
 Tony Roma's
 Touch of Wellness
 Town of Sexsmith
 Tractor Jack's
 Troyer Ventures
 U Bar Ranch
 Vintage Wine & Spirits
 Wayne Drysdale, MLA
 Warehouse One - The Jean Store
 Western RV
 Windsor Ford
 Windsor Ford RV
 Wizard's Touch Countertops

*And a great big Thank
 You to everyone who
 donated bottles of wine
 and homemade
 preserves and canned
 goods for our "Taste of
 Home" and "Instant
 Wine Cellar" live
 auction items.
 Together, these items
 raised \$3,000!*



Thank you to all of our generous donors and sponsors for your continued support. We would like to extend a special thank you to the following individuals and businesses for your commitment in making PARDS 19th Annual Dine and Dance a huge success.

- ~ Tom Pura for emceeing the event
- ~ Kathy Crough Catering & crew for the mouth watering meal
- ~ Dave Neale and his entourage for auctioneer services
- ~ Cloud 10 Music for donating the evening's DJ services

This Evening's Volunteers

~~~~~

- ~ Robyn Boudreau ~ Shelby Douglas ~ Leilani Gaylard ~
- ~ Sarah Gunter ~ Mona Merkley ~ Walter Merkley ~
- ~ Karin Neufeld ~ Nicole O'Flaherty ~ Bree Palasty ~
- ~ Louie Percell ~ Megan Schur ~ Trish VanDuinen ~ Barb Wald ~
- ~ Dine & Dance Committee Members ~

## *PARDS Dine & Dance Committee Members*

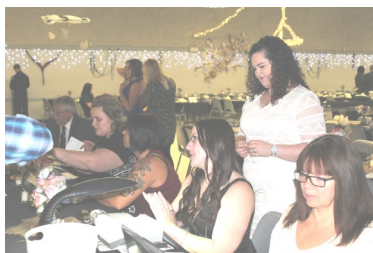
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Jenn Ash, Carol Balcome, Nichol Buchaski, Nicole Crowley, Jennifer Douglas, Marge Elliott, Tina Gaylard, Berit Graaten, Shirley Kyle, Gayle Mayer, Rick Parsons, Jim Rawlek, Natalee Rawsthorne, Barb Wald, Sue Wasylchew, Kelly Wilson and Jennifer Wolf

Thank you for volunteering your time, ideas and expertise to make this evening a success!

...and a HUGE PARDS "Thank You!!!" to you, our guests.

Thank you!!!



PARDS Volunteer of the Year: Mort Timanson**Mort Timanson - PARDS' 2016 Volunteer of the Year!**

It was an honour for PARDS to present Mort with this award at our Annual Dine & Dance event for all of his hard work and support of PARDS riders!

Mort has been a PARDS volunteer for many years, helping in lessons and the barn with his granddaughter. He has been a long time member of the Fund Ride Committee, keeping the trails safe and rewarding for the riders. He is also a member of the Peace Wapiti Corridor Planning Society as the PARDS representative.

Mort is always available to offer his wisdom and his help, whatever the situation requires.

Thank you Mort; PARDS is so lucky to have you in our family!

PARDS Volunteer Spotlight: Hunter Walker

Hunter has been involved with PARDS for several years, attending summer camps and lessons. He became a weekly volunteer in September of 2015 and since that time has become another invaluable PARDS volunteer.

Hunter is one of our younger volunteers who gives his time to PARDS. Although he is young, he shows a maturity beyond his years; he comes with a great attitude and strong work ethic, always busy mucking out stalls, grooming and tacking horses without needing prompting or continuous guidance which makes him a reliable and dedicated help in the barn.

Hunter also helps in lessons with riders as a leader or a side walker and our riders look forward to seeing him each week. He is encouraging and understanding with the riders; building confidence through kind words and actions, helping them to reach their highest potential.

During this year's summer camp, Hunter was the "big brother" to some of the younger campers, the helping hand to the staff and the team leader whenever a team was formed. Hunter played to his best ability, while demonstrating teamwork and honest sportsmanship. PARDS summer day camps are inclusive, therefore, some of the youth that participated have some form of disability. Hunter gave them support; taking the campers under his wing, helping them participate in camp games and activities to the best of their ability.



Hunter is an all round great volunteer who is a pleasure to be around and work with and we are lucky to have him.

~Jennifer Wolf, Volunteer Coordinator

PARDS Donor Spotlight: Big Stick Rentals

Big Stick Rentals opened their doors in Grande Prairie in May 2013 with 1 boom lift. Since then it has grown to over 60 pieces of equipment but specializes in aerial work platforms and telehandler rentals. Big Stick owner, Kevin Bjornsen, is a huge supporter of PARDS therapeutic programs. He was introduced to PARDS in September 2015 when he toured the new facility during the interior construction phase for his job. Since then, Big Stick has sponsored our FUND Ride and Dine & Dance events. Kevin has purchased many tickets for PARDS Gator raffle and Dine & Dance and can always be counted on to lend use of Big Stick equipment anytime it's needed. Kevin has also been very innovative with fundraising for the New Facility himself!



In July 2016 Kevin held a unique fundraiser which found him standing 125' in the air on a boom lift while people paid to shoot at him with a paintball gun. He vowed to remain in the air until he reached his goal of \$10,000. Armed with nothing but a cell phone and cooler of water, Kevin was lifted up in the air at 10:30am not knowing when he would be coming back down. With a donation of \$5, donors were able to take a shot at Kevin with a paintball gun. You could hear the shots ping off the boom and could even see Kevin flinch from afar when a paintball hit its mark. By 6:30pm Kevin had reached his goal thanks to the following companies: All Class Fabrication, Black Target Sales & Rentals Ltd., Echo Audio Video, Heat Oilfield Ltd., Iron Sun Construction, Mayne Transport & Recovery Services, Kubota Country, LED Services, Pat's Auto Supply, R/T Rentals, TriTech Safety & Training Inc., Vertical Building Solutions, Wallside Exteriors and many of Kevin's friends, including his hockey team. Kevin certainly was happy his generous contacts & community members got him back down on the ground so quickly where he was met by Jenn Douglas with supper in hand. Kevin will tell you that this fundraiser is certainly his most memorable moment with PARDS!

In his time supporting PARDS, Kevin says the most interesting thing he has learned is how *"PARDS is all inclusive, catering to both the disability and non-disability communities and serving a population of all ages."* If you ask Kevin what he wishes the community knew about PARDS his answer would be *"that you need more money to finish the new facility and that the general public knew the revenue streams this facility will create, making PARDS future more self-sustainable."* Kevin will tell you that the reason he chooses to continue giving to PARDS is how well run and transparent the organization is; *"I know my money is going to the right places, and I'm always reassured that my money is going where it is most needed, the therapeutic programs. If I was able, I would love to someday see the 'Big Stick Riding Arena' in the new facility."* That is one thing PARDS is very proud of; 100% of donated funds go to the therapeutic programs.

We love Kevin's visits to the barn, there is never a boring conversation when Kevin is involved! We always look forward to him stopping by, and he usually arrives with treats in hand. He says he loves seeing the staff and rider interaction and how everyone is treated the same here. He will be the first person to tell you *"I always see more reasons to give every time I visit the barn!"* We are very appreciative of all the support Kevin shows PARDS Riders and we look forward to the laughs that come with working with him for a very long time into the future!



~Jenn Ash, Community Engagement

The following individuals, companies and organizations supported PARDS through donations of cash, gift-in-kind, horse sponsorship and selecting PARDS to be a recipient of fundraising efforts. We thank you all so much for your generosity and kindness...

1275458 ON Ltd.	Equine Canada	Marilyn Gourlay
Adrea Simmons (David)	Flaman Rentals	Mark Malekoff
After Five Rotary Club	Foster's Covered Wagons	Martha & Leo Dawson
Alberta Lands Inc.	Fountain Tire	Matt Patershuk
Alberta Veterinary Laboratories	Gerry Marcotte	Melodie Haystead
Allen & Sherry Avery	Gary Sarmaga	Merck Canada Inc
ARC Resources	Gayle Mayer	Morris Financial Group
Artesian Realty & Insurance Ltd.	Giant Tiger	Mountain View Properties
ATCO Electric EPIC Program	Harold & Darcy Schalin	Nancy Ingram & Hinton Wells
Aurora Spring Water	Harry James Bulford	Nickerson Family
Ava Wolf	Home Hardware Downtown	Norbord
Averil Valine	Isla & Chrystal Kier	Rebecca Perkins
Bear Creek Animal Clinic	Jackie Ryder	Rhonda Norrad
Beaverlodge HS Social Studies Class	James Rawlek	Risley Equipment
Becky McPhee	Jan Gass	Rob Van Dyk
Bethe Goldie	Janet Key	Robert Fournier
Bob & Barb Viravec	Jaxon Caines	Robert James & Eden Lancaster
Bonnie Sterling	Jennifer Douglas	Shamrock Pharmacy West
Bradvin Trailer Sales Ltd.	Jennifer Wolf	Shawn Burke
Carol Balcome	Joan Thors	Smash & Sons Contracting
Carol McLevin	Joanne Penteluk	Stacey Lowen
Christina Balcom	Joe Francoeur Trucking	Starbucks Mission
Christopher O'Mahony & CANLIFT Crane	John Driedger	Suneeta Whiteside
ConocoPhillips Canada Resources Corp.	Josh VanVeen	Svend Jensen
Cookshaw Family	Karen Badger	Terry A Dion
Culligan Water Conditioning of GP	Kasandra Hudson	Tina Berge
Dalyce Sather-McNabb	Ken & Linda Bienert	TP Creek Hauling
Dawn Miller	Ken & Sherry Drysdale	Travis Ashburner
Dean & Sheilah Swanberg	Kleskun Hills Bison Ranch	Travis Benn
Diane Pye	Kurtis Rief	Trent & Samantha Nowicki
DLK Consulting	Kyle Lindsay	Warren Wohlgemuth
Douglas Lake Equipment	Lance Hommy	Wild West Oilfield Rentals Ltd.
Edward Daniel & Joyce Balisky	Larry Betker	Zayda Charles
Erin Costley	Linda Perkins	
Erin Dufresne	Marge Elliott	

Thank you!

**Your continued support makes a huge impact
on so many lives!**

In Loving Memory

Thank you to all the family and friends who chose to remember their loved one through a gift to our special riders

John Bradley

Charlie Cramer

Ethel Drysdale

Kyle Harper

Don Line

David Nychka

Clifford Ross

Stewart Vance

Ryan Widdifield



Peace Area Riding for the Disabled Society

2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive

Chairperson
Christina Balcom
Vice Chair
Kris Waye
Treasurer
Tyla Savard
Secretary
Adrea Simmons

Directors

Raymond Binks, Past Chair
Todd Perks
Jim Rawlek

Outgoing Directors

Peter Waayenberg
Lyn Caldwell

Thank you for your service!

2016 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Fund Ride Committee

Jenn Ash	Carolyn McBride
Robyn Boudreau	Rick Parsons
Jennifer Douglas	Jim Rawlek
Marge Elliott	Mort Timanson
James Holton	Sue Wasylchew
Shirley Kyle	Dave Westwell
Gayle Mayer	Jennifer Wolf

Capital Campaign Committee

Christina Balcom
Raymond Binks
Jennifer Douglas
Jim Rawlek
Adrea Simmons
Peter Waayenberg
Kris Waye

Dine & Dance Committee

Jenn Ash	Shirley Kyle
Carol Balcom	Gayle Mayer
Nichol Buchaski	Rick Parsons
Nicole Crowley	Natalee Rawsthorne
Jennifer Douglas	Jim Rawlek
Marge Elliott	Barb Wald
Tina Gaylard	Sue Wasylchew
Berit Graaten	Kelly Wilson
	Jennifer Wolf

2016 STAFF

Jennifer Douglas
Executive Director

Gayle Mayer
Office Manager

Jennifer Wolf
Executive Assistant/
Volunteer Coordinator

Jenn Ash
Community Engagement
Coordinator

Robyn Boudreau
CTR II Senior Instructor

Sarah Gunter
Instructor

Anna Kittilsen
Instructor

Abelone Petersen
Instructor

Courtney Dufresne
Instructor

Amanda Udey
CTR II Instructor (Volunteer)

Dayton Fenton
Facility Maintenance

Kasandra Hudson
Instructor/Barn Help

Thank you to these wonderful individuals who were a valuable part of PARDS in 2016. Wishing you all the best in your future endeavours.

Leigh Melligan
Katerina Hagglund
Shauna Wells

2016 EQUINE STAFF

Encana, Norwegian Fjord
Holly, Belgian Fjord
Finale, Welsh Pony X
Manny, Trakehner
Montney, Quarter Horse
Servus, Quarter Horse/
Thoroughbred
Tim-BR, Percheron X
Risley, Morgan/Quarter Horse
Molson, Canadian

Windsor, Anglo Arabian
Cleatus, Quarter Horse/Percheron
Burr, Fjord
Star, Welsh/Arab
Becky, Quarter Horse
Rajah, Arabian
Hot Wheels, Miniature
Petunia, Miniature
Tory, Miniature
Jetta, Miniature

Our Canine Partner

Jade

And Our (Not-So) Hard Working Feline Staff...

Mrs. Howell
Gus

Thank you to all of our generous supporters who have shared or donated their equine friends. These amazing animals have impacted and enriched our programs and touched so many lives.

PARDS 2016 HORSE OF THE YEAR



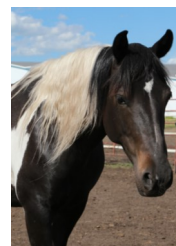
WINDSOR



ACE



POLLY



VALA

PARDS WELCOMES



Peace Area Riding for the Disabled Society

Tel: 780-538-3211

Fax: 780-538-3683

info@pards.ca

www.pards.ca