



**PARDS**  
THERAPEUTIC CENTRE

News From the  
"Neigh"bourhood

**September**

## Dates to Remember

### October

October 6  
No Public Lessons

October 8  
Thanksgiving - Office Closed

October 8 - 12  
No Lessons

### November

November 3  
**DINE & DANCE**

November 10  
No Public Lessons

November 12  
Remembrance Day  
Office closed

November 12 - 16  
No Lessons

November 24  
Volunteer Potluck

### December

December 10  
Therapeutic Lessons  
Session 2 Begins

December 15  
Public Lessons  
Session 2 Begins

December 22 - January 1  
Office closed

December 23 - January 6  
No Lessons



## Stay In Touch



[www.pards.ca](http://www.pards.ca)



# Upcoming Events

*Big Stick Rentals & Iron Sun Construction proudly present...*

*PARDS 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Dine & Dance*

## *Hidden Treasures*



*Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>*

*Five Mile Hall*

*5:30pm Champagne Reception*

*Dinner, auctions & dancing to follow*

*Tickets ~ \$85*

**PARDS**  
THERAPEUTIC CENTRE

For more information & to purchase tickets  
call 780-538-3211 or visit [www.pards.ca](http://www.pards.ca)



~ TONS OF FUN & LAUGHTER ~ SILENT & LIVE AUCTIONS ~  
~ RING BOX RAFFLE ~ 13 BOTTLE OF WINE AUCTION ~  
~ FANTASTIC FOOD ~ DANCING ~

# Grand Opening

PARDS Grand Opening ~ ***“This Is Our Story, This is our Song”*** ~ was a magical evening celebrating all that has been and can be accomplished when we share a common goal and vision. It was an evening honouring our riders and the volunteers, community members and businesses who have come together to build this facility & ensure PARDS essential service remains available in our community.

All proceeds raised through the event stay within the PARDS organization and directly benefit our riders by completing the facility to support our therapeutic programs. The generosity of the Peace Area helps children and adults within our community access Equine Assisted Therapeutic Services in pursuit of living their best life. We would like to thank everyone who sponsored, donated, presented, volunteered and attended the event as well as in the past to make this dream a reality.

## THIS IS OUR STORY SPONSOR

Big Stick Rentals is pleased to be a co-sponsor of PARDS Therapeutic Centre Grand Opening. It has been truly eye opening to get to know PARDS and many of the people (staff, volunteers and riders) who make up this organization. Since becoming involved with PARDS it has only become more and more apparent that the programs offered are essential to our community and we are extremely proud to offer our support.



Big Stick is committed to enhancing the communities in which we operate and we consider ourselves fortunate to be aligned with an organization like PARDS Therapeutic Centre. Congratulations to everyone who helped PARDS to complete the facility!

## THIS IS OUR SONG SPONSOR



It has been the highest honor for us, Southwest Design & Construction Ltd. to be a part of the PARDS Design/Build initiative for the past 14 years, and we are committed to continuing our relationship with the community in a program which is as vitally important as this.

We firmly believe in and support the PARDS cause which brings confidence, instills a belief in self-worth and builds pride and strength in its members.

We are so proud to have been and continue to be a member of the PARDS family. We are and always will be a proud supporter of this necessary and exciting project in order for the community as a whole to benefit even more from the amazing PARDS programs!

Thank you PARDS...for this amazing opportunity as a Major “This Is Our Song” Sponsor for the 2018 Grand Opening Celebration!!!

CONGRATULATIONS ON A JOB VERY WELL DONE!!!!



# PARDS Programs

## Therapeutic Riding

Therapeutic Riding is offered to clients aged 3 and up. Clients who participate in riding lessons must have a clinical diagnosis. Our therapeutic client base encompasses a wide spectrum of disabilities classified under the scope of Physical (includes riders with limited mobility, delayed fine and gross motor skills, low trunk control/core strength, undeveloped balance, etc.), Developmental (includes riders with limited cognitive capacity, autism spectrum disorders, traumatic brain injury, etc.), Sensory (includes riders with visual, auditory or speech impairment) and Nonvisible (includes riders with learning disability, epilepsy/seizure disorder, ADD/ADHD, anxiety, a variety of psychological disorders, etc.).

## Therapeutic Cart Driving

Not everyone can ride – or wants to – but cart driving is an excellent way to access the benefits of equine therapy. Learning to work with and control a horse as the driver of a cart brings many therapeutic benefits, similar to the ones for therapeutic riding. Cart driving is where a horse or pony is hitched to a wheeled cart and is driven around an arena, an obstacle course, or out on a trail. Driving is a fabulous opportunity to make new friends, gain a sense of independence, be out in the open air (weather permitting) and have fun!

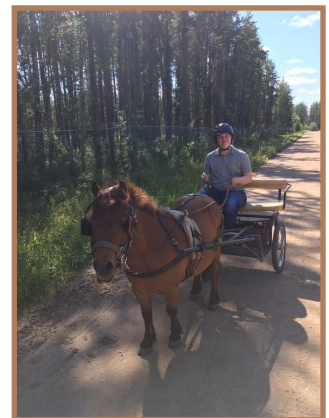
## Little Pony Motricity

Little Pony Motricity is designed for ages 4 to 6 (maximum 55" tall and 65 lbs.). The program is set up with fun activities that incorporate fundamental skills in early ages of development while working with assisted learning through our equine partners. Little Pony Motricity is both a ground work and riding program. Lessons run in 10 week sessions, once per week for 30 minutes each week. The Little Pony Motricity Program is open to children of all abilities.

## Youth Leadership Program

Youth Leadership is a program where horses and humans work together to help youth become confident, centred and conscientious. Youth Leadership is a ground work experiential learning program focusing on cooperation, relationship-building, self-esteem and more. It's learning without realizing that you're learning. It's all about choices. That's our ultimate goal: participants make the choices and they evaluate those choices in the end. As co-facilitators the horses guide and support. The Youth Leadership Program is available to everyone between the ages of 8 and 17 of all abilities.

For more information on these and other PARDS programs, please visit our website at [www.pards.ca](http://www.pards.ca). Online registration is also available on the website.



# Community Champions

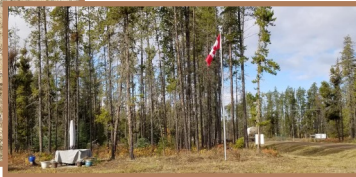


Ann McLeod joined PARDS Board in 2002 where she continued as Chairperson through 2007. It was during this time it became clear that our old facility was literally bursting at the seams; city development was surrounding us and too many riders were on a waitlist waiting to access programs. We had to relocate and build a larger facility - this was the beginning of the idea of expanding our facility. Ann says one of her favorite memories of PARDS was when Risley Equipment started clearing the land for PARDS new home. While doing research on the Pine Beetle, Kevin Timanson arranged to have Risley volunteer to clear PARDS future property. "It was such a beautiful sunny day and they were volunteering everything, there was such excitement in the air!"

Ann and her husband, Lorne are wonderful ambassadors for PARDS and everything we stand for. They were a tremendous part of our recent Grand Opening event. Ann sat on the Planning Committee, helping with the program, putting together PARDS history for the slideshow and assisted with sponsorships. She also decided that there were a few projects, like installing baseboards, which absolutely HAD to be done before our event. She took it upon herself to reach out to GP Flooring to secure the donation of baseboard materials and recruited Lorne to arrange installation. Next on the McLeod



Team's list was the landscaping. Ann created a plan and then she and Lorne spent many hours over many days bringing her plan to life. Ann even reached out to Keddies for the donation of a flagpole and to Kakwa Stone for a load of decorative gravel for our landscaping beds. Team McLeod could be seen cementing in the flagpole (with Ann checking Lorne's work with her trusty level), raking gravel and repurposing some of the native pine on the property to live in the half oak barrels which were donated by Jennifer Wolf along with one from Bob Wallace. There wasn't any detail that Team McLeod overlooked or any job that they weren't willing to tackle. While Ann continued with some of her Planning Committee

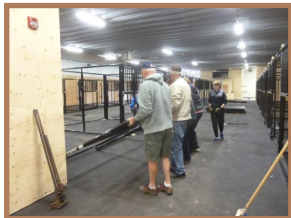
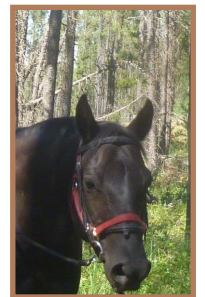


responsibilities, Lorne was busy building Live Auction Boards and 10 Silent Auction Tables which will be an asset for all of our future events including our upcoming Dine & Dance. Ann & Lorne also spent time creating a list of invites of past "old time, from the beginning" PARDS supporters. They loaned their beautiful Raspberry Red International for the décor

and helped to set up the event. They sponsored a table at the event and also contributed to the Mission Moment, helping us raise funds for our much needed elevator lift. Their impact was felt throughout the room in many ways.



It won't take you long on a tour of PARDS facility to see the McLeod name. Lorne spent many hours helping to install our barn stalls and even secured the donation of the stall lumber through Canfor. Then Team McLeod decided they wanted to sponsor one of the stalls, so now their family name is proudly displayed as a Barn Stall Sponsor. While Lorne was here helping get ready for our Grand Opening he was "tasked" with helping get the final shelter repaired to be moved into the paddock. With one look, Lorne determined the shelter was beyond repair and decided to become a Shelter Sponsor instead! Now their family name is also proudly displayed on a brand new shelter. Ann & Lorne have also sponsored the feed and care for Ace, one of our program horses for 2020, ensuring that his feed, supplements and farrier expenses are paid for the year. Through many years, in many forms, Ann & Lorne have remained engaged with and supportive of PARDS. Every time you thank Lorne he always says, "Anytime. You are good people at PARDS & we are happy to help."



Ann, with her enthusiastic spirit, shares, "I was always involved with horses, not as much as my sister Ruth, but I see all these kids in sports and I feel every child needs to experience the fun and joy of sport. They need to be able to have their friends and family cheer them on. I see millions spent on ice arenas, football fields and such, but for many of our riders, the PARDS Arena is one of the only facilities money has ever been injected into for them. For many of them, this is the only place they can enjoy sport and have their families cheer them on. That's why I stay involved with PARDS; the Riders." Then she added, "I have to say though, it was pretty fun going back through the photos to create the history for the Grand Opening. I got to see Ray Binks grow up over the years, which was pretty touching."



# Instructor Spotlight



## Robyn Boudreau

Robyn has been with PARDS since 2012 and fills the role of Senior Instructor. She holds her CanTRA Intermediate Instructor Certification. Robyn mentors our instructors through their CanTRA certification as well as facilitates our Volunteer Instructor Program. Robyn has also earned certification in Equine Assisted Personal Development Coaching.

Robyn holds her Western Instructor of Beginners through Equestrian Canada. Robyn's commitment to the continuing development of the PARDS Instructor team and herd ensures our riders experience the highest quality therapeutic riding programs possible.

# Just Horsin' Around

## PARA-DRESSAGE VIDEO COMPETITIONS

PARDS riders are encouraged to compete at the highest level of their current riding ability allowing them to develop effective riding skills to progress to structured levels of competition.

Videos will be done at the PARDS facility and submitted into the competition. If you are interested in competing, please discuss this opportunity with your instructor.

Next competitions are being held October 15 & November 15

