



**PARDS**  
THERAPEUTIC CENTRE

**April**

**News From the  
"Neigh"bourhood**

### **Greetings from the barn!**

It has been so quiet around here over the past 2 weeks and we are very much missing all of our riders and volunteers. To reduce exposure, our barn staff are currently working one person per shift to care for the herd and that is such a huge difference from the usual hustle and bustle of daily activity. We know everyone is suffering from the social distancing directions being given by our provincial government and our thoughts are with you. We are used to being the "happy place" for our riders and volunteers to come to for engagement, socialization, getting their "horse fix" and physical activity and we are actively looking for ways to provide connection and a continuing sense of community with you. Please, if you haven't already, "like" our facebook page for updates to when programs will be resuming, riding and horsemanship tips, messages from the horses and anything else we think might brighten your day.

Through all of the changes over the past couple of weeks, I have to say that Johnny & June (our resident ducks) have taken full advantage of having the run of the barn. Normally, they spend most of their day in their stall in the barn with periodic visits from staff, riders and volunteers (which they LOVE), but recently their days have been spent exploring every corner of the barn. They take turns with their feline friends, Gray Cat and Travis, stalking and chasing one another.

Meanwhile, we are not sitting idly by waiting for life to resume as normal, we are busy planning all the lessons for when programs are back up and running. There will be some refresher activities included as well as a strong focus on the physical therapy activities to help riders get back into condition to get the most out of lessons. We are also working on two new programs we are developing with an anticipated launch date of September which we are very excited about. We will be providing more information as the program plans begin to take shape but we can give you a hint that they will result in our adding more animals to our barn! We are not being sheepish when we say you have goat to llama tell you all about these programs when somebunny decides to make the announcement. 😊

For now, stay safe, be kind to yourself and one another and continue practicing social distancing and proper handwashing so we can get you all back into the barn and arena as quickly as possible.

# Ways to prevent the spread of respiratory illness:



Use good hygiene practices, such as frequent handwashing



Stay at home and away from others if you are feeling ill



Contact Health Link at 811 if you have health concerns



Healthy Albertans.  
Healthy Communities.  
Together.



## ~Volunteer Spotlight~



### Amanda, Tanya & Esther Wieler

Amanda, Tanya, and Esther Wieler started volunteering at PARDS in February. They came to PARDS for the horses and to interact with people who may have to do things differently or require help and the overall atmosphere seemed inviting to them.

The girls did not know anything about PARDS before they moved to Grande Prairie earlier in the year and found themselves with some free time and were looking for volunteer opportunities. They were on PARDS website and saw the invitation to the Volunteer Orientation. They called the office,

asked questions and came out for a tour after speaking with the volunteer coordinator about PARDS.

They attended the Volunteer Orientation which they felt gave them the necessary tools and further confirmed what PARDS stood for. All 3 decided they were open to volunteering in both lessons and the barn, saying "wherever we needed them". The sisters are wonderful to work with and bring with them a hard work ethic, backed by barn experience as well as horse confidence and knowledge.

Esther was specifically amazed by the reach of the organization in the types of programs available and the literal size of our facility, the office, rider lounge, and barn for both PARDS and boarding spaces. Tanya spoke of the amount of horses we have to run programs and the diversity each played in the different programs. Amanda was intrigued with the diversity of our riders and how the lessons were planned for each of their needs.

Known as the "*Three Sisters*" they do have different areas of PARDS as a whole that are personal favourites. Tanya enjoys the grooming and quiet moments she has before leading in lessons. Amanda favours the interaction with the clients along with the horses. Esther enjoys the horses and the lessons that she is involved in.

The ladies do have two things in common; the satisfaction of a clean barn and seeing all the smiling faces of the riders and cherish knowing that they are a part of this. It is something they look forward to each week. They took on a number of lessons two days during the week and continue to watch the volunteer page for opportunities when there were cancellations, which is a huge help to our staff and riders.

Tanya, Esther, and Amanda are hardworking reliable ladies that riders love, staff value and we are so thankful for the time they give to our riders and PARDS; always with smiles on their faces.

## ~Equine Partner Spotlight~

### Tory

Tory is an 11 year old chestnut, registered miniature horse. She is leased to us by one of our instructors, Laurie Prichuk and has been in the program for 3 years. Tory is used as a driving pony for our therapeutic cart driving lessons. Though she may be one of the smallest ponies that we have, she is definitely not one of the weakest. Tory is able to pull any of our riders and their carts around the arena with ease. Tory is a very quick pony so she is great for our intermediate and more advanced cart drivers who are working on speed control. Tory's energetic personality make her therapeutic cart lessons loads of fun. With a springy trot with her mane and tail blowing around it is a beautiful sight to see.





## Dream Home Volunteers



A huge thank you to these dedicated volunteers who gave their valuable time to sell tickets at the 2020 Rotary Club of Grande Prairie Dream Home Lottery.

Carla Holton, Robyn Boudreau, Jennifer Wolf, Tyla Savard, Margery Fleetwood, Barb Wald, Jennifer & Shelby Douglas, Gayle Mayer, Dave Perks, Lenna Scammell, Beverly & Justin McCool, Judi & Don Harker, Brian Wilson, Greg Podmore, Stacey Longson, Mavis Breitreutz, Daniel Nowosad, Kathy McNally

Fundraisers like this help PARDS continue to provide valuable therapeutic programs to so many in this area. We cannot do it without you!

## Summer Camp Dates

**ONLINE REGISTRATIONS ARE NOW OPEN**  
***DON'T MISS OUT***

***TO REGISTER ONLINE***

***&***  
***FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS***  
***PLEASE GO TO OUR WEBSITE***

PLEASE GO TO OUR WEBSITE  
BY CLICKING ON THE LINK BELOW

## PARDS SUMMER PROGRAMS



### PARDS SUMMER CAMPS

**INCLUSIVE SUMMER YOUTH CAMP**  
July 6 - 10  
July 13 - 17  
July 27 - 31  
August 17 - 21

**LITTLE PONY CAMP**  
August 4 - 7 am or pm  
August 24 - 27 am or pm

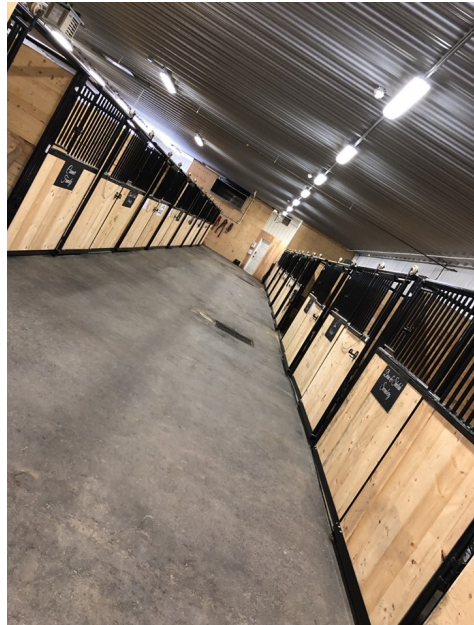
**EQUESTRIAN SKILLS DEVELOPMENT CAMP  
FOR ADULT THERAPEUTIC RIDERS**  
July 20 - 24

## PARDS Boarding

### PARDS Boarding Available

PARDS offers a variety of boarding options and year round access to indoor and outdoor arenas and trails. For more information please go to our website by clicking on the link below

[Boarding Information](#)





## PARDS JACKETS AVAILABLE



### MAXSON SOFTSHELL JACKET

Men's 19534 (S - 5XL)

Women's 99534 (XS - 3XL)

Tall 19534T (L - 5XL\*)

Youth 59534 (JRXS - JRXL\*)

Fleece lined for added warmth. Wind resistant and waterproof for extra protection against the elements. Designed for a fit that gives you maximum mobility. 100% Polyester mechanical stretch woven bonded to 100% Polyester anti-pill microfleece.

Decoration options: HXD, Embroidery, Applique, Laser, Deboss, True Edge™

Decorated as low as **\$56.50** (C) | Min Qty 12



Warmth Rating



Warm

Water Protection Rating



Drier

All sizes available in any colour offered

PARDS logo left chest (logo white and beige)

Optional name right chest

**\$90.00 w/o name**

**\$98.40 w/ name**

Sample jackets available for sizing.

Please visit the PARDS office

or

contact for more information

at

780-538-3211

## FUND Ride Packages are Now Available!

35th Annual

# 55th Annual FUND Ride!

**Saturday, June 6**

**Pledge packages are now available  
at the PARDS office**



**Ride Horseback  
Walk, ride a bike or be pushed!**

## REGISTRATION

Registration for all PARDS programs  
available online at [www.pards.ca](http://www.pards.ca)

For a list and overview of all programs and to  
register, please click on  
Program Information

[Program Information](#)

## PARDS Therapeutic Centre

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[Contact  
Us](#)

