

The Plowboy Newsletter

July, August, 2004

Yukon Agricultural Association
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THE CANADIAN HORSE (Part 2)

The last Agriculture Association newsletter described the arrival of the ancestors of the Canadian Horse from the stables of King Louis XIV of France into Lower Canada (Quebec) in the 17th Century. There, under harsh conditions, they evolved into the hardy versatile multipurpose breed we know today as the Canadian Horse. Declared the National Horse of Canada by Act of Parliament in 2002 and earlier declared the Heritage Horse of Quebec, the Little Iron Horse is being more widely recognized.

The Canadian Horse provided a major genetic contribution to the American breeds such as the Morgan, whose conformation clearly shows the Canadian influence, the Tennessee Walker and the Saddle bred.

The Canadian is most commonly black, with some chestnuts, browns and bays. They typically are if short, stocky conformation, with wide short heads, arched necks, thick, wavy manes and tails as well as exceptionally hard, strong feet. They are known for being quiet, good natured and intelligent. They are perhaps less well known, until you have one of also being mischievous and having what is best described as a sense of humour.

From a population of some 150,000 in the 19th Century, their prowess as cavalry horses was their undoing, with many shipped to war, never to return. The mechanization of farms reduced their numbers still further, passing through a low point of a few hundred in the 1970's. At that time breeders made a concerted effort to

bring this fine animal back from near extinction. Further, from Quebec and Ontario the Canadian Horse has spread both east and west and now numbers some 4000 animals.

At least three registered Canadians are now in the Yukon. Rod Collins of Mendenhall has a jet black 3-yr old stallion, Lincoln. Satch Atchison has a 2-yr old chestnut filly, Countess. Joan and Doug Craig have a 5-yr old mare, J-Florine. No doubt there will be other representatives of Canada's National Horse as they are ideally suited to our conditions.

Doug Craig, President

The new executive of the YAA for 2004

If you have any questions, contact the person in your area, or call the office:

PRESIDENT: Doug Craig

VICE – PRESIDENT: Dave Andrew

SEC/TREAS.: Bill Drury

Mayo Rep: Ralph Mease

Watson Lake Rep: Dalyce Stubenberg

Haines Junction Rep: Marsha Flumerfelt

Whitehorse Rep: Wayne Grove

Dawson Rep: Claudia Carlson

Carmacks/Faro Rep: Terry Hanlon

Director's at Large:

Jim Dillabough – Whitehorse

Jack Smith – Mayo

Larry Brown – Haines Junction

Len Walchuck – Whitehorse

Art Hutchison – Independents

Cliff Hanna – Whitehorse

Congratulations to everyone and good luck

Hi Everyone,

My name is Brigitte and I am the new Office Assistant for Yukon Agricultural Association. I am also helping Debbie to organize the 10th Annual Harvest Fair. I will be with the organization till mid October.

The Harvest Fair is a big event that requires a great deal of coordinating and time to be successful. The last 9 years have shown this to be true and will continue to do so. I would like to share with our readers some of the things we have been working on to bring about the 10th Annual Fair.

As of today we have confirmed twenty judges for the many categories available to participate in. The Photography Contest is a new event and a thrilling addition to the Fair. Don't forget to check this one out while you are enjoying yourself at our fall event!

We will once again be having a Kiss the Pig contest. I have asked some of the government members of the Yukon Legislature to volunteer for this contest. Guess what? So far three members have agreed. They are Brad Cathers, Patrick Rouble and Steve Cardiff. We will pursue and hope to have three more members to include as volunteers. Who will be the lucky winner and get to kiss that cute little baby pig?

Non profit organizations are coming forward to register food concession stands at the Midway. Come and support local organizations by buying lunch.

People are starting to volunteer. If anyone from the membership is coming in for the weekend, why not give us a call, if you can help out with the Fair. A big part of the Fair's success is due to the many volunteers who help out with the communities event.

Where would we be without Jim Dillabough, and his dedication to YAA? As usual Jim provides a Petting Zoo for the children (adults enjoy this as much) at the events YAA participates in to promote agriculture. The petting zoo is always such a success! This year Jim will also be setting up a carousel for the

children at the Fair. **Jim**, thank you so much for the constant support you have given to YAA.

As you can see Debbie and I have been busy. There will be a lot more to do between now and August 21st. We hope to see all of you at the Fair! Until then have a good summer.



10th Annual Klondyke Harvest Fair
being held in Whitehorse at
Rotary Peace Park,
on **Saturday, August 21st,**
from 10:00 am – 6:00 pm and
Sunday, August 22nd, 2004
From 10:00 am – 5:00 pm.

Enter into the following categories:

- Section I – Vegetables
- Section II – Flower's & Plants
- Section III – Farm Produce – Field Crops
- Section III – Farm Produce – Other
- Section IV – Traditional Native Crafts
- Section V – Preserved Foods
- Section VI – Home Baking
- Section VII – Quilting
- Section VIII – Knitting
- Section IX – Needlework
- Section X – Crocheting
- Section XI – Wine & Liqueurs
- Section XII – A – Livestock & Poultry
- Section XII – B – Pet Costume Contest
- Section XII – C – Recycled Creations
- Section XII – D – Scarecrow
- Section XIII – Photography (new)

The **Grand Aggregate Prize** is being sponsored by **Zip Airlines** – 2 tickets anywhere they fly.

Come and join the fun!!!!

New Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Program

Advancing Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food (ACAAF)

Positioning Canada at the Leading Edge

The *Advancing Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food* (ACAAF) program is a five-year, \$255 million program aimed at positioning Canada's agriculture and agri-food sector at the leading edge to seize new opportunities. ACAAF was launched in April 2004 as a successor to the Canadian Adaptation and Rural Development (CARD) Fund, and will continue CARD's innovative and cooperative approach to funding projects at the national, multi-regional and regional level.

Under the ACAAF program, funding will be provided for eligible projects identified and carried out by the agriculture and agri-food sector. The ACAAF program complements the objectives set out under the Agricultural Policy Framework (APF) and will further advance progress toward its goals by engaging industry stakeholders in undertaking new activities which complement existing programming. ACAAF will also encourage the sector to contribute to future agriculture and agri-food policy directions.

ACAAF Objectives

The objectives of the ACAAF program are to:

- ! Expand the sector's capacity to respond to current and emerging issues
- ! Position the sector to capture market opportunities
- ! Actively and continuously engage the sector to contribute to future agriculture and agri-food policy directions.
- ! Integrate sector-led projects tested and piloted under ACAAF into future government or industry initiatives.

The Three "Pillars"

The ACAAF program will be delivered under the following three "pillars," which were confirmed through extensive consultation with industry:

Pillar I:

- ! ***Industry-led Solutions to Emerging Issues***, which supports projects that test or pilot approaches and solutions.

Pillar II:

- ! ***Capturing Market Opportunities by Advancing Research Results***, which supports projects that transfer research results into market opportunities.

Pillar III:

- ! ***Sharing Information to Advance the Sector***, which supports projects aimed at gathering, analyzing and sharing information to contribute to future agriculture and agri-food policy directions.

Collective Outcomes

Increasing collaboration and forming new alliances throughout the sector will be key for the future success of the ACAAF program. The program will encourage and support “*collective outcome*” projects which demonstrate greater industry collaboration amongst national, multi-regional and regional stakeholders in order to foster and strengthen collaboration, while maximizing the benefits from the federal investment.

The overall goal of the ACAAF Program is to position Canada’s agriculture and agri-food sector at the leading edge to capture new opportunities. Ideas that lead to better products, processes and technologies need to be developed, tested and advanced for use throughout the sector. Information needs to reach the right people at the right time. ACAAF is about the future of the Canadian agriculture and agri-food sector and finding new approaches for advancement and innovation. The agriculture and agri-food industry is constantly changing and requires flexibility and the capacity to address new issues as they emerge.



ON FARM FOOD SAFETY RECOGNITION PROGRAM (OFFSRP)

A presentation was held at the Westmark Hotel on Monday June 7th, 2004, by Rick Gammer, a representative of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) from Abbotsford, B.C.

The OFFS program is a national program, that came from producers, looking for better standards for their products. The program brings with it certification, inspection and auditing, relying on a paper trail with all the information gathered from the farm. There are 21 commodity specific OFFS, in various stages of development. The program was industry led and began development in 1997.

There is a generic model that is the basis for all the programs. Each commodity has defined their parameters to suit their industry. The OFFSP program has four components:

1. General Management System – overall control of all components.
2. HACCP based system – producer manual
3. Conformance system
4. Auditor training system

The CFIA has partnered with the provinces and the Territories to assist them in developing their OFFSP to suit their needs. It is a three stage process, and the final result is a “Letter of Recognition” from CFIA. However, it takes three to four years to achieve the results for better On Farm Food Safety.

YUKON SCIENCE & INNOVATION PROGRAM

Guidelines for applying for the Circumpolar Conference, being held in Umea, Sweden, September 27 - 30, 2004. Everyone is welcome to submit a proposal to the EMR Ag Branch.

Circumpolar Education & Exchange Initiative

This initiative is to provide learning opportunities for farm managers, farm works, youth and service providers to participate in information exchange with other circumpolar agricultural regions. The primary function of this initiative will be to sponsor participation at the Circumpolar Agriculture Conference in 2004 and 2007. Emphasis will be placed on information exchange that provides for the sustainability of circumpolar agriculture.

Eligible Activities

May include, but not limited to, preparations, travel and exchanges for oral or poster presentations, information gathering, network development, youth development or other activities that contribute to the development of circumpolar agriculture. Proposals for attendance should contain an outline of benefits to Yukon Agriculture and contain information dissemination plan outlining how you plan to share the knowledge with other members of the agriculture industry.

Eligible Applicants

Agricultural producers, processors, youth and students, service providers, governments and non-profit organizations.

Eligible Costs

May include but not limited to, presentation preparation costs, transportation, accommodations, meals and conference registration fees. Reimbursement for travel costs must be consistent with Government of Yukon expense guidelines.

Maximum Funding Level

Assistance may be provided up to 100% of actual costs for conference attendance and presentation preparation costs.

The Yukon Agricultural Association is requesting donations of produce, for our buffet dinner on the evening of the 21st of August, 2004, 10th Annual Klondyke Harvest Fair. Produce could include some of the following:

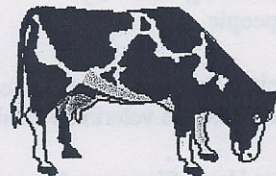
- Potatoes
- Carrots
- Broccoli
- Cauliflower
- salad greens, etc.

A Yukon Grown dinner, will make for a nice evening for our 10th year celebration. We also have Hank Karr booked for a fun evening of entertainment. So come and have some fun at our 10th Annual KHF!!!

Tickets are \$25.00 for the evening.

Dinner at 6:30 pm,

Entertainment at 8:00 pm.



TRANSITIONAL INDUSTRY SUPPORT PROGRAM (TISP)

This program is designed to provide assistance for farmers resulting from the recent BSE. The Government is paying at a price per head:

Cattle	up to \$80.00
Bison	up to \$80.00
Elk	up to \$40.00
Deer	up to \$20.00
Goats	up to \$16.00
Sheep	up to \$16.00

If you think you may qualify for this program, pick up your application form at the Agriculture Branch, or phone 667-5838. Program Deadline is July 31st, 2004.

25TH ANNIVERSARY
2004 Annual Summer Horse
Show
July 16th, 17th and 18th

This year the Yukon Horse and Rider Association is celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the Annual Summer Horse Show on July 16th, 17th and 18th. The show takes place at the show grounds in Porter Creek (on Range road near the Mountainview Golf Course). Riders of all ages and abilities look forward to this well organized three day annual event to demonstrate their horsemanship skills and have fun. The show has grown from less than 20 classes in 1979 to 92 classes in 2004. Exhibitors come from many other Yukon communities as well as Atlin, Juneau, Skagway and Haines.

There is no admission charge to this event and spectators (local residents and tourists) are encouraged to spend some time watching the various classes and visiting with very enthusiastic horse people.

Show Books with class lists will be available from local feed stores and the veterinary clinics.

The Annual Summer Horse Show would not be possible without a great deal of support from many volunteers and generous local sponsors. Why not drop by and enjoy a few of these colorful events!

For more information, please contact Tena Fox, Show Manager, at 633-4901.

Schedule of Events

Friday July 16th

10:00 a.m.	Halter Classes	
12:00 noon	Lunch Break	(Concession Available)
1:00 p.m.	Dressage	

Saturday July 17th

8:30 a.m.	English and Jumping	
12:00 noon	Lunch Break	(Concession Available)
1:00p.m.	English and Jumping	

Sunday July 18th

8:15 a.m.	Western - Trail Horse, Stock Seat, Pleasure, Horsemanship, Reining
12:00 noon	Lunch Break (Concession Available)
1:00 p.m.	Gymkhana - Games on Horseback - Fun for Participants and Spectators!

Yukon Horse & Rider Association
Box 31482
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 6K8

From the Office:

We have had lots happening these last couple of months in the office. Preparation for the Klondyke Harvest Fair is ongoing. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

We had a fun filled day, during the Canada Day event, in Rotary Park. Jim Dillabough brought in his carousel and horses for the kids to enjoy. We set up a tent, where we promoted the Klondyke Harvest Fair and did a bit of fund raising, which went over very well. A big thank you to all the volunteers who were able to help us during the event.

We are in the process of planning a "Painting Party", being held out at Jim Dillabough's place. We would like to paint all of the tables prior to the Fair and get the signs ready. If you have any available time, give us a call. Brigitte will be calling with the details at a later date.

This year the General meeting being held outside of Whitehorse, will be in Dawson City in September. I will place an ad in the Yukon News, once the date has been confirmed.

We wish everyone a very enjoyable summer. Good luck with your gardens and crops.

FARM & RANCH DIVERSIFICATION: One of the futures of Canadian Agriculture

(Excellence 2004 Conference)

To make a profit in agriculture in today's economy, farms and ranches are looking into new opportunities to generate additional income that will increase the farm/ranch value.

The new definition for **AGRIPRENEUR** is: a person who organizes, operates and assumes the risk for diversification of an established or new enterprise (farm, ranch, processing, retail, restaurant) associated with or derived from the growth, processing or value-added function of and agricultural/ranching product, service or experience.

Diversification and sustainable agriculture relies more on the creativeness and "value added" productivity of people who farm and ranch. It is mainly developed and operated to support family farms/ranches, community food systems and viable rural communities. Stewardship of rural communities, natural and cultural resources and rural life styles is a focus and a benefit for this venture. It generates benefits and achieves objectives not limited to financial objectives. It can create and preserve "future options" and opportunities.

Innovative ideas are being developed to use farms/ranches for different opportunities. A Hay farmer, may rent a small cabin so people can have the experience of being part of the farm. Or a market gardener, may open up a restaurant to use the produce with the theme of "home grown". There are many opportunities out there, all it takes is creativeness to expand on an idea.

Following are some of the reasons farms/ranches are diversifying:

- More efficient use of resources.
- Use and development of expertise.
- Family involvement.
- Reduce one-product risk:

weather, markets, competition.

- Different income and cash flows – off-season.
- Cross-marketing of farm/ ranch products.
- New market development.
- Encouragement and support of stewardship.
- New and different agricultural values.

Farm diversification is what farm/ ranches are striving for. It is a way for people to have work all year round with the added benefit of being at home to work on the farm.

Anyone wanting more information, come into the office and look through the Excellence 2004 binder.

JOKE OF THE MONTH:

A young lawyer was called in from the big city to represent a railroad company being sued by a farmer. It seems the farmer's prize cow was missing from the field through which the railroad passed, and the farmer was suing for the value of the cow.

Before the case was to be tried by a justice of the peace in the local general store, the lawyer convinced the farmer to settle out of court for half of what he originally wanted.

After the farmer signed some papers and accepted the check, the young lawyer couldn't help but gloat about his success. "You know, I hate to tell you this, but I couldn't have won the case – I didn't have a single witness to put on the stand."

With a wry smile, the old farmer replied, "Well, young feller, I was a little worried about winning the case myself. That cow came home this morning."

As your Rhubarb is getting big, and you want something different, try this (yum, yum):

Rhubarb Custard bars

2 cups all-purpose flour
¼ cup sugar
1 cup cold butter or margarine

FILLING:

2 cups sugar
7 T. all-purpose flour
1 cup whipping cream
3 eggs, beaten
5 cups finely chopped fresh or frozen Rhubarb, thawed and drained

TOPPING:

2 pkgs. (3 oz. Each) cream cheese, softened
½ cup sugar
½ tsp. Vanilla
1 cup whipping cream, whipped

In a bowl, combine flour and sugar, cut in butter until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Press into greased 13 X 9 inch pan. Bake at 350 F. for 10 minutes. Meanwhile, for filling, combine sugar and flour in bowl and whisk in cream and eggs. Stir in Rhubarb. Pour over crust. Bake at 350 F. for 40 – 45 minutes, or until custard is set. Cool. For topping, beat Cream cheese, sugar and vanilla until smooth; fold in whipped cream. Spread over top. Cover and chill. Cut into bars. Store in refrigerator. Yield: 3 doz.

WORK WANTED ON A FARM: in the Tahkini Hot Springs Road and the Mayo Road area. Call Rosa Brown. Leave a message at 456-2006.

5 wheel hay rake, 2 point hitch, excellent shape, ready to work. \$500.00 393-3477

CUSTOM LAND CLEARING

Summer and Winter
Phone: (867) 667-7844

Yukon Horses For Sale:

2 yr old paint gelding/percheron cross
3 yr old morgan/belgian cross gelding
4 yr old percheron cross mare
5 yr old morgan/percheron mare
8 yr old palimino gelding
12 yr old buckskin paint stud
4 yr old grey morgan/qh cross
Phone: (867) 667-7844



FARMER'S MARKET:

Are being held on the corner of the Mayo and Tahkini Hot Springs road, every Saturday, from 10:00 am. - 2:00 pm. Come and see all the Yukon grown produce.

Alpine Bakery will be holding a Farmer's Market at the Bakery at 411 Alexander Street, Fridays from 11:00 am until 2:00 pm. Bring in your fresh produce and sell it to the public. (preferably organic)

Farmer's & Crafter's

Book your booths for the 10th Annual Klondyke Harvest Fair. Bring in your vegetables and wares to sell. The Public is looking forward to getting farm fresh produce. Phone Debbie or Brigitte at 668-6864, so we can set a table set aside for you.