

## 2014 Region 17 Fall Meeting

The 2014 Region 17 Fall meeting was held in Victoria BC on October 4. There were 18 people in attendance, 7 of those were Aurora members.

The show was a major topic. It was held in Calgary for the first year of a 5 year commitment. Since it was the first year at the facility, there were a few bumps along the way. The show commission will be working with the facility to correct those issues and hopefully it will run more smoothly next year. There were 181 horses at the show. Of note, the show offered 218 classes. Of those offered, 28 had 0 entries, 28 had 1 entry and 36 had 2 entries. The commission will be looking at canceling or combining some of those classes. People want to show in bigger, more competitive classes and have “true” wins. The prizes were hot topic as well. The show commission will be looking into that as well. Of interest, it takes 2 entries in a class to pay for the awards for that class. The trophies cost \$15,000, garlands were \$4000.00 and ribbons were \$3000.00. That totals \$22,000. The show also gave away \$5000.00 in cash draws. This year there was \$25,000 in cash sponsorships. That means the show spent \$3500.00 MORE in prizes than what was collected. The show lost \$6100.00. Yes, the Calgary facility was more expensive than Red Deer, but to quell a rumor, the show did NOT cut back on the prizes this year in order to have the show at the Calgary facility. It costs the Region \$30,000 a year to run and pay for all the items that are budgeted for. The show commission was looking at ways to keep the costs down for the show. The money that is made from the show is what is used to run the Region for the year. (Directors, budget, Youth Directors budget, Breed promotion, Youth Team Tournament prizes, Scholarship, Accountant/Book keeper and general costs). Bottom line is, we need to bring in more money for the show in sponsorships and entries.

Darlene Brouwer and Marcia Friesen's terms were up as show commissioners. Marcia chose to not run again. Darlene Brouwer was re elected and Gail Tory was elected. The show commission were given the results of the survey that Carson had put up. They thanked everyone for their input and will continue to work to make the show a success. If anyone has any comments, concerns or requests about the show, contact any of the show commissioners. (Cam Prowse, Gail Tory, Darlene Brouwer, Deb Storey, Rob Calnan and Bob Sproule – from Sask)

The 2014 Directory had about 11 less ads than 2013 so made less money. There is still time to put an ad in, so contact Karen Caughell. The 2014 Directory were taken to Regions 3, 4, 17, Scottsdale, Canadian Nationals, US Nationals and Convention. The promotion booklet was taken to the VIAHA open shows, Horse Haven, and Mane Event.

Katie Johnson's term was up as the Youth Director. Sydney Young was elected as the Youth Director at the show. She has some amazing ideas as to what the Youth have planned for 2015 at the show and as fund raisers. The Egg & Spoon class was a success so they will offer that again at the show and hope to include more people instead of just the trainers.

Gerald McDonald reported on the Canadian Nationals. The show had 682 horses this year. That number was down due to VS in the US and some barns from Texas and Colorado were not able to come. AHA signed a contract to hold the show in Brandon for the next two years. (2015 and 2016) The facility is doing some upgrades to the ventilation system. The City of Brandon is looking in to the costs of building another building that would be used for more stabling and an indoor warm up ring. A question was asked if Canada was going to offer the Leveling classes. Gerald said that the show commission hadn't discussed that yet but thought they wanted to see how it was going to work at other shows first.

For clubs that are going to events for Breed Promotion, they can apply to AHA for \$300.00 to help pay for the booth costs. There is a form on the web site to fill out. Contact Director Terry Johnson for more information.

The 2015 Spring Meeting will be held in Calgary.

If anyone has any questions about the meeting, they can contact me.

Karen Caughell