

Provincial 4-H Sheep Advisory Committee Meeting (SHAC)

Saturday, January 25, 2014

Conference Room @ Stettler Provincial Building

---

Meeting called to order at approx. 1:20 pm.

4H Pledge led by Arlene Good.

In attendance were Andrea Church, Andy and Francis Pittman, Arlene Good, Deanna Kryz, Jodi Gingras, Yvonne Yaremicio, Dianne Vermeeren, Dawna Hughes

Absent: Bernadette Nikkel, Heather Hebbes, Linda Kosheiff

**Motion** to accept today's agenda and minutes from September 28, 2013 was made by Arlene Good and seconded by Dawna Hughes.

**REPORTS**

**a. Regional Highlights:**

**Peace Region:** Dianne reported on an increase in numbers for her area.

**South Region:** Francis spoke hosting a Sheep Learning Day for their region; they have 27 members in their club same as previous year's. Arlene reported that they have 22 members, slightly above last year's numbers.

**Northeast Region:** Deanna mentioned that there is an increase in numbers which brings them up to 20 members now.

**East Central Region:** Dawna reported that there is a lot of interest in the sheep projects in her region. They were well received at the Westerner Days event held last summer. However they are down 7 members in their club from last year.

**Calgary Region:** Jodi reported on the increase in numbers of sheep members participating in 4-H on Parade over the past couple of years. We went from 4 clubs and 33 members in 2012 to 8 clubs with 66 members attending this year. 4-H'ers will also be the first to use the new Western Agriculture Building on Stampede Park. The sheep will have plenty of room now in the Ag Building with the Beef projects moving to the new facility.

**Northwest Region:** no reports at this time.

**West Central:** no reports at this time.

**b. 4-H Council of Alberta:**

Andy Pittman – The sheep projects have gained popularity with Cleaver kids from a safety standpoint.

**c. Provincial 4-H Sheep Show:**

Andy - 1<sup>st</sup> meeting will be on February 15 which will be mainly a planning meeting. Keen interest has been shown from across the province and show has grown each year. The members are attending the sponsor's meetings thanking them for their donations. Deanna mentioned that she has spoken to clubs in her region with regards to attending the Provincial Show.

**d. 4-H Specialist:**

Andrea handed out the breakdown of project numbers from the province and included responses from the questions that were asked at the last SHAC meeting. She reported that there were 533 projects registered and will provide to us a breakdown of members by region and how the numbers of sheep members have progressed over the years.

There was a prototype on the 4-H website with an incorrect location and dates for the Provincial Sheep Show – it has since been corrected.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**a. Sheep Resources**

Andrea - They are still working on and finalizing the Beef projects. Jalisa will be making the record book changes. The record books are easier to make changes to than the resource guide and will be quicker to get out to our members.

**ACTION: Bring changes that you would like to see from your Region with regard to the record books so we can move forward on making adjustments.**

Just one example of why the manual was not circulated this year, it recommended the use of kerosene to clean the lambs ears. There were more recommendations that do not fit in today's idea of animal husbandry.

**ACTION: Find resources and information for distribution to members on current day sheep practises.**

A reminder that there is funding available to regional workshops of up to \$300.00

There could be a focus on learning at the Provincial Sheep Show.

**b. Terms of Reference**

Three changes to be made to the Terms:

1. Subcommittees

Standing Committees – *delete, “4-H Alberta Provincial Sheep Show” and move to its own heading. Add, “With a minimum of 2 SHAC representatives to be on the committee.”*

2. Membership

d. change to read; “ *One (1) liaison representative to the **Alberta Lamb Producers**, unless the representative is a designate voting representative of a region. This person shall act as a liaison between **Alberta Lamb Producers** and 4-H Alberta. The SHAC member will represent 4-H Alberta’s views, concerns, suggestions at the **Alberta Lamb Producers** meetings and will report to SHAC the activities and concerns of the **Alberta Lamb Producers**. This individual is elected or appointed for a two (2) year term to a maximum of (2) terms.*”

3. Quorum and Voting

Change first bullet to, “...consist of **seven (7)** regions...”

Add under Voting Procedures at Regular Meetings “ c. **The Chairman shall have the right to vote on a motion in the event of a tie.**”

c. **Sheep Policy Review and Update:**

Change “prospect ewe” to read “yearling ewe” throughout the document. Andy Pittman will then take the policy document to the 4-H Council for approval. We see no other changes at this time.

Moved, Seconded, and Carried to change the term “prospect ewe” to “yearling ewe”.

d. **Sheep Leaders Update (SLU):**

Draft agenda for the upcoming conference was handed out by Yvonne. She is looking for suggestions on time allowances and speakers. Will they be specific to Sheep or cover Beef as well? A list of speakers were suggested: Dr. Chris Clarke, Colin Palmer, Gord Schroeder, Bill Lee, Norinne Moore. What can Alberta Lamb Producers offer? Please contact these speakers and if they are interested have them get in touch with Yvonne for the details.

Last SLU had 10 or 11 leaders attending and this year we are hoping for 15 to 20 leaders to attend. It was suggested that we limit attendance to approx.20 leaders per session.

An idea for a keynote speaker is to address the issue of counteracting media coverage. Ie. The singer, Pink, spoke out against wool, how do we react or do we ignore the comment? How do you respond to outrageous claims? Suggested contacting Alberta Farm and Animal Care (AFAC)

A project or action session was discussed. Games to learn for clubs to do with members, ie. felting, judging fleece or lamb chops, fibre – washing wool, carding, spinning etc.

Suggested to contact Russ Finlay Stock Dogs – K9 Kennels and Alvin Kopp -That'll do Ranch.

A session on Social Media. We could discuss how to explain to the members on how you discipline your project in public is different than at home.

Jodi to contact someone for a fibre session

Andy to contact Dr. Chris Clarke

Andrea to contact AFAC

Yvonne to contact a facilitator on games

Committee Clothing – same type of jacket as beef with a different logo – send Yvonne pic's for logo ideas.

**e. Alberta Sheep Breeder's Symposium:**

Jodi attended and thought that it was an excellent weekend. The topics on worming were particularly interesting and current. Dr Chris Clarke had a very funny and informative workshop on Sheep, Drugs and Rock 'n Roll. There were quite a few industries present with their sheep specific products for sale. It was definitely worth attending.

**f. Regional Workshop Funding:**

Funding guideline sheet was distributed by Yvonne. Get the requests in to Yvonne ASAP to receive banners and funding for workshops. Each livestock project is eligible for up to \$300.00.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Provincial Sheep Show dates this year are July 8 – 11, 2014 in Olds, Alberta. Deadline to enter is June 1, 2014. May have an opportunity to learn session at this year's show.  
A market lamb can be used for any class but does not qualify for Scholarship. A "jackpot" lamb can be used for showmanship.
- b. 4-H presence at Westerner Days that took place in Red Deer 2013 was well received by the public. There needs to be more information on 4-H in general not just the sheep projects. Suggestion was made to contact Cameron and Janet to look into having a general 4-H presence here.

Next Meeting will be at 12:30 pm in Stettler on June 7, 2014.

All moved to adjourn at 3:30 pm.