

Beef Leaders' Update (BUD)



On October 23-25, Alberta 4-H beef project leaders came to the Alberta 4-H Centre for the 5th Biennial Beef Leaders' Update (BUD), a weekend of project-related training, in addition to industry updates, keynote speaker insights and the opportunity to seek camaraderie with fellow leaders.

Keynote Speaker Doug Griffiths kicked off Friday night with a thought-provoking discussion on the 13 things you might be doing to kill your community.

The following morning, workshop participants were given a presentation by the Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development's Traceability Team on the "ins and outs" of Traceability. Select-a-sessions were then introduced, which kept the leaders' learning and engaged for the rest of the daylight hours.

Various topics were covered throughout the morning, including preventative vaccination programs, parasite treatments, treating sick project animals, injuries and specific blemish conditions such as warts and ringworm.

A new session entitled, "Rappin' with Rob" was introduced, where leaders were invited to spend some time with the Alberta 4-H Branch's beef project lead, Rob Smith, learning about anything from diversifying your club's beef project offerings to coming up with improved means of marketing your calf sales.



A session on halter breaking had experiences and ideas to make the halter breaking experience a safe and enjoyable one for everyone being shared. Dr. Aaron Grant went over what to look for when selecting a calf, including nutrition aspects to starting it on feed and getting the calf finished.

Clipping and fitting clinic was designed to provide a step-by-step process for clipping, fitting and preparing an animal for show, highlighting the correct clipping techniques and processes, as well as describing and demonstrating the use of standard fitting products including show foam, adhesives, and finishing paints.

Beef Advisory Committee (BAC) member Greg Coleman introduced some games and activities to teach help project material. And a final afternoon session on how to feed 4-H female projects with respect to both reproductive soundness and presentation was presented.

The following morning, Sunday, the Provincial Beef Advisory Committee (BAC) gave leaders in attendance the opportunity to review and offer their feedback on the record book that is being piloted in the Calgary Region.

Brenda Robinson closed out the weekend workshop with her witty and informational keynote address on the heightened expectations of our communities and workplaces, and how we need to engage all generations in order to do more and get better results.

BUD is organized by the Beef Advisory Committee (BAC) whose role is to promote and enhance 4-H beef project and programs. BAC members take on the responsibility for organizing and hosting provincial training events. BAC also advises the Alberta 4-H Council and the 4-H and Agriculture Education Branch on programs and policies.

UFA was the Presenting Partner for BUD, with Partner Supporters being as follows: Alberta Beef Producers, AMA Insurance, Canadian Cattlemen's Association, Government of Alberta, Ketchum Manufacturing Inc, Kubota, Lakeland College, Lammle's Western Wear & Tack and Servus Credit Union.