



Manitoba 4-H Council held the second annual **Manitoba 4-H StockFest** at the Keystone Centre in Brandon in late September, 2009. 85 4-H members participated in this three-day event, showing 49 horses, 15 beef cattle and 40 sheep. New this year was the sheep section with a show and sale. There were presentations on Rare Breeds, Holistic Management and Equine Dentistry and there was also an Animal Science Quiz.

An Overall Grand Showmanship Competition was introduced for the top eight members from their age classes.

The winners of the Showmanship Awards were:

Emily Harder of Winkler Trailblazers - Junior Champion
Jake Rawluk of Lakeside Beef – Intermediate and Overall Champion
Dayna Rowland of Foxwarren-Solsgirth Beef and Prairie Pride Riders - Senior Champion

Three members of the Manitoba 4-H Agribition team were also selected at StockFest:

Aaron Lewis of Archie Light Horse & Pony
Jillian Ray of Grunthal Profit & Pleasure Beef
Renee Simcoe of Interlake Trail Riders (who later withdrew due to other commitments)

Manitoba 4-H StockFest is open for all 4-H members to attend either as spectators or as participants in the educational seminars or in the shows with their 4-H project animals. It is an opportunity for members to learn about the livestock industry, compete and build peer relationships.

StockFest is organized by a volunteer committee of Manitoba 4-H Council with support from Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives and the Renewal Opportunities Program, Canadian 4-H Council. Many planning meetings are held by conference call to reduce driving time and include committee members from across the province.

For more information or to get involved in planning for the 2010 event (September 24-26), contact Diane Kovar (204) 571-0854 didik@westman.wave.ca

2009 National 4-H Skills and Thrills Conference – theme “Communication”

In October, nearly 60 4-H members, representing almost every province and territory in Canada, participated in the Skills & Thrills Conference in Winnipeg. Sessions included presentations from a wide array of individuals including Joe Olafson, a reporter from CTV, and Ace Burpee, morning show host on Hot 103. Getty Stewart, a professional corporate trainer spoke about the importance of communication in finding a job, while other sessions included visits from a canine police unit and visually and hearing impaired individuals. This year, the conference was held at the same time as the Manitoba 4-H Council AGM - delegates took part in the Annual General Meeting at lunchtime and 4-H Council Directors were guests at the evening banquet. There was also time for fun, including a visit to The Forks, a Scavenger Hunt, a lesson in auctioneering and a square dancing lesson. The consensus among the delegates was that it was a weekend full of opportunities.

Call for National Volunteer Conference (NV) / National Volunteer Leaders Conference (NVLC) Assistant Conference Directors (ACD):

Staff and volunteers can apply to be a Director for 2010 National Conferences which happen in November 2010. These are two-year commitments – the first year as Assistant Conference Director, and in 2011 as Conference Director. Applications available for both **conferences** on the Canadian 4-H Council website:

National Volunteer Leaders Conference (NVLC) www.4-h-canada.ca/programs/?path=ConferencesandSeminars/National+Volunteer+Leaders+Conference/&lang=

National Members Conference (NC): www.4-h-canada.ca/programs/?path=ConferencesandSeminars/National+Conference/&lang=