

*Welcome to the 68th Annual*

# Kispiox Valley



# Rodeo

*We Have the Best Fans in the West!*



# Wilps Ma-uus

These rodeo grounds sit on the traditional Gitksan territory of Wilps Ma-uus. The Kispiox Valley Rodeo Club is honoured to feature Hereditary Chief Ma-uus in the Grand Entry ceremony on Saturday. Thank-you to the House members and Chief Ma-uus for making our rodeo a true blend of cowboy and First Nations culture.

We appreciate their welcome and collaboration for our rodeo each and every year. Please treat this traditional territory and the Kispiox River with respect.



## From the President

Welcome to the 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Kispiox Valley Rodeo!! A rodeo full of western traditions, history, great cowboys & cowgirls, bucking horses and bulls that brings rodeo fans together from all over the North West.

Rodeo is a family event. It's a sport that the entire family can compete in. Whether you're a fan in the bleachers, a mutton buster or a bull rider, rodeo is all about family. Our club is committed to keeping this event a family oriented weekend and we're cracking down on anyone that interferes. With the full cooperation from the RCMP and extra security, we will do our best to ensure that you all have a safe weekend. We don't mind a little 'yahoo' once in a while but if you get drunk and disorderly, you will have an official escort to the New Hazelton RCMP.

A special thank you to one of the hardest working rodeo committees in Canada. What a great bunch of people! It takes over 130 volunteers to make this rodeo run smoothly and these people do an incredible job.

You'll be watching some of the top personnel in the rodeo world this weekend. Terry Cook and Bernie Rivet, two of Canada's premiere judges. They judge the Canadian Finals Rodeo, the Calgary Stampede, and Terry just returned from judging the Houston, Texas rodeo, one of the biggest in the world. Keith Dinwoodie, our three time world champion auctioneer, is the 'Voice of the Kispiox Rodeo'. Roy & Earl Call of C+ Rodeos have brought the bucking stock, some of the best in Canada. The contestants this weekend will be competing for the largest added purse in the BCRA and looking to win their way into the finals.

Enjoy all the concessions: our BBQ beef, slow roasted in the old boiler from a paddle wheeler that used to sail up the Skeena from Prince Rupert to Hazelton, the pancake breakfasts by the Four Fat Fryers, the log concession and many others.

Have a great weekend, please stay safe and for the few days you are enjoying the famous Kispiox Valley hospitality, kick back and live a true western movie. A tradition of Cowboys & Indians coming together and a western way of life that we all love.

*Joy Allen*

President - Kispiox Valley Rodeo Club



Cover Photo: 68 years of rodeo, these fans have made it to almost every one.  
Photo by Yet Klare

# The Kispiox Valley Rodeo Club

*It takes 134 volunteers to organize and run this rodeo. These people are the ones who make it happen. The 100's of hours that they put in to make this event the success it is, is a tribute to their dedication to the sport of rodeo. This is one of the best rodeo committees in Canada, and the Kispiox Valley Rodeo is one of the all time favourites.*



## 2015 Rodeo Club Members

Lawrence & Francis Stokes, Marlise Zurbrugg, Martin Wehren, Alana Wadley, Rick Vipond, Roy, Andrea, Wakas & Grace Vickers, Landon Vipond, Peter, Janelle, Marika and Janaya Van Tunen, Gene & Joy Allen, Wendy Bartlett, Henny, Kia, Max & Scott Beertema, Bruce, Rene, Riley Chandler, Mary Charlebois, Bella Combs, Julia Corbett, Gerry, Sabrina, Anela & Jesse Croft, Ron Fleming, John & Sandra Forsyth, Anna & Kiernan Frezell, Brandi Henderson, Carole & Graham Larson, Sarah Lazzarotto, Kim Lee, Conrad Larson, Dave & Lee Nash, Keifer Larson, Kenny & Layla McKenzie, Brenda Nelson, Rena Ponath, Sheryl & Cassie Penfold, Barbara, Willi, Trey & Dytah Schmit, Mikayla, Megan, Kaitlyn Bartlett, Cathy Sims, Eryn, Jules & Fallon Stokes, Danielle Bradford, Fiona Ridell, John Allen, Andy & Judi Calhoun, Mikey Fowler, Jaylee Harris, Jolene McCormick, Robert & Amy Brandstetter & Sam Larson.



# 2015 Weekend Schedule

<i>Friday</i>	<i>All Day</i>	<i>Rodeo Kickoff Events - BBQ's &amp; Live Music New Hazelton at the Bulkley Valley Credit Union Hazelton at the The Learning Shop Judging for "Best Western Business in the Hazeltons 8:00a.m. Riverside Camping Opens 10:00p.m. Dance – Main Hall (No Minors) AXES OF EGO</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>8:00a.m. 10:00a.m. 1:00 p.m.  9:00p.m.</i>	<i>Pancake Breakfast – Main Hall - With The 4 Fat Fryers Free Horse Drawn Wagon Rides With the Semeschucks BCRA Sanctioned Rodeo, Grand Entry – Main Arena The Kispiox Mounted Drill Team Official Welcome from House of Ma-uus Family Dance - Main Hall, AXES OF EGO</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>8:00a.m. 10:00a.m. 1:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Pancake Breakfast - With the 4 Fat Fryers - Main Hall Free Horse Drawn Wagon Rides - Brian &amp; Tanis Semeschuck BCRA Sanctioned Rodeo, Grand Entry – Main Arena The Kispiox Valley Mounted Drill Team</i>

*Make sure you slip on over to the Rodeo T-Shirt booth and take home some rodeo memorabilia with you. Roy Vickers has contributed some great art work to help raise money to keep this rodeo alive. Rodeo t-shirts, posters, limited edition buckles, and limited edition silk screen prints. Check out the booth and show your support of rodeo!*



## British Columbia Rodeo Association



The Kispiox Valley Rodeo is sanctioned by the British Columbia Rodeo Association. The BCRA ensures that the rodeo is run on a professional level, providing top quality judges, timers, secretaries, announcers, pickup men, photographers, bullfighters, stock contractors and rodeo entertainers. Each rodeo is attended by elected directors who monitor the stock, contestants, arena conditions, facilities and help committees to produce a great rodeo. They keep track of contestants' winnings and determine who qualifies for the BCRA rodeo finals. Many of their contestants have gone on to compete and win in the Canadian Professional Rodeo Association, (the CPRA) and many of you will recognize their names as they've competed many times at Kispiox. You can always check out [www.rodeobc.com](http://www.rodeobc.com)



The Western Industry has joined together to raise awareness and funds for the fight against breast cancer. Over \$20 million dollars has been raised to support local cancer groups on behalf of the sport of rodeo.

Former Kispiox Valley Rodeo Queen, Sarah Lazzarotto brought the Tough Enough program to our community. Sarah has completed her first year of college in the Okanagan in the Associate of Arts program while playing on 2 minor hockey teams, working 4 jobs and still finding the time to keep the Tough Enough program thriving at our Rodeo!

**2015 Proceeds to be donated to the Smithers Cancer Care Clinic in the Bulkley Valley District Hospital.**

While growing up, my sister was diagnosed with Hodgkins Lymphoma. While she regained her health and fought cancer, my family and I started raising money at the Relay For Life in Smithers BC. When I won the title of Miss Kispiox Valley Rodeo Queen in 2011, I knew it would be too hard to manage Relay For Life and to reign as queen the following year. This is when I decided to spearhead the Tough Enough to Wear Pink Day at the Kispiox Valley Rodeo in 2012. I had been to several Tough Enough to Wear Pink days during my travels around BC as Rodeo Queen. With the help of my mother, Liz Lazzarotto and family friend, Jude Hobenshield, I was able to continue raising money for a cause that is important to me and many others, as well as remain around the rodeo environment. Big thanks to Max Beertema & Josephine Kern for all their help in 2015.



*Sarah Lazzarotto*

**Are YOU tough enough?**



**Sponsors:**

Mercedes Beans  
Town Pantry - New Hazelton  
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Hoskins Ford  
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CIBC - Smithers  
Rayz Boardshop  
Mark's Work Warehouse  
Mainerz & Back Alley Boots  
Home Hardware  
Kitchen Works

La Petite Maison  
SpeeDee Interior  
Stationary  
Blue Fin Sushi  
Two Sisters Cafe  
Beertema's  
Cheryl's Hair Design  
Helene Paranich  
Subway  
Odel's Cut & Style

New Hazelton Bus Depot  
Rob's Restaurant  
Heartstrings  
Mountain Eagle Books  
Louise's Kitchen  
Chrysler  
Salon 1180

# Stock Contractor



C+ Rodeos of Williams Lake, BC is supplying the stock for the 2015 Kispiox Valley Rodeo. Roy and Earl Call are the only Professional Stock Contractors in B.C. Among the many rodeos they contract is the world famous Williams Lake Stampede. They also supply stock for High School, Little Britches, and amateur rodeos. They supply bulls for the Canadian Bull Riding Association and Pro Bullriders Rodeo (PBR). Their horses Simon's Bear and Medevil Kneival have won Saddle Bronc of the round at the Canadian Finals. In 2014 several of the C+ bucking horses were chosen to attend the Canadian Finals Rodeo. The Call boys supply all their own stock for rodeos, pickup horses, cattle, bulls and broncs. These rodeo athletes love the applause of the crowd for their performances, so don't hold back your appreciation!! The Kispiox Valley Rodeo is proud to have C+!



## CJFW & CFTK Live on Location

Bell Media presents the 68<sup>th</sup> annual Kispiox Valley rodeo. They are excited to be a part of a community event with such a rich heritage rooted in the Kispiox Valley. CJFW will be live on location covering all the rodeo excitement. **Mike in the Morning** will be coming to you live from the rodeo grounds on Saturday, June 6th from 11am- 3pm so listen for all your rodeo coverage on CJFW. 101.9 FM in Hazelton and Kispiox. CFTK TV will be shooting live on location, so put your lipstick on, comb your hair and smile for the camera!!



# Josh "Slick" Sheppard Rodeo Clown & Barrelman



Josh "Slick" Sheppard, as his dad would call him, wasn't always the smoothest little fellow. He earned the name "Slick" by being the exact opposite of his nickname. He was always the family entertainment and enjoyed making people laugh. Josh didn't grow up in a rodeo family but always dreamed of being a rodeo clown and dressed up as a rodeo clown for Halloween year after year.

Josh grew up in Clarkston, Washington playing sports and riding dirt bikes, most likely not realizing that someday his dream would come true. He was a jock - a three year varsity football player and captain, baseball and basketball player, wrestler and snowboarder. But he also looked deep into his soul and followed his cowboy heart, becoming an FFA member raising hogs, entering tractor-driving competitions and getting summer jobs farming and ranching. Out of high school, Josh got an Associate's Degree in Carpentry at Walla-Walla Community College and at age 20 he married Chelsy, his "cowgirl" junior high sweetheart. It was then that Josh's true cowboy life began.

He started riding horses with Chelsy and had natural riding talent from the beginning. In 2003 he started bull fighting and entered the rodeo scene. His passion for rodeo has kept him coming back for five years of bull fighting and made him push on to achieve his dream of becoming a rodeo clown in 2007. November of 2007 also brought Josh and Chelsy the birth of their first daughter, Berklie. In October of 2009 they had another addition, a daughter named Reece, and in

March of 2013 they had their third daughter Jensyn. The girls love going on the road with Dad and putting on makeup with him before his show. Josh always puts family first and is a wonderful father. When not with his girls or at rodeos, he spends the rest of his time working as a subcontractor for Dan Anderson Construction, roping, spending time on the river, hunting, and enjoying his whole family. Josh is a friendly guy with a huge smile and all who know him can't help but love him.

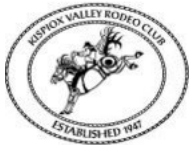
As a Barrelman, Josh brings all his talents and past experiences to the arena, adding life and laughter to each rodeo. Athleticism, wit, energy and creativity are put into each moment and act to entertain the audience. His love and passion for entertaining and rodeo is evident. The now, slicker than ever, Josh "Slick" Sheppard, is thrilled to be your Barrelman for the 68th annual Kispiox Valley Rodeo.

**SPONSORED BY: J.Oviatt Construction - Kitimat**



## Shootin' Rodeos

*The photos in this booklet are shot from the cameras belonging to **Wendy Perry**. Wendy's photos are identified with a "WP." We are grateful for her photos each and every year to make this program possible. If you would like a copy of one of the photos you see in this magazine, please visit [photographicoptions.com](http://photographicoptions.com)*



# Kispiox Valley Rodeo



Hard damn work! That's what it takes to put a rodeo on. Without all the services of the people and organizations below, our rodeo just wouldn't be the same. Thanks so very much to all of you!

The **RCMP** regularly patrol the grounds to help our security team keep our families, children, animals and friends safe. Sergeant **Antonio Hernandez** from the New Hazelton detachment will be featured in the Grand Entry on Red Serge duty and will be the first RCMP representative in the history of the Kispiox Valley Rodeo to participate on horseback. Hernandez is a former rider with the RCMP Musical Ride pictured with his horse, **Piper**.



Chute Helpers - **Keifer Larson & Mike Fowler** are the guys you see pushing horses, bulls, steers, calves and other stock through the alleyways into the chutes. Headed up by long time local cowboy, **John Pelsma**, they sort all the stock into pens to make sure the right calf or horse is in the right chute for the right cowboy!



BBQ Beef Cooker/Sellers - The chef, **Willie Schmidt & family** stay up ALL night continuously basting the giant hunks of beefs as they roast slowly in an old boiler from a stern-wheeler ship!

Pick-Up Men - **Wade McNolty & Earl Call** are the two good-looking rugged cowboys that ride their well-trained horses alongside the broncs to give the bronc-rider an "easy-off" instead of a "buck-off."

Stock-Chaser - **Jolene McCormick & Sandra Forsyth** are the ones you see helping chase calves out of the arena to keep the rodeo running faster.



Strip-Chute - When the horse or the bull is done bucking, it runs into the strip chute where the rigging, saddle or bull rope is taken off and returned to the competitor. This is a tough job as the horse or bull is still excited from bucking in the arena but **Sam & Conrad Larson, David Blackburn & Scott Beertema** are old hands at it!

Arena Director - **Kaleigh Allen** - She keeps the entire rodeo running smoothly by always working 2 events ahead of the rodeo and helping coordinate all the other behind-the-scenes people.

Chute Boss - **Gene Allen** - This guy generally yells a lot! He keeps all the rough stock in order and works with the chute help to keep them bringing the right animal athletes to match up with their cowboy competitor.



The voice of the Kispiox Valley Rodeo is 3-time world champion auctioneer, **Keith Dinwoodie**. Keith is one of the best ambassadors for the sport of rodeo as his intimate understanding of each event and makes him the best rodeo announcer in the west!

Timed event strip chute is operated by **Eryn, Jules & Falon Stokes**. Descendants of long time rodeo club members **Francie & Lawrence Stokes**.



# We are a Memorial Rodeo

The Kispiox Valley rodeo has several memorial events to help us remember and honour some of the fine cowboys and cowgirls that came before us - the people that loved this rodeo and helped make it what it is today. These aren't just names on a trophy, each individual has in some way touched our lives and those around us. The rodeo club is very honoured that the families chose this event to commemorate such special people.

## Other Memorial Events

*Marty Allen Memorial Saddle Bronc*

*Jack Lee Memorial Bare Back*

*Gerrit Pelsma Memorial Team Roping*

*John & Elsie Wookey Memorial All Around Cowboy*

*Jimmy McCrae Memorial Cowhide Race*

*Wally Love Memorial Sportsmanship Cowboy*

*Chris Leary Memorial Sportsmanship Junior*

*Helen Campbell Memorial All Around Cowgirl*



## Kispiox Valley Rodeo - BEST FANS IN THE WEST



Our little rodeo, put on by our little community is noted as one of the best produced rodeos in Canada! Why is that? Because of our fans. Not only do we get big numbers of people in the bleachers, clapping and cheering on cowboys and cowgirls - it is the fans of rodeo who have built and formed the Kispiox Valley Rodeo Club. We know that we have the best spectators in the sport of rodeo and 2015 is the year we honour YOU! Some of our fans have not missed a rodeo in 68 years! We have had living legends attend or compete at our rodeo, from Fletcher Day of Telegraph Creek (pictured on left) to Gus Cameron (pictured below). People from all walks of life and from all sorts of communities come to our rodeo and we love our diverse our enthusiastic crowd. Hats off to the rodeo spectators - you're what makes this all possible!



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**Province of  
British Columbia**  
Legislative Assembly



Doug Donaldson, MLA  
(Stikine)

**Community Offices:**  
Box 227, Hazelton, BC V0J 1Y0  
Telephone: 250 842-6338  
  
Box 895, Smithers, BC V0J 2N0  
Telephone: 250 847-8841

Dear Rodeo visitors, organizers and participants:

The Kispiox Valley Rodeo Club is celebrating its 68<sup>th</sup> year! What a success! It has earned the reputation as being one of the top rodeos in B.C and that is a well-deserved reputation. It is one of the largest events in the Pacific Northwest and one of the oldest. Besides the good level of skill and competition in the rodeo events, we also know that the rodeo provides important economic spin-offs as local businesses not only benefit from visitors to our area but are also supported in the supplies and materials purchased to put on the event.

To me, one of the best things about the Kispiox Valley Rodeo is that it is a place where the relationships that keep our communities strong can be renewed, re-established and built. Whether it is young or old, First Nation or non-First Nation, the setting provides a place to celebrate and get to know one another better in a fun and positive atmosphere. Those are the ties that go beyond the rodeo and those are the ties that help us throughout the year in other aspects as we work together to build stronger communities. And that is a great example on the lasting legacy that 68 years of the Kispiox Valley Rodeo provides.

As the MLA for Stikine I welcome all those attending and participating in the 68<sup>th</sup> annual Kispiox Valley Rodeo and I offer my congratulations to the Kispiox Rodeo Club and all volunteers and sponsors for making this year another great one in the history of this event.

See you at the Rodeo!

Doug Donaldson, MLA Stikine



# Last Year's Champions

Event	2014 Champion	Hometown	Score/Time
<b>Bareback</b>	Jared Marshall	Prince George, BC	77
<b>Saddle Bronc</b>	Cole Scott	Kamloops, BC	76
<b>Team Roping</b>	Deanne Bell & Colton Wardrop	Houston, BC	7.7 seconds
<b>Bull Riding</b>	Shaun Greenhough	Penticton, BC	76
<b>Tie Down Roping</b>	Logan Wharry	Langley, BC	17.5 seconds
<b>Wild Horse Race</b>	Jeff Jaarsma, Stan Newton & Brad Huisman	Smithers, BC	
<b>Steer Wrestling</b>	Cole Scott	Kamloops, BC	5.0 seconds
<b>Breakaway Roping</b>	Kerri Mikkelsen	Pritchard, BC	2.9 seconds
<b>Jr Breakaway Roping</b>	Harley Antoine	Cache Creek, BC	3.4 seconds
<b>Jr Steer Riding</b>	Tristan Brackman & Tristan Holt (tie)	Louis Creek	73
<b>Ladies Barrel Racing</b>	Laura James	Monte Creek	15.506 sec
<b>Jr Barrel Racing</b>	Taylor Cherry	Quesnel, BC	15.864 sec
<b>Pee Wee Barrel Racing</b>	Kira Stowell	Quesnel, BC	16.621
<b>Novice Roughstock</b>	David Blackburn	Two Mile, BC	
<b>Open Pole Bending</b>	Deanna Bell	Houston, BC	
<b>Cowhide Race</b>	Wade McNolty & Kyle Bell	150 Mile House & Houston, BC	
<b>Musical Chairs</b>	Megan Bartlett	Moricetown, BC	
<b>Rescue Race</b>	Landon Vipond & Jesse deBoer	South Hazelton & Two Mile, BC	
<b>Sportsmanship Cowgirl</b>	Megan Bartlett	Moricetown, BC	
<b>Sportsmanship Cowboy</b>	Dustin Shields	Vanderhoof, BC	
<b>Sportsmanship Jr</b>	Keith Marshall	South Hazelton, BC	
<b>Best Dressed Cowgirl</b>	Taylor Cherry	Quesnel, BC	
<b>Ladies All Around</b>	Kerri Mikkelsen	Pritchard, BC	
<b>Men's All Around</b>	Steve Holman	Quesnel, BC	
<b>Jr All Around</b>	Tristan Brackman	Williams Lake, BC	

# RODEO VENDORS

Are your hungry? Thirsty?

Check out the tasty treats, satisfying snacks and megalicious meals in our vendor area near the bleacher entrance



## FOUR FAT FRYERS PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Pancakes, bacon, eggs, juice & coffee. A solid breakfast to start your day, served from 8:00 - 11:00 each morning in the hall. A long-standing rodeo tradition!

## KISPIOX VALLEY RODEO BBQ BEEF BOOTH

Barbequed beef on a bun. Our roast beef is flame roasted "low and slow" all night long in a giant boiler from an old stern wheeler ship that came up the Skeena River. Another long-standing rodeo tradition!

## KISPIOX VALLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION LOG CABIN CONCESSION

Hamburgers, chips, freezies, hot dogs, chocolate bars, hot & cold drinks. Money raised supports our community association.

## SHISH-KA-DAVE'S

Pork & chicken kabobs, meat & vegetable rolls, chow mein, Phillipino food and cold drinks

## THE OUTBACK BBQ (late night grub)

Beef on a bun, potato wedges, hot dogs, smokies, hot & cold drinks.

## CINAWAY TRADING (MERCHANDISE)

T-shirts, bags, jewellery, clothing, hats, shawls, bandanas, scarves and other accessories

## SNOWIE SHAVED ICE

Snow cones & cotton candy & bottled water

## ICE-CREAM BUCKET

Ice-cream, cold drinks, floats (YEAH BABY!), milkshakes, sundaes, hot dogs & corn dogs (Friday & Saturday evening), and ice-cream novelties

## BLUESTONE MINI-TREATS

Fries, perogies on a stick, bannock, smokies, deep fried pickles, drinks and gooey fries

## DeJONG'S MINI-DONUTS

Mmmmm...mini-donuts, bubble tea and beverages

## GRANNY'S OLD FASHIONED POPCORN

Sweet & salty kettle corn



# Kispiox Valley Drill Team 2015

This incredible, versatile and eye catching drill team is one of the largest in Canada. Performing to upbeat music in their patriotic colours, this team has become an icon of the Kispiox Valley Rodeo. The riders vary in ages from the *Golden Years* to the *Informative Years*. The youngest rider is Sara McPhail at 6 years old, riding 24 year old Sparky. First year rider Layla MacKenzie is riding the 26 year old veteran, Chip. The team starts practicing around the end of April and it takes many hours to perfect the drill. A good horse person will recognize the degree of difficulty many of these maneuvers require. The wheel is one of the most difficult with the inside riders (the pivots) barely moving, and the outside horses running. The massive pivot of 11 riders each swinging into the single line is another outstanding performance by the horses and riders. To get that many horses to be compatible, manage the speed transitions, tolerate the noise, the crowds and bucking stock is incredible.

Hats off to the parents, grandpas, grandmas and friends that make the huge effort to get these riders to all the practices. Without you, there would be no drill team. We all appreciate your support, enthusiasm and encouragement.

We hope you enjoy this team as much as the team enjoys performing. Your applause is welcome and appreciated by the riders and horses.

**Coach - Joy Allen**

**Assistant Coaches & Performance Leaders - Brenda Nelson, Kia Beertema, Kathy Clay & Megan Bartlett, Anna Frezell**



## 2015 Riders & Horses

*Sara McPhail/Sparky*

*Bella Combs/Moose*

*Anela Croft/Rue*

*Marika Van Tunen/Beauty*

*Grace Vickers/Tuxedo*

*Layla MacKenzie/Chip*

*Megan Bartlett/Autumn,*

*Paulo Rubinato/Montana*

*Kaitlyn Bartlett/Blaze*

*Emma Hobensheild/Casey*

*Michayla Schmid/Storm*

*Charlotte Pole/Silver*

*Kassie Vipond/Fritz*

*Sandra Forsyth/Barnie,*

*Anna Frezell/Scout*

*Jolene McCormick/Barbie*

*Kim Lee/Princess*

*Kia Beertema/Echo*

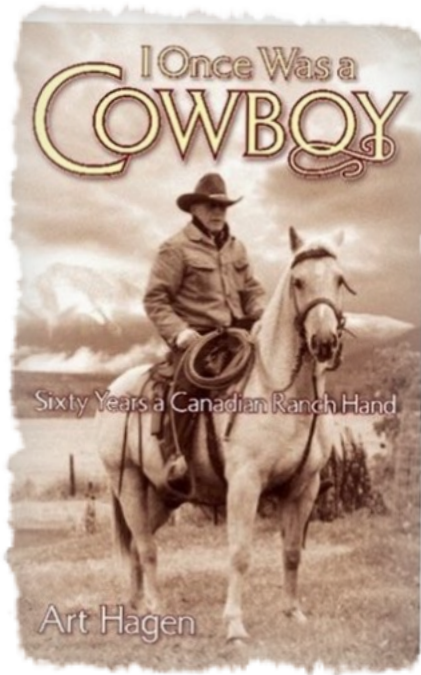
*Marlise Zurbrugg/Partner*

*Kathy Clay/Jack*

*Brenda Nelson/Rocky*

*Cathy David/Tuffie*





## Crossing the Great Divide

On September 12, 2014, one of the greatest cowboys the Kispiox Valley ever raised was laid to rest in Milk River, Alberta. Art Hagen was born and raised in the Valley, and from the time he was born, he wanted to be a cowboy. Art helped start the very first rodeo, held in the Village of Kispiox in the early 40's. He rode broncs and bareback, he wrangled and roped, rounded up bucking horses, helped build the original arena, never missed a dance, and was always a gentleman. Art wrote, sang and recorded many cowboy songs, depicting his cowboy way of life and of the country he loved. Art was a horseman. He appreciated good horses and he never forgot a good horse. Art rode for some of the most famous ranches in Canada over the years, and spent the last part of his life, riding the range in the Milk River country. His photos and poetry have been featured in the Western Horseman and he was loved, admired and respected by all who knew him.

Art wrote a book that was published a few years back, titled 'I Once Was A Cowboy'. In the dedication, he wrote: "To the young generation of cowboys and cowgirls who will pick up the bridle reins and lariats when us old hands lay them down. With faith in God, they will keep the traditions of the range country and the spirit of the West alive forever"

Art Hagen, we know you're riding up there, where the grass grows lush, green and stirrup high on your good horse, Danny. You'll be proud to know that every person at this rodeo is helping to keep the western way of life alive. You have left a legacy that not only leaves your family proud but each and every one of us that had the honour of knowing you. We'll be seeing you down the trail old friend.

## Cracking Down on Excessive Partying

There is growing concern about the increase of excessive alcohol consumption, underage drinking and destructive parties that occur during the rodeo and music festival in Kispiox Valley and we are taking action. The Kispiox Valley Rodeo Club, Music Festival Society and Community Centre Association are teaming up to ensure any events held on the community grounds are family friendly. You will see more onsite security during events, the prompt removal of those who are drunk and disorderly, vehicles may be searched for drugs and excessive alcohol (if you do not permit a search of your vehicle, you will not be permitted on the grounds). If you were identified as a problem last year, you will be refused entry at the gate. Underage drinkers will be removed from the community grounds and prosecuted. So stay outta trouble! We will miss our long-time head of security Mark Louie but he's still helping coordinate from afar. With the snow melting off our beautiful mountains, the Kispiox River is high, muddy, cold and WILL cause hypothermia. Please take extra care not only with yourself but with your children. Kids camp here too, so please remember to keep the cuss words out of your vocabulary, the drinking within a responsible limit and the late nights quiet....or else! We could even add in a "MOM SAID!" to be sure you get the message but essentially, if you wouldn't do it in Gramma's house - don't do it here.



# Would you like to name a bucking horse?



If you had the chance to name a bucking horse, what would you call it? Wouldn't it be cool to have a horse named after a loved one, your business or maybe your mother in law? Heck, you can even name it after yourself! If you're looking for innovative ways to advertise your business - name a bucking horse! This bronc will travel all around western Canada and the USA and be watched by thousands of folks.

So when hear our 3-time world champion auctioneer and rodeo announcer, Keith Dinwoodie do what he does best, get ready to bid! He will be auctioning off the right to name a bucking horse. The proceeds from the auction go towards improving our rodeo facilities.

Donna Vipond won the auction last year and named the horse "Viper 7."



## Facebook

Did you know the Kispiox Valley Rodeo on Facebook? It's not a trick question, we are! You can find out all sorts of cool things on there. Lots of people posting photos, Roy Vickers giving Facebookers a sneak peek at the latest T-shirt designs, the new KVRC logo and info on how to get involved with lots of cool rodeo things that happen throughout the year. So get on there, give us a "like" and join us online!



## Foot Races

2014 was the first time we attempted to host footraces as part of the rodeo performance.

The 50 and older race was most certainly entertaining. Don't worry folks, we have paramedics on hand just in case!

Anyone can join, just listen for rodeo announcer, Keith Dinwoodie and he will tell you when to jump in the arena with your fastest boots or shoes.

Categories by age: 11-16, 17-30, 31-50, 50+  
\*Notice Ron Fleming in the photo above on the far right - you can't miss his giant grin.

# Kenny MacLean - Champion Cowboy



When I was a young boy I knew of Kenny Mclean. I rode racehorses for Al Benson in Hazelton B.C. and participated in the Kispiox Rodeo, the William's Lake Stampede and the Smithers Fall Fair from 1958 to 1962. I often heard of this champion cowboy, Kenny Mclean and knew he was cowboy from Okanagan Falls, he was an inspiration to me.

I was born the year the Kispiox Valley Rodeo started and have lived as an artist most of my life. It is mentors like Kenny McLean who gave me hope and helped me to believe that anything is possible, if you are willing to work hard and keep your eye on the goal.

I've returned to the Kispiox Valley with my family to live in this beautiful community and help out with the Kispiox Valley Rodeo Club. I contribute a new

image each year to celebrate my favourite rodeo. This year's design you can find on our KVRC tee shirts, it is a tribute to a man who has inspired many, Kenny McLean, Champion Cowboy.

*Roy Henry Vickers*

Vice President,  
Kispiox Valley Rodeo Club



Corporation of the  
**VILLAGE OF HAZELTON**  
Office of the Mayor

P.O. Box 40  
4310 Field St.,  
Hazelton, B.C. V0J 1Y0



Tel (250) 842-596  
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March 30, 2015

Ms. Joy Allen, President  
Kispiox Valley Rodeo Club  
Site L, Box 13, R.R. #1  
Hazelton, B.C.  
V0J 1Y0

Dear Ms. Allen:

**Re: Kispiox Valley Rodeo**

On behalf of the Council of the Village of Hazelton, I am pleased to once again offer our best wishes to the Kispiox Valley Rodeo Club in hosting the Kispiox Valley Rodeo.

The Kispiox Valley Rodeo is a truly family event, with activities for all ages: competitions, performances, and social events – there is something for everyone. We look forward to meeting our friends at the Rodeo Grounds and to celebrating during Rodeo Week in the Hazeltons.

Council wishes you every success in hosting this important community event.

Yours truly,

Alice Maitland  
Mayor

# 2015 Event Sponsors

## A BIG THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS

Especially those of you who support this rodeo year after year! YOU help us to make this event the BIGGEST LITTLE RODEO IN THE WEST!

**Saddle Bronc**  
**Bare Back**  
**Team Roping**  
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**Ladies Barrel Racing**  
**Wild Horse Race**  
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**Tie Down Roping**  
**Jr. Barrel Racing**  
**Jr. Steer Riding**  
**Jr. Breakaway**  
**Wild Cow Milking**  
**Pee Wee Barrels**  
**Cowhide Race**  
**Novice Roughstock**  
**Open Pole Bending**  
**Rescue Race**  
**Ride & Lead**  
**Calf Scramble**  
**Stickhorse Race**  
**Musical Chairs**  
**Kids Boot Race**  
**Mutton Busting**  
**Under 10 Foot Race**  
**11-16 Footrace**  
**17-30 Footrace**  
**31-50 Footrace**  
**Over 50 Footrace**  
**Mens Sportsmanship**  
**Ladies Sportsmanship**  
**Jr. Sportsmanship**  
**All Around Cowboy**  
**All Around Jr.**  
**All Around Cowgirl**  
**Chute Gates**

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 Leland Jasper  
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 Bulkley Valley Credit Union - New Hazelton Branch



*If you would like to see your name on a chute gate next year, help out as a volunteer, join the rodeo club or participate as a sponsor, please contact our committee at 250-842-6287.*

## Service Sponsors

*\*If we've missed you as a sponsor, please accept our apologies and know that we still love you. We just had to get this amazing package to the printers in time.*

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# The Cowboy's Prayer

*"Our Heavenly Father, we pause at this time, mindful of the many blessings you have bestowed upon us. We ask, Lord, that you will be with us in the arena of life. We as cowboys do not ask for special favours. We don't ask to draw around the chute fighting horse, the steer that won't lay, or to never break the barrier. We don't even ask for all daylight runs. We do ask Lord, that you will help us live our lives here on earth as cowboys, in such a manner, that when we make that last inevitable ride, to the country up there, where the grass grows lush, green, and stirrup high, and the water runs cool, clear, and deep, that you'll take us by the hand and say, Welcome to Heaven cowboy, your entry fees are paid. Amen"*

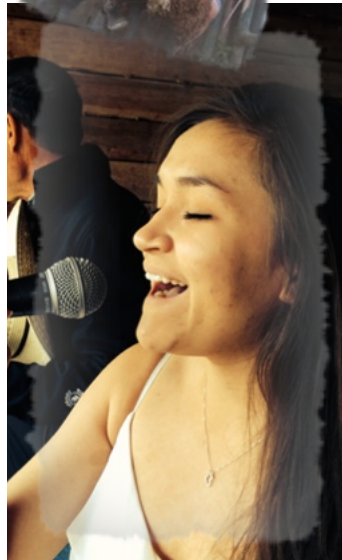


## National Anthems

I was born and raised in the Hazelton's and I currently work at the Bulkley Valley Credit Union in New Hazelton. My family has always been a little musical, so naturally I love to sing and play guitar. I thank you for choosing me once more to sing the Star Spangled Banner; I am truly honoured.

*Carmen Witwer*

Gwen Simms & Suzanne Wernli are teachers in Hazelton at the trilingual school of Majagaleeh Gali Aks which means "Children/Flowers of the Rivers and was formerly called John Field Elem. Every year, Gwen & Suzanne find some great students to sing the Canadian anthem in all 3 languages, French, English and Gitxsan and best represents our diverse culture and community.





### What is the out migration?

Each Spring, approximately three hundred million (300,000,000!) juvenile salmon travel from every lake, river and stream in the watershed to the Skeena estuary. This invisible migration goes unseen because it occurs when our rivers are in flood. Looking at the brown, swirling water of the Skeena it is hard to believe that just below the surface one of the most incredible natural phenomena in Canada is happening. Keep an eye out for ducks, kingfishers, and gulls, as one indication that juvenile salmon are nearby; these birds feed extensively on the young salmon during their migration.

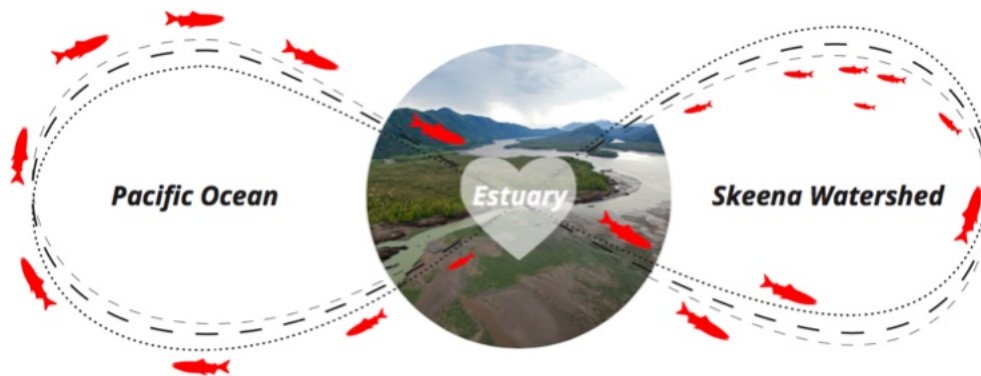
### Why is it so important?

These young salmon will become the adult salmon that return to our rivers during summer and fall over the next 2-5 years. The abundance of Skeena salmon in the following years depends on the survival of juveniles migrating down our rivers right now. While very few juveniles will survive to return to the Skeena as a spawning adult, the ones that don't return are not lost. They will feed other fish, birds, seals, whales, and humans along the way. Indeed, salmon are the foundation of our economy and culture; they are the most valuable source of food, and support our regions' ancient and unique way of life.

### Skeena Estuary; where River meets Ocean:

Estuaries are among the most productive ecosystems in the world, and the Skeena Estuary is one of the most pristine and productive estuaries of its size in the world. Every juvenile salmon that leaves the Skeena, feeds in the estuary; it is their nursery.

The Skeena estuary is a saltwater sanctuary for the hundreds of millions of juvenile salmon that migrate from across the watershed to the Pacific Ocean. Juvenile salmon arrive at the estuary during one of the most sensitive times of their life, as they transition from fresh water to salt water. The abundant eel grass habitat of the estuary provides a refuge from predators, and food to grow, while juvenile salmon adjust to their new life in the ocean.



Every single salmon & steelhead from the entire Skeena watershed needs the estuary to survive. Proposed LNG terminals in the estuary threatens our \$110 million/year wild salmon economy, our culture and our food. They can move, our salmon can't!





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