

Welcome to the 75th Annual

# KISPIOX VALLEY

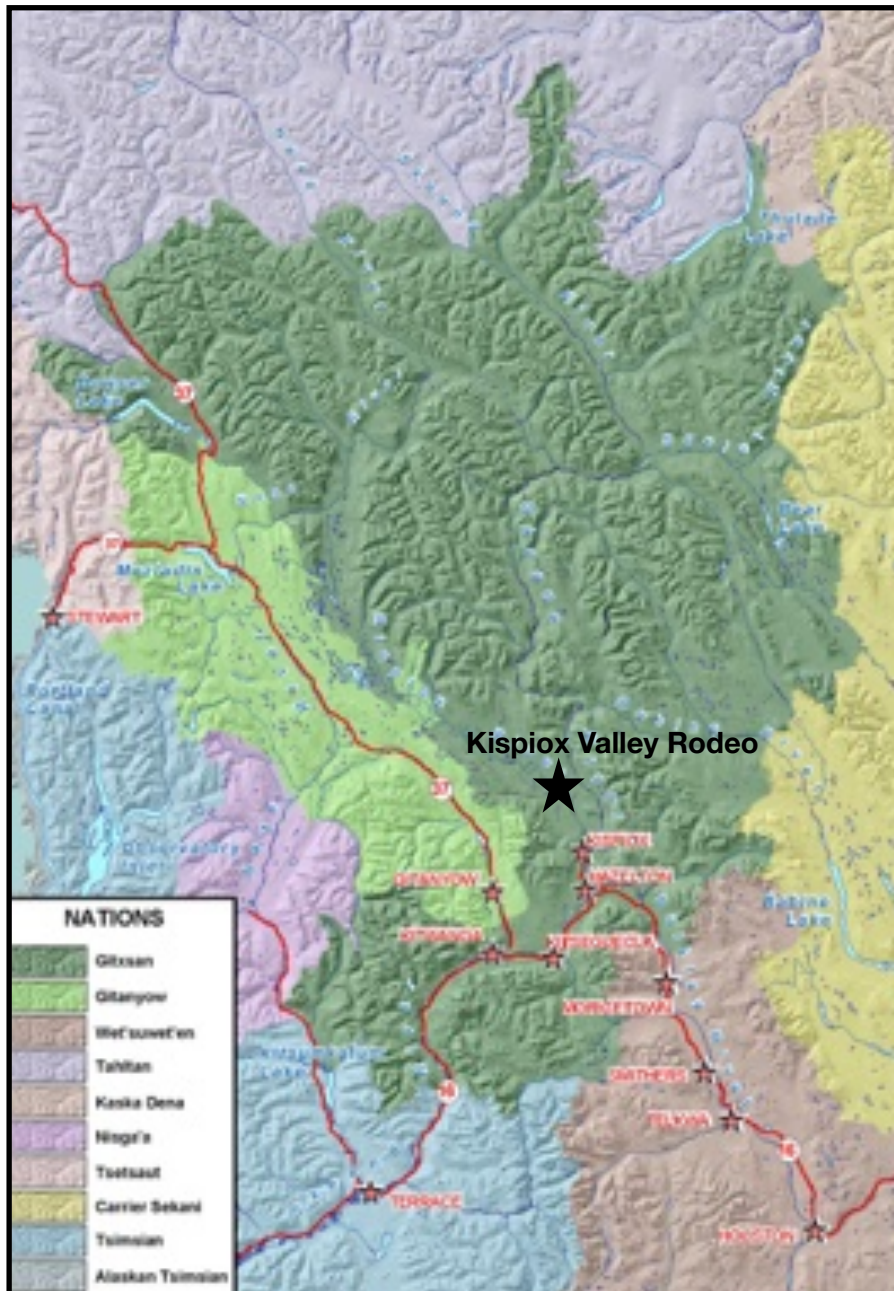


# RODDEO

“Gettin’ Back In The Saddle”

# YOU'RE ON GITXSAN TERRITORIES

These rodeo grounds sit on the unceded territory of Wilp (House Group) Ma-uus of the Gitxsan Nation. We send our condolences to the Wilp for the loss of their Simoyget (Chief) Billy Blackwater jr, who passed away in 2021. Settler & Indigenous communities here on Gitxsan territories are linked by friendships, marriage, business and the spirit of reciprocity. That doesn't mean we always get along perfectly but what's most important is that we're trying to find a way forward for the betterment of all. This means we have to first acknowledge some dark chapters in our shared history so we can work towards a brighter future. Thank-you to Wilp Ma-uus and the Gitxsan Nation for making our rodeo a true blend of cowboy and Indigenous culture. Please treat this traditional territory and the Ansp'ayaxw (Kispiox) River with respect.



Cover Photo: Local Champion, Keifer Larson of Kispiox Valley  
Photo by Elizabeth Larson

# FROM THE PRESIDENT



Whether it's rain on a Saturday perf or the heat of a Sunday afternoon, broncs and bulls and steers in the mud, and those fast times. Cowboys and cowgirls traveling from afar, all to taste a piece of Kispiox Rodeo Gold"

Welcome to the 75th Annual Kispiox Valley Rodeo. Many of you know me through rodeo, competing here at my home town rodeo or elsewhere.

Rodeo in our great valley. It is traditional. It runs as deep as the rivers wind and rush from the headwaters; past old cottonwoods and cedars from days long past.

Past hay crops and old sawmills, to the totem poles of Kispiox/Anspayaxw, to the

meeting at the forks ever flanked by the great mountains surrounding us.

Settlers, cowboys and Indigenous people, all have helped shape this valley and our rodeo. It was way back in 1947, that the first rodeo was held in the village of Kispiox/Anspayaxw.

Today we celebrate a part of our rodeo heritage on the banks of the Kispiox River; among the cottonwoods where old cowboys and cowgirls sang, played cards, cooked, ate and arm wrestled along with locals enjoying one of North America's true original sports. The fact is, in rodeo: you don't make a qualified ride and get in the pay window, you don't get paid.

That's probably why we love it so much. It is the last real blue collar sport. Cowboys and Cowgirls traveling; chasing that dream, and over the years we've seen several of our own community members get their start right here in these grounds.

This rodeo is held together by a strong vibrant club spanning decades of rodeo tradition, but also the fans and family who come to watch and our generous sponsors. We've had outstanding sponsors that have been apart of our rodeo for many years. Markets, small businesses, loggers, miners and farmers have all given generously, and it's these sponsors that ensure we can host such a great event; attracting competitors from Alberta and even the US and to keep coming back. We've had Canadian champions and Calgary stampede champions.

We are once again sanctioned by the BCRA and this rodeo sits atop for cowboys and cowgirls on a race for season leader titles.

So much history resides here; and to this day, it remains one of Canada's most historic old fashioned rodeos. We can all take pride in this as it is because of all you: fans, club members, family, competitors, and sponsors that continue keeping rodeo strong in our Valley. So enjoy the weekend with live rodeo dances, beer garden, mounted drill team, beef BBQ done in an old stern wheeler, our famous TETWP quilt auction, and some of the best rodeo action this side of the great divide. "This is The Biggest Little Rodeo In The West"

*Christoph Muigg*

President - Kispiox Valley Rodeo Club



# THE KISPIX VALLEY RODEO CLUB



*It takes 135+ 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. Best rodeo committee in Canada!*

## 2022 RODEO CLUB MEMBERS

Gene & Joy Allen, Jim, Alana, Aurora and Phin Allen, John Allen, Kaleigh Allen & Martin Wehren, Kia & Henny Beertema, Scott Beertema, Debbie & Terry Bexson, Sammy Sage & Ben Carew, Sam, James, Hank & Bella Combs, Sabrina, Gerry & Anela Croft, Rick Danecker, Gina Munford, Anna & Kieran Frezell, Brenda Nelson & Ron Fleming, Sandra Heuberger, Jude, Zane, Claire & Lily Hobenshield, Karolyn Hayes, Monique Jones, Adrian, Marina, Jaro & Zora Jordi, Keifer Larson, Kassie, James & Bentley Loring, Jennifer, Jevon, Araya, Leeara & Emmylou Zyp, Shannon, Steve, Grant & Sara McPhail, Christoph, Carmen & Sascha Muigg, Frank & Alvin Paulin, Glen Paulin, Willi & Eva Schmid, Sindee Serle, Joan Smith, Hud, Eryn, Jules & Falon Stokes, Tim, Eavan & Fiona Sullivan, Noreen O'Hara, Melissa VanderBaaren, Roy, Andrea & Grace Vickers, Landon & Jay Lee Vipond, Anissa, Moise, Emery Watson & Honor Watson, Marlise Zurbrugg & Richard Sterritt.

## HONOURARY CLUB MEMBERS

*The ones who made it happen in the early years*

Francie & Lawrence Stokes, Gerry & Leon Combs, Dave Aspeslet, Patsy & Earl Hobenshield, Glen & Linda Lavery, Wilfred Lee, Ruth Mesich, June Larson-Nash, Pete Ness, Allan & Dorothy Weston, Les & Pat

## 2022 KVRC EXECUTIVE

President - Christoph Muigg  
Vice President - Roy Henry Vickers  
Treasurer - Sammy Sage  
Secretary - Brenda Nelson  
Directors - Debbie Bexson, Andrea Vickers, John Allen & Keifer Larson



# REMEMBERING OUR RODEO FOUNDERS

**Here are some of the names of the locals who were involved with the first rodeo. Maybe they're just names to many of you, but we love to honour and remember them. They started this great tradition.**

Art Kusik, Don Adams, Wilfred Gawa, Al Beach, Earl Buck, Toby Millard, Pete Bland, Chris Harris, Al and Gloria Benson, Smokey and Lavada Neighbor, Jimmy Danes, Gordie McNolty, Bernie Pellisier, Lloyd Morrison, John and Joe Steiner, Richard Morrison, Rusty and Billy Gates, Gable Louis, Ray Vemier, Ben McKenzie Jr., Matt Hanley, Jimmy McRae, Ollie, Dave and Oscar Aspeslat, Neil Sterritt, Ben McKenzie Sr, Ray Atwood, Frank and Helen Luxton, Buster and Betty Henderson, Ron, Jessie and Dale Dundas, Ken and Kate Miller, John, Elsie, Drew, Colby, Clayton, Dal and Glyn Wookey, Marty and Dorothy Allen, Wally and Marcella Love, Walter Skulsh, Bill and Lil Love, Jack & Francis, Bernice Aspeslet, Ted, Helen, Bruce, Jimmy, Glen and Teddy Campbell, Lee Adler, Hap Leary, George, Henry, Norman and Art Hagen, Della and Jean Neighbors, Mel and Gordon Chapman, Bill Holland, Jack McNeil, Alfred Hillis



Check out our [Facebook page](#) to see the National Film Board of Canada's footage from the very first Kispiox Valley Rodeo in 1947!

## THE COWBOY'S PRAYER

Creator/Heavenly Father, we pause at this time, mindful of the many blessings you have bestowed upon us. We ask that you will be with us in the arena of life. We 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 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, **"our entry fees are paid."**

**Amen**

# CROSSING THE GREAT DIVIDE

There have been so many losses of dear friends and family in our communities since the last Kispiox Valley Rodeo. Listed below are people who were a part of our rodeo history, have made a difference and leave us with many fond memories and stories. This is a list of legends and legacies.

**Bernice Aspeslet** was the very first Kispiox Valley Rodeo Queen. Her parents helped with the first rodeo and her children and grandchildren have carried on that legacy. Bernice and her husband, Dave farmed for many years and raised cattle by Tenas Mountain.



**Glyn Wookey** has been, without a doubt, one of the most community minded people in the history of this Valley. For many years he ran the corn on the cob and pie and ice cream booth at the rodeo. He never missed a dance, he was a square dance caller, mowed the grass every year here, first one to volunteer for almost any job. Glyn helped out at the very first rodeo, along with the rest of the Wookey boys. His nephew John Wookey can always be found at the pancake breakfast, carrying on the Wookey tradition of helping out.



**Mel Stokes** moved with his family to the Valley in 1955. From the time he was very young he loved horses and helped out with the rodeo. In the late 50's, along with his brother Lawrence, they helped revive the rodeo. Mel and his wife Alice, raised some of the best Appaloosa horses in Canada, with both racing and cowhorse bloodlines.



**June Nash** might not have roped steers or barrel raced, but she ran a great camp at the rodeo every year, full of dutch ovens over the campfire. She was a rodeo timer for many years and supported her family in all their ventures. June and her husband Grant fed many cowboys and that tradition is still carried on at 'Nash Camp'. She leaves a big hole in the heart of her family, many who are rodeo club members.



**Margaret Clay's** life took her to places all over the world but she was known for her many years running the Sportsman's Lodge. Often referred to as the FIRST LADY of the Kispiox Valley, she was a beloved community member and the first employer to many residents. She always had a warm bowl of delicious soup and her infamous "Lodge Delight" dessert.



**The Riderless Horse** is a ceremony to honour those who have gone before us. This ceremony dates back to the days when armies relied on four-legged power rather than motorized transportation. In this case, it's to take a moment to grieve those we have lost and to remember to live for those who remain. We ask that you rise, remove your hat and respect the moment of silence as the horse enters the arena.



**Pete Heit** is probably the most dedicated rodeo fan ever. Always wearing his cowboy hat, Pete followed rodeo throughout western America and quite often went to the National Finals in Las Vegas. This soft spoken man had many friends and will be missed.



**Peter Hinchliffe** lived in the Valley for over 60 years. He was one of the 'Four Fat Fryers' at the Pancake Breakfasts and his big grin was a great welcome in the kitchen. Pete loved his good dogs, gardening, visiting and cooking up his famous Boxing Day Breakfast.

**Esther Love** is another of the original people who was here in 1947. She helped in the concession booths along with her sisters, Dorothy, Francis and Ruth, and her brother's wives, Marcella and Lil Love. Esther was known for her kindness, and she endowed these community grounds with money to build a new playground and a memorial wall.



**Neil Sterritt Sr.** - Keith Dinwoodie made the statement at the last rodeo: "Ladies and Gentlemen, I'm about to announce something I have never announced before. Sitting across the arena is a man who is here to watch his grand daughter who is the 2019 Rodeo Queen. Please welcome Mr. Neil Sterritt who is 104 years old!" A logger, veteran and a trapper, Neil is a legend in the Hazeltons.

**Howard Ennis** filmed the rodeo in 1947 and that film can be seen on the National Film Board, titled 'People of the Skeena'. Howard was a keen historian and recorded many events over the years.



**Fred Starr** was a rodeo fan who attended the first rodeo in Kispiox Village. A fisherman, logger, teamster and friend to many. He could play honky tonk piano with the best! He was known to bring a fresh 55lb salmon to the Nash Camp cookout to help feed the cowboys for rodeo!

**Bob Wilson** from Kispiox was a huge fan of the Kispiox Rodeo. Bob was an outstanding athlete in many different sports and he could play many musical instruments. He was always lending a hand when it was needed. He had a great sense of humour! One year he donated a giant box full of what he said every bull rider would need, a box of Depends diapers for adults!



**Thomas Shanoss** passed away at 33 years young during a logging incident. Leaving behind his two children, Felicity Williams and Luca Williams. He loved to fish and toured as a Wild Horse Racer, competing between BC, Alberta, and Montana. A crowd favourite known for his giant smile.

**Henry Hagen** is the last of the Hagen Boys who helped put on the first rodeo in 1947. He was young, handsome and frisky in those days and wasn't afraid to get on a wild horse. He helped build the arena, rounded up the wild horses and was a logger when he wasn't chasing the rodeos.



# 2022 EVENT SPONSORS

Thanks to these incredible sponsors!! Because of them, the Kispiox Valley Rodeo has the largest purse in the BCRA, the most buckles and awards and is the competitors' favourite rodeo!! Please support these businesses as they support their communities!!

**Marty Allen Memorial Saddle Bronc** Meek Logging, Castle BV Home Centre, Northern Metals Fabricating & Machining

**Bareback** Larson Timber, KSM Mining/Seabridge Gold, Kispiox Band Council, Sullivan Motors, KRB Industries

**Bull Riding** Newcrest (Brucejack & Red Chris), Hoskins Ford, Canoe Creek Logging, Driftwood Diamond Drilling  
**Team Roping** Canadian Tire (Smithers)

**Ladies Barrel Racing** Deuce Creek Contracting, Smithers Feed Store

**Steer Wrestling** Smithers Lumber Yard, Skeena Heliskiing, Firesteel Contracting, McDonalds Store

**Wild Horse Race** Tri Town Lumber, Huber

**Tie-Down Roping** Geraco Industrial supplies, Frontier Chrysler

**Breakaway Roping** AWG Northern Industries, Grassland Equipment

**Jr. Barrels** Henwood Farms, Canadian Tire Terrace

**Jr. Breakaway** Glacier Toyota, Coast Mountain GM

**Jr. Steer Riding** Kispiox Fishing Company, Tahltan Outfitters

**Novice Roughstock** Bulkley Valley Credit Union, New Hazelton

**Open Pole Bending** Upper Skeena Development Center

**Jimmy McRae Memorial Cowhide Race** The McRae Family

**Pee Wee Barrels** Bulkley Valley Credit Union, New Hazelton

**Rescue Race** Martin Wehren

**Stick Horse Race** Tom Lee

**Ride & Lead** All Seasons Automotive

**Musical Chairs** Triple Nickle Contracting

**Calf Scramble** Tom Roper

**Wild Cow Milking** Smokescreen Graphics

**Kids Boot Race** Riverbend Rolling Ice Cream

**10 & Under Footrace** Mount'n View Tire

**11 to 16 Footrace** Smithers Home Hardware

**17 to 40 Footrace** Jed Clay

**41 to 55 Footrace** TS Plumbing

**Over 55 Footrace** New Hazelton Subway

**Wally Love Memorial Men's Sportsmanship** Northwest Guides & Outfitters

**Ladies Sportsmanship** Love Brothers & Lee Outfitters

**Junior Sportsmanship** Aqua North Plumbing Ltd

**All Around Cowboy** Beertema's Furniture & Electronics

**Helen Campbell Memorial All Around Cowgirl** Leland Jasper

**All Around Junior** Bear Claw Lodge

# CHUTE & SERVICE SPONSORS

**These are the sponsors that help the rodeo function, by paying for or donating important services, expertise, food, art or equipment. Make sure to give these people, businesses, farmers, artists and organizations a tip of your Stetson! We couldn't put on this rodeo without them!**

<b>Rodeo Clown</b>	Bulkley Valley Credit Union, New Hazelton
<b>Announcer</b>	Larry Bijou
<b>Best Western Dressed Fans</b>	The McPhail Family
<b>Best Dressed Cowgirl</b>	Joy Allen
<b>Program</b>	RTC Electric Ltd.
<b>Chute One</b>	Bulkley Valley Credit Union (New Hazelton)
<b>Chute Two</b>	Vandergaag Construction
<b>Chute Three</b>	Iron Spur Farrier & Equine Services
<b>Chute Four</b>	North West Fuel
<b>Chute Five</b>	Bulkley Valley Hive & Honey
<b>Ambulance &amp; Paramedics</b>	Jade First Aid

Muigg Family	B&T Wagon Rides
Smithers Brewing Company	FVBC Rona in Terrace
RCMP	Al Weston
Scotiabank - Terrace	Skeena Watershed Conservation Coalition
Steel Ridge Contracting	John Wookey
Olson's Buckles	Kyah Wood Products
Steven Leary	Hoskins Ford
Daybreak Eggs	Bulkley Valley Wholesale
Sausage Factory	No Frills Grocery
CFTK/CJFW/Bell Media	CFNR
The Browser	Cybernet
Green Ladder	Kiniskan Lake Outfitters
Skeena Catskiing	
Dawson Maintenance & Keith Marshall	
The Grocery People, Gitanmaax Market	

# TOUGH ENOUGH TO WEAR PINK SPONSORS

Zelda's Travel Mug Cafe	Luscious Beads by Marina
Mystic Crafts	K'san Historical Village
Luscious Beads by Marina	Leah Pipe - Artist
Michelle Stoney - Artist	JEZLC Contracting
Racehllle Vilness Pottery	



# 2022 WEEKEND SCHEDULE



<b>Thursday</b>	5pm-8pm	<i>Early Bird Camping - gate entry</i>
	<b>Friday</b>	<i>All Day</i>
	12:00p.m.	<i>Riverside Camping Opens</i>
	10:00p.m.	<i>Dance – Main Hall (No Minors), MUSTANG HEART</i>
<b>Saturday</b>	8:00a.m.	<i>Pancake Breakfast - Main Hall - With The 4 Fit &amp; Handsome Fryers</i>
	10:00a.m.	<i>Free Horse Drawn Wagon Rides with the BnT Wagon Rides</i>
	1:00 p.m.	<i>BCRA Sanctioned Rodeo, Grand Entry – Main Arena</i>
		<i>Beer Gardens by Smithers Brewing Co - No Minors</i>
		<i>Blayne Wendland - Rodeo Clown</i>
		<i>BBQ Beef &amp; Food Vendors</i>
	8:00p.m.	<i>Free Family Dance - Main Hall, MUSTANT HEART</i>
<b>Sunday</b>		<b><i>TOUGH ENOUGH TO WEAR PINK DAY - WEAR PINK TO THE RODEO</i></b>
	8:00a.m.	<i>Pancake Breakfast - Main Hall - With the 4 Fit &amp; Handsome Fryers</i>
	10:00a.m.	<i>Free Horse Drawn Wagon Rides with the BnT Wagon Rides</i>
	1:00 p.m.	<i>BCRA Sanctioned Rodeo, Grand Entry – Main Arena</i>
		<i>Beer Gardens by Smithers Brewing Co- No Minors</i>
		<i>Blayne Wendland - Rodeo Clown</i>
		<i>BBQ Beef &amp; Food Vendors</i>

*Make sure you trot on over to the Rodeo T-Shirt booth and take a piece of rodeo home with you. Rodeo club vice-president, Roy Henry Vickers has custom designed some great art work to help raise money to keep this rodeo bucking in the years to come. T-shirts, posters, limited edition buckles and limited edition silk screen prints. Check out the booth and wear your rodeo pride!*



## 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)

# RODEO VENDORS

Are you hungry? Thirsty? Need some horse tack or clothing? Check out the tasty treats, satisfying snacks and megalicious meals in our vendor area near the bleacher entrance

## **FOUR FIT 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!

## **KISPION 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!

## **BEYOND BURGERS**

Hamburgers, pulled pork poutine, wings, fish & chips, hot dogs, hot & cold drinks.

## **CINAWAY TRADING (MERCHANDISE)**

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

## **BLUE MINI-TREATS**

Fried chicken, fries, poutine, deep-fried pickles, spring rolls, samosas and miso soup.

## **RIVERBEND ROLLING ICE CREAM**

Ice cream cones, waffle cones, cotton candy and ice cream floats!! Pop and water too!

## **BABA'S SMAK SHACK**

Ukrainian food! Perogies, Kubasa and cabbage rolls. Check out the nacho and/or poutine perogies!

## **SUM SHOCKIN' GOOD FOOD TRUCK**

Newfie Food. What's Newfie food - it's delicious, that's what it is! Tornado potatoes, deep fried oreos, Toutons, arse farts, burgers and fries with dressing & gravy.

## **BV on WHEELS WOOD FIRED PIZZA**

Pizza - Need we say more?? Maybe WOOD-FIRED Pizza...oh wait, that's in the title - YUM!

## **BACKROAD WEAVING**

Handwoven mohair products! Cinches, breast collars, dog collars, rifle straps, etc. Will take custom orders.





# RUNNING A RODEO



**Hard 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.

Calf Chute - At the exact moment a competitor nods their head, **Sammy Sage** (a new mom!) will push the lever forward while perched atop the chute to release the calf or steer.

Chute Help - **Glen Paulin** is the guy you see pushing horses, bulls, steers, calves and other stock through the alley-ways 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 and BBQ Beef Master, **Willie Schmidt** with **Frank Paulin, Mark & Debbie Pierre, Megan Bartlett and Travis VanWeltHuisman** 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 - **Sara McPhail & Lily Hobenshield** are the ones you see helping chase timed event livestock out of the arena to keep the rodeo running faster.

Strip-Chute - When a horse or the bull is done bucking, they 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 Larson, Curt Adamson & Scott Beertema** are old hands at it!

Arena Director - **Kaleigh Allen** - She keeps the entire rodeo running smoothly by always working at least 4 events ahead of the rodeo and helping coordinate all the other behind-the-scenes people.

Chute Boss - **Jim 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. He'll be the one cracking the gate open when competitors nod their head.



TC

Timed Event Strip Chute is operated by **Hud, Eryn & Falon Stokes**, a job Baby Falon has done since she was only 5!

Rodeo Secretaries - **Cathy Sims, Anissa Watson & Patti Gerhardi** - These ladies make sure everyone has paid their entry fees, signed a waiver and gets their prize money and buckle!



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Quad Harrows - One of the north's best slednecks, **James Loring** (taking over from the legendary **John Allen**) will be ripping through the arena after every 5 barrel racers to harrow the trenches dug in the dirt by fast turning horses to help ensure animal athletes have good footing to reduce the risk of slipping and ensure each competitor has good ground.



Event set up is headed up by **Sandra**

**Heuberger** and the Kispiox Valley Rodeo Queen Contestants: **Araya Betts-Zyp, Jorja Creyke & Bella Combs**. They will be the ones working throughout the entire rodeo hanging banners, setting up poles, barrels, raking the arena and other chores to make sure all our events run safely and smoothly.



Paramedics - Some of the most important people the entire weekend are the ones who are looking out for your safety and literally saving lives. **Jade First Aid** are professional, dedicated and extremely knowledgeable. They know what they're doing and they do it better than anyone else. With many years of experience, they stay calm, cool and effective under extreme conditions. Their services throughout the weekend are much appreciated, especially by the contestants! **THANKS JADE FIRST AID!!!**

## RULES OF RODEO WEEKEND

A few years back, the KVRC partnered with the RCMP, the Kispiox Valley Music Festival and the Kispiox Valley Community Association to crack down on excessive partying. It's been a huge success with very few rule-breakers earning themselves a permanent ban from the grounds. Please remember that this is a **FAMILY** event and **excessive or underage drinking will not be tolerated**.

**\*\*18 & UNDER - YOU CANNOT ENTER THE GATES OR CAMP WITHOUT A PARENT OR GUARDIAN**

Our security team led by **Joe Wesley** will be doing a Sunday morning 'camp check'. If they find your camp a mess with broken bottles and garbage, you could be in **BIG TROUBLE!!!** Your license plate will be noted and the names of people in the camp. If the camp is not cleaned up by noon on Sunday, you and the people in your camp will not be welcome on the community grounds for a minimum of two years for **ANY** event hosted here. Please make sure your camping spot is kept clean! Kids camp here too, so 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. RCMP will be doing regular patrols of the grounds Friday and Saturday evenings as well as road checks to help keep people safe.



# RODEO ROYALTY

## FAREWELL TO THE 2019 QUEEN & PRINCESS



The 2019-2022 Kispiox Valley Rodeo Queen is **Angelle Sterritt** and her Princess **Anella Croft**.

Angelle represented this rodeo throughout the province of B.C. She is from Gitanmaax and the granddaughter of Neil Sterritt who was 104 when he attended the 2019 rodeo to see her crowned. Neil was one of this rodeo's original founders in 1947! Angelle is a member of the Wolf Clan and graduated from Hazelton Secondary in 2021. She is currently attending Brighton College in southern BC in the Architecture Design and Building Technician program. This year's rodeo will be her last event as the reigning rodeo royalty.

**The Kispiox Valley Rodeo Club would like to thank Angelle & Anella for representing our rodeo during their reign and wishes them both the best of luck in all their future endeavors.**

"It has been such an honour to represent this amazing rodeo, this region and the people for these past three years. To the future queen, I wish you the very best and I hope you have as much fun as I did!"

*~ Angelle*

## MEET YOUR 2022 QUEEN CONTESTANTS



### **Miss Skeena Catskiing - Araya Betts-Zyp**

My name is Araya Betts and I come from the Gitxsan nation. My clan is wolf and I come from the house of Gwininitxw, my Gitxsan name is Gwitwiniwgwixw. I have been living in the Hazelton area for about 10 years. My Mother was originally from Hazelton and my Father was from New Brunswick. I am 14 years old and I have 2 younger sisters. They're trouble. I've always loved Rodeo and hoped to be able to compete in it one day and now I'm running for Queen. When I was younger, I always adored horses a lot. In fact, I always wished that I would have one eventually and now I do. Dreams and wishes won't come true if you wish on a shooting star, or throw a coin in the wishing well, you need to put the effort and time into your wishes or dreams maybe even your blood and sweat. Well that's my little life lesson for everyone. Hope you use the advice not that I put a bunch of time into it. But who knows, maybe your fairy godmother will come and grant your wishes.

### **Miss Kinniskan Lake Outfitters - Jorja Creyke**

13 year-old Jorja Creyke is from Witsset BC, where she is currently attending Smithers Secondary School and will graduate 2026. She is Wet'suwet'en, Vuntut Gwitchin and Tahltan. After graduation, Jorja plans to attend Law school. Since Jorja was little, she has been in love with horses. Jorja has been involved with many different rodeo events in her spare time between soccer, hockey, learning her cultural ties and school. She has completed barrel racing, mutton busting, drill team. Since Jorja was just a little girl, she had helped her uncle with his business, the Kiniskan Lake Outfitters. When Jorja was 5, her interests primarily turned to bull riding. As Jorja grew older, her interest has began to sway to barrel racings. Jorja continues her love for horses and is still learning every day. Jorja has been attending the Kispiox Valley rodeo since she was a child. Her goal is to represent her small town, Witsset BC.



### **Miss Green Ladder - Bella Combs**

Hi I'm Isabella Combs, I am a 4<sup>th</sup> generation Combs of the Kispiox valley. My great Grandfather Bill Love was one of the founders of the Kispiox Valley Rodeo. I first entered the rodeo when I was four and rode a sheep. I have always loved the rodeo and horses, I started riding when I was 6 and joined the Kispiox Valley Drill Team when I was 7. I have ridden in drill team ever since thanks to the tremendous support from both my parents and the Allen family, most importantly Joy Allen. I love sports and have been playing basketball since I was 9 and have always enjoyed physical activity. I love swimming, hiking and basically anything outdoors. My community and the people that surround me have helped so much through life and I am so thankful to live in such a caring and supportive place. I hope that one day I can inspire people the way my family has inspired me.



**Queen Contestants have been competing for the past week demonstrating their skills in three areas: horsemanship, public speaking and community service. Their mandate will be to travel around the region and province to promote the sport of rodeo but especially to act as an ambassador for the Biggest Little Rodeo in the West!**

**A heartfelt thanks to Kassie Loring for organizing this year's Queen Contest and to our incredible team of judges who have a really tough decision selecting our 2022-2023 rodeo royalty.**



Since its inception in 2004, TETWP has empowered rodeos and western events in the U.S. and Canada to focus attention on the need for a cure. To date, the campaign has raised over \$37 million dollars for breast cancer charities, much of which stays right in the community. The grassroots movement has inspired other sports communities to mount their own TETWP campaigns, spreading a message of hope and support that reaches beyond the rodeo arena to competitors, families and fans across America.

**Organizer: Jude Marshall-Hobenshield**

Jude comes from a family where breast cancer runs rampant in both her mother and father's sides of the family. She lost both her paternal grandmother, Jane Marshall and her

paternal aunt (who's she's named after) Judy Wale to this terrible disease. She also has two aunts on each side, Alice Maitland and Bonnie Koning who are breast cancer survivors, which gives Jude the drive to find a cure so that when her three daughters reach adulthood, breast cancer will be a thing of the past.

**2022 proceeds to be donated to the Kordyban Lodge in Prince George, BC.**

In 2018-2019, between Jude and her husband Zane, three of their Uncles, as well as many family friends, have received cancer treatment, have stayed, or used the services of the Kordyban Lodge in Prince George. Since the last Kispiox Valley Rodeo, Jude has lost two family members, Uncle Phil and Uncle Garry to cancer and during their last days, they received great care at the Kordyban Lodge. Jude also lost her mother in law, and a niece to cancer within 2 weeks of each other. Right now, Jude's second mom, Heather is staying at the Kordyban lodge receiving radiation treatment.



Jude handmakes TETWP quilts (this year's quilt is pictured to the left) as part of a fundraising raffle so make sure to get over to the TETWP booth and get your tickets!! The raffle includes great prizes from local businesses/artists/and crafters.

Over the last several years, Jude has helped raise over \$60,000 for cancer research. She organizes the Candles by the River cancer luminary event at Hazelton's Pioneer Day in August and other countless fundraising competitions and initiatives to raise funds for Kordyban.

The Kordyban Lodge facility not only provides a place for patients and family members to stay, but also organizes and supplies the rides to medical appointments, provides a Pacific Blue Cross wig bank for those who lose their hair as well as a breast prosthesis bank, meditation rooms, activity rooms and so much more.

*"One person can make a difference and every little bit helps! Your efforts can help save someone's life."*

*~Jude Marshall-Hobenshield*



# NATIONAL ANTHEM PERFORMERS

The incredibly talented, **Carmen Muigg** will be singing the US National Anthem to honour our competitors from across the border.



"I'm Carmen Muigg, I was born and raised in this area. I have sang the Star Spangled Banner for many years here and at this very rodeo, my husband and I (the current president of the Kispiox Valley Rodeo Club) had our first dance and now five years later we have our sweet little boy brightening up our days. Maybe one day he'll be here singing the anthem before he makes a ride!"



EL

On **Saturday** the Canadian National Anthem - Oh Canada, will be performed by **Willa Lee**, a Kispiox Valley resident & grade 10 French immersion student at Hazelton Secondary. She is the great grand-daughter of Jack and Frances Lee - some of our rodeo founders and the great niece of the very first Kispiox Valley Rodeo Queen, Bernice Aspeslet. Willa is an incredible artist, performer, wrestler and loves a good book or 10. Her favourite thing is listening to music.



EL

On **Sunday**, Oh Canada will be a duet performed by **Leeara Betts-Zyp** and **Aurora Allen**.

**Leeara** is a Gitksan Princess belonging to the Wilp/House of Gwininitxw of the Wolf Clan. She spends most her time engaging in her culture with her Grandma Yvonne, Chief Gwininitxw as well as riding dirt bikes, horses and playing hockey and soccer. She's a hard working, talented young lady with a heart full of compassion and empathy for all walks of life, including rocks - she loves rocks, except when she has to pick them from the pastures!



**Aurora** is the great grand-daughter of Marty & Dorothy Allen, Grant & June Nash and Margaret Clay. Her grandpa's are Gene Allen & Gord Wadley so you know she's a determined person. Aurora loves taking dance classes at the Upper Skeena Recreation Centre and has a dance solo coming up at the next dance recital. She lives on a ranch right here in the Kispiox complete with chickens, bunnies, a turkey named Larry, horses, Juneberry the milk cow, Wiley the mini-horse and her younger brother, Phin.

Both Aurora and Leeara are grade 7 students in Hazelton at the trilingual school, Majagaleehl Gali Aks which means "Children/Flowers of the Rivers."



elizabethlarsen©2019

# SHOOTING RODEOS



This entire program is made up of photos from local photographers both professional and amateur. Every photo is from the previous rodeo which speaks to how many incredible shots are taken in just a single year! The photo on the left shows Steve McPhail (on the far left) from Hazelton - he is known for his epic landscape and drone shots. You can find him on Facebook under Liquid Elements Photography. Walter Joseph of Hagwilget is known for his epic night shots, landscape shots and capturing beautiful scenery. Martha Muigg (mom to rodeo club presidents, Christpoh Muigg) has a keen eye for capturing people, animals and land in a cool combination. Elizabeth Larsen from the

Hazeltons is amazing at capturing those precious moments. She takes the shots that tell stories about the true essence of rodeo - community, support, hard work, love, dirt, relationships, family, culture, tears and triumph. Thomas Camus from Smithers, BC has been taking incredible photos of local events all over the Bulkley Valley and has been a regular at the Kispiox Valley Rodeo. He's got an eye for the perfect action shot. Each of their photos in this booklet are marked with their initials. If you like what you see or want to see more, check out their work online. The unmarked photos were either supplied by the person in the photo or by Kispiox Valley Rodeo Club members. If there is a photo you just need to have, please email [shannon@skeenawatershed.com](mailto:shannon@skeenawatershed.com) for a copy or connection to the photographer.



*Elizabeth Larsen Photography*  
 Upper Skeena Photographer  
 facebook.com/elizabeth.larsen.7798  
 (778) 202-1670

*Liquid Elements Photography*

STEVE MCPHAIL  
 (250)842-8081  
 DRONE  
 LANDSCAPE  
 NIGHT SCAPES  
 REAL-ESTATE  
 PORTRAIT  
 COMMERCIAL

# TYSON PIETCH

## CANADIAN PROFESSIONAL RODEO ANNOUNCER

The Kispiox Valley Rodeo Club welcomes Tyson Pietch to the 75th annual rodeo! He's had a 30+ year career announcing rodeos all over the circuit and when we asked him about possibly coming to the Kispiox and how he got into being such a top notch announcer, here's what he had to say:

"While attending college in Calgary I tried riding bulls at practice nights with Jordie Thomson coaching me. It didn't take too many bulls for me to realize that I was better at talking about rodeo than actually doing it! After graduating with a diploma in Broadcasting, I moved home to the family dairy farm. With the encouragement of my future father in law, John Duffy, I started announcing rodeos in 1991. I have announced rodeos from Medicine Hat in the south to La Crete in the north and as far west as Luxton, and east up to the Saskatchewan border. I have made thousands of friends along the way and look forward to making new ones!"

~Tyson Pietch

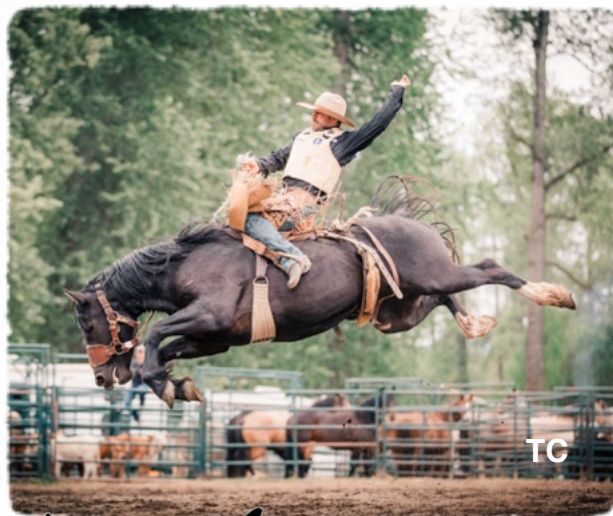
## STOCK CONTRACTOR

The Kispiox Valley Rodeo Club is proud to have C+ Rodeos supply the stock for our 75<sup>th</sup> annual rodeo. They are the largest and leading Stock Contractor for rodeos and bull riding events in British Columbia. Their stock have consistently won awards for over 25 years. They provide stock for the PBR, CPRA, BCRA and the BCPB. Prior to Covid, they had six bareback horses that were voted to the Canadian Finals Rodeo and they won both the Saddle Bronc and Bareback horse of the year for the BCRA!

Roy & Earl Call of C+ Rodeo Company come from a multigenerational cowboy family. Their Dad, Basil was a champion team roper. Their mom, Carol was a horse trainer and top barrel racer. This rodeo tradition is continuing through Roy & Earl's kids who help out at the rodeos with their Dads. Roy's son, Cody Call is one of the top bullfighters in the country!

Roy conducts seminars at rodeos to help educate rodeo fans about the welfare of the stock. He's a true ambassador for the sport of rodeo and animal athlete health. Roy was also a good bullfighter and selected many times to fight bulls for the BCRA & the NRA finals.

Earl is one of the top all around cowboys in the history of rodeo in BC. He's been the champion bull rider of BC four times! Earl is also one of the pickup men at this rodeos and has saved many a cowboy from disaster with his quick thinking and uncanny ability of knowing what the horse or bull is going to do.





April 26, 2022



Christoph Muigg, President  
Kispiox Valley Rodeo Association  
1974 Kispiox Valley Road  
Hazelton, BC V0J 1Y5

Dear Mr. Muigg:

On behalf of the District of New Hazelton Council, I would like to offer our congratulations on your 75 years of rodeo in the Kispiox Valley! After the COVID-19 hiatus, it is wonderful to see this tradition return to our communities. The Kispiox Valley Rodeo is a staple of the Hazeltons and draws spectators and competitors from far and wide. The event not only highlights traditional rodeo events such as steer wrestling, bull riding, barrel racing and junior events, but a number of unique local events for children and adults. The precision riding of the Drill Team during the grand entry is truly wonderful and is a tribute to all of the riders.

The Kispiox Valley Rodeo always serves as a pick-me-up for the Hazeltons and reminds us of our pioneer spirit and the perseverance of our community. The tireless volunteers and members, along with the enthusiastic fans make this the 'Biggest Little Rodeo in the West'. The camping, dancing, pancake breakfasts, entertainment, wagon rides and of course, the rodeo events, give us all a great opportunity to visit with friends from near and far and enjoy a day, or weekend, in the scenic Kispiox Valley.

The District of New Hazelton council would like to thank all the members and volunteers for all their dedication and hard work who make this event a reality year after year and welcome this year's spectators and competitors to our community.

Sincerely,

Gail Lowry  
Mayor

## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

May 2022

Kispiox Valley Rodeo

The Village of Hazelton is pleased to congratulate the Kispiox Rodeo Association on their 75<sup>th</sup> presentation of the long lasting Kispiox Valley Rodeo. Each year, we showcase our region's deep natural beauty and our strong sense of hospitality as we host people from far and wide, and it gives us a chance to show that the Upper Skeena can compete with the best as we witness the strength and bravery of all participants. We are proud and happy to welcome the visitors who come from all over to celebrate this historical community event in the beautiful Kispiox Valley.

We appreciate and applaud the volunteers who work year-round to make this event fun and successful for everyone. Congratulations to you all!

Dennis Sterrit  
Mayor



## 75 AND COUNTING!

This is Tom Messich from the Bulkley Valley. He has been to every, single Kispiox Valley Rodeo except for one.

You can find him in the bleachers or beer gardens and always with a smile and a gorgeous eagle feather in his hat.



MM



WJ



EL

# JARED MARSHALL - A FAN FAVOURITE

When Jared nods his head and the gate cracks open, it's guaranteed there will be a roar from the grandstand. In 2000 Jared Marshall won the Novice Bareback. 22 years later and his age doubled, he'll be doing his best to take home the Champion Bare Back Riding Title.

"I started my Rodeo career in 1988 winning the calf riding at the Kispiox Rodeo, the Interior News did a big write up about it. In the 90's I rode a couple steers and I placed both times. When I started to really grow tall, I figured I was too tall to ride bulls and my good buddy and mentor, Gene Allen kept telling me to ride bucking horses, so I switched. In 2000, I entered the Novice Bareback in Kispiox. I got on my first horse ever and with the adrenaline rush plus the win, that was it, I was hooked. I went on to win the Novice Bareback event in Kispiox in 2004. I rode for two years after that without placing in the money, it was a very competitive field of riders back then. My first cheque in the open Bareback was at the Quesnel Rodeo on the great horse called Billy, finally, the miles began to pay off. In 2007 I really got serious about my riding and didn't miss many rodeos in BC. I started to figure it all out and the wins accumulated:

**Won the Chilcotin Series Championship in Bareback 2007 and 2012.**

**Won the BCRA Season Leader for Bareback in 2013.**

**Won Kispiox open Bareback in the years of 2013, 2014, 2016.**

I think I have won almost every rodeo in the BCRA circuit at least twice and placed numerous more times - but that wasn't what it was all about for me. I have been fortunate to travel our beautiful province of BC with my family by my side in the early years. Then, I travelled with some great roughstock partners when the miles and the schedule got too busy for my family. I am lucky to have the support of such good people as I continue to do what I love. I have made some of the greatest friendships of my life through Rodeo. Moving forward I am not sure I will travel enough to win another saddle or be the season leader - but for me, Kispiox has always been my favourite Rodeo and I have a chance to win that this year. I would love to win the BCRA Finals Bareback as it has alluded me all these years, so here's hoping - 22 years later I can win it! Thank you to the Kispiox Rodeo Committee for always putting on a great Rodeo!"

~ *Jared Marshall*



Jared, Keifer & Christoph -  
Local cowboys

# SNAZZY RODEO DUDS FOR THE WIN



**'Best Dressed Fan' Award.** It will be judged right after the Pee Wee barrels on Saturday at the T-shirt booth. Be there! You will win a \$100 gift certificate to the T-shirt booth!

**'Best Dressed Kid Fan' award, (10 & Under)** This contest will happen on Saturday AND Sunday and each day the winner will get \$50. Go to the T-Shirt booth right at the end of the Pee Wee Barrels to be judged.

## GRATITUDE FOR SOME GOOD FOLKS

### **Patsy & Earl Hobensheid**

Best neighbours in the Valley!! These two familiar faces are 94 years young and still living on the farm. Patsy rode in the drill team for many years. Ranchers, loggers, riders, they've always had good horses and cattle. A community minded, much loved couple are here to watch their grand and great grandkids ride.



### **Mary Charlebois**

The rodeo club would like to say a BIG thank you to Mary for her dedication and contributions to the rodeo club over the last thirty plus years. There's not a job she hasn't done at some point, from secretary, to the stressful calf chute operator, flipping pancakes or rounding up bucking horses, Mary has been there and done a great job of all of it. It's people like her that make this community a fabulous place to live in.



### **Four Fat Fryers**

This past year has taken the last two members of the original Four Fat Fryers. Glyn Wookey and Peter Hinchliffe flipped pancakes with Charlie & Gil Wilson for years. They fed countless community members and visiting dignitaries and celebrities such as Iona Campagnolo & Carey Price. They mentored a bunch of young whipper snippers who are now heading towards Oldtimer status. They're not cowboys and they're not fat, but they sure do support their community. A big thank you to **Andy de Boer, Alf Brady, Ron Fleming and John Wookey** for their MANY years of dedication, you all are SO appreciated. Let's not forget their many kitchen helpers like Kispiox Valley legend, Glen Lavery and Mary Charlebois! Check them out at the Pancake Breakfast - Make sure to ONLY ask for autographs once they're done cooking!



# 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 choose to sponsor these events every year to commemorate such special people.



## Memorial Events

*Marty Allen Saddle Bronc*  
*Jack Lee Bare Back*  
*Jimmy McCrae Cowhide Race*

*Wally Love Sportsmanship Cowboy*  
*Helen Campbell All Around Cowgirl*  
*John & Elsie Wookey All Around Cowboy*



## CONTRACTED SERVICES

Our club is so fortunate to have these groups providing essential services during rodeo weekend. A big thank you to:

**The Gatekeepers** Evelyn 4-H and headed up by Jan McClary and Stacy Dupuis  
**Security** Joe Wesley & Melvin Wright Jr.  
**Rotovating** Ernst Muigg  
**Beer Garden** Smithers Brewing Company - Blaine Etsby & Adin Bennett  
**Maintenance** Action Garbage, Nanc Hamilton & Jerry Nedlec



# REIGNING CHAMPIONS

Event	2019 Champion
Bareback	Logan Hodson
Saddle Bronc	Dustin Flundra
Team Roping	Chad & Cody Bratton
Bull Riding	Quentin Taylor
Tie Down Roping	Mark Beeres
Wild Horse Race	Alan Puhallo Team
Steer Wrestling	Willie Twan
Breakaway Roping	Denise Swampy
Jr Breakaway Roping	Riley Beier
Jr Steer Riding	Wyatt Smith
Ladies Barrel Racing	Judy Hyde
Jr Barrel Racing	Hannah Cody
Pee Wee Barrel Racing	Clair Mikkelson
Novice Roughstock	No Qualified Rides
Cowhide Race	Lareina Ketlo & Brittany Lowks
Musical Chairs	Sara McPhail
Rescue Race	Kassie Loring & Landon Vipond
Ride & Lead	Cailey Stronks
Wild Cow Milking	Brittany Medhurst, Cody Brett & Colton Wardrop
Sportsmanship Cowgirl	Candice Beire
Sportsmanship Cowboy	Jim Gerhardi
Sportsmanship Jr	Derrick Passey
Ladies All Around	Allison Everett
Men's All Around	Logan Hodson
Jr All Around	Reiley Beier
Best Dressed Cowgirl	Annika Van Tunen



# KEITH DINWOODIE - VOICE OF THE VALLEY

**For over 30 years Keith Dinwoodie has been 'The Voice of the Kispiox Valley Rodeo'. Over the last year, Keith has been dealing with some very serious medical issues. We wish him good health and look forward to having him back! He sent this note to all of us:**

The World Famous Kispiox Valley Rodeo holds a special place in my heart! I have had the special privilege and honour to announce and be a part of this great show for more than 30 years! I have stayed at the same ranch, with the same wonderful family for that whole time and they have made me part of their family, which I treasure! Thank you Pat and Earl Hobenshield and family! Each year, the Rodeo committee has worked hard to improve its show; metal panels replaced wood, grandstands with covers, VIP and Senior sections and the very best Announcers Booth/Rodeo office in Canada! The committee is blessed with great sponsors, whom have really stepped up to the plate and helped make Kispiox Rodeo a draw to Cowboys and Cowgirls across the Rodeo world! Kispiox is one of a few rodeos that give out buckles and they are highly prized. Bawling bulls and rank bucking horses and rodeo excitement every afternoon for a few hours, is only part of the Kispiox experience. It's the anticipation of the great weekend in the North, as rodeo fans set up their campsites along the river, or in the large Cottonwood trees. Friday brings the Stock liners loaded with bucking stock, competitors arrive looking like a wagon train as they pull into the grounds. The smell of friendly campfires and the laughing and visiting of hundreds of faithful Kispiox Rodeo fans renewing old acquaintances are everywhere. Dances, BBQ beef, ice cream, smiles, handshakes, stick horse races, foot races for all ages, rodeo clowns, raffles, wagons and teams of horses giving rides, all set in one of God's most beautiful treasures, THE VALLEY OF THE KISPIOX Home of the Gitksan! Visited by the Tahltan! It is about all the people, from near and far, some for the first time, some who have been to many Kispiox Rodeos! It is people who make the show so much better, by their presence. Yes, you who are reading this are such a big part of why Kispiox Rodeo is so special. Thank you, each and every one of you! God Bless you all!



*~Rodeo Announcer, Keith Dinwoodie*

PS Lawrence and Dave I can't wait to taste that great dutchoven chicken again

# LETTER FROM OUTGOING PRESIDENT



Gene and I are in Vancouver where he is recuperating from a severe stroke. This is the toughest ride of his life and for sure he's the epitome of the phrase, 'Cowboy Up'. We hate to miss this rodeo, but we'll be back next year!

Over the last 60 years I've acquired a pretty colourful resume while in this arena. I've been a steer rider, barrel racer, goat tyer, pole bender, team roper, stock contractor, calf tyer, chute helper, breakaway roper, a pickup man, stock chaser, gymkhana competitor, a drill team instructor, steer undecorator, a rodeo coach, cow rider, a packhorse racer, a grand entry coordinator, a queen contestant organizer, a cowhide racer, riding instructor, rescue racer, a BCRA director, YRCA President and President of the Kispiox Valley Rodeo Club. It's time for me to step back and let the next generation take over.

I can't think of anyone better to 'hand over the reins to' than Christoph Muigg.

He loves this valley and he's passionate about rodeo. He's a rough stock rider who has won a room full of trophy saddles competing in BC, Alberta and the USA. He knows the sport and he's got a great attitude. He will do his best to make sure this rodeo will not only survive but will continue building on its reputation of being the 'Biggest Little Rodeo In The West'. I have full confidence in him!

I value the life long friends I've made over the years in this sport. I appreciate the communities and businesses that have supported this event and I've loved working with our incredible committee.

Lots of changes in this world, but cowboys, rodeos, bucking horses, and you, the rodeo fans will always be here so we can keep enjoying the rodeo way of life we all love.

See you down the trail,

*Joy Allen*



# Let's Talk About Economic Development that Supports Land, Water, Wildlife and Culture



A healthy Skeena economy is dependent on a healthy Skeena watershed. Our economic future relies on our region's ability to provide (and sustain) resources and the things we need for a good life in the north. If you wanna work on economic solutions built on the principle that our economy and our environment go hand in hand - come talk to us! The health and wealth of northern communities is important!

**REVITALIZATION ECONOMY**



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