Welcome to the 77th Annual

KISPIOX VALLEY

RODEO

"NEW BOOTS, OLD SADDLES"

Passing on our Passion For Rodeo

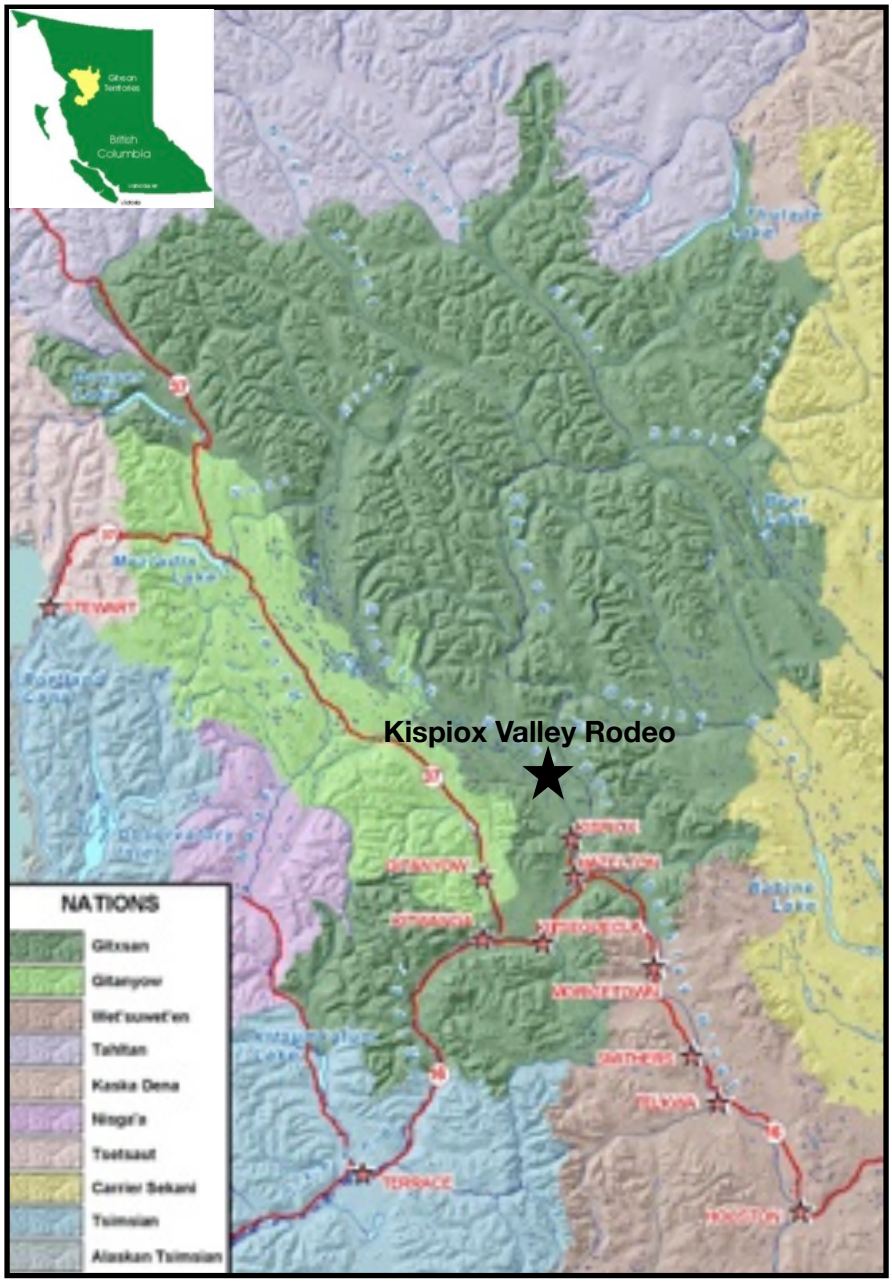
You're on Gitxsan Territory

The Kispiox Valley Rodeo grounds sits on the unceded territory of Wilp Ma-uus of the Gitxsan Nation.

Families make up a Wilp (House Group), Wilps make up a Clan and Clans make up the Gitxsan Nation!

The Kispiox Valley rodeo originated in the village of Ansp'ayaxw (Kispiox) in the 1940's. Indigenous & non-indigenous community members on Gitxsan territories are linked by friendships, marriage, business, the spirit of reciprocity and rodeo.

Thank-you to Wilp Ma-uus and the Gitxsan Nation for supporting the Kispiox Valley Rodeo! Please treat this traditional territory and the Ansp'ayaxw (Kispiox) River with respect.



From our President

"Welcome everyone, to the 77th Annual Kispiox Valley Rodeo."

It is always such an honour to help host one of the oldest rodeos in the Pacific-Northwest. It is no secret that so many people love this rodeo and mark it on their calendars. It might as well be a holiday weekend in the Skeena Region.

What makes it such a loved event? The remnant stories of old, fur trappers traveling into wilderness? Hungry miners in search of yet to be found wealth? Pioneers seeking to forge a new life? An outlaw evading the law? Well, I think it all has to play a part of what makes this rodeo and area so special. The colourful faces and characters of the previous generation that opened up and started this rodeo long ago still show in their offspring and are not missed. You get that feeling when you come to Kispiox - the feeling that you are almost stepping back in time to yesteryear. No cell service. Just community, cowboys and cowgirls camping beside the Kispiox River, like generations did before with a campfire to keep them warm.

I have had the privilege to rodeo on both sides of the border, and as Dave Nash said about this valley, so it is true about this rodeo; "**it just embraces you like a blanket. I have never seen another old fashioned rodeo quite like Kispiox. It's one of the last! It is truly the biggest little rodeo in the West!**"

So enjoy a weekend of old fashioned fun in one of the prettiest places on the hoof. Enjoy great food cooked over an open fire, some of the best rodeo action in BC, beer gardens, cowhide races, a barn dance, and even a pancake breakfast. It's really just a good old time. The baked beans at Nash Camp is the star for me. So if we are lucky, the talks around campfires can still get played out today as people have done before watching and partaking in a part of our Western culture.

Christoph Muigg

Kispiox Valley Rodeo Club President

Kispiox Valley Rodeo Club

This photo is but a small sample of our club! It takes 135+ volunteers to organize and run this rodeo.The 100's of hours that members put in to make this event the success it is, is a tribute to their dedication to the sport of rodeo and local community. Best rodeo committee in Canada!

2024 Rodeo Club Members

Gene & Joy Allen, Alana Wadley, Jim, Aurora & Phinnigan Allen, John Allen, Kaleigh Allen & Martin Wehren, Kia & Henny Beertema, Scott Beertema, Debbie & Terry Bexson, Ellie Boch, Sammy Sage, Ben, Aiyla & Saircha Carew, Brenda Nelson & Ron Fleming, Anna Frezell & Keiran Frezell-Hayden, Brandi Nash, Aaron, Layla & Aiden Henderson, Zach, Amanda & Morgan Henwood, Sandra Heuberger, Callie-Lou Forsyth, Skye & Lars Jones, Adrian, Martina, Jaro & Zora Jordi, Grahame & Carole Larson, Keifer Larson & Brittany Shopshire, Kassie, James, Bentley, Alli & Julie Loring, Jennifer Loring, Jevan, Araya, Leeara & Emmy-lou Zyp; Shannon, Steve, Grant & Sara McPhail, Christoph, Carmen & Sascha Muigg, Frank Paulin & Monique Jones, Alvin Paulin, Hud, Eryn, Jules & Falon Stokes, Francie & Lawrence Stokes, Melissa, Olivier, & Killian Simard, Roy & Andrea Vickers, Annette Thompson & Holly Mayer, Melanie Barnett, Corey Browne, Theresa Costello, John Forsyth, Esther & Kurt, Trapper, Skye & Jimmy Mcghie, Kris, Dee, Olivia, Rhonan & Donagh McGhie, Andrew & Christine Petersen, Landon & Jaylee Vipond, Michael Sullivan, Abby Stevens, Glen Paulin Echo Gutfrucht, Rylee Rae Rosgar & Myles Sampson.

Honorary Club Members

The ones who made it happen in the early years & some STILL making it happen!

Dave Aspeslet, Patsy & Earl Hobenshield, Glen & Linda Lavery, Wilfred Lee, Pete Ness, Anna Hayes, Linda Allen, Allan & Dorothy Weston, Les Witwer, Willi Schmid.

2024 KVRC Executive

President - Christoph Muigg
Vice President - Sandra Heuberger
Treasurer - Brenda Nelson
Secretary - Amanda Henwood
Directors - Debbie Bexson, Andrea Vickers, John Allen, Keifer Larson
Honourary Director - Joy Allen

Donated Goods & Services

All Seasons Automotive
Big Sky Enterprises
D Line Equine
Dawson Road Maintenance
Daybreak Eggs
Dennis Renoult
Flying F Ranch Brand
Flynn's Towing
John Forsyth Enterprises
Kispiox River Lodge
Martin Wehren
McPhail family
Muigg family
No Frills, Smithers
Olson Silver & Leather
Pentecostal Church, Terrace
Safeway
Sausage Factory
Smithers Brewing
Steve Leary
SWCC
TC Western Wear
TGP - Gitanmaax Market
Tricon Truss & Millwork
Up & Away Heli
Wesco

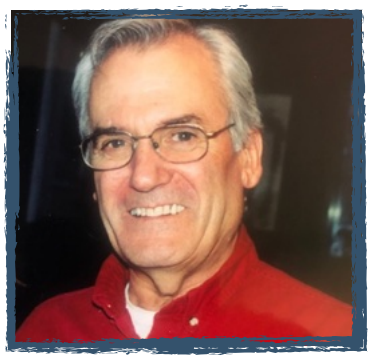
THANK YOU!!

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/Hamii'ya

Crossing the Great Divide

There have been so many losses of dear friends and family in our communities since the last Kispiox Valley Rodeo. The folks below 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. The rodeo club would like to extend sincere condolences to the families of the following who have crossed over to where the 'Grass is lush, green and stirrup high'.

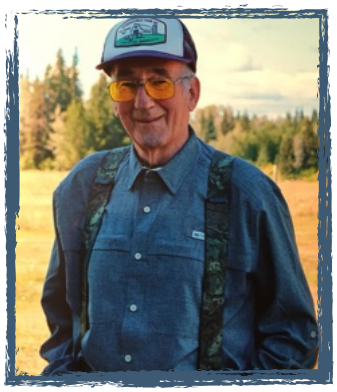


Dave Aitken (Sunny)

Dave came from Victoria to the Kispiox Valley with a forestry layout crew in 1965. They were to lay out a road from 1st Cabin. Dave later came back to build road with the BC Forest Service. While here, he found a wife, moved to the Hazeltons and raised a family of 5 children. They all became devoted fans of this rodeo.
September 26,1942 - May 8, 2024

Gerry Combs

Gerry moved with her husband, Leon and three sons to the Valley over 50 years ago. Gerry was supportive of so many valley functions over the years and made a big difference to a lot of lives. The Combs have made a lasting mark here with their music, construction, sports and willingness to help others. Their legacy continues in every aspect of community functions, rodeo, festival and the community association.

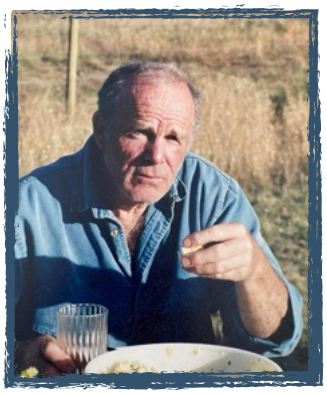


Bud Hobenshield

Bud and his brothers of Kitwanga Lumber, sponsored the rodeo for many years. Bud has left a legacy of family who still help out and make a difference. His grand daughters are running the Tough Enough to Wear Pink booth this year and one of them will be entered in the rescue race. His son Zane helps out at work bees along with his family and every year they help to ensure this rodeo continues. Hobenshield is a name that has been involved in the Kispiox Valley Rodeo for many years.
August 20, 1929 - July 22, 2023

Jeffrey Metecheah

Jeffrey was a rodeo advocate, a good friend and he was a cowboy. He was true to his Indigenous heritage and respected the old ways. Jeffrey was the manager of Dunne Za Adventures and was an environmental specialist at Halfway River Ventures. He loved the mountains, hunting and training horses. He was a true fan of rodeo and his buddy, Andy Copeland, brought him to Kispiox a few years ago and he was hooked. We'll miss his enthusiasm and great stories.
April 9th 1976 - April 30th 2024



Jack Wertz

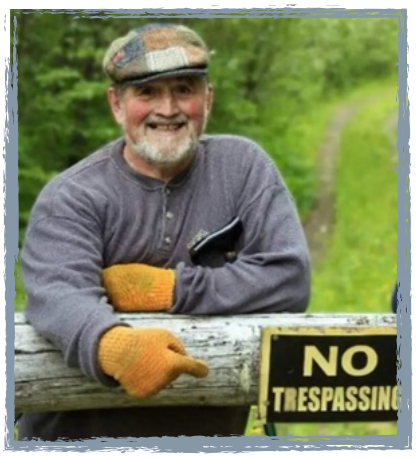
Jack, along with his soulmate, Margaret Clay, ran the Sportsman's Lodge. They owned property in the Valley and always supported the rodeo. Jack was a Real Estate Assessor for many years and loved 'The North'. He had a passion for travel and adventure and spent many holidays with Margaret in Nueva Vallarta. His quick wit and plentiful stories will always be remembered fondly.
August 16, 1934 - March 2, 2024

Ruth Messich

Ruth was born in the old Love house (now Woodgrain Farm) on Swan Lake road, a twin to her sister Esther. They helped out at the rodeo for many years in the concession booths. They were both rodeo enthusiasts and came to watch for many years and were proud of their nephews, Gene and John Allen, for their rodeo successes. It was made clear how much the Kispiox Valley meant to them when both Ruth and Esther remembered the Kispiox Valley Community Association in their will, to help the Valley 'legacy of community' continue.
February 26, 1927 - February 9, 2024

Fred and Helen Roisum

known for their love of all things Kispiox Valley, Fred and Helen came to the valley in 1975 and built a beautiful homestead at 50km on the kispiox valley road. Fred and Helen were champions in the community and a big part of many events that ran in the valley such as the rodeo and music festival. Fred was a previous Rodeo President and local bus driver, Helen was a homesteading powerhouse. This couple will be greatly missed.
Fred Roisum January 15, 1937- September 23, 2020
Helen Rosium December 2, 1939- July 26, 2023



Joe Sullivan

Originally from Oklahoma, Joe settled in Kispiox Valley with his family in 1986. Joe was well known in the Valley for his years of coaching champion wrestlers, mentoring kids, and volunteering his time for Valley events such as the Rodeo and the Music Festival. One of his favourite Rodeo pastimes was indulging in the KVCA burgers. Joe's mischievous smile and unbound wit will be greatly missed in the Valley.
October 26, 1942 - December 4, 2023

There will be a celebration of life for Joe on June 23rd, 2024 at the Kispiox Valley Community Hall. All welcome.

The Riderless Horse is

a ceremony to honour those who have gone before us. This ceremony dates back to the days of honouring fallen soldiers 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 a good life in their honour and for those who remain.

We ask that you rise, remove your hat, respect the moment of silence and send your love to those who have passed and those whose hearts need healing as the horse enters the arena.

2024 Weekend Schedule

Thursday	*5pm-8pm*	*Early Bird Camping - Gate entry*
Friday	*All Day*	*Rodeo Kickoff Event - BBQ & Live Music in New Hazelton at the Bulkley Valley Credit Union*
	12pm	*Riverside Camping Opens*
	SHOWDOWN IN K-TOWN - BARREL RACING EVENING EXTRAVAGANZA!	
	4pm	*Time Only Runs - Barrel Racing Competition*
	6pm-8pm	*Barrel Racing Competition*
	10pm	*Dance – Main Hall (No Minors) featuring "The Moondogs"*
Saturday	*8am-11am*	*Pancake Breakfast - Main Hall - With The Fit & Handsome Fryers*
	10am	*Free Horse Drawn Wagon Rides with BnT Wagon Rides*
	1pm.	*BCRA & CCA Sanctioned Rodeo, Grand Entry – Main Arena*
		Beer Gardens with Smithers Brewing Co - No Minors
		BBQ Beef & Food Vendors
	7:30pm	*Free Early Family Dance - Main Hall, no alcohol featuring DJ Aurora*
	8:30pm	*Queen Contest Speeches*
	9pm	*Free Open Dance - Main Hall, no alcohol featuring "The Moondogs"*
Sunday	***TOUGH ENOUGH TO WEAR PINK DAY - WEAR PINK TO THE RODEO***	
	8am-11am	*Pancake Breakfast - Main Hall - With the Fit & Handsome Fryers*
	10am	*Free Horse Drawn Wagon Rides with BnT Wagon Rides*
	1pm	*BCRA & CCA Sanctioned Rodeo, Grand Entry – Main Arena*
		Beer Gardens with Smithers Brewing Co- No Minors
		BBQ Beef & Food Vendors

Rodeo Swag

Every year, world renowned artist and KVRC rodeo club member, Roy Henry Vickers, designs the most incredible KVRC apparel. Head on over to the T-shirt booth and check out this year's design. We're so incredibly grateful for the work that Roy and his wife, Andrea, put into creating the design, and getting it printed onto shirts, hoodies, tank tops, buckles and more! Wear your rodeo pride!

Footracing
Open to everyone

Listen to our announcer, Tyson Pietch, when he calls for the foot races. Hop the fence and get in there! The races are divided into five age categories. If Brian Larson can stay on his feet, he's favoured to win the 55+ race! (Don't worry -the arena will be clear of all the livestock!)

Last year's results:
10 & under: **Quinn Remillard**
11-16: **Jackson Weeber**
17-40: **Hank Combs**
41-55 - **Alan Iverson**
Over 55 - **No Winner**

Passing on the Passion for Rodeo

This year's theme is all about passing on the knowledge and know how. The tips and tricks for the 135+ jobs required to make this rodeo happen! From how to build this rodeo supplement to being the arena director to organizing work bees and food vendors. 77 years of rodeo wisdom now compiled into a "How to Put on the Kispiox Valley Rodeo" manual. Look for the many young people being mentored for all kinds of jobs, following in the footsteps of their elders, parents or long time rodeo club members. We wanna make sure the future of rodeo lives on! Sign up & become a member - be a part of the legacy.

On behalf of the District of New Hazelton Council and staff, we would like to welcome you to the Biggest Little Rodeo in the West and offer our congratulations to the tireless organizers and volunteers who have consistently been there for 77 years of rodeo!
Sincerely,
Gail Lowry - Mayor

DISTRICT of NEW HAZELTON

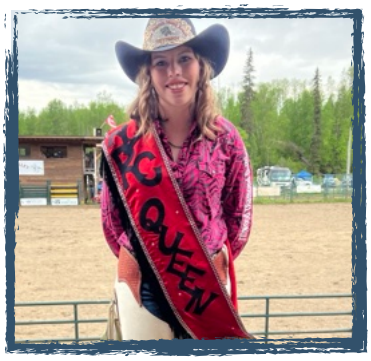
Tyson Pietch

Tyson Pietsch started announcing rodeos in 1992 at the encouragement of his future father in law, John Duffy. It's a career that has taken him all over Alberta and BC. Tyson's first BCRA rodeo was in Burns Lake in 1996. Since then, he's worked events in Vanderhoof, Smithers, Kispiox, Merritt, Williams Lake, Luxton, Dawson Creek, Fort Nelson, 100 Mile, Prince George, Halfway River, Penticton and Armstrong.

He's made some great friends and gives credit to Roy and Earl Call of C+ Rodeos for helping him get started! Tyson always enjoys meeting new people and seeing new places. This is his second time announcing our rodeo - but this time, he brought his son Gustav (pictured left). Gustav helps by running the music and sharing the driving! **Welcome back to Kispiox, Tyson!**

Queen Contest Sponsors

Layla Henderson - Freerise Contracting
Jorja Creyke - Wet'suwet'en Sun House (Sa'Ya) Consulting
Callie Lou Forsyth - John Forsyth Enterprises & The Skye's Falling
Thanks to Nash Stables and GJ Rodeo Company for their $150 contributions to this year's KVRC Queen Contest.



The Kispiox Valley Rodeo Club would like to express our gratitude to our wonderful, outgoing queen, **Araya Betts-Zyp**. Araya has done excellent job acting as our ambassador. She has ridden in parades, grand entries and other events to promote our rodeo. She worked extra hard at last year's rodeo raking barrels, handing out buckles and pitching in wherever needed! We're so very proud and wish her the best of luck!!

Stock Contractor

The Kispiox Valley Rodeo Club is proud to have **C+ Rodeos** supply the stock for our 77th 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!

Owners, Roy & Earl Call, 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 continues through Roy & Earl's kids who help out at rodeos with their Dads. Roy's son, Cody Call, is one of the top bullfighters in the country!

Roy conducts seminars to help educate rodeo fans about the welfare of the stock. He's a true ambassador for the sport of rodeo and for the health of animal athletes. Roy was also a helluva 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 BC rodeo with 4 BC Championship titles under his belt! Earl is also one of the pickup men at the Kispiox Valley rodeo and has saved many a cowboy from disaster with his quick thinking and uncanny ability to know what the horse or bull are going to do.

Rodeo Royalty

The Kispiox Valley Rodeo is excited to be able to honour an age old tradition of Rodeo Queens here in the valley. A Rodeo Queen not only represents the spirit and tradition of our rodeo but also serve as ambassadors for their community and the sport itself. The experience of being a Rodeo Queen can indeed be transformative, offering valuable lessons in leadership, responsibility, public speaking and many other skills. Each participant has the opportunity to garner one of the richest experiences of their life and at the same time create a solid foundation for their future endeavours. Lifelong friendships are made and many doors are opened to all participants. This years contestants are:

Layla Henderson - Kispiox valley

The Granddaughter of dave & lee nash and daughter of Brandi Nash-Henderson & Aaron Henderson, She is a member of the Kispiox Valley Rodeo Club and helps out diligently at work bees. Layla is an 11 year old rodeo enthusiast. She helped her grandpa, Dave Nash, build a bucking barrel so she can practice her steer riding. She loves horses, riding and rodeo. She is currently riding a few times a week with her Aunt Joy taking 'Ranch Hand Lessons' and is becoming handy with a lariat. Layla is a talented young lady. She maintains an A/B Honour roll in school, she placed Silver at the Kitimat figure skating regionals, she sang and placed in our local talent show and was selected to perform on stage at the Kispiox Valley Music Festival and she won an invitation to the French Public Speaking competition - Concours Regionals, with her speech on Bull Riding. She's interested in Valley history, especially the stories involving family, the Hendersons, Nashes and Allens. She has a passion for horses and rodeo and is looking forward to the opportunity of representing the Kispiox Valley Rodeo Club as the Rodeo Queen.

Jorja Cryeke - Witset

Hadi'h - Hey Everyone, I am proudly wet'suwet'en, vuntut gwitchin and Tahltan. I am a rodeo enthusiast from Witset, BC. Ive been hooked on rodeo since forever and it is my true passion. I've competed in mutton busting, and barrel racing over the years and I'm all about being a role model for the sport. I'm super grateful for the opportunity to be rodeo queen and represent my nation with pride.

~Jorja was also the 2023 queen runner up, working hard at our previous rodeo and showing true horsemanship.

Callie-Lou Forsyth - Hazelton

The daughter of our very own KVRC, vice-president, Sandra heuberger and Maintenance apprentice ,John Forsyth. Callie is an enthusiastic, young equestrian who has displayed a love and passion for animals from an early age. Her fondness for horses landed her in the saddle at just two years old which allowed for a whole new perspective. She has been riding with her mom for many years, ensuring her horses are well cared for, well sacked out, and in good shape, whilst hitting a gymkhana or two along the way. Callie was the local winner of Concours (Public Speaking competition - IN FRENCH!) on her piece about our very own Kispiox Valley Rodeo. Callie has been one of our best attendees in past saddle club events and is an extremely hard worker with a kind and gentle disposition. We look forward to seeing what other future accomplishments will follow this bright, young cowgirl. At five years old, Callie got her very own horse, Jacques Miscue Te (Missy) and they have worked hard to become a great team. Missy can be bossy at times, however she's been told horses tend to be a lot like their riders. Most recently, Callie spends her time as a mentee of her great aunty Joy, receiving invaluable horse teachings and ranch hand knowledge and looks forward to the opportunity of rodeo queen.

2024 Rodeo Sponsors

A mighty big shoutout to our extraordinary sponsors whose generous support keeps our rodeo running smoother than a well-greased wagon wheel! They pony up for purses, pitch in with services, rustle up grub, lend their know-how, and wrangle up equipment faster than a steer in a stampede. Thanks to their grit and gumption, the Kispiox Valley Rodeo boasts the beefiest purses this side of the BCRA, a corral full of buckles and awards, and a reputation that shines brighter than a campfire under a starry sky. So don't forget to tip your hat to these fine folks and show 'em some love as they keep our communities riding tall. We couldn't wrangle this rodeo without each and every one of 'em!

Diamond $5000+
Bell Media CFTK/CJFW
Black Press /Interior News

Platinum $2000+
Bulkley Valley Credit Union, Hazelton
Canadian Tire, Smithers
Dr. Jaco Fourie
Dr. Mariette de Bruin
Gitxsan Safety Services
Jade First Aid
Newcrest (Bruce Jack/Red Chris)

Gold $1500+
Bulkley Browser
Bulkley Valley Hive & Honey
Bulkley Valley Home Centre, Telkwa
Huber Farm Equipment
Iron Spur Farrier & Equine Services
Larry Bijou
Northwest Fuels
Vandergaag Construction

Silver $1000+
Canoe Creek Logging
Glacier Toyota
Hoskins Ford
Landon Vipond
Larson Timber
Northern Metals Fabricating & Machining
Smithers Feed Store

Copper $500+
14 One 4 Contracting
Bearclaw Lodge
Blue Water Sushi
Buck Ridge Contracting
Bulkley Valley Wholesale
Canadian Tire, Terrace
CarewFields Expediting
Elks Club, Terrace
Firesteel Contracting
Frontier Chrysler
Geraco Enterprises
Gitanmaax Food & Fuel
Henwood Farms
Kispiox Fishing Company
Kispiox Gas Bar
Kitselas Development Partnership, Terrace
Kitselas Five Tier System LP
MacCarthy Motors, Terrace
McDonald's Store
Mount'n View Tires
New Hazelton Chevron
Red Rose Ventures
Skeena Heliskiing
Smokescreen Graphics
Subway New Hazelton
Sullivan Motor Products
Tahltan Outfitters
Terrace Elks Club # 425
The Sausage Factory Smithers
Tri-Town Feed and Lumber

Bronze $250-$499
Aqua North Plumbing
AWG Northern Industries, Hazelton
Beertema's Furniture & Electronics
Coast Mountain GM
Hi Haulin' Angus
J. Cole Construction
John Forsyth Enterprises
Kondolas Furniture (Terrace)
Larson Ranch
Leland Jasper
Love Bros & Lee
McRae Family
Northern Sun Properties
Northwest Guide Outfitters
Royal B Contracting
Scotia Bank, Terrace
Smithers Home Hardware
Smithers Lumber Yard
Tom Lee
Triple Nickel Contracting
Upper Skeena Development Centre
Zeldas Travelling Mug Cafe

Rodeo Vendors

Are your hungry? Thirsty? Need some horse tack or clothing? Check out the tasty treats, satisfying snacks and delectable delights 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!

Kispiox Valley Rodeo BBQ Beef Booth

Barbecued 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.

Deadly Auntie's Trappings

A Kispiox based business that makes and sells contemporary Indigenous fashion as a mother/daughter duo specializing in Ribbon Skirtsand other beaded items.

The Palisades Cafe

Palisades Café brings people together over quality coffee, tea, treats and food. We care about quality in food, service, cleanliness and everything in between. Find comfort in every **cup** of coffee, tea, and freshly baked treat. We offer an abundance of gluten free and vegan treats, clean eating options and ethically sourced, locally roasted coffee.

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.

Riverbend Rolling Ice-Cream

14 years of the best mobile ice cream in the upper skeena region.

Black Mountain Forge

A small blacksmith shop Located near the small B.C. town of Houston. A journeyman steel fabricator, and a journeyman welder, along with blacksmithing skills has allowed an expansion of the unique products that Black Mountain Forge has to offer.

Tony's TakeAway

Bannock burgers, Sasquatch poutine, chicken strips, homemade gravy and fresh cut fries. Ever Deadly!!

"And the Weiner is" Hot Dog and Smokey Stand

We offer Jumbo Hot Dogs and Bavarian Smokey's.
We also offer on our menu custom made products crafted at the sausage factory in smithers. The custom-made menu is Foot long farmers sausage better known as the Famous Terrace Long Dog. The foot long beer sausage better known as the Big Stubby and the European Wieners. Come by and chow down on some great Northwestern Chow!

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 possessions safe.

Calf Chute - At the exact moment a competitor nods their head, **Jevon Zyp** will push the lever forward while perched atop the chute to release the calf or steer.

Timed Event Chute - **Keifer Larson, Adrienne Goodwin and Glen Paulin** are the guys you will see this year pushing the steers, calves and other stock through the alley into the chutes. Every animal is drawn for prior to the rodeo and it's up to these hard core cowboys to ensure the competitors are matched with the right animal athlete.

Pick-Up Men - **Wade McNolty & Earl Call** are two of the best pickup men in Canada. These guys can read stock like most people read a newspaper. Their job is to ensure the rider gets set safely on the ground after the ride. They escort the bulls and bucking horses out of the arena and both are deadly with their lariats. "

Stock-Chasers - **Rachelle, Charlie, Kikkan and Cheyanne,** are who you'll see helping chase timed event livestock out of the arena to keep the rodeo running faster.

Strip-Chute - A tough job well handled by veteran **Scott Beertema & Brittany Shopshire.** After the ride, the animal is run through the strip chute where the saddle, bareback rigging and bull ropes are removed from the animal.

Arena Director - **Kaleigh Allen & Sara McPhail** - One of the toughest jobs rodeo weekend. This person is responsible for keeping the rodeo running smoothly.

Chute Boss - **Jim Allen** 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.

Bullfighter - **Cody Call** is the man in charge of keeping bull riders safe once the chute is cracked. He helps lure the bulls away from a potentially injured rider or gets in there when a rider is hung up!

Timed Event Strip Chute operated by the **Stokes clan, Falon, Hud, Jules and Eryn.** Taking off ropes and re-directing the stock to the right pens. It's a great way to get your hands crushed if you don't know what you're doing.

Rodeo Timers **Nita Walker & Kelly Walls** are the two folks in the booth with the announcer that start and stop their stopwatches to clock how fast a steer is roped, barrels turned or the 8 seconds of a bull ride. They stay focused and can't get distracted when the difference between first and second is 1/100th of a second!

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

Quad Harrows - One of the north's best slednecks, **James Loring** 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.

Grand Entry - **Carole Larson** has been training a posse of dedicated riders and wranglers. Showcasing the "Colours of Rodeo" with the flags of the Grand Entry. This is when we pay tribute to all that help make the rodeo happen by running a drill pattern with the mounted flag bearers.

Rodeo Judges **Wayne William and Gord Puhalo** These guys are certified to score both animal and human athletes and ensure every competitor has a fair shot at winning the rodeo.

Paramedics & First Aid Tent - 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**, who have supported us for YEARS, supplies the ambulance & crew. They are professional, dedicated and extremely knowledgeable. We can't run our rodeo without them!! **Emma Hobenshield** will be running the First Aid Tent near the BBQ Beef building on Sunday - head on over there if you need a little extra attention for cuts, scrapes or other issues. Wrinch Memorial Hospital in Hazelton continues to have staffing shortages so please be safe out there!

Rodeo Weekend Rules

Howdy, y'all! Here at the Kispiox Valley Rodeo, we pride ourselves on being a family-friendly affair where folks of all ages can kick up their heels and enjoy some good ol' rodeo fun. That's why we've teamed up with the RCMP, Gitxsan Security Services, the Kispiox Valley Music Festival, and the Kispiox Valley Community Association to make sure everyone has a rootin' tootin' good time while keepin' the peace.

Thanks to our partnership, we've fenced out excessive partying, and let me tell ya, it's been a rip-roarin' success! We aim to keep it that way, **so listen up, buckaroos: this here is a family event, and that means we won't abide no excessive or underage drinkin'. You wanna come through them gates or set up camp? Better have your parent or guardian by your side if you're 18 or younger.**

Now, about them campsites. Our security crew does a Sunday morning check and if they find your camp lookin' like a tornado hit it, well, you better believe there'll be some reckonin'. Clean up your mess by noon on Sunday, or you and your posse might find yourselves on a two-year hiatus from these here grounds.

let's keep it civil, folks. We got young'uns runnin' around, so mind your manners and watch your language. If you wouldn't do it at Grandma's house, don't do it here. The RCMP and security will be keepin' a watchful eye, so don't be surprised if you see 'em moseyin' around on Friday and Saturday nights, keepin' things safe and sound.

So remember, folks, let's keep it safe, keep it clean, and keep it fun. After all, there ain't nothin' like a good ol' fashioned rodeo for bringin' folks together and makin' memories that'll last a lifetime. Yeehaw!

The Coppertown Clown

Saddle up and get ready for a wild ride as the Kispiox Valley Rodeo Club proudly presents none other than Bert Davis. Better known as The **COPPERTOWN CLOWN**, a seasoned cowboy with a whopping 43 years of rodeo experience under his belt. Bert's journey into the heart of rodeo began way back in '74 when he first stepped into the arena as a bullfighter at the age of 16.

Picture this: a young Bert, just 15, striding up to Wild Bill Lane's ranch with a heart full of dreams and a hunger for adventure. Instead of sending him off to some fancy clown school, Lane saw something special in Bert and took him under his wing. Together, they roamed the circuit, with Lane passing down his wisdom and Bert soaking it all in like a thirsty tumbleweed.

As the years rolled on, Bert's stardom rose higher and higher, dazzling crowds as a solo act with his trademark blend of cowboy comedy and daring bullfighting skills. But what truly sets Bert apart is his "Muttley Crew" - a spirited bunch of ten rescue dogs, each one a loyal sidekick in Bert's rodeo adventures. These four-legged friends aren't just pets, they're family. Together with Bert and his wife Frannie, they travel from one dusty arena to the next. Putting on a show that'll have you hootin' and hollerin' till the cows come home.

Their bond is so strong, it caught the eye of National Geographic back in '02, earning them the spotlight in a documentary fittingly titled "Dogs with Jobs." And if that ain't enough, Bert's talents have graced the screens of Pro Bull Riding telecasts, the Country Music TV documentary "Stomped and Gored," and more, solidifying his place as a true legend of the rodeo scene. So dust off your boots, grab your hat, and get ready to witness the magic of Bert Davis and his Muttley Crew!

"The Kispiox Valley Rodeo is truly a one-of-a-kind event. The fact it's still running strong after all these years is a testament to the place it holds in people's hearts and the amount of hard work the community continues to pour into it. Congratulations to the organizers and volunteers on another successful rodeo!"
Taylor Bachrach, Member of Parliament
Skeena-Bulkley Valley
taylorbachrach.ndp.ca

"I have enjoyed attending the Kispiox Valley Rodeo for as long as I can remember. It is a brilliant, community-focused event."
Cyra Yunkws, Area B Representative
for the Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine (or RDKS)
Cyunkws@rdks.bc.ca telephone 250-921-5580

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

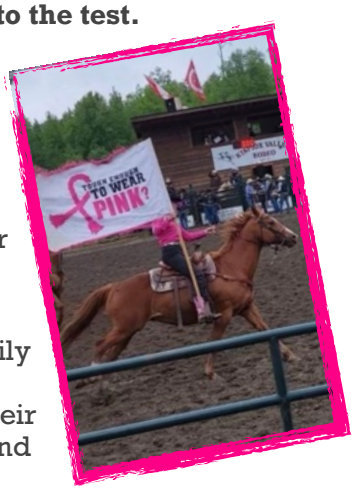
Jude comes from a family where breast cancer runs rampant in both her mother and father's sides of the family. She lost both her paternal grandmother, Jane Marshall and her paternal aunt (who's she's named after) Judy Wale to this terrible disease. She also has two aunts on each side, Alice Maitland 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.

2024 proceeds to be donated to the <u>Kordyban Lodge</u> 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. In the last few years, 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.

Jude hand makes a quilt every year (this year's quilt is pictured to the left) as a fundraising auction. **So listen for Tyson Pietch's call from the announcer's booth on Sunday and get ready to bid when he puts his auctioneer skills to the test.** This handmade quilt could be yours!

There is also a raffle that includes great prizes from local businesses/artists/and crafters.



Over the last several years, Jude has helped raise between $60,000 - $70,000 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

Rodeo Builds'Em Strong!

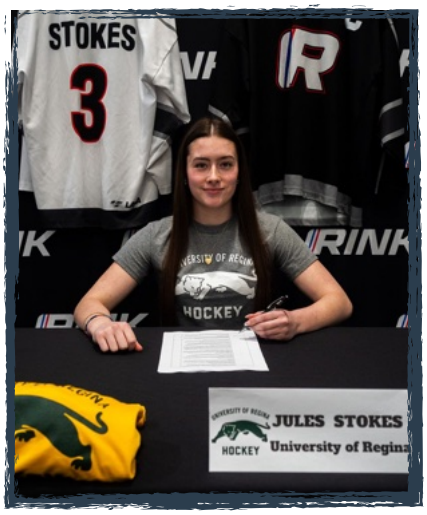
In the dusty arena of rodeo, where grit meets glory, a new generation of young hard workers emerge. With determination in their eyes and courage in their hearts, these rodeo participants defy the odds and show the world what it means to be strong. Rodeo isn't just a sport, it's a way of life that shapes character and forges resilience. From the thundering hooves of bucking broncos to the adrenaline rush of bull riding and barrel racing, every moment in the arena tests the mettle of these young riders. Through sweat and tears, they learn the value of hard work, dedication, and perseverance. The rodeo arena becomes their training ground, where they hone their skills and push their limits, all in pursuit of greatness. As the dust settles and the crowd cheers, it's clear that rodeo isn't just about winning. It's about the journey, the camaraderie, and the indomitable spirit of these young rodeo warriors. They may be small in stature, but their determination and passion make them giants in the arena. So, as we witness the greatness in our youth, let us remember that rodeo builds 'em strong – not just in body, but in mind and spirit. These young hard workers are our future and we are so proud of their great accomplishments.

We would like to give special recognition to some of our very own cowboys and cowgirls on their accomplishments.

Logan Winters
Son to Grayson Winters (Bull Rider & Rodeo judge), this young buckeroo braved our very first year of mini broncs at the 2023 Kispiox Valley rodeo, taking home his very own buckle. Those broncs, even as minis, were something spicy and it took some real gusto for those young whipper snappers to jump on. Logan set the bar for our future mini bronc riders at the Kispiox Valley Rodeo and we can't wait to welcome him back.

Alliannah Loring (Jaa Bak)
is from the Gitxsan nation, specifically from Wilp Haiwas (her house Group). Ali is the grand daughter of Simogyet Gwininitxw, Yvonne Lattie. Alli is no stranger to rodeo - Her mom is Kassie Loring, coordinator for our queen contest. Her dad is James Loring, our harrowing hero. A 6 year old Girl who sat on a horse before she could walk. there is nothing stopping this little cowpoke and her sidekick amigo. She may be small but she is fierce and her love of riding and rodeo are just as fierce. winning her first money and medals at the ripe age of 4, she shows real promise in the arena and her rodeo future.

Callie-Lou Forsyth & Layla Henderson
These two young ladies have been hard at work on their cowgirl skills outside of the rodeo arena taking lessons from one of our very own esteemed cowgirls and past rodeo presidents, Joy Allen. When they are not hard at work on the Allen Ranch learning how to rope and ride, these young ladies are kicking butt in other areas. You will see these two working hard to compete for this years chance to reign as the 2024 Kispiox Valley Rodeo Queen.



Jules Stokes

This Terrace youth, the daughter of Hud & Eryn Stokes and the grand-daughter of our esteemed, longtime members, Lawrence & Francis Stokes, has taken the ice by storm. She's lassoed herself a defensemen spot on the University of Regina Women's Hockey team.

When she was old enough put her own boots on, Grandpa Lawrence showed her how to run the timed-event strip chute (that's where the steers and calves get ropes and rigging removed) and she's been coming back to the Kispiox each and every year to volunteer amidst her jam-packed hockey schedule and rigorous training regimen. Thanks to the support of her family, Jules moved away during her high school years to attend The Rink Hockey Academy. Jules is known for her work ethic, modelled by her parents and rodeo family. Last season, she earned herself the team captain position on the U18 Prep Team! She's working towards a spot on the women's olympic hockey team and until then - GO COUGARS!

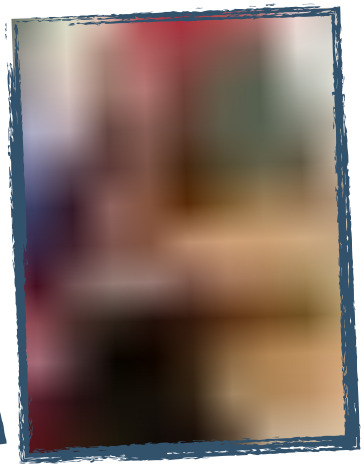
Congratulations to Jules, on all her hard work and dedication. What a shining example of the grit and determination that makes our rodeo community so special. Jules is a true gem and was raised, in part, on these very rodeo grounds.

Sara McPhail

Now this is a name that is no stranger in and out of the Kispiox Valley Arena. Sara, now 15, has been involved in the rodeo since age 3 as a mutton buster, barrel racer and drill team rider. These days you will see more of her in a different sort of arena - this talented, young athlete just won her **second** Canadian championship in women's wrestling. Sara competed in April to defend her national title in the u17 Championships for 69kg. Way to go Sara!!!! Your rodeo family is rooting for you.

Taylor Ponath

Grand-daughter to Ron Fleming and Brenda Nelson, this young cowgirl will be riding in our 2024 Grand Entry! Taylor Just won a national title as well as the the new Top Shot for Air Rifle Junior Rangers in all of Canada! She has competed in Barrel Racing and is a former Kispiox Valley Drill Team rider. She's making the trip all the way from the Atlin area to come back and help out at her old stomping grounds right here in the Kispiox Valley.



The Next Generation

The Youth Stepping Up To Learn From The Old-timers

The future is in the hands of our youth and this year, the KVRC has made a big effort to make sure we are mentoring and supporting the next generation of rodeo organizers and volunteers to carry on this great event. Here's just a few examples:

Sara McPhail learning from Kaleigh Allen, Arena Director
Sara has been around our rodeo since she was just knee high to a grasshopper, now this little grasshopper is grown up and stepping into her Auntie kaleigh's shoes as our apprentice arena director. this young lady has some serious stamina which we see in her success with her wrestling career and look forward to her continued presence in our arena.

Aurora Allen learning from Lee Nash, Trophies and Awards
Aurora is one of our clubs most loyal junior members, she attends all of our meetings and is eager to jump in and lend a hand no matter where it is needed. this young lady is full of great ideas and is a real asset to the club. when she's not in the announcers booth blessing us with her singing of the national anthem you will now find her managing the trophies and awards with Lee Nash

Amanda Henwood, Local Secretary and Rodeo Supplement
Amanda is new to the Kispiox Valley Rodeo with this being her second year as our club secretary, Amanda has stepped up to the plate to take on the added responsibility of Local Secretary. Originally from Vancouver Island, Amanda moved to Hazelton in 2019 to work at the local hospital as a nurse. She met and fell in love with one of our local cowboys who she is now married to with a beautiful baby girl and a growing farm. Amanda also pulled this year's rodeo supplement together under the watchful eye of **Shannon McPhail** who has completed this 28-page love letter to the Kispiox Valley Rodeo and fans for almost twenty years.

Carole Larson learning from Joy Allen, Grand Entry
Carole Larson has stepped up to the plate to learn from our long-time cowgirl and past president, joy allen. Carole will ensure we have a spectacular opening and put in the leg work to keep it running safely and smoothly. a lot of work goes into the grand entry behind the scenes. carole is an avid equestrian enthusiast with the skills to bring you the "Grandest" of grand entries.

Kassie Loring
Kassie is the hardworking presence behind our rodeo queen Contest. Kassie has been working hard the past couple years as our Queen's coordinator to help find and mentor these young ladies. Kassie is a hardworking mom of 3 and spends every moment of her free time with her horses.

National Anthems

Carol Ponchet lives here in the Kispiox Valley. She is a retired horticulturist and is passionate about nature and protecting our environment. She also loves music and is thrilled to sing the Canadian anthem to start Saturday's performance.

Carmen Muigg is the grand daughter of two, long-time rodeo club members, Les & Pat Witwer. She met her husband and rodeo club president, Christoph Muigg, in this very rodeo arena. She will be gracing us with the American National Anthem.

Aurora Allen 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 is extremely keen on taking on more responsibility within the club and lives on a ranch right here in the Kispiox. She is a grade 9 French Immersion student at Hazelton Secondary and will be performing the Canadian Anthem on Sunday.

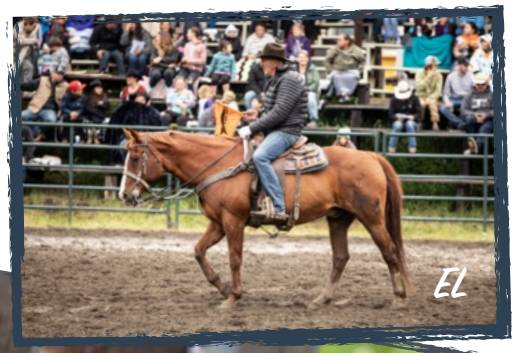
Contracted Services

Our club is so fortunate to have these groups provide these 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	Gitxsan Safety Services
Arena Prep	Ernst Muigg
Beer Gardens	Smithers Brewing Company - Blaine Etsby & Adin Bennett
Maintenance	Action Garbage, Nancy Hamilton & Jerry Nedlec
Wagon Rides	BnT Wagon Rides

SMITHERS BREWING CO.

CANADA



Shooting Rodeos

This entire supplement is made up of photos from local photographers both professional and amateur. Every photo is from last year's rodeo which speaks to how many incredible shots are taken in a single weekend! We're always looking for great action shots, shots of rodeo fans, camps and photos that tell a part of the story of the "Biggest Little Rodeo In The West!" Please email your shots to KVRCSecretary@gmail.com or tag "Kispiox Valley Rodeo Club" in your photos on Facebook.

Sweet Memories by MP out of Prince George BC, Megan is the face behind the camera, a new mother, partner and your new bestie! Megan is obsessed with animals, caffeine and capturing unforgettable memories. Put a camera in her hand and she wants nothing more than to get close to people, she is passionate about what she does and is looking forward to working with our rodeo for the first time in 2024!

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. Check her photos out on facebook.com/elizabethlarsen.7798 or call (778)202-1670 to hire her or get your very own copies of rodeo shots!

Alex Stoney is a member of the Gitxsan nation, Wilp Delgamuukw - Frog Clan. He is a tireless advocate for children and youth as well as an artist. You may remember some of his "Driftwood Art" that he created with his sister, Michelle Stoney, at the confluence of the Bulkley & Skeena Rivers. He took some outstanding photos in 2023 with some epic shots in and out of the arena.

James Bourquin - Known as Jim, a photographer, raft guide, conservationist, father, grandfather, and dog musher from Iskut! Jim and his wife Erma travel all over North America to take in the best that the sport of rodeo has to offer. Naturally, the Kispiox Valley is on their list.

If there is a photo you just need to have, please email KVRCsecretary@gmail.com for a copy or connection to the photographer. Each of the photos in this booklet are watermarked. If you like what you see or want to see more, check out the photographer's work online. The unmarked photos were either supplied by the person in the photo or by Kispiox Valley Rodeo Club members.

British Columbia Rodeo Association

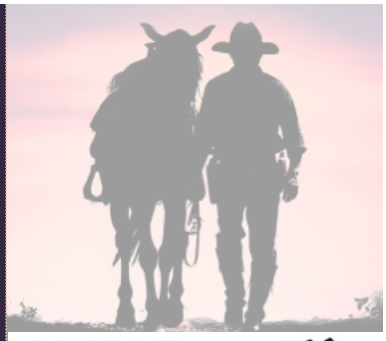
The Kispiox Valley Rodeo is sanctioned by the British Columbia Rodeo Association. The BCRA ensures that the rodeo is run on a professional level, providing top quality judges, timers, secretaries, announcers, pickup men, photographers, bullfighters, stock contractors and rodeo entertainers. Each rodeo 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

Canadian Cowboys Association

Founded in 1963, the Canadian Cowboys Association (CCA) has remained steadfast in its mission to champion the spirit of every cowboy. As articulated in its inaugural newsletter, the CCA is dedicated to ensuring that each rider has a fair shot at success where victory is earned through a blend of skill and fortune.

We're thrilled to announce our continued partnership with the CCA for the second, consecutive year in cohosting the Kispiox Valley Rodeo. Together, we aim to uphold the rich tradition of the rodeo while providing a platform for cowboys to showcase their talents and pursue their dreams in the arena.

77TH ANNUAL
Kispiox Rodeo
Congratulations to the Kispiox Valley Rodeo Club & Volunteers on another thrilling year of rodeo action!
Good Luck to all the competitors, be safe & have fun



NATHAN CULLEN
Proud MLA for Stikine
250-842-6338
Nathan.Cullen.MLA@leg.bc.ca

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

Cowhide Race & Jimmy McRae

This amazing trophy is a tribute to one of our founding cowboys, Jimmy McRae. The trophy, at 50 years old, was Designed by Vernon Stephens and carved by K'san carving students. it's a one of a kind trophy and award!!

The first team to win this prestigious award was Lawrence Stokes and John Allen in 1974, though John and Jimmy won the cowhide race several times before that. The McRae family donates the prize money every year to keep this event going. The trophy was given some extra love and maintenance this year to help show off the incredible craftsmanship.

The Jimmy McRae Memorial Trophy

Esax gi-nam-masxw hahla'lsit gohl
Ksan - 1974
Translation by Ardythe Wilson:
Donated by the workers of Ksan - 1974

Roots Of Rodeo

As the Biggest Little Rodeo in the West, the Kispiox Valley Rodeo is proud of its roots and the many people who have had a hand in making it so. Every year we try to recognize some of the people who keep the rodeo alive, family friendly, and an event the community can be proud of. The kispiox valley rodeo is A celebration that brings people together and we are forever grateful to the those who have kept it going and to those who continue to do so.

Rodeo Founders include: Hap Leary, George, Henry, Art & Norman Hagen, Ted, Helen, Bruce, Jimmy & Glen Campbell, Marty & Dorothy Allen, Pete Bland, Chris Harris, Walter Skulsh, Bill & Lil Love, Wally & Marcella Love, Arthur George, Drew Wookey, Buster Henderson, Wilfred Gawa, Ben McKenzie, Art Kuzick, Bill Holland, Ray Vamier, Jimmy McRae, Jack & Frances Lee, Smokey & Lavada Neighbors, Jimmy Danes, Lloyd Morrison, Alfred Hillis, Bernice Aspeslet, Della Neighbour & Gable Louie

Gene Allen

The Cowboy's Cowboy! A rodeo cowboy all his life, Gene has made a major impact on rodeo in the Kispiox Valley. In the late 60's, alongside Alan Weston, the rodeo grounds were rebuilt and the rodeo revived. He started a Bucking Horse contracting business in the 70's and raised some of the top bucking horses in the world, including Simon, his buckskin stallion who was featured at rodeos all over north America and is buried behind the bucking chutes. Gene has won some prestigious awards, including Rodeo Person of the Year, the 'Bucking Horse Legacy Award' for Canada, and dozens of Saddle Bronc and Bareback horse of the year awards. Gene has coordinated a lot of rodeo schools over his career and has helped a lot of great cowboys get their start.

Wilfred Lee

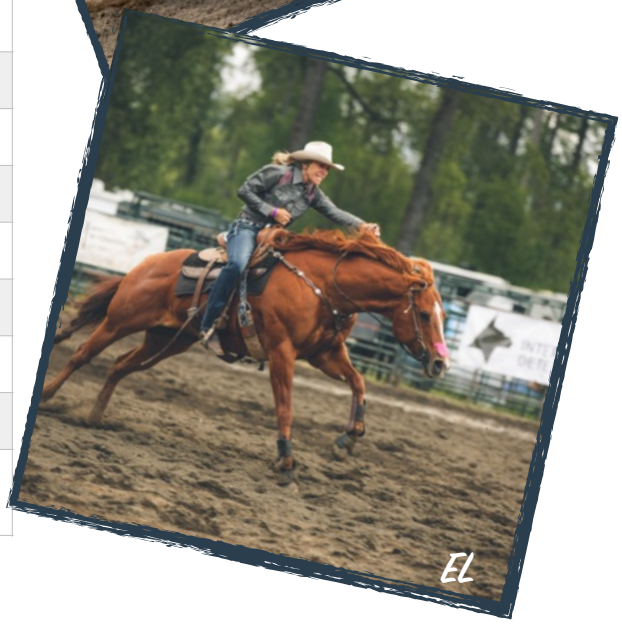
Wilfred is a quiet 'behind the scenes' guy. He is an extraordinary community minded person who gets things done done without expecting any tributes. He's donated countless hours with his machinery and always looks to enhance the grounds. Wilfred's parents, Jack and Frances Lee helped start the rodeo and his entire family have helped out ever since, through workbees, anthems, drill team, BBQ Beef, helping in the booths and at dances. The Lee family has made so many great contributions to this community over the years!

Fred Roisum

Fred was a navy man who came to the kispiox valley in the 70's with his family from the west coast. The Kispiox Valley soon became home to Fred, his wife helen, and their 6 children. Fred relished in all things farming and homesteading. in the 1980's the rodeo took a turn in a less family friendly direction. it was at this time fred was voted in as rodeo club president to help steer the rodeo with the help of many dedicated volunteers from the rodeo club and the KVCA back to its roots, making it the family friendly event we know and love today.

Reigning Champions

Event	2023 Champion
Bareback	Jared Froese
Saddle Bronc	Jared Cooper
Team Roping	Grayson Reed & Mike Beers
Bull Riding	Denton Spiers & Wyatt Smith
Novice Bullring	Kale Mikkelsen
Tie Down Roping	Patrick Bennett
Wild Horse Race	Cody Nikolaisen, Tristan Beaubien, Blake Asp
Steer Wrestling	Cole Churchill
Breakaway Roping	Riley Beier
Jr Breakaway Roping	Jacob Bowden
Jr Steer Riding	Kale Mikkelsen
Ladies Barrel Racing	Tosha Seitz
Jr Barrel Racing	Ella Mae Stevenson
Pee Wee Barrel Racing	Ainslee Meise
Cowhide Race	Derrick Passey & Christoph Muigg
Musical Chairs	Fiona Sullivan
Rescue Race	Lauren Klassen & David Wernli
Ride & Lead	Lily Hobenshield
Open Pole Bending	Tori Long
Sportsmanship Cowgirl	Sara McPhail
Sportsmanship Cowboy	Carson Payton
Sportsmanship Jr	Jaxen Kirk
Ladies All Around	Falyn Thompson
Men's All Around	Christoph Muigg
Jr All Around	Kale Mikkelsen
Mini Bronc Riding	Logan Winters
Calf Scramble	Claire Miriam Perkins & Kenzie Remillard



BBQ Beef

Imagine a delicious beef roast cooking on a rotisserie over some beautiful campfire coals low and slow all night long, well it doesn't get more western than that!

Head on over to the BBQ Beef Booth and taste the delicious history for yourself! At the Kispiox Valley Rodeo our Beef BBQ is one of a kind. We are the only place who offers beef slow roasted in the boiler from an actual sternwheeler steamboat that made its way up the Skeena. The last sternwheeler was the Inlander, launched in 1910 but ran for just two seasons until the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway was completed. On September 13, 1912, the Inlander became the last sternwheeler to steam upriver from the coast to Hazelton, where her boiler remains today.

Don't forget to give a tip of the Stetson to Frank Paulin and Nathan Deileman for sitting up ALL night Friday and again on Saturday to keep the fire stoked and the beef basted with their secret, mouthwatering recipe of herbs and spices!

"The Village of Hazelton Mayor and Council enthusiastically support the annual Kispiox Rodeo, a cherished tradition in Northern BC that celebrates our community's rich heritage and culture. We commend the organizers and participants for their dedication in showcasing the spirit of our region through this exciting event."

The Kispiox Valley Rodeo is a labour of love put on by countless volunteers. Without these remarkable people and you, our loyal fans, we would not be able to put on such a wonderful event for 77 years. Thank you to all of you who make it possible for the "Biggest Little Rodeo In The West"

Join the Kispiox Valley Rodeo Club
KVRCsecretary@gmail.com

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www.facebook.com/kvrodeo