

Jan. 20, 2018

WestGen Endowment Fund  
1625 Angus Campbell Rd.  
Abbotsford, BC V3G 2G4

**WCC 2017 hosted in Weyburn, SK Aug. 22- 26, 2017.**

What an eventful week! Hosting the esteemed Western Canadian Classic was such a pleasure! Ninety-seven participants (aged 9-21) and numerous chaperones and coaches, coming from Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and BC arrived in Weyburn on Aug. 21. Barn set up started bright and early the next morning at 7 am. The participants busily set up their pack area for their heifers and set up their displays to the theme of MOO-NER LANDING. The week was packed full for the teams; washing and clipping heifers to make them show ready, walking their heifers, keeping stalls clean and talking to the visitors walking through. In between all of that, they also competed in a clipping competition, a dairy quiz, judging 3 classes of Holsteins, and ending the week with the showmanship competition and conformation show. We had opening ceremonies before the showmanship competition, on Friday, and were privileged to have a few special guests, speak at our event, Marcel Roy, the mayor from Weyburn; Dustin Duncan, MLA from the area, speaking on behalf of Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture; and Paul Meyer, WestGen representative. The judge for showmanship competition was Steve Fraser. On Saturday the competitors found themselves in the ring again for conformation classes, with Judge Callum McKimmon. The show wrapped up with the annual parade of teams, and the Saskatchewan team handing off the banner to next year's host, Team BC.

Not every moment was for working hard, each evening had some time for leisure activities. The local pool was a great place to cool off, especially after playing some volleyball. Holstein Canada reps hosted a get acquainted evening with some games, ending with the HC ladies setting up an ambush from behind, leading to an all out water balloon war. The next couple of nights were free nights; one is usually used by the teams to have a team supper, the other finds many participants hanging out with their friends from other provinces. The finale is the awards banquet and dance on Saturday night. SK team represented their province in stellar fashion, taking home many awards, including 4 of the top 5 in Senior quizzing, sending someone to Belgium next year for the European Young Breeders School, High Point Participant, and the Herdsman Award. SK also was a mere 2.5 points behind BC in claiming the Premier Province award. Well done to our young dairy herds people! A big thank you to all of them for representing their province in a competitive and mature manner.

This week would not have been able to happen without our many organizers, thanks to Tymen and Ria Van Zessen (co-chairs), Art and Elaine Pruim (co-chairs and sponsorship coordinator), Sue Hylkema (meal coordinator), Tricia Flaman and Shauna Baumann (ring decorators), Corien Nienhuis (banquet decorator), Tanya McAvoy (awards coordinator), Armand Lavoie (chaperone) and to our many helpers throughout the week, especially Jordan McAvoy and Nicole Pruim. We also would like to thank our Sask Team coaches, Ian and Nicole Crosbie, for coaching our kids on the finer skills involved all week at WCC, our ring announcer, Logan Leyenhorst, the ringman, Paul Meyer, and Deb Haupstein, stats coordinator.

Also a very hearty THANK YOU to all of our sponsors!! Your generous support allowed us to not only host this event, but supports our Team SK for the next 3 years as we travel to different provinces. Thanks for making this possible for our youth and future dairy farmers!

## **Budget**

Our goal with our fundraising is to raise enough money to carry our team over for not only hosting this fine event in our province, but to also pay for expenses for Team SK for the next 3 years as they travel to the other host provinces. Our proposed budget was \$53,400. With the continued support from all of our sponsors, with a monetary donation or an in kind donation, we were able to raise \$74,650. Actual expenses worked out to be close to \$45,000. This leaves us in a good position to fund our next 3 years of WCC.

## **Recognition of WestGen**

We thank WestGen again for their continued support of our program, not only in lieu of a sponsorship, but also with the support on hand throughout the week. It is truly appreciated! WestGen was recognized in several ways: the website link through Cowsmopolitan, logo on the t-shirts, stall displays, banners along the ring, and a sponsorship board that was displayed all week. Also throughout the week, we verbally recognized WestGen as a major sponsor. Paul Meyer also spoke as the WestGen representative at our opening ceremonies on Friday morning.

Elaine Pruim  
Sponsorship Coordinator, Event Planner  
WCC Planning Committee 2017