



# Canadian Heritage Breeds

March 2018

2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## Welcome to an exciting new year, CHB members!

We, your CHB Board, are busy planning some events, workshops, and programs designed to fulfill our mission and mandate to preserve and promote heritage breed livestock and to provide educational opportunities for our members. We also aim to create a community for individuals with a passion for these breeds to share, learn, and network. You won't want to miss our lineup of CHB events (listed on page 4)! Be sure to check upcoming newsletters, [our website](#), and the [CHB Facebook page](#) for more information.

In addition to our fantastic events, we are excited to announce that we are continuing our Canadian Heritage Breeds Youth Program in 2018 (page 7.) We know that our youth are the future of CHB and more importantly, the survival of our cherished heritage breeds. If you know a young person aged 7 – 16 who would like to get involved in breeding heritage poultry, be sure to check out this great mentorship program! Applications are due by April 30<sup>th</sup>.

And finally, thank you to all of YOU for your continued support of CHB! Whether you never miss any our shows and workshops, or if you simply enjoy purchasing a yearly membership and like to read the newsletters and keep up with us online, we truly value our wonderful supporters. If you have any ideas and input, or would like to get involved in volunteering for CHB, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. Our general CHB e-mail address is [canadianheritagebreeds@gmail.com](mailto:canadianheritagebreeds@gmail.com)

We hope that everyone has a successful spring season! Happy reading.

Photo Credit: Robyn Andersen



**President** - Callum McLeod  
[mcbudner@hotmail.com](mailto:mcbudner@hotmail.com)

**Vice President** – Michelle Sulz  
[michellesulz@gmail.com](mailto:michellesulz@gmail.com)

**Treasurer** - Crystal McKinnon  
[lallama@telusplanet.net](mailto:lallama@telusplanet.net)  
403-318-3344

**Secretary** - Kathy Stevenson  
[hawthorn@xplornet.com](mailto:hawthorn@xplornet.com)  
403-788.2546

**Director** – Rico Sabastianelli  
[ricoseb@shaw.ca](mailto:ricoseb@shaw.ca)

**Director** – Adam Scanlan  
[wood\\_acresfarm@hotmail.com](mailto:wood_acresfarm@hotmail.com)

**Director** – Yvette Franklin  
[ytku31@gmail.com](mailto:ytku31@gmail.com)

**Director** – Mike Skeels  
[mountainviewranches@gmail.com](mailto:mountainviewranches@gmail.com)

## What is CHB?

We are about the preservation of genetic diversity, heritage breeds, networking, social gatherings, education, breed conservation, and fun. CHB offers a number of events and resources including poultry shows, seminars, breed displays, social gatherings & smaller events throughout the year.

Our membership includes every level of enthusiast from the first time urban coop owner to farmers with decades of experience raising heritage breed animals. CHB also encourages youth involvement with a developing Juniors program. Although CHB is based in Central Alberta we aim to create a resource for not just Alberta, but



*Photo Credit: Steve Sulz*

for all of Western Canada and beyond!

CHB publishes an online quarterly newsletter announcing upcoming events, articles by and about our members, breed introductions and information, and more.

### MOVING? WE WANT TO STAY IN TOUCH!

If you have moved or changed your address, please let us know!

Email:

[canadianheritagebreeds@gmail.com](mailto:canadianheritagebreeds@gmail.com)

## Become Involved

CHB is always looking for members who want to become more involved! As we continue to grow, there are always opportunities open for YOU to become more involved with seminars, breed displays, sales, shows, get-togethers, newsletters, etc. If you are interested in volunteering for a specific event, are available for general assistance, have ideas for



advertising, or interesting things we should have at the show, we would love to hear from you! We always need volunteers to help at upcoming shows and events. Help with the fall show set up and tear down are the two biggest areas where we can use even just a couple of hours of help.

### Become a Member

For only \$10.00 per year, you will receive or have access to:

- In-club Awards
- Discounts on CHB Club Events
- Early Registration for Seminars
- Advertising Opportunities
- Quarterly Newsletter

[Register online today!](#) Canadian Heritage Breeds is a Registered Non-Profit Society.

# Upcoming Events

Be sure to mark down these important dates. We are looking forward to a busy and fun-filled 2018!

## CHB 2018 Events:

- **June 9<sup>th</sup>** CHB Spring Poultry Workshop (Sunnybrook Farm, Red Deer, Alberta)
- **July 21<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>** CHB Poultry & Goat Shows (Northlands, Edmonton, Alberta)
- **July 28<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup>** CHB Vermilion Fair Poultry Show (Vermilion Agricultural Society, Vermilion, Alberta)
- **November 3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>** CHB Fall Poultry Show (Olds Cow Palace, Olds, Alberta) [Includes Junior Showmanship Competition]

## Other Upcoming 2018 Events:

- **April 7<sup>th</sup>** CHB Peavey Mart Displays (Rocky Mountain House, Alberta and Strathmore, Alberta Peavey Mart stores)
- **May 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>** [Homestead Show & Market](#) (Midnight Stadium, Fort MacLeod, Alberta). CHB will be on site with a display and a presentation by CHB President, Callum McLeod.
- **August 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>** [111th Priddis & Millarville Fair](#) - includes sheep, goat and poultry shows (Millarville Race Track & Fair Grounds, Millarville, Alberta). CHB will be in attendance with a booth display.

If you have an upcoming event which might be of interest CHB members, email us the details and we'll add it to the Events Listing to be published in the next newsletter ([canadianheritagebreeds@gmail.com](mailto:canadianheritagebreeds@gmail.com)).

["Like" us on Facebook](#) for all the latest event information and updates!



**100% Canadian Owned** 

*Thank you to Peavey Mart for your ongoing support of Canadian Heritage Breeds!*

# Spring Poultry Workshop 2018

CHB is pleased to announce their second annual Spring Poultry Workshop! It will once again take place at the historical Sunnybrook Farm in Red Deer. There is no cost for CHB members and interested participants of any age or experience level are welcome!

**Date:** Saturday, June 9th

**Time:** 9:30am – 3:30pm

**Location:** Sunnybrook Farm, 4701 - 30 Street, Red Deer, AB, T4N 5H7  
Gather at the log cabin

**Cost:** **FREE** for current CHB members and their immediate family! Memberships are available online through [the CHB website](#). \$10.00 fee for non-members. Some snacks are provided, but you'll need to supply your own lunch.

**Topics:** This is a beginner-level workshop. Whether you're fairly new to chicken keeping, or just thinking about getting started, this day will help build your knowledge and confidence in a fun and relaxed atmosphere. This gathering is also an opportunity for the CHB Youth Program participants to get to know each other and the program leaders. Refer to the itinerary for more details on the day's events.

**Lunch is not provided.** You're welcome to brown-bag it or leave the grounds to buy lunch. There is no on-site concession available.

Registration is required via email. Send a note stating the names of adults and children in your family who will be attending to: [canadianheritagebreeds@gmail.com](mailto:canadianheritagebreeds@gmail.com)





## Spring Poultry Workshop Schedule

Saturday, June 9th  
Sunnybrook Farm  
Red Deer

TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTER
9:30 – 10:00	Welcome, Overview & Introductions	Callum
10:00 – 10:30	All about the Youth Program	Adam
10:30 – 11:00	Breeding to standard - What does it mean and why is it important?	Callum
11:00 – 11:30	Activity Break	Crystal
11:30 – 12:00	Defects & DQ's Why do they matter anyway?	Kyle
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch Break (Bring your own lunch)	
1:00 – 1:30	Those pesky bugs! Detecting and treating for external parasites.	Kathy
1:30 – 1:45	Activity Break	Crystal
1:45 – 2:15	Ask an expert! Have your questions ready for a Q & A session with the poultry judge.	Rico
2:15 – 3:00	Get your hands on the birds! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn to hold and handle chickens with confidence.</li> <li>• An introduction to Junior Showmanship.</li> </ul>	Everyone
3:00 – 3:30	Wrap-up	

# Share Your Story!

Have you found success raising a specific heritage breed? Your hard-earned knowledge can help others!



Raising heritage livestock can involve a steep learning curve! Modern reading material on animal husbandry is mostly focused on commercial production methods, which are often unsuitable or impractical when applied to our historic breeds. But there is a wealth of wisdom among long-term breeders! Through years of trial (and sometimes error) they have found which breeds are best suited for a particular purpose, and they've discovered what methods work best to ensure healthy, productive and sustainable flocks or herds. CHB has been collecting and documenting breeder stories in our newsletters to form a

treasured collection of resources that can provide guidance to farmers today and in the future.

If you, or someone you know has a heritage breed success story, consider sharing it with us! A simple write up is all that's needed. Tell us about the breed, why you value it, and some tips on feeding, housing and general care. And of course everyone loves photos. If you prefer to leave the writing to us, that works too; an interview by phone can be arranged. Then watch for your own story to appear in an upcoming newsletter! Email: [canadianheritagebreeds@gmail.com](mailto:canadianheritagebreeds@gmail.com)



*Photo Credit: Jean Kinnear*

## Did you know . . .

You can advertise in the CHB Newsletters!

Ad pricing:

Full Page \$40.00 (8.5 x 11)

1/4 page or business card \$20.00

Contact us to submit your ad, or for more info:

[canadianheritagebreeds@gmail.com](mailto:canadianheritagebreeds@gmail.com)

# 2018 Canadian Heritage Breeds Youth Program

Last year's Youth Mentorship Pilot project was a great success, with many positive comments from the participants and their families. Continuing to address the importance of youth involvement is a CHB priority, so the board is pleased to announce the 2018 Youth Program.

This year's Youth Program will have a strong focus on education and will feature a team approach to offer guidance, encouragement, and mentorship to the participants. Youth participants will be supported throughout the duration of the program through regular email contact, and by attending designated events. They will also have access to a pool of mentors who will be happy to assist with recommendations or provide other support.



## Events:

To maximize learning opportunities, children are encouraged to attend events hosted by Canadian Heritage Breeds. The following events are either hosted by CHB or will have CHB mentors present. There is no requirement to attend events, but these activities do offer great opportunities to increase knowledge, become actively involved members of CHB, and connect with others.

- Spring Poultry Workshop – June 9 at Sunny Brook Farm, Red Deer, AB
- CHB/Vermilion Fair – July 28-29 Vermilion, AB
- Priddis & Millarville Fair - August 18-19 at Millarville Racetrack, Millarville, AB
- CHB Summer Show at K-Days – July 21-22 at Northlands, Edmonton, AB
- CHB Fall Show – Nov 3-4<sup>th</sup> at Olds, AB

Each child will also be encouraged to complete a heritage breed project during the 7 months that the program runs. The finished projects will be presented at the Fall Show, or at one of the other events if they are not able to attend the Fall Show. More details on this project will be provided to applicants.

## When is the Youth Program over?

The CHB Fall Show will mark the completion of the program.

## Registration:

Children should be at least 7 years old and up to age 16. The child will need to be a CHB member in good standing. The registration form is included with this newsletter and has more details on the registration process. Please have the registration form completed, signed and submitted by April 30th. One form will need to be filled out for each of your children who are interested in taking part. There is no additional fee to register for the program.

# Welcome to New CHB Board Member, Mike Skeels!

I was born in Rimbey and currently farm just east of Rocky Mountain House. My family has a long history in the cattle and horse business and, with the exception of a few years in college in the States on Rodeo scholarships, I have stayed in the Central Alberta area for most of my life. I was a bull rider for a good many years and turning pro near the end of my career. I was in my first rodeo at the age of 10 in 1976. I loved the danger and adrenaline rush so much I stayed with it for almost 20 years before finally retiring from the rodeo circuit in 1994.

I am the owner operator of Mountain View Ranches Ltd—running cattle, sheep, heritage

poultry and various other critters. My real job is Lead Operator for Orlen Upstream here in the Rocky area but my heart will always be on the farm.

My focus is on breeding and showing good quality large fowl Silver Laced Wyandottes and I just recently got into bantam Buff Brahmas. Between my wife and kids however; we also raise and show LF Speckled Sussex, and Black Orpingtons. Along the way the kids have picked up White Chanteclers through the Youth Mentorship program, and some bantam breeds including Light Brown Leghorns and Old English Games.

I am also heavily involved in community theatre in Rocky Mountain House and my wife and I both enjoy acting in and producing comedy dinner theatres. I have had the privilege of directing and working with some super talented folks and I'm fortunate to have so much fun doing it! My other interests include scuba diving, fossil hunting, and I also sing with a folk group when time permits.

I look forward to being a part of the CHB Board this year—it's such a great group of hard working volunteers and I look forward to being of service to them and to all the members.

## From inside the trunk...

By Kathy Stevenson

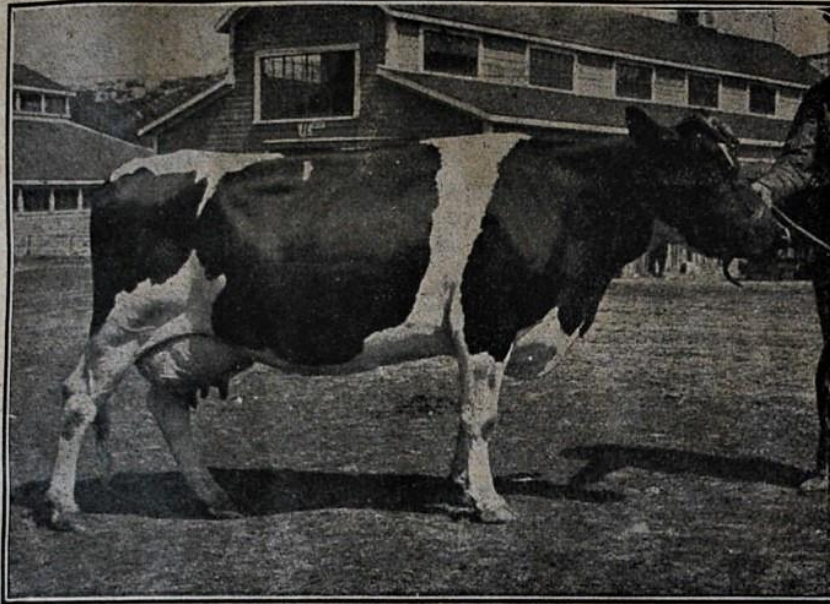






tion, with a brief address, referring to the grand work done for the breed by the Messrs. Hunter & Sons. Altogether they have imported between 650 and

2 aged bulls total .....	3150.00
7 calves total .....	350.00
117 head averaged .....	\$346.66



Holstein Cow, Bessie Iona Sylva—Champion Calgary Exhibition. Owned by Thos. Laycock and Sons, Calgary.

700 head from Scotland during the past fourteen years. Bidding was keen, buyers being present from many of the states and the dairy districts of Eastern Canada. The handsome cow, Beuchan Snowflower 2nd (imp.), 26071, was the first brought out, and at once there was a strife between Mrs. Erhardt and P. Ryan, and she quickly ran up to \$950 and was claimed by Mrs. Erhardt. Again each wanted Shewalton Mains Swell (imp.), 30594, but Ryan was not to be outdone this time, so secured her at \$750. It was when Victor Hugo came out and started at \$1000 and ran quick-

**POOR COWS, POOR LAND.**

Did you ever notice that generally the farmer who has good cows has good land, and the man who has poor land has poor cows, or often none at all. It is not easy just to tell why these things should be, but here are a few reasons. In the first place, the farmer who has good cows usually appreciates the fact, and gives them good care, or he will very soon have a poor herd, for the best of stock will deteriorate if care is not used in handling or feeding them. Further, the man who takes pride in giving his cattle good care, will do the same with

his land, so that good cows and good land will be found on the same farm. On the other hand, the farmer who is indifferent and shiftless regarding his cattle, will be exactly the same towards his land. You will find his barns falling to pieces, his dwelling house dilapidated, and sadly in need of a coat of paint, his fences half put up, weeds growing all over the place, and a worn-out look about everything. This is simply the result of poor farming, or rather indifferent farming. No matter whether the man grows grain or raises stock. If this sort of farmer does not have poor cows, then he has got none at all, for the best of stock in his hands will soon become profitless, and one reason that his land is so unproductive is because he does not handle his stock in a way to put fertility back on the fields. Now the farmer who has good cows is progressive and up-to-date, or he would not have good cows. His yards and buildings are well kept, his machinery is not all over the farm, his house has all modern conveniences, his fences are strong and well put up, and his whole place enjoys an air of prosperity. His land is properly and thoroughly cultivated, his farming is conducted on the most approved and advantageous methods, a good-sized milk check swells his bank account every month, and a nice round profit comes to him every time a heifer or young bull is sold. The manure goes back on the land, making the fields richer each season. When this man goes to town, he has a good team in front of him, while his indifferent neighbor usually has a horse that has long since seen better days. The man who has good cows has a good farm, and the man who has poor cows or none at all nearly always has a poor farm.

# An Introduction to Dairy Goats and Dairy Goat Showing

By Callum McLeod

Goats were among the first animals domesticated by humans and have been used as dairy animals as well as producers of meat and fibre for as long as humans have been living in an agricultural society.

Goats likely came to Canada with the very first European settlers, however the animals we know as dairy goats today came to Canada in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. At its formation in 1917, the Canadian Goat Society recognized breeds as they were imported from Europe, namely Switzerland and England. Some of the earliest breeds in Canada were the Nubian, Saanen, and Toggenburg. Later additions to the CGS dairy herdbook include more European breeds like the Alpine and Oberhasli, as well as some more exotic breeds like the diminutive Nigerian Dwarf and the earless La Mancha.

Today these seven breeds as well as Recorded Grades (cross bred animals) are shown across Canada in various sanctioned dairy shows. Typically, there will be junior or dry classes for young animals up to two years that are not producing milk as well as senior classes for does over one year that are currently producing milk.

In these classes animals are judged according to a score card that includes four distinct sections: General Appearance, Dairy Character, Body Capacity, and Mammary System. These different sections of the score card all contain specific traits that are beneficial to a healthy productive dairy animal that will have the longevity to continue to produce milk year on year over a healthy productive lifespan, which for a dairy goat is typically 8-12 years.

At a show, the various breeds present will compete amongst themselves until a Breed Champion is selected. These Breed Champions will progress to compete for the title of Best Doe in Show. Animals selected as Breed



Champion from breeds with sufficient numbers to meet a pre-set threshold for sanctioning (10 animals total, 8 of which are in milk) will receive what is referred to as a “championship leg”. Once an animal has accumulated three championship legs it is considered a “permanent champion.”

In addition to shows as explained above, registered dairy goats in Canada can be evaluated in other ways, namely Official Milk Testing and Classification. It is not uncommon for animals and herds to excel in all three areas, and this a testament to the breeder’s skill and management to have bred and raised animals that not only conform to breed standards, but are able to produce at an above average level, and transmit these traits onto future generations.

CHB is very excited to be expanding our programming into dairy goats in 2018, so stay tuned for more information on our goat specific programming, and handy tips and articles on show prep, dairy goat nutrition, and showmanship!

