

# THE AGRIFAIR ALERT

"Old...New...  
Growing with YOU"  
Celebrating 100 Fairs!!

## 5TH EDITION FEBRUARY 2010

Are you ready?? Can you believe it??

### Abbotsford Agrifair is celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> fair!!

Tracing Agrifair's history, the first fair was in 1911, one year after the British Columbia Electric Railway (BCER) arrived, thus ensuring a rapid rate of growth to the Village of Abbotsford. Imagine how fairs have changed, from the old gypsies and crystal balls to midway rides and award winning competitions.

Agrifair is continuing to grow in agriculture content, livestock content, family entertainment and education. Imagine after 100 years we are still *the best little country fair!* And this is only possible due to the growth in community support. So, yes, we are growing with you!!!

If you would like to check out some of last year's growth go to our website, [www.agrifair.ca](http://www.agrifair.ca), on the home page (must be running Explorer version 8) you will be able to watch an amazing video! Thanks so much to Abbotsford Video Hi Lites – Digital Media for this.

Watch for us on Facebook, we will be setting up a fan page for everyone to chat on and join the "Who's coming to Agrifair 2010" group!! We are growing into the 21st century and would love to see what you have to say.

Currently, we are working on our sponsor letters and packages. Be sure to check your mailbox in March for that information!

COMMENTS: please feel free to email us; we would love to hear from you! Subject line: newsletter.



### Introducing:

#### Our Board of Directors for 2010:

Phil Chapman – Representing the Fraser Valley  
Antique Farm Machinery Society  
Don Curtis – Rodeo Chairman  
Harry De Jong – President  
Susan Krochter – Secretary  
Matthew Malkin – Fat Pig Saloon Chair  
Douglas McNally – Volunteer Development Chair  
Allan Philips - Director  
Lea Reisig – Off Site Chair  
Cindy Rowell - Director  
Ernie Silveri – VIP Guest Services Chair  
Bob Street – Country Horse Classic Chair  
Brad Styba – Vice President  
Gord Vander Spoel – Agriculture Liaison Chair  
Graham Vanstone – Treasurer  
Neil Watson – Grounds Chair  
Susan Watson – Site Décor Chair  
Lorne Webster – 4-H, Agriland, Livestock Chair  
Marjorie Ziola – Director

#### Advisors that sit on our board are:

from the City of Abbotsford Councilor Moe Gill  
from Abbotsford Parks, Recreation & Culture Sheila  
Porlier

#### Office Staff

Pamela Brenner - General Manager  
Melanie Kish - Office Manager & Exhibit Sales  
Sarah Nicholls – Agriculture Coordinator

If you are interested in becoming a director or would like to volunteer, please contact us:

Abbotsford Agrifair  
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## President's Corner

**WOW! 100 fairs!** It's hard to believe, isn't it? How many events can you think of that are 100? I wish there was some way to speak to someone who attended one of our first fairs.

I bet they would have some interesting tales to tell!

As most of you have heard by now, Agrifair 2009 experienced a loss. This was not due to the fair that we put on – it was because of the extreme heat!! What a great fair we had with the RCMP Musical Ride and the BC Winter Games Domes here, two big hits. I wonder who won the Olympic tickets? But it was hard to endure 40 degree weather for most of the weekend. This hasn't stopped us from planning another great fair, after all you only celebrate 100 ONCE!! We are asking for our community's help though, so please watch for your sponsorship letter.

Some more exciting news is a fundraiser we are working on. **A raffle with truly awesome prizes and cheap ticket prices!** First prize is a 2 year lease from Magnuson Ford for a 2010 Ford F150 Crew Cab 4x4 XLT loaded! Tickets are only \$5.00, we will be sure to let you know when they are available and what other great prizes we have to win.

As we endeavor to produce the fair, we are faced with financial challenges similar to all Not For Profit organizations in the current economy. Funding specific to fairs previously received from the Ministry of Agriculture via the BC Association of Agricultural Fairs & Exhibitions has been eliminated entirely. Funds received annually from the BC Gaming Commission are also in jeopardy. Without the gaming funds many sports groups and other non-profit organizations will have great difficulty in maintaining their standard of service. Without this money MANY groups, including AGRIFAIR, may cease to exist.

**Please call or write and tell them to give the Gaming Funds back to charities!**

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## THINGS THAT ARE OLD & FUN:

**Agrifair**

**Boy Scouts (100yrs in 2010)**

**Fairs**

**Games**

**Saloon**

**Goslings**

**Red Cross**

**Farms**

**Rides**

**Girl Guides (100yrs in 2010)**

**4H**

**Hot Dogs**

**Midway**

H	4	G	I	R	L	G	U	I	D	E	S
O	F	A	R	M	S	B	S	E	M	A	G
T	A	G	R	I	F	A	I	R	S	N	N
D	I	R	A	D	G	O	H	S	H	O	I
O	R	F	M	W	B	I	S	4	A	O	L
G	S	E	F	A	G	O	N	O	O	L	S
S	A	C	D	Y	R	I	D	E	S	A	O
B	O	Y	S	C	O	U	T	S	W	S	G

Abbotsford  
**Agrifair &**  
 Mighty  
 Fraser  
**Rodeo**