

THE AGRIFAIR ALERT

**"WE DID THE FAIR
WITH FAMILY FLARE!"**

4TH EDITION NOVEMBER 2009

WHEW!! When we said "Flare" we really didn't mean that HOT!! With record breaking temperatures on opening day the Misting Tent was the biggest hit on the grounds. Thankfully Parks, Recreation & Culture forgot to turn off the sprinklers and our guests enjoyed a few land showers on Thursday & Friday. Sorry Asgar, glad to hear your sound equipment didn't get too damaged from the water works ☺

A great big special Thank You to all who sponsored, volunteered, and visited the Fair! Our sponsorship funding was down, however our 'in-kind' sponsorship was up from 2008. We know the harsh economic times have affected everyone.

Some interesting stats:

	2008	2009
Sponsorship money raised	\$77,350	\$55,500
Sponsorship "in-kind"	\$171,724	\$188,576
Attendance	42,000	34,500
Volunteer hours	unsure	3,000 plus

As you can see our attendance was down, we had a GREAT fair ~ but there is nothing we can do about extreme weather conditions and a recession.

Some 2009 hi-lights

RCMP Musical Ride ~ standing room only folks, if you weren't here early!

BCLC Winter Games Domes ~ did you see the photo of the winner who attended the fair, she won a trip, tickets & spending money to the Winter Games!

Mighty Fraser Rodeo ~ another awesome performance, we must be doing something right to continue this event for 11 years!! In November we were notified that Agrifair won Committee of the Year for 2009 in the category of Medium Sized Rodeos, voted on by the Cowboys, Contract Acts & Stock Contractors. This is a BIG DEAL!!!!

KidZone ~ Magician, Spaghetti Factory, Recycling games, Fireman and bouncy castles? What was not to enjoy?



Pride of the Valley ~ after increasing the number of booths from 2008, we can definitely say our Tradeshow is great! And don't forget about Chef Dez and Creative Living, did you see the Quilts of Valor?

Vendor Lane ~ we are trying to figure out how to convince Mad Dog's Source for Sports to make their hot tub display full of cool water and allow testing? Let us know who's in favor!

Country Horse Classic ~ who got a chance to see the Mayor of Abbotsford in the Monday closing event? Don't worry we have pictures of the Mayor & his Piggy Scramble!! Too bad we don't have a picture of Mike de Jong throwing the Mayor over his shoulder at the opening ceremonies!!

can you find the Mayor?



(waiting for the piggys)

4-H Open and Competitive shows ~ this year saw record clubs at the fair! We are so happy to help 4-H'rs with hosting their shows!

Concessions ~ wow what a great variety of food!!

Fat Pig Saloon ~ Whisky Jane was great!

ICW Pro Wrestling ~ ok, has Elvis left the building, (actually the Honky Tonk Man)

West Coast Lumberjacks ~ not to worry, he didn't cut off his whole toe!! Just a little bit!!

T's is the Season

Don't forget to give to our local food bank, did you know that they can make money go three times farther than food donations. That's right! Local grocers give them a discount on product. So just think for every \$1 you give they actually get about \$3.





President's Corner

Another fair complete, it was great! As we start to prepare for 2010 we are a little sad and concerned. The economy has touched everyone in different ways. Even our Provincial Government tells us there is no money; however they can always find some way to get money. This time they have decided to take from the Charities and Non Profit groups, like Agrifair. In 1999 when Bingo and Gaming centers were starting to come alive, the public supported these centers because the government promised that a percentage of these funds would be allocated to Charities and Non Profit groups. Well folks, 10 years later our government has decided they need the money more than the Charities and Non Profits. So they are taking it! That's right, and no group is safe. *In 2009 there is over \$1.1 billion net revenue from BC Lottery Corporation, this year the government has shrunk its distribution of gaming profits to charities from 30% to 19%.* We need your help - please call our MLA and tell them to stop! Without this money many sports groups and other non-profit organizations will have great difficulty in maintaining their standard of service. This will also affect the well being of the social structure of this community and all communities in the province. To take the life blood out of the heart of any community will only breed discontent and will leave many youngsters at a loss in becoming a vital part of society. Without this money MANY groups will cease to exist and the government simply cannot afford to take over the programs. Non profits & charities work with communities and volunteers to provide a service at a fraction of the cost that a government agency could provide for the same service.

Please call or write and tell them to leave charity money alone!

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Thank You!

How does a fair cover up manure? With a mural salute of its City!

