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Nova Scotia 4H Show – A Lesson in Teamwork.



Twenty-eight years ago the Nova Scotia 4-H Council and the 4-H staff had a vision. They saw 4-H members coming together from all corners of the province and bringing their projects to a central place for a weekend of fellowship and friendly competition. Thus, the Nova Scotia 4-H Show was born.

Previous to 1977, 4-H members could only bring their beef or dairy projects to the Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition in Truro to compete on a provincial level. As the program grew to include a variety of projects the 4-H council realized that by having a show that specifically featured 4-H members' work that all projects would be able to participate. Also, the show would present more of a complete package to 4-H families and the public and many more 4-H members would be able to participate in this event.

The first 4-H show was truly a hands-on experience. With sheer determination and a lot of hard work, a provincial committee of 4-H volunteers and staff prepared for the

event. Besides the pre-preparation work, several days before the exhibition began they built livestock pens, cleaned the grounds and readied the display areas for the projects when they arrived. The show began small and as the years went by several new competitions, such as bake-off, cake decorating and fashion show were added to give the 4-H members more areas in which they could compete

The 4-H Show was held in Windsor for a few years, then began to move to other locations so 4-H members could see more of Nova Scotia. Also by taking the show on the road other communities could benefit from the revenue generated by such an influx of people attending this event. The 4-H Show became a travelling exhibition and has continued moving around the province each year. The organizing committee then shifted from having a provincial representation to being more county-oriented.

"Hosting a show of this size has always been an exercise in team work," said Elizabeth Crouse, Manager of 4-H and Rural Organizations with the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries. "The hosting committee volunteers work in partnership with Department staff together to address all the aspects of making a show of this size run smoothly and on schedule. It's wonderful study of organization and creativity all for the leadership development of rural youth.

Today, the management of 4-H continues to be as unique as in the beginning and each year a different county or region hosts the 4-H Show. This year the 4-H councils in the Eastern Region are responsible for hosting the show at the Provincial Exhibition Grounds in Truro from September 30 - October 2.

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That includes everything from making site arrangements, providing security to fundraising. The committee focuses on running a safe and enjoyable show besides showcasing more than 40 skill developing projects, and a variety of competitions. Safety is always on the minds of the hosting committee and safety committees are in place on the grounds throughout the weekend

“This year it has been a great experience working with Pictou, Antigonish, and Guysborough 4-H Councils. Because we all are working toward the same goal I’m positive that the 4-H Show will be fun and successful for all who attend,” says, Carla Marshall, volunteer leader and Co-Chairperson of the Provincial Show Hosting Committee. “Hosting this show has provided an opportunity

for people in the 4-H program to work together on a unique provincial project. Hosting this event is one experience that I would recommend to any 4-H leaders council.”

Being associated with the Nova Scotia Exhibition association has been a positive experience for the show over the years. This show has many of the same challenges and opportunities as exhibitions across the province. The quality advertising provided by the association has been a great benefit as well.

The Theme for Nova Scotia 4H for 2005 is:

“4-H - A Treasure To Discover”

Nova Scotia 4H on the Web:

<http://www.gov.ns.ca/nsaf/4h/>

Did you know....?

- 2005 is the Year of the Volunteer

Check out:

<http://www.volunteer.ca>



Ralph MacDonald, Antigonish (L) and Carla Marshall, Eureka(R) are volunteer 4-H leaders in Antigonish and Pictou counties respectively, and co-chairs of the 2005 provincial 4-H Show. Antigonish, Pictou and Guysborough County 4-H Councils are hosting the 4-H Show at the Provincial Exhibition Grounds in Truro from September 30 - October 2.

Mr. Wayne Riley Appointed To The Board of Directors of the Exhibitions Association of Nova Scotia



Mr. Leonard J. Edwards, Deputy Minister, Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada has forwarded the name of Mr. Wayne Riley as a member of the Board of Directors, Exhibitions Association of Nova Scotia. Mr. Riley has been the Department's Senior Communications Advisor for Atlantic Canada since 1994, working from the Crops and Livestock Center in Charlottetown, P. E. I. His role

covers a wide range of communications activities from drafting news releases and speeches to responding to media and developing promotional materials, including exhibits. Wayne joined Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada in 1988 after working as a reporter and editor for a number of newspapers in Ontario. Wayne now lives in York, Prince Edward Island.

Wayne's role on the Board of Directors will be to provide a federal presence on the Board together with the Provincial representative with the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries to raise the awareness of agriculture and the importance of the agriculture food chain to the consumer and the general public of Nova Scotia. General support will also be provided to the agriculture fairs and exhibitions throughout the Province.

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Scotia**

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<http://www.eans.ca>

About the EANS

The Exhibition Association of Nova Scotia is a non-profit organization that showcases the agriculture of the Province and relates the urban and rural communities through knowledge and awareness of farm activities while providing entertainment, community attraction for tourists and economic benefits for the Province of Nova Scotia.

Funding and services provided by the Province of Nova Scotia through the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, is greatly appreciated and adds support to the fairs and exhibitions in various parts of the Province from June to October each year.

The EANS Newsletter is published quarterly, relating events of the Nova Scotia Fairs & Exhibitions. Your contributions to the Newsletter would be appreciated. Please send all relevant material to:

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Exhibitions Association
of
Nova Scotia

