

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Chilliwack:

I have been excited ever since the Board chose to focus on local horticulture for the 2019 Fair with the theme 'Good Things Growing!'. I've always loved gardening, a trait that I share with my mother and grandmother and hope to pass on to my children and grandchildren. I will always take any opportunity to escape the housework so I can get outside to 'play in the dirt!' I hope lots of you will participate by entering your growing things in Home and Garden classes.

We want to celebrate all forms of horticulture: from balcony gardens to backyard vegetable plots and perennial beds to large scale farming. We all know Chilliwack is the best place to grow things, whether it's corn or blueberries, tomatoes in your backyard greenhouse, or dahlias in the front garden. All of these are what makes our community a great place to live.

Also new this year, the Fair will support local agriculture by participating in the Buy BC program to encourage people to buy local farm products. Come visit the new Fair Farmers Market to find the freshest produce to take home with you, visit the Tasting Booth in the Beer Garden to try locally produced beverages, and watch a show on the Kitchen Stage to learn how to cook with local products.

Our horse show has really expanded and this year will include all sizes from Miniature to Heavy Horses, in driving classes as well as jumping, ranch, trail, english and western. There will be both indoor and outdoor classes all weekend, so check the

show schedule to plan your trip. Make sure you allow time to see the Laughing Loggers, back for their second year, located in the Multi-Purpose Field next to Richard's Racing Pigs and the BD Diesel Truck Drag. The athletic folk might like to participate in the second annual Donut Run, a 5 km run to be held on Saturday morning. Check our website for sign up information.

As always, we owe our success to our volunteers, sponsors, and community partners, all of whom give generously so that our community will benefit. Ours is a volunteer-driven organization, with many people spending thousands of hours over the course of the year to do the planning and preparation before the gates open to the public. Our sponsors provide us with the funds and equipment needed to get the job done. The partners are community groups who host a portion of the event including: the Atchelitz Threshermen's Association, The Chilliwack Rodeo Association, Chilliwack Kiwanis, Chilliwack School District #33, Chilliwack 4-H District, and Chilliwack Schools Garden Program.

We are also pleased to have the support of the City of Chilliwack, a Community Access Grant, a Buy BC Partnership Grant, and a Building Communities Through Art and Heritage Grant through the Department of Heritage.

See you at the Fair!

Cathy Oss

PRESIDENT, CHILLIWACK FAIR BOARD



Fair Board members: Top left to right: Kim Hunter, Nicole Williams, Deborah Dempster, Mary Giesler, Sheri Williamson, Renee Higginson, Louise Pollock
Bottom left to right: Erynne Croquet, Cathy Oss, Rebecca Coulter
Missing: Lawrence VanDerPeet, Kaija Oksanen, Carli Pierrot, Paul Jeffrey, Len Blackstock, Ryan Britz



GOOD THINGS GROWING!