



Westwind Rodeo Academy

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Press Release

To: To Whom It May Concern:
From: Shellee Shaw, Program Administrator
CC:
Date: December 2, 2008
Re: Honourable Lindsay Blackett Presentation
Minister of Culture and Community Spirit

The Honourable Lindsay Blackett, Minister of Culture and Community Spirit, will be in Cardston, Alberta on December 16 to present to the Friends of the Westwind Rodeo Academy Society a check in the amount of \$500,000. This funding is a 50/50 match towards the construction of the Society's new equine assisted therapy and rodeo sports performance facility.

The funding comes to the Society through the Province of Alberta's Lottery Fund and the Major Community Facilities Program. The Society made application for assistance in construction of a 100' x 240' indoor equine arena to facilitate their developing programs within the Westwind Rodeo Academy [WRA]. The programs offered by the WRA are rodeo sports performance, equine related academic learning, equine assisted recreation, and equine based therapy for special needs individuals. See www.westwindrodeoacademy.com for more information.

Additional contributing partners in this community based and beneficial project are the Town of Cardston and the Cardston County. The Society would also like to express appreciation to Robert Simpson and the late Lloyd Simpson of the Simpson Markinch Ranch for their generous contribution.

Special recognition is given to Westwind School Division #74 and Rural Alberta's Development Fund for their involvement in and contributions to the continuing operational requirements of the project.

"Whether it's for recreation or for helping on the farm, horseback riding and equestrian are a way of life for rural Albertans," said Lindsay Blackett, Minister of Culture and Community Spirit. "These funds will help to build strong communities by allowing more Albertans to participate in horse riding activities."

We would like to request your attendance to hear The Honourable Minister Blackett and Mr. Broyce Jacobs, MLA Cardston-Taber-Warner, speak in regards to the Province's support for this exciting and worthwhile project.

Date: Tuesday - December 16, 2008

Location: Cardston Centennial Seniors Center, 260 - 1st Street West, Cardston, Alberta

Time: 3:00 pm

Contact: Mr. Randy Jensen, President - Friends of the Westwind Rodeo Academy Society 403-331-8779