Summer Synergy Press Release 2015



Submitted By: Cassidy Matthews & Tracy Gardner

Five amazing years have gone by in the blink of an eye and the 6th edition of Summer Synergy's was truly outstanding. Each year a unique group of youth load up their stock whether it is beef, dairy, sheep, or new this year equine, and gather in the community of Olds, AB to compete. Olds Regional Exhibition is proud to facilitate Summer Synergy every year and continue to show great confidence in the foundation and development of programming and event volunteers. This year Synergy was excited to showcase participants from all across Canada including British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Ontario.

Summer Synergy is a showcase of livestock and talented youth where their livestock husbandry skills are demonstrated. These participants are given countless opportunities to learn and prosper as future leaders in agriculture. As a participant who has been attending Summer Synergy since its establishment Cassidy Matthews can say the show has grown and developed a tremendous amount! This year all of the participants had success in conformation, showmanship, multi-judging and much more. With success came hard work and countless hours youth put into their animals, marketing projects, judging, etc. Over \$80,000.00 was awarded in scholarships and prizes to 64 recipients.

Six deserving young girls in the Junior category were awarded \$500 in Scholarships. This included the following recipients: Alexis Couch, Tianna Frenzel, Elle Groeneveld, Kenzie Hickman, Kyla Kelly, and Brynne Yoder. Following the juniors, 15 Intermediate Scholarship winners received \$1000 which included the following participants: Keely Adams, Baxter Blair, Justin Couch, Bronwynn Frenzel, Emma Gringras, Morgan Macintyre, Jacey Massey, Cache McLerie, Cara McNaughton, Bryanne Peltzer, Jenna Schmidt, Julie Sharp, Madison Sibbald, Thomas Wildman, and Sierra Wise.

Senior Scholarship recipients receiving top honors in aggregate and \$3000 included: Candace Fankhanel, Megan McLeod, Brennan Munro, and Cassidy Matthews. Receiving \$2000 in scholarships was: Jared Couch, Kyle Dodgson, Aiden Jamieson, Kayla Jones, Luke Marshall, Shannon Mclaughlin, Cole McMahon, Davis Schmidt, Dakota Townsend, and Bailey Wauters. Last but certainly not least the following seniors received \$1000: Halley Adams, Brooke Bablitz, Maguire Blair, Danae Chostner, Bailey Dietrich, Tyler Dietrich, Cole Dodgson, Travis Dow, Jonas Haeni, Delanie Knull, Kaylie Krys, Jade Marshall, Ward Marshall, Jill Mclerie, Cayley Peltzer, Mackenzie Rowley, Tony Schmidt, Riley Sharp, Jaymie Thompson, and Wacey Townsend.

These youth exhibited an exceptional set of livestock at Olds, and the lineup of Supreme livestock that were showcased at the Calgary Stampede was very impressive. Winning Supreme Champion Purebred Female was Dakota Townsend from Sylvan Lake, AB exhibiting her Simmental pair RF Intense 359A. Fellow Simmental showman Cole McMahon from Galahad, AB was selected as the Supreme Champion Commercial Female with RF On a Mission 327A. Tyson Rietveld from Swift Current, SK was the proud exhibitor of the Supreme Champion Dairy Female with Rietben T Cooper while Shannon Mclaughlin from Tomahawk, AB was Supreme Champion Sheep with her Champion Mature Ewe.

On behalf of the volunteers, sponsors, partners and Olds Regional Exhibition, we extend a huge congratulations to all of the youth competitors. Summer Synergy is only as successful with the continuous and generous support from the outstanding sponsors. As Cassidy Matthews is quoted, "My hope is that participants, sponsors, parents, and volunteers will continue to help establish a strong growth in Summer Synergy so the generations involved will drive the agriculture industry in the future, because this show truly has the ability and opportunities for youth to make an impactful difference in agriculture."

