

## **Open Gate: Tamara Ranch**

### **Succession of the Farm – Moving towards the next generation.**

Date: July 7, 2015

Tamara Ranch

Red Deer, Alberta



The Tamara Ranch field day is part of the HM Canada Open Gate Learning Series. Open Gates are peer-to-peer action-based learning days with short presentations and small group exercises geared for participants to share discoveries and management techniques with guidance from experienced facilitators and producers. Whether you are an agricultural producer, wildlife manager, local agency representative, or just interested in ranching, land stewardship, this is a day for you!

### **What to Expect**

Transitioning to the next generation is a big challenge for many farmers and ranchers or other types of family businesses. The Towers family have taken an innovative approach by including non-family. Yet, the principles are the same for setting a common value based vision, building commitment, enhancing communication and developing a plan. Kelly Sidoryk will lead participants through exercises that the Tamara crew have gone through and they will share their experiences and learnings. We will also have an opportunity to tour the ranch and see the different enterprises. Merle Good will share advice on the legal and technical side of succession planning.



### **Registration**

Farmers, ranchers, and land stewards with any length of agricultural experience are welcome to attend. Whether you are raising cattle, broccoli, or wheat, you'll find helpful advice, tips, and techniques to build a profitable, sustainable operation. Registration is \$35.00 per person including lunch, and is non-refundable when purchased online. At the gate registration is \$40.00 per person. Space is limited at each event, so you are encouraged to register in advance.

This is a rain or shine event. Please bring appropriate clothing and footwear

## Agenda

9:00 AM – Registration

9:30 AM – Introductions and Orientation – Kelly Sidoryk

9:40 AM – Tamara Ranch – Tom and Margaret Towers

11:00 AM – Succession of the Family Farm – Merle Good

12:15 PM – Lunch

1:15 PM In the field – Kelly Sidoryk - Certified Holistic Management Educator

- Farm Tour
- Grazing Inventory Exercise
  
- Looking at Soil Health Exercise

3:00 PM – Questions and Evaluation

4:00 PM – Adjourn

### LOCATION AND DIRECTIONS

From Calgary, travel North toward Red Deer on QE2. Turn East onto Hwy 42 (Pine Lake Road) Travel 3 miles, then turn North onto RR271. Travel 2 miles, then turn East onto TWNSP Rd 372. Go 1/2 mile to the TAMARA RANCH sign on the North side of the road.



From Edmonton travel South through Red Deer on QE2 then turn East onto the MacKenzie Road overpass (TWNSP Rd 374) and travel 1 mile to RR273. Turn South and travel 2 miles to turn East onto TWNSP Rd 372. travel 2 1/2 miles to the TAMARA RANCH sign on the North side of the road.

### SPEAKERS

**Tom and Margaret Towers** – Tamara Ranch has been a grass based operation since 1991 when they took their first courses in Holistic management. They are now transitioning to the next generation with great results in the overall operation. Blake and Ange Hall are taking over the day to day activities of the ranch, adding new enterprises, as well as including an intern this year with a chicken operation. Blake's Brother-in-law has a seven acre CSA garden on the place from which he supplies fresh produce to some one hundred families in Red Deer as well as some retail outlets. Blake sells beef, lamb, pork, and fresh eggs off the ranch. They have had two very successful farm tours last year for shareholders and county residents. It is their mission to educate the next generation on good food and how a sustainable agricultural operation can be transitioned to the next generations.

**Kelly Sidoryk** – Kelly is involved in a family ranching operation at Lloydminster, Alberta, Canada. Along with her brother and father, they run a grass based cattle enterprise. Kelly has been a certified educator of Holistic Management for close to 20 years. Along with teaching HM courses, she has done individual family work, goal setting and succession planning. Kelly and her husband, Mike have three children, Tess, Leah and Carter. She is also involved as a

volunteer with the local agricultural association and is currently chair of Holistic Management International.

**Merle Good** – Merle Good graduated from the University of Alberta in 1977 with a B.S.C. degree in Agriculture Economics. His expertise is in the area of Taxation and Business Arrangements. He was the Provincial Tax Specialist for the Alberta Agricultural Ministry throughout his professional career. In launching his new private consulting business, Merle will continue to focus on identifying and adapting financial management and tax-related strategies with unique business structures to meet the ever-evolving needs of Alberta's Agricultural Industry. Merle is married to Peggy and has one daughter Annessa and resides on the family farm at Cremona Alberta.

