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**NEWS RELEASE**  
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## **RECORD CROWDS ATTEND THE INAGURAL SASKATCHEWAN EQUINE EXPO IN SASKATOON**

In excess of 9,000 horse enthusiasts passed through the doors at Saskatoon PrairieLand Park for the inaugural **Saskatchewan Equine Expo in Saskatoon, February 17-19, 2012**. The three day event featured educational seminars presented by the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, 3 world renowned clinicians, breeds on display, an industry trade show, Trainers Challenge, and a Saturday evening Equine Extravaganza that thrilled a standing room only audience.

The Trainer's Challenge, sponsored by NAERIC, showcased the talents of three outstanding horse trainers; Dale Clearwater from Hanley, Saskatchewan, Cain Quam from Kendal, Saskatchewan and Kade Mills, from Innisfail, Alberta. All three amazing horseman thrilled the crowd during each session with their individual skills. At the end of the event, hometown favorite Dale Clearwater was awarded the Championship title.

Clinics presented by Olympic Dressage Champion, Gina Smith, Centered Riding Instructor, Sue Leffler and International Reining Champion, Shawna Sapergia were a big hit with spectators and pre-registered students alike. The industry trade show far exceeded expectations with vendors indicating they will be back next year, many requesting additional space and additional trade show days. PrairieLand Park Agriculture Manager, Lori Cates has indicated that additional buildings will be added to next year's show to accommodate the numerous requests for additional display space.

A show highlight was the Equine Extravaganza held on Saturday evening. The crowd that gathered in the PrairieLand Park Ag Centre for the Equine Extravaganza was overwhelming and far exceeded organizers expectations. The event demonstrated the diversity of different horse breeds and disciplines. The audience was amazed by the speed and accuracy of the Mounted Shooters Association demonstration, as well as awed by the beauty of Clydesdales in an 8-horse hitch.

"When we needed to add extra bleachers, to accommodate the crowd or to move the round pen in and out of the arena, volunteers came out of the crowd to help us," said Livestock Manger Brenda Sapergia. "That's the Saskatchewan spirit, and confirms that Saskatchewan people really appreciate that we are showcasing the equine industry right here in Saskatoon!"

For further information on the Saskatchewan Equine Expo visit [www.saskatchewanequineexpo.com](http://www.saskatchewanequineexpo.com).

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