PO Box 25 Hudson's Hope, BC V0C 1V0

Peace River Regional District

PO Box 810

Dawson Creek, BC V1G 4H8

April 24, 2024

Re: Letter of Support for Peavey Mart

Dear PRRD Board of Directors;

I would like to request a letter of support for an upcoming application to the Peavey Mart Community Agriculture grant for our project to improve, repair and reconstruction of our livestock pens at our facility in Hudson's Hope. The deadline to apply is May 31st.

We will be applying for a grant amount of \$80,000.

The horse pens are currently in a state of disrepair and require renovation to make them suitable for use. We also hope to build more stalls so that our facilities can accommodate the need we have identified in our community to house horses.

In addition to the support, we offer to the community by providing space for horses, we also offer space for livestock that are evacuated from our surrounding region due to wildfire events. For this reason, we believe that safe, dry and usable horse pens are important community infrastructure.

Thank you for your consideration,

Double H Saddle Club Board of Directors

To whom it may concern,

Please accept this correspondence as a letter of support for the Double H Saddle Club's application for the 2024 Community Agriculture Grant. The Hudson's Hope RCMP is in support of improvements to the facilities at the saddle club as we have partnered with the club in the past and we also see the positive effect the saddle club and it's facilities have in our community.

Hudson's Hope is a small, relatively isolated community consisting of a small towncenter and a large outlying area with many farms and ranches. We depend very much on community support in times of emergencies. The summer of 2022 was one of those emergencies. Wildfires burned out of control causing many people to be evacuated. The facilities at the saddle club were initially offered as a place for people to house their livestock, until, it too was placed under evacuation. This scenario could very likely occur again in the future.

There have been instances where the RCMP have relied on the facilities for assistance in our duties. Most recently, in the summer of 2023, a horse was found wandering up a remote forest service road near dusk. It had been missing for over a week after wandering away from a hunter. The owner lived in Fort St John and was not able to travel to Hudson's Hope that night. Police were able to transport the horse to a pen at the saddle club where it spent the night at no cost. The following day when the owner came to pick it up, he was very grateful as the horse actually belonged to his young daughter.

As a member of the community, and also as an RCMP officer stationed in Hudson's Hope, the availability of the facilities at the saddle club was a key factor in my decision to transfer here. I own a horse and previously lived on an acreage with her. In Hudson's Hope, the police officers live in housing provided by the Federal Government. We do not purchase a home here and without the facilities at the saddle club, I would likely not have transferred here. Of the three officers in Hudson's Hope, two of us board horses at the saddle club.

I have witnessed the volunteers of the Double H Saddle Club spend long hours and invest a lot of personal time, money, tools and equipment in an effort to maintain and improve the facilities. I believe money granted to the club would be put to excellent use in improvement of the facilities. For example, power to the water de-icer in my horse's pen is run by numerous extension cords plugged together; some pens do not have shelters which is a necessity in our harsh winter conditions; and some pens do not have proper gates and are supplemented with panels. These are but a few of the projects that could use funds for improvements.

Cst Cara Volz Hudson's Hope RCMP To Whom it may concern.

It has come to my attention that the Hudson's Hope Double H Saddle club has applied for the 2024 Community Agriculture Grant. This would assist in repairing, upgrading, and expanding their facilities.

I would very much like to express my support for this application.

In my capacity as Liaison with British Columbia Cattlemen's Association I spent a significant amount of time in late summer 2022 working in the Hudson's Hope area in conjunction with BC Wildfire Service (BCWFS). This was during very extreme wildfire activity in the area. A major portion of my duties was ascertaining the safety of livestock. As such I met with many of the area ranchers and members of the Double H Saddle Club. Thankfully no livestock were lost as a direct result of the fires. Some livestock owners had made arrangements to haul their animals out of harms way, sometimes a considerable distance. In future circumstances a facility such as the club has could prove invaluable in providing an option for endangered livestock.

The Double H Saddle club has indicated a willingness to make their facilities available and assist in any way to help with the care of livestock in any emergency.

Therefore I request that strong consideration be given to the Saddle Clubs application.

For any further information please contact me at 250-788-9640.

Sincerely,

W.Warren Fowler Rancher Liaison BCCA



## BC HIGH SCHOOL RODEO ASSOCIATION – BUILDING CHAMPIONS

## IN AND OUT OF THE RODEO ARENA FOR OVER 50 YEARS!

April 12, 2024

To Whom It May Concern,

Please accept this letter as recommendation for the improvement, repair and reconstruction of the livestock pens by the Double H Saddle Club at the indoor arena in Hudson's Hope, BC.

As National Director of the BC High School Rodeo Association, I have spent a great deal of time being involved in hosting events at the Double H Saddle Club over a period of 13+ years. For the past several years, the condition of livestock pens at the indoor arena has become a concern, they have become a safety hazard and are not in condition to be considered secure for the containment of livestock. Our association would be more apt to host events at a larger scale, such as Provincial Finals, if these pens were in useable condition. We have had great success in the past and have held many rodeos there, however, this has become a determining factor in our selections.

It is also my opinion that with upgraded containment pens, the Double H Saddle Club could be a viable and invaluable source for evacuees should the need arise during the wildfire season which is becoming increasingly volatile with each passing year.

Thank you for your consideration,



Daryl Mills BC High School Rodeo Association National Director April 8, 2024

To whom it may concern,

West Moberly First Nations is in support the Hudson's Hope Saddle Club Expansion application the 2024 Community Agriculture Grant.

The Double H Saddle club has indicated a willingness to make their facilities available and assist in any way to help with the care of livestock in any emergency.

Therefore, we request that strong consideration be given to the Saddle Clubs application.

Thank you,

Chief Roland Willson