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HORSE COUNCIL BRITISH COLUMBIA



e-Newsletter

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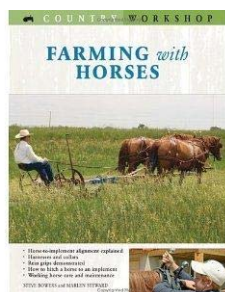
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Just in time for Spring Break!

Horse Council BC is now offering the *P'tit Trot Riding Program!* Designed as a teaching tool for riding instructors and coaches the *P'tit Trot Riding Program*, specifically aimed at encouraging children 5 and up to discover horses, provides equestrian professionals with user-friendly and practical manuals, in both English and Western versions,. The program goals suggested are flexible, and may be adapted according to each individual child's circumstances and learning ability.

Lavishly illustrated, the manual immerses the children into an environment specific to horses. With the help of amusing antics from the main characters Roxanne, Nathan, Lili, Picotin, Pixel, Plume and coach Stephanie, the child is initiated to the basics of riding. The proper care of horses are also explained with an emphasis on practice over theory. With a touch of humour and wit, mascot P'tit Trot brings to light the most important points to remember and makes the book enjoyable to read on its own, even if the child doesn't saddle up.

This program is tailor-made for children who are interested in horses and can also serve as the ideal springboard for summer riding camps.

How the Program Works

The P'tit Trot program is entirely managed by riding professionals and they are responsible for soliciting clients and selling the manuals, including all additional elements. Riding professionals are also responsible for organizing, managing and conducting evaluation sessions. Depending upon the type of services being provided, the riding professional may also determine the training conditions and whether or not professional fees are applicable.

The training kit contains the P'tit Trot manual, a riding certificate with four corresponding stickers, exercise sheets, and a P'tit Trot button. In the first mailing, riding professionals will also receive a poster and the user guide for their own personal use. The P'tit Trot manual is divided into four chapters: bronze horseshoe, silver horseshoe, gold horseshoe and platinum horseshoe. The instructor or coach may tailor the goals presented at each level (chapter), to various circumstances and situations. As the children complete each chapter, they can place the matching horseshoe sticker on the certificate. The children's interest must be maintained throughout the program as the riding professional introduces the children to riding, bearing in mind that, at this age, the active element will be most exciting to them.

Written by
Bowers & Steward

If you want to get back to basics and use some real horse power on your farm, this is the book for you. Farming with horses shows you how to hitch your horse, how to maintain correct alignment, how to select the right horse and so much more.

Price: \$23.95 + HST

Purchase your
copy online

[HCBC 's Bookstore](#)



August 17-20, 2011
Pass Creek Fair Grounds
Castlegar, BC

Equestrian Events

*Driving
Dressage
Hunter/Jumper
Reining*

Participants must be
55+years of age

For more information go
online to

www.bcseniorgames.org

or call (250) 365-7273

The P'tit Trot program precedes a Level 1 Riding Certificate, it does not replace it. The program includes more practical than theoretical content. Children should therefore be encouraged to continue their lessons by registering for the Learn to Ride Program after completing the P'tit Trot Riding Program.

With each order of four P'tit Trot manuals Horse Council BC will also supply all licensed instructors and coaches with:

Western Riding

- ✓ 16 certificates with the appropriate stickers
- ✓ 4 note pads with 50 tracing patterns (while supplies last)
- ✓ 4 badges
- ✓ 1 User Guide which comes with a CD including the pedagogical tools



English Riding

- ✓ 4 series for the 4 certificate levels
- ✓ 4 colouring books
- ✓ 4 badges
- ✓ 1 User Guide which comes with a CD including the pedagogical tools



Remember children represent the next generation of equestrians!

For more information on the P'tit Trot Programs visit www.hcbc.ca.

Price: \$39 + HST & Shipping

Reminder! HCBC's Core Grant Application Deadline is Fast Approaching

Core Grant applications **MUST** be submitted to the HCBC office by Sunday, May 15, 2011, for events taking place before December 31st of the current year. Late submissions will not be accepted.

What is Core Grant?

Core funds are provincial funds targeted for events or projects that support sport growth and development. An approved event or project will be open to all qualified participants in your area, not just your club members. The event or project must support the goals of HCBC for developing sport within the province. Clubs are expected to charge participants reasonable registration fees. Money will be released only after a financial report, receipts and an event summary are received by HCBC.

Who Can Apply?

Club and Affiliate HCBC members in good standing whose members are also HCBC members.

Send the completed [application forms](#) to:

Horse Council BC
Attention: Finance Dept.
27336 Fraser Hwy
Aldergrove, BC V4W 3N5

Fax: (604) 856-4302



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2011 BC Equestrian
Trails Roundtable
Report



To view the full report
[click here](#)

**Performing
Background
Checks?**

Make background checks easier and more efficient with myBackCheck.com, an

For more information on Core Grant opportunities please contact Debbie Thompson, Bookkeeper, by emailing office@hcbc.ca or call 1-800-345-8055, ext# 107.

National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) - Workshops

Equine NCCP Theory Course March 26-27, 2011 in Dawson Creek

Best Western, This course is optional training for EC coaching and Instructor certification, but very strongly recommended to any potential candidates. This course will also prepare the participant for the online Make Ethical Decisions Assessment that is mandatory for coaching and instructor certification.

Registrations due by February 25th, 2011 Pre-Registration is required For more information contact coaching@hcbc.ca or download the registration form [here](#)

Equine NCCP Theory Course April 16-17, 2011 in Nanaimo

Best Western Dorchester Hotel. This course is optional training for EC Coaching and Instructor certification, but very strongly recommended to any potential candidates. This course will also prepare the participant for the online Make Ethical Decisions Assessment that is mandatory for coaching and instructor certification.

Registrations are due by March 18, 2011 Pre registration is required. For more information, please contact coaching@hcbc.ca Download the registration form [here](#)

Equine NCCP Theory Course April 30 and May 1, 2011 in Delta

Town and Country Inn. This course is optional training for EC Coaching and Instructor certification, but is strongly recommended to any potential candidates. This course will also prepare the participant for the online Make Ethical Decisions Assessment that is mandatory for coaching and Instructor certification.

Registrations due April 4, 2011 Pre registration is required. Size limited to 15 registrations. For more information contact coaching@hcbc.ca Download the registration form [here](#)

HCBC Membership Referral Program

Submitted by Shawn Stephens, Membership Coordinator

Refer a first-time member to Horse Council BC and SAVE!

If an existing HCBC member refers a "first-time member" to HCBC he/she will receive a \$5 credit towards their 2011 HCBC membership.

The new member MUST enter the first and last name plus the HCBC membership number of the HCBC member who referred them at the time of joining in order to receive the referral credit.

Note: Referral credits have no cash value and are limited to the equivalent value of a 2011 individual or family membership.

For more information regarding the *Membership Referral Program* and the benefits of becoming a Horse Council BC member please contact Shawn Stephens, Membership Coordinator, by emailing membership@hcbc.ca.

online method for completing Criminal Record Checks for coaches and sport volunteers.

Visit
myBackCheck.com
to get started!

Rider Aims for the Big Ring

Written by Gary Ahuja, Times Sports

On her own, Stephanie Ross struggles with her movements. She can walk unassisted, but there is a limp and a slight shaking motion. But when Ross is atop her horse, she feels different, liberated and independent. She no longer thinks about her cerebral palsy, which impacts her ability to run and jump like most people her age.



Stephanie Ross & Wiese

"It is amazing to be able to move with a horse and just be one," she described. "Wiese can do things that I can't on my own because I don't have very good balance. I can't run very fast, but on her, my disability goes away."

Ross was referring to her horse, Wiese, a Hanoverian warmblood mare, which she has ridden for the past three years. Stephanie first started riding when she was two years old. As is often the case for people with cerebral palsy, therapeutic riding lessons are used to help a child cope with their physical difficulties. Cerebral palsy results in the brain being unable to adequately control the body. It can result in varying degrees, ranging from some people being wheelchair-bound, others need assistance to walk, and some are able to move on their own. Riding horses is effective because it accomplishes several things: improving core strength; stimulating circulation and muscles in the legs; achieving balance; improving posture; and improving muscle strength.

Ross, who graduated a year early in 2009 from Langley Fine Arts School, tried her hand at plenty of sports growing up, playing basketball, soccer, volleyball and track and field. She still keeps active, spending her spare time downhill skiing, wakeboarding and boating. Horses remain her passion.

Three years ago, Ross, who turns 18 in April, began competing in Para-equestrian dressage competition. Last summer, Ross won two gold and a silver medal at the B.C. Summer Games. Following the successful 2010 competition season, Ross was ranked ninth by Para-equestrian Canada, based on her performances in specific tests at certain competitions. The top eight are referred to as being on the short list, or senior national team riders, while those below are long-listed or development riders. Ross is listed as a Grade 3 rider, meaning she is able to walk without support, but only has minimal use of her limbs. The riders are aiming for the goal of representing Canada at not only the major competitions of the next two years, but specifically the 2012 Paralympics in London. Ross is thrilled to be so close.

"When I found out I was on the list, it was so overwhelming," she said. "It has always been my dream to go to the Paralympics, never did I think that I would have the ability."

I know I am close, but still so far away. I am working so hard to hopefully get there and it is exciting to be so close and know my hard work is paying off," she added.

Leading the list is a pretty significant name in local riding circles, Aldergrove's Lauren Barwick, who won gold and silver at the 2008 Paralympics in Beijing. Ashley Gowanlock, another rider with Paralympic experience, is ranked fifth. Ross considers both as inspirations in her own quest.

"I always wanted to be like them, and now that I am riding with them and it shows it's just so cool," she said. "It shows how far I have come. It wasn't that long ago I was like 'oh, I wish I could go to those shows. It hasn't been an easy road to get to this point," she added.

"You can't let the little things stop you, you have to keep going and push through the challenges," she says.

Ross will get her first taste of international competition in early March as she heads to the Dressage Affair in Del Mar, California. One of the challenges Ross is facing in taking the next step is financing her dream. So far, local businesses, friends and family have been great in supporting her, but with more competitions ahead her expenses are going up.

Anyone interested in supporting Stephanie Ross can email her at MissTsTwilight@shaw.ca or call 604-837-0604.

Sport BC's Community Sport Hero Awards

The Community Sport Hero® Awards presented by encana honours the outstanding sport volunteers in communities across British Columbia. Founded in 2001, the prestigious awards recognize coaches, officials, mentors and administrators who have dedicated themselves to grow and develop amateur sport at the community level. The dedication and leadership of these individuals have allowed athletes and communities to grow and shape sport in British Columbia and inspire others to become involved in sport.

Thanks to a partnership with encana, the program visits one BC community each month with the intention that the award ceremony will remain in the community as an annual tradition of volunteer recognition. [Previous Community Sport Hero Award Recipients](#)

Eligibility Requirements for nominating a Community Sport Hero®:

- Be an individual from the local community who makes a voluntary contribution to sport through coaching, officiating, boards, administration, special events, etc
- Be an individual (not an organization or foundation); and
- Has been or continues to be a dedicated sport volunteer for a minimum of 8 years

Community	Nomination	Deadline Awards Ceremony
Cranbrook	March 18, 2011	April 12, 2011
Prince Rupert	April 22, 2011	May 17, 2011
North Vancouver	May 20, 2011	June 12, 2011
Mackenzie	June 10, 2011	July 5, 2011
Kitimat	July 15, 2011	August 9, 2011
Summerland	August 19, 2011	September 13, 2011
Salmon Arm	September 23, 2011	October 18, 2011
Nelson	October 21, 2011	November 15, 2011
Qualicum/Parksville	November 11, 2011	December 6, 2011

[Online Nomination Form](#)

Euthanasia Isn't a Dirty Word

Submitted by Kelly Coughlin, Manager of Industry

Euthanasia is not cruel or thoughtless, it is not an act of callousness and disregard for life; in fact it can be the kindest thing you could ever do for your horse.

Euthanasia is a responsible and compassionate end for the horses we owe so much to. You as the owner or caretaker have a duty and obligation to prevent or end suffering and pain. If your horse can no longer respond to you in the normal ways, is experiencing more pain than pleasure, is terminally ill or critically injured, or the horse is aged and may have medical conditions that reduce quality of life;

euthanasia is an option. Sometimes the financial or emotional cost of treatment is beyond your means, which is a reality many horse owners face and should be dealt with in a mature responsible fashion. You may think giving your horse away to a 'good home' as a companion animal is the right thing to do. But really think about this; is this the best way to treat your horse that has given so much to you and is now in need of special care and consideration? Is removing him from his familiar home, buddies, and routine when he is elderly and unwell truly the best thing for the horse, or is it the easiest thing for you? Does sending him along to another home guarantee your horse a quality carefree retirement? Are you confident this new home has experienced people capable of caring for older horses in poor health? Will these new owners be able to financially and emotionally cope with the conditions that come with your aged and infirm horse? Do they have the experience necessary for looking after older or infirm horses? Are you passing along to someone else your responsibility and quite possibly jeopardizing your horses comfort and well being?

These are harsh questions and not easy for some horse owners to deal with, but your horse deserves the best and sometimes that means making the tough decisions. It means putting aside your emotions and taking charge of your horses needs.

Euthanasia done humanely is an option that you as a responsible and caring horse owner should not be afraid of. Talk to your veterinarian about euthanasia and prepare for end of life options for your horse.

Deciding to put down your horse in the midst of a crisis is difficult and can be emotionally overwhelming. It is a good idea, and in your horses best interest to pre plan. Knowing that you have decided that your horse is too old to have colic surgery makes it so much easier to do if became necessary. It is not uncommon, to have last minute changes of heart when the time comes. It just makes things a little easier to do having already put rational thought into preplanning. It is important to share your thoughts and decisions with anyone who is in charge of your horse if you were to be unavailable during a crisis. Waiting for you could cause undue pain and suffering for your horse. Always leave phone numbers and written permission for the caregiver stipulating what situations the caregiver should euthanize. An hour or two spent trying to get permission for a lifesaving procedure can mean the difference between life and death. If the horse is insured, permission may be needed from the carrier, so be sure that all this information is at hand.

Disposal of the Carcass

Burying the horse on the farm may violate zoning laws, so you must check beforehand. You will need heavy digging machinery to dig the grave. An old tradition from Thoroughbred racing is to bury the head, heart and hooves only, as these are the parts that make a great racehorse. There may be Pet Cemeteries or crematorium in your area that may accommodate your horse. If your horse has been autopsied at a veterinary hospital, it may be cremated for you. Often, the only option is to have the carcass rendered. Talk to your vet and see what arrangements are commonly made in your area. They will also be able to advice you about the removal of the carcass.

Coping with your decision, Guilt, Grief and Saying Goodbye

Knowing that you have made an informed and humane decision can be of great help. It is important to feel you have made the right decision. Family or friends can support you on this. Knowing that your horse is out of pain or no longer suffering can ease your burden and help you become at peace.

Guilt feelings are common. Could he have been saved, did I do the right thing, should I have spent the money? Talk to your vet, friends and family and realize that it was the best thing you could have done for your friend.

Ending the suffering is a final act of great compassion to give to your horse. When you own a horse, you not only take on the joys of ownership, but the sorrows as well. When to end their lives is the hardest sorrow, but a necessity. Remember that you are not alone and there are many other horse owners out there who you can talk to. Share your feelings.

Grief is natural and normal. The grieving process includes accepting the reality of your loss, accepting that the loss and accompanying feelings are painful and adjusting to them takes time. By understanding this you can be better prepared to

manage your grief and help family members who are sharing your loss. Check with your local library for books on dealing with pet loss and grief. There are many good titles for Children and Adults. Hospice societies and school counselors can be of assistance. Some people establish memorials for their horses. In the end it is a personal decision on how you want to honor your horse's memory.

HCBC Offers Fundraiser Opportunity to Clubs

Submitted by Lynda Eckstein, Receptionist

HCBC is offering all current club members the opportunity to raise money through our fundraiser program. *How?* By selling HCBC books to your club members and receiving a sales discount. The money saved in discounts will be retained by the club!

Here's how the fundraiser program works:

- The club appoints a representative to organize and facilitate the fundraiser
- The club representative contacts HCBC to order bookstore catalogues and an order form
- The club representative hosts a club meeting to distribute the catalogues, take book orders and payment.

Remember to deduct a 15% discount off the total sales before taxes if your order is under \$250 and a 20% discount off orders over \$250.

- Once the order form is complete mail it along with a cheque to the HCBC office Attention: Lynda Eckstein, Reception.
- HCBC will put together your book order and ship it out to the club representative so he/she can distribute the books to their club members.

For more information contact Lynda Eckstein, Receptionist, by emailing reception@hcbc.ca or calling 1-800-345-8055.

BC's Lauren Barwick Stars on Hit TV Series Heartland

Canada's double Paralympic medalist, Lauren Barwick will star in an upcoming episode of CBC's popular television show Heartland. The show is premiering on March 6th at 7 pm and is titled "*Never Surrender,*" and features Barwick, who won individual gold and silver medals at the 2008 Paralympics in Beijing.

Barwick's expertise is featured in the storyline which includes ex-rodeo star, Bryce, who was paralyzed during military service. Bryce (guest star Jesse Hutch) returns home and hires Amy Fleming (Amber Marshall) to help sell his roping horse, but she sees an opportunity to re-train both horse and rider. Amy needs both Ty (Graham Wardle) and Caleb's (Kerry James) help to convince this proud and emotionally damaged cowboy that he can recapture his love for riding despite his injury.



"Every day, I am surprised and thankful for the doors of opportunity that open up to me. I worked in the movie industry before I broke my back and I never really thought I would ever be involved again. Looking at how easy it would have been for Heartland to hire an actor to ride a horse around and pretend to be paralyzed made the experience of having me there even more special," said Barwick. "The whole cast was awesome, I loved being back in that environment even if it was just for one day."

For additional information on Heartland, please visit the official website at www.cbc.ca/heartland.

Upcoming Events

Spring Derby & Dinner Fundraiser

March 13, 2011

Location: Maple Ridge Equi-Centre

Entry Deadline: March 7, 2011

For more information contact Shawn Stephens by emailing shaweenstephens@gmail.com or call (604) 625-6608.

Horseman's Bazaar & Country Fair

March 20, 2011

Location: Thunderbird Show Park, Langley, BC

Contact: Norma Ph#604-789-0274 or email nsiebert@telus.net

For more information go online to www.bcqha.com/index.php/lmqha

Horse Council BC Annual General Meeting

March 26, 2011

Time: 1:11pm

Location: Best Western Regency Inn & Conference Centre, 32110 Marshall Road Abbotsford, BC

Contact Lisa Laycock, Executive Director, at 1-800-345-8055, ext #108 or email administration@hcbc.ca

2011 Horse Council BC Partnerships

Official Partners



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About Horse Council BC

Horse Council BC is a non-profit organization, governed by an independent Board of Directors, committed to representing the interests of our members and the equine industry. As one of the most successful multi-breed, multi-discipline equine organizations in Canada we represent the equine community in BC, by collaborating with individuals, businesses and industry professionals to strengthen communication, education, and safety.

Horse Council BC

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Aldergrove, BC
V4W 3N5

Phone: 604-856-4304 or 1-800-345-8055

Fax: 604-856-4302

www.hcbc.ca



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