



For Immediate Release

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Excellence in Equine Welfare Recognized

Two individuals involved with Saskatchewan's equine industry were acknowledged at the recent Saskatchewan Horse Federation Awards of Excellence luncheon held February 14, 2015 at the Saskatchewan Equine Expo in Saskatoon.

The recipients were chosen from nominations for the 'Awards of Distinction for Equine Welfare' presented by the Saskatchewan Horse Federation (SHF) and Farm & Food Care Saskatchewan (FFC SK).

"In partnership with Farm & Food Care Saskatchewan, we recognize those who stand out in demonstrating and promoting dedication to excellence in equine care," stated SHF Executive Director Krissy Fiddler.

"A focus of Farm & Food Care Saskatchewan is creating public trust with consumers. Horses are still often an integral part of farming in Saskatchewan. The Awards of Distinction for Equine Welfare help reinforce that farmers and ranchers care deeply about their animals," added Adele Buettner, FFC SK Executive Director.

The 2015 recipients, both in the category of **Equine Welfare Leadership**, are:

Bob Brickley from Kennedy, Saskatchewan is a farmer, community leader and animal welfare advocate. Bob has served as a board member for the Saskatchewan Equine Ranching Association, the North American Equine Ranching Information Council and the Farm Animal Council of Saskatchewan. During his tenure on those boards, significant changes to ensure equine welfare were implemented, with Bob leading by example throughout the process. On a local, provincial and national level, Bob has the respect of his peers as well as the respect of associations responsible for monitoring equine welfare in his industry.

Erin Mitchell of Battle River Ranch near Marsden, Saskatchewan is a dedicated horse owner who has very high standards of care for her horse herd. She is an equine enthusiast fully committed to her horses and their health. Known for her ability to teach others on how to provide high quality care to animals, Erin provides one-on-one support to those who want to learn and donates her time to heavy horse organizations, including the Saskatchewan Clydesdale Association and the Alberta Clydesdale Association, as well as to local horse clubs and horse shows.

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The Saskatchewan Horse Federation provides leadership and support for equine and equestrian organizations in the province and seeks to raise the standards of care and handling of all horses in Saskatchewan.

Farm & Food Care Saskatchewan, encompassing producer groups from livestock to crops and horticulture, serves to cultivate awareness and appreciation of agriculture in the province.