



July 2021 e-Newsletter

President's Message

2021 was a year of ups and downs – we start to see a decline in COVID cases, and vaccines are becoming readily available, just when we see the light at the end of the tunnel – it is covered by smoke and fires. The KRC has also not been immune to the same highs and lows.

We have a fresh new board; our membership is up 50% over last year's membership numbers, to a total of 130.

We continue to make the grounds safer for our members and their horses, and tackle repairs and damages that have been neglected for years. Board husbands have put in combined over 675 hours in the last 5 months to assess and address these issues. These men do this because they love their family and want to support in what they believe in.

YOUR CLUB Our social media has increased at an unheard-of level, from a post once a month on Facebook to multiple posts a day. We have 1.7k followers on FB and our website had 351 clicks during the first 21 days of July.

Through the board's creativity and efforts, we have managed to start healing our financial health, when the board took over on March 11th, we were sitting with less than \$3100 left in our account, while as I write this, we are sitting at approx. \$12000 with an outstanding debt on the tractor and on the portable stalls which we continue to eat away at. This is a nothing short of extra-ordinary considering we had a second wave of COVID restrictions hit us and suspend many of our planned activities.

Now you are thinking where is the low, well for me I see a great illness in the heart of our club. Almost a hereditary affliction has set deep in our blood stream, years of past damaged business and sponsor relationships, mistrust in those in trustworthy positions, lack of prior records and questions in finances and negative rumor after rumor. It has made our heart, which is our members, our volunteers take a deep 6 ft step back and wait to see if we are healthy before they step closer.

But it is our members and their skills, and time and ideas we need now. We hear that members want a h/j show still this year, we hear that there is interest in a driving clinic, we know there are so many children out there right now that parents are wanting to have them do something other than spend yet another summer inside and away from

people.

But our board cannot do this on their own, we need those members to come forward to assist with organizing and being the boots on the ground for these events. We cannot host an event to have only ¼ of the numbers of people that said that they would come show up.

The new board may be the life support that this facility needs, but it is YOU – You the member - that is our vaccine to a long strong future. If you're unsure how YOU can HELP, then it's a simple message... I want to help – where can I best help MY club. We have successful and amazing businesspeople and community members as club members - share your wealth of talents with us.

"If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself." – Henry Ford

KRC—Building A Future

The KRC Board team was fortunate to have KRC volunteer Ann McKinnon lead us in this complicated grant application.

The grant is through BC Gaming/Capital Grants (Sport). Over the past couple of months, we have gathered official records on the incorporation of the KRC Society, the BC Assessment of the property, 2020 and 2021 budget year details, letters of support from the City of Kelowna, and community members, and much more.

The Board has now received a generous donation from Mac MacCormack of detailed architect's drawings for a series of barns at the back of the property, wash racks, and a traffic plan. Then to build on that, we have received multiple quotes for labour and materials required by the grant to estimate the costs. The long-term plan incorporates a series of 5 buildings and 60 stalls.

We plan to phase in the fundraising and building of the project over multiple years, strengthening KRC's facilities to become a key destination for future shows and events. This grant application requires matching funds. We are using the donations of fill truckloads to allow us to apply for \$80,000 in money.

If we receive the grant, this will pay for one 12-stall barn, or perhaps pay for two barns if we receive enough community sponsorship plus some volunteer labour. If and when we are able to build two barns, that will replace the 24 stalls of the old Hunter Barn.

The additional great news is that the Globe and Mail just reported on July 15 "**Lumber prices crash 70 percent from record highs**" which will help our money go further! The grant will be announced in September, so if we receive funding, we could potentially start in the fall if weather, COVID, and contractor availability all fall into place.

Otherwise, we would start building in spring, 2022. KRC can apply again to this funding source

next year, whether we receive the grant or not this year. Others continue to work on fundraising from other community sources, and we are hopeful that we can proceed with the plan this year or spring of next year. Attached are the drawings of the barn designs.

Please note: “ The innovative butterfly roof design directs rainwater so that it doesn’t drip onto your tack box and hay in front of your stall, as well as creating cooler air flow on hot days.”

If you would like to check out the designs on our page, then [CLICK THIS LINK](#) and go directly to our page that has the designs!

Emergency Evacuation:

During fire season the KRC stalls may be used for emergency short-term stays. [KRC Evacuation Stay Form](#)

The following KRC Boarding & Training Facilities sponsors are willing to help house Evacuated horses if at the time of need they have space available.

Please note that these are all boarding and training barns and will require vaccination records for all horses. Please be sure to organize these records and keep them handy should you need to move quickly. If you have misplaced them now is the time to call your Vet and get those records sent to you.

[The Barn](#)
[Betker Horse Park](#)
[Spirit Ridge Equestrian](#)

KRC Evacuation Stay Form: <https://kelownaridingclub.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/KRC-Evacuation-Stay-Form.docx>

The Barn link: <https://kelownaridingclub.ca/the-barn-equestrian-center>
Betker Horse Park: <http://facebook.com/betkerhorsepark/>
Spirit Ridge Equestrian: <https://www.spiritrec.com/>



KRC Kids Camps July 26—29 and August 23—26

Both camps will now be held in the indoor arena at Spirit Ridge Equestrian due to the extreme heat we have been experiencing this summer. All proceeds from both camps will go to the KRC Kids don't forget the Name the Pony Contest To enter: Send us your favorite name and why you think we should select your name to [Amy](#)