

Whom It May Concern:

Hello! We are the Mackenzie Alpine Riders Horse Club. We became a registered non-profit organization in April of 1986. We are the only facility that allows horses in the Mackenzie area unless you own your own property. We sublease from the District of Mackenzie which, in turn, leases from Crown on one side and BCR (BC Transportation Financing Authority) on the other.

Our main source of income comes from our paddock, hydro, and water pump fees as well as any donations we receive from our never-ending manure supply.

We strive to share our love and knowledge of equines with our members and the community of Mackenzie and outlying areas. In the past, we have had riding clinics, kid's camps, and even the occasional barn dance. We have taken part in parades and brought horses to organized events for horseback rides for kids of all ages! Over the years we have seen young children come down to Club property that are now bringing their children and grandchildren to see the horses. It is an opportunity that is not readily available to citizens in larger communities.

At one time, we had a very robust number of members and their horses. The demand for barns and paddocks exceeded the number that we had to offer. We had to expand onto the BCR side of the property and built barns and paddocks in an area that had been used for pasture.

However, the downturn of the economy of Mackenzie with the mill closures in 2019 and 2020 had a direct effect on our membership and equine numbers and, sadly, it shows. There are a number of barns and paddocks sitting empty and in disrepair and the Club property could use some tender loving care!

The members that remain are a group of hard working, equine loving individuals but there is only so much they can do!

We have been approached by members of the public stating that they are not interested in obtaining a horse but would love to have other animals, instead. That is why, at this time, we are asking the District's permission to open the doors and allow other livestock onto Club property.

There would be very strict rules and regulations put in place in regard to proper fencing and shelters before any animals come onto Club property and would have to be approved and overseen by the Executive. We would have to follow all guidelines for the proper care and safety of said livestock according to SPCA, agricultural, and the District's rules,

regulations, and stipulations. We will not and cannot allow any infractions. Any violators will be promptly evicted!

We are hoping to open it up to cows, pigs, goats, sheep, rabbits, and assorted fowl (chickens, ducks, geese, and maybe pheasants). There will be no breeding, slaughtering, or butchering of livestock allowed on Club property. The number of said livestock per paddock will have to be determined as time and circumstance allow in a case by case scenario.

We realize that we are asking a lot from the District and that this would be a huge experimental undertaking. However, we feel that this endeavour would increase our membership numbers, become more accessible to members of the community, and possibly open us up to the possibility of 4-H for the children. Overall, the Mackenzie Alpine Riders Horse Club could help contribute to the sustainability of the community,

We thank you for your consideration of this matter and hope to hear your opinion as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Mackenzie Alpine Riders Horse Club