

April Membership Update

As the restrictions in Alberta with Mass Gatherings continue, the CRE buildings and grounds will be closed to all public until further notice. The health and safety of our employees, event organizers and guests are our number one priority. As you may have seen, the decision to postpone BVJ until 2021 was announced. We are devastated that Big Valley Jamboree and all our friends and family won't be returning this August.

The financial impact of COVID-19 to the CRE through lost revenues and bookings is substantial. CRE has been working on multiple financial projections and making the necessary steps to survive a long-term (10 months or more) impact to revenues. Cost control measures are firmly in place through spending, utilities and maintenance. Unfortunately, CRE was faced with making difficult decisions regarding staffing this month. These decisions are never easy and the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors along with the Executive Director did a comprehensive staffing analysis of what will be required to survive the shutdown of business and return to business gradually when we are able. CRE laid off 5 full time positions as a result of this analysis including Sales, Event Coordination, and Operations

All CRE internally produced events that were planned for the spring and summer of 2020 have now been put on hold. We applaud the Alberta Government's relaunch strategy and will monitor closely the guidelines on Mass Gatherings for an anticipated restart of business.

The CRE RV Campground is now open to long-term guests only. We are monitoring updates from the Ministry of Parks and working with our partners at AHS and the City of Camrose. If the restrictions put in place by AHS or the City of Camrose change, we will update our policies at that time.

CRE is hosting an online Agriculture Photo Contest through CRE social media until the end of May. Post an agriculture photo on Twitter, Facebook, or Instagram and use the hashtag #AgHappensHere and tag the Camrose Regional Exhibition to be entered. The winner will receive CRE swag, locally roasted coffee, and grocery gift cards. Please spread the word and let your friends know about the contest! You can search the hashtag and 'like' photos to vote for your favorite photo entries!

CRE has partnered with the Food Artisans of Camrose County to provide a space for local food producers to get products to customers. Products must be pre-ordered/paid before the pick-up that takes place on Thursdays from 1PM-3PM at the CRE parking lot. Customers stay in their vehicle and drive up to the producers who they have placed orders with. The link below is the listing of participating food producers, it is updated every week. CRE is delighted to partner with the Food Artisans of Camrose County and make IT happen here! Check out the listing to find delicious food and support our local producers!

<https://camrosecounty.civicweb.net/filepro/document/116610/Food%20Artisans%20Curbside%20FINA L.pdf>

Thank you for being a part of CRE membership. We hope you are all safe, healthy and practicing physically distancing. As always, please contact us if you have any questions. The office can be reached at 780-672-3640 or cre@cre.ab.ca. Check the CRE website for more details to be announced soon!