



Membership Update – February 2021

Hello CRE Members! We hope you had a wonderful February.

We are delighted to welcome two new board members this month. Debbie Schielke and Blaine Heck have joined the board. Both of them are great additions to the team and we look forward to their involvement! We also have new CRE members to welcome! Thank you for your support and involvement in this organization. CRE recognizes the importance of a strong membership as we move forward. We encourage all of you to reach out to your networks to those you believe would be great members. If you have any questions about the benefits you receive as a member, we are always here to answer them for you!

CRE remains under restrictions, however CRE has obtained approval from Alberta Health Services to run at 15% capacity of fire codes. With that approval we were able to go ahead with cattle sale bookings. With extra precautions at each event, we were excited that our clients were able to go ahead with their sales! We have tentative bookings for smaller events through to the end of May.

As part of our strategic objectives, CRE is hosting a free community event once a month. February's FREE-R-E event was the Virtual Open Mic Night. We were so delighted to have the community attend this online. The Virtual Open Mic is an event that can easily be converted to an in-person event once restrictions allow.

Have you listened to the latest episode of the Rural Opportunities Podcast? The latest episode features three ladies from Young Agrarians. In this episode they talk about younger generations getting in to farming, services that Young Agrarians offers, how Covid has affected the local food market, and more! You can listen to the episode here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vK1ow8cu1_E

In February CRE received the amazing news of sustained funding from Alberta Agriculture for the next two years! This news gives us hope at meeting our budget goals for this year. We are thankful to Alberta Agriculture for providing this and continue to work closely with them. CRE continues to operate on a lean budget through 2021. Our small but mighty team has been excellent at reducing expenses while still providing great service. The board is currently looking at all funding options that will help CRE get back to a fully reopened position. Updates on funding will be given once decisions are made.

Thank you for being part of the CRE Membership! We look forward to updating you on our progress monthly Please do not hesitate to contact the CRE team directly via phone 780-672-3640 or via email at cre@cre.ab.ca. Happy St. Patrick's Day!