

Track Watch

JULY 2026



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OFFICE@MRAS-TRACK.COM



(403) 931-3411



WWW.MILLARVILLERACETRACK.COM



OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY- FRIDAY 9:00AM - 4:00PM

SATURDAY- 8:00AM - 3:00PM

OUR VISION

MILLARVILLE RACING AND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY IS DEDICATED TO BUILDING COMMUNITY SPIRIT.

OUR MISSION

MILLARVILLE RACING AND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY PROVIDES AUTHENTIC FAMILY EXPERIENCES AND EXCEPTIONAL FACILITIES WHICH CELEBRATE OUR AGRICULTURAL HERITAGE, INSPIRING A SENSE OF BELONGING FOR THE COMMUNITY.

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PRESIDENT'S *Message*

Happy Birthday, Canada!



Natasha Phillipson
MRAS President

With summer now upon us, the grounds at Millarville Racing & Agricultural Society are alive, thriving, and welcoming all.

Our event season is already well underway, and what an incredible start it has been. We have proudly supported a wide variety of community events, including our inaugural Medieval Fair, the Branch Out Neurologic Foundation Bike Tour, the return of the Millarville Half Marathon Run to the Market, our first major Farmers' Market of the season, weddings, KinFest Music Festival, Equine clinics, community celebrations, and many other gatherings that bring people together on our grounds. Our campgrounds are seeing many visitors too. Rain or shine, fun is being had by all.

As we prepare for our 121st Canada Day Races, there is a tremendous sense of energy and excitement across the grounds. Our team is now at a full complement of staff, including a fantastic group of summer students who have joined us for what is always our busiest and most vibrant season. They are eager to meet our members, guests, volunteers, and community partners, and we encourage you to say hello when you visit.

None of what happens here would be possible without the dedication of our volunteers and members. Year after year, you give your time, talents, and enthusiasm to help make this organization what it is. Whether you volunteer at an event, support a committee, lend a hand behind the scenes, or simply attend and encourage our activities, you are helping to build something truly special. On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff, thank you for everything you do.

We would also like to recognize the many sponsors who support our events throughout the year, and especially our Canada Day Races. Their generosity helps us deliver a first-class experience for thousands of visitors and ensures that this cherished tradition continues to thrive for future generations.

As you visit the grounds this summer, take a moment to enjoy the beautiful flowers and landscaping that have once again been lovingly prepared by our dedicated horticulture volunteers. Their hard work and attention to detail help make the grounds a welcoming place for everyone.

The spirit of community is everywhere you look this time of year. From volunteers planting flowers and setting up events, to staff preparing the grounds, to vendors, sponsors, competitors, performers, and visitors; each person plays a role in making this place special. Together, we are creating memories, celebrating traditions, and building a stronger community for generations to come.

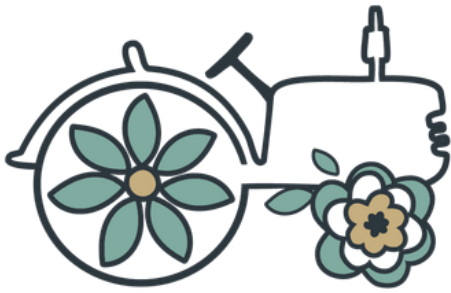
Whether you are joining us for the races, the Farmers' Market, a concert, a wedding, or one of the many events still to come, we invite you to make yourself at home. Better yet, consider becoming a volunteer and becoming part of the team that helps make the magic happen.

Thank you for being part of our community. We wish you and your family a wonderful summer and a very

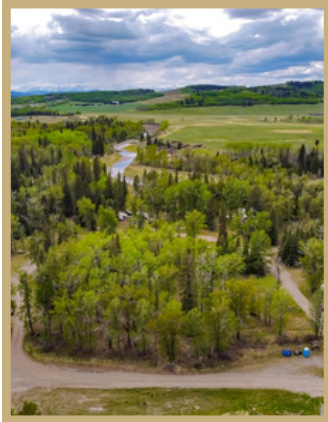
Happy Canada Day.
See you at the races!

With appreciation -
Natasha Phillipson
President MRAS

We would love to hear from you, please reach out
feedback@mras-track.com



2026 MRAS Event Dates



Campground Open

Now - October 12

Millarville Farmers' Market

Every Saturday now - October
10



121st Millarville Races

July 1

Tickets on Sale Now

119th Priddis & Millarville Fair

August 15 - 16



Halloween Howl

Saturday October 24



Millarville Christmas Market

November 5-8 and 12-15



A promotional poster for the Millarville Races Canada Day event. The background is a photograph of a horse race in progress, with two horses and jockeys in the foreground and a large crowd in the stands. At the top, there is a logo featuring a red maple leaf with a black silhouette of a horse and jockey. Below the logo, the text 'EST. 1905' is displayed. The main title 'MILLARVILLE RACES' is in large, white, serif capital letters. Below the title, there is a yellow starburst graphic. The event details are listed at the bottom: 'CANADA DAY JULY 1' in large white letters, with '121 YEARS' in a yellow banner below it. Ticket information is provided on the left and right sides. On the left, it says 'ONLINE ADVANCE TICKETS \$19.05 +GST', 'AGE 12 & UNDER - FREE', and 'TICKETS AT DOOR \$25'. On the right, it says 'V.I.P TENT \$120 | \$25', 'ADULT | KIDS', and 'GST INCLUDED'. At the bottom left, the website 'millarvilleracetrack.com' is listed with Facebook and Instagram icons. At the bottom right, it says 'TICKETS SOLD ONLINE' next to a QR code.

EST. 1905

MILLARVILLE RACES

CANADA DAY
JULY 1
121 YEARS

ONLINE ADVANCE TICKETS
\$19.05 +GST
AGE 12 & UNDER - FREE
TICKETS AT DOOR **\$25**

V.I.P TENT
\$120 | **\$25**
ADULT | KIDS
GST INCLUDED

millarvilleracetrack.com   TICKETS SOLD ONLINE 

GENERAL ADMISSION TICKETS ARE STILL AVAILABLE

Purchase Tickets online through [Showpass](#) or for \$25 at the Gate on Race Day

Gates Open at 10:00am

Farmers' Market

Beer Garden Open at 11:00am

Race Festivities begin at Noon

VIP TICKETS SOLD OUT

MILLARVILLE GENERAL STORE

100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Mark your calendars July 25th & 26th

Come help us celebrate 100 years Millarville General Store

SATURDAY & SUNDAY WILL BE PACKED WITH FUN,
GOOD FOOD AND GREAT COMPANY WITH A FEW
SURPRISES ALONG THE WAY





THE FAIR BOOK IS HERE!

A limited number of printed Fair Books are available in the MRAS Office, Millarville General Store and Priddis General Store. The Fair Book is also available [online](#) and contains all the information about the Fair:

- Guidelines & timelines for exhibitors
- Exhibit classes and entry forms
- Exhibit entry fees and prize payouts
- Attractions
- Lots of photos

Fair weekend is full of animals to see, attractions, make & take activities, Farmers' Market vendors, food trucks, demonstrations, and of course the favourites:

- Antique Auto & Engine Displays
- Antique Tractor Pull Competition
- Birds of Prey
- Honey Bees
- Horse Costume Competition
- Pie Eating Competition
- Pie & Quilt Auction
- Salt Lick Display
- Stock Dogs in Action
- Watermelon Eating Competition

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We are searching for an energetic, organized person to take on the role of Chairperson for the Priddis & Millarville Fair. This is the ideal time to learn about how the Fair runs behind the scenes and meet the incredible volunteer organizing committee who make this a golden opportunity to meet people and contribute to a valued community tradition - and have FUN. The right person for the role needs to be skilled in:

- Project management or project planning
- Creative problem solving
- Active listening skills and strong verbal and written communication
- Solid foundation in Microsoft Office

We need able bodies to help with Fair setup including putting flooring in the arena, erecting tents, moving tables and chairs, hanging signs. Setup starts Sunday August 8 to Thursday August 13.

For more information or questions, please reach out to fair@millarvilleracetrack.com.

Important Dates for Exhibitors

Aug 7 - Final day to register exhibits

Aug 13 & 14 - Bench Exhibit Drop-off

Aug 14 - Bench Exhibit Judging

Aug 15 - Poultry Show, Sheep Show, English Horse Show, Horse Costume,

Aug 16 - Poultry Show, Cattle Show, Goat Show, Western Horse Show, Gymkhana



Summer Events at the Racetrack



IN ADDITION TO THE MRAS EVENTS, THERE ARE MANY
REASONS TO VISIT THE RACETRACK

Okotoks Pro Rodeo - August 21-23

<https://okotoksprorodeo.com/>

Open Air Ukrainian Festival - September 4-6

Kidney March - September 11

<https://kidneymarch.ca/>

Canadian Vintage Motorcycle Swap Meet- September 20

<https://cvmg.ca/event-6624166>

MILLARVILLE RACING & AG SOCIETY

IS LOOKING FOR NEW VOLUNTEER

BOARD MEMBERS

IF INTERESTED PLEASE CONTACT

NATASHA PHILLIPSON

AT

president@mras-track.com

2025-2026 MRAS GENERAL MEMBERSHIPS



FAMILY \$50

INDIVIDUAL \$40

SENIOR \$30

STUDENT \$30

BENEFITS OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP:

- Free Admission to *MRAS Hosted Events* (*Canada Day Races & Christmas Market*)
- 10% discount on Campground bookings
- Access to our indoor arena and seasonal outdoor riding facilities with the purchase of a riding membership
- Event committee participation
- Eligibility to vote at MRAS AGM & in MRAS Committee meetings
- Connection with neighbours, friends and our community



GO TO:

<https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/membership/>

MRAS EQUINE NEWS

July 2026



The volunteer members of the MRAS Equine Committee are working hard to bring a variety of clinics and activities to the MRAS riding membership and equine community.

KIDS & ADULT RIDING LESSONS

With Danielle Bartlett 

Friday evenings: July 3 & 10

Danielle is a certified Equestrian Instructor and holds a Licensed Coach Certification with Equestrian Canada. She has an excellent ability to communicate with all levels of riders to reach their goals. She has a background in reining, working with young horses and showing.

Cost:	Current 2025/26 MRAS Riding Members	\$65.00/lesson OR \$130.00 for both dates
	Non-riding Members	\$75.00/lesson OR \$150.00 for both dates

Any questions, please contact: lynnbrunton@gmail.com

LINDY BARRON WEEKLY LESSON SERIES

Thursday morning: July 9th

These lessons are designed for the more experienced rider and horse. They have a reining foundation therefore exercises and instruction will be based on improving reining and ranch riding skills and will have a degree of difficulty.

Cost:	Current 2025/26 MRAS Riding Members	\$272.00
	Non-riding Members	\$310.00

To register or with any questions contact lynnbrunton@gmail.com

AQHA PATTERN PRACTICE

Sunday, July 5th

This is a great opportunity to have some fun and challenge your skills riding AQHA Ranch Ride Patterns. The day starts with Rail Work and then moves on to the AQHA Pattern that is chosen for the day. Depending on the complexity of the pattern two patterns may be ridden in a day. For best success and fit for this program you should be comfortable at all gaits including a lope. Horses must be good in a group of horses.

To register or for more information contact lynnbrunton@gmail.com. Payment can be sent once you have confirmation you have a spot.

Cost:	Current 2025/26 MRAS Riding Members	\$20.00
	Non-Riding Members	\$30.00

Interest may be expressed before the priority registration time for members is up. A list will be created in order of interest for available spots.

MRAS Activity Coordinator - [Lynn Brunton](mailto:lynnbrunton@gmail.com) 403-651-4301

MRAS EQUINE NEWS continued



This is a non-refundable program. No substitutions without consent of the coordinator.

TENTATIVE 2026 NEXT DATES: AUGUST 2, SEPT 13 & OCT 4

Registration will open a few weeks before, watch for the email.

EASE OF HANDLING (EOH) OBSTACLES PRACTICE

Sunday, July 19th

Morning and Afternoon Groups

Working Equitation is a growing sport in the horse world for both western and english riders. Typically Ease of Handling is Day 2 of any multi-day Working Equitation competition. If you are already competing and need some more practice time or are interested in trying something new, please join us.

An EOH course will be set up (10-11 obstacles), participants will have practice time and then an opportunity to ride the course as you would in a show.

Cost: Current 2025/26 MRAS Riding Members \$30.00

Non-riding Members \$40.00

This is a non-refundable program.

Questions or to register contact: nseaman002@gmail.com

KIDS SUMMER RIDING CAMP, AUGUST 4 - 6

August 4th & 5th 9:30 am to 3:00 pm

August 6th 9:30 am to 12:30 pm

If your child has a horse this is a perfect place for them to spend some time with their horse and other kids having fun and learning. There will be a riding lesson with Danielle Bartlett on two of the days. The third day is a fun ride and will be outside. Crafts, games, grooming and decorating, ranch riding, patterns, showmanship and more! Kids must have their own horse. It is required that an adult stay while their child is riding. Children must be riding independently and unassisted and their horse must be good in a group with other horses. Best suited for ages 6 to 12

August 4 & 5 will be an indoor arena ride. August 6th will be outside and subject to weather. Please know when registering there will not be any refund if August 6 is cancelled due to weather.

Cost: Current 2025/26 MRAS Riding Members \$180.00

Non-Riding Members \$200.00

Any questions or to register please contact: lynnbrunton@gmail.com

Clinic and Lesson Series Cancellation Policy (unless otherwise stated):

MRAS cannot guarantee your spot will be filled in the event of cancellation; however, every attempt will be made to do so. Should your spot be filled, a refund will be issued less a 15% administration fee. If your spot cannot be filled, the full amount will be forfeited. Substitutions may be allowed; the Clinic Coordinator must be consulted and approve the substitution. MRAS will not be responsible for facilitating payments from a substitute.

For more information about the activities and lessons listed and to see what is available, check the website regularly at:

www.millarvilleracetrack.com Equine tab under Upcoming Events.

EQUINE MEMBERSHIPS



2025 - 26 MEMBERSHIP PLANS

ANNUAL*

NOVEMBER – OCTOBER

FAMILY \$475

(ADDITIONAL DEPENDENT \$70)

INDIVIDUAL \$325

All year access to
Indoor Riding Arena
and Seasonal Outdoor
Rings

SEASONAL*

NOV– APR OR MAY– OCT

FAMILY \$350

(ADDITIONAL DEPENDENT \$50)

INDIVIDUAL \$225

For your Seasonal
Riding needs.

*All Equine membership plans
require a General MRAS membership

📞 403-931-3411

🌐 mras.getcommunal.com/memberships

**Renew your Seasonal Membership Now and Take
Advantage of the Outdoor Sand Ring**

MRAS LIFE MEMBERSHIP PROCESS & CRITERIA



The purpose of a life membership is to honor our volunteers who have gone above and beyond for the betterment of MRAS. In this way, we hope to preserve and perpetuate the historical heritage of the society.

The following is the process for nominating a life member, reviewing the nomination and awarding a life membership.

1. Nominations for life membership must be submitted to the Millarville Historical Society (MHS) by August 15 of the current year.
2. A nomination letter for lifetime membership is put forward to the MHS from someone who knows the nominee well and believes they are worthy of becoming a life member. Nominations should be in the form of a letter or email and should be supported by additional letters of reference.
3. The MHS, with support from the historical Board liaison, reviews the nomination to ensure the individual meets the criteria and is deserving of lifetime member status.
4. The MHS contacts the nominee to obtain written agreement for the nomination prior to submission to the Board for approval.
5. Once agreement to the nomination is received from the nominee, all the criteria have been met. The MHS submits a letter or e-mail, along with any additional information the MHS deems necessary, to the Board requesting the person be given the honour of life member status.
6. The Board reviews the application and requests additional information or clarifications as it deems necessary. Once all questions are answered, the Board either accepts or denies the application. The historical Board liaison notifies the MHS of the Board's decision.
7. The MHS notifies the nominee and nominator of the Board's decision.
8. The nominee is honored at the next Volunteer Appreciation Night with a copy of the nomination letter, a congratulatory letter from the MRAS President, a framed certificate and life member pin.
9. An article honoring the new life member, provided by the MHS, is posted in Track Watch that includes biographical information and a photo provided by the new life member.

Exceptions

With Board acceptance, there have been exceptions made to the life membership criteria. Each case is reviewed on an individual basis and final Board acceptance is required for all exceptions.

Criteria

1. A holder of a paid MRAS general membership for a cumulative total of a minimum of 10 years
2. Accumulation of 50 or more volunteer points as per point system
3. Any meritorious person at the discretion of the MHS

Point System

President of Main Board - 5 points
Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary - 5 points
Board Member - 4 points
Board members volunteering on sub-committees - 1 point/sub-committee
Event Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer - 3 points
Event Section Manager - 2 points
Volunteer per MRAS Activity - 1 point

Notes:

The above criteria were approved by the Main Board and advised the Millarville Historical Society of their decision in March 2015.

Amendment for nomination date and additional discretion of the Board effective July 2018.

Amendment to membership criteria and removal of age requirement effective October 2021.



MILLARVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Celebrating the Millarville Races

by Lorretta Stabler - Millarville Historical Society President

Millarville's first Race Meet began June 23, 1905 as a result of planning by Sam Kieran, Charles Kerr, W.H. Cochrane, Tom Phillips and other racing enthusiasts who realized the important role of the sport of Kings in the life of the west". Raymond De Malherbe offered the use of his land as a site for the race track, a rent-free agreement for 35 years. Later the racing committee purchased the land, then owned by Louis Durand. Only war, weather, and covid pandemic (2020 & 2021) have interrupted the Millarville Races since 1905.

This event has always been about local ranchers who wanted to see whose horse was the fastest. The horses raced on a grass track without an inside rail the track was just marked by flags. After that, a formal sand track was built, inside rails installed, and later outside railings were added. In earlier years, it was referred to as the Millarville Race Meet and Sports Day featuring up to 13 races. In 1908, the racing executive asked the Okotok's mayor to declare a civic holiday and a band was hired for the turf program.



Penny Ridge (Hervey) winning the third women's race, 1939

The last all women's race was in 1941, due to the lack of women jockeys. The officials then ruled that women could now compete against men as jockeys. Mixed races were a first for Millarville in the circuit of recognized Canadian Race Meets".

The first fall Race, 1911, was the beginning of pari-mutual betting and the pari-mutuals returned \$13.50 to the club that year. In 1951, the pari-mutuals were conducted under government regulations and the Millarville Races were officially recognized on the Department of Agriculture's list of Canada's leading race centres.

In 1967, Millarville Races Celebrated Canada's Centennial with horse racing and sports events including flat races (different age groupings for children), 100-yard dash for men/women, high jump for boys/girls and adults, and shot put. Prize money ranged from \$.25 to \$12.00, depending on the age, event, and placing in the sport event. Through the years, other events included three-legged races, sack race, crab race and tug-o-war. These events continue to be exciting events in the midfield in between horse races.

Up to this time, Millarville Races had some very unique features: no salaried officials, only \$2.00 win and place bets allowed, the tote board consisted of chalk and a blackboard listing only approximate odds, women could not compete against men as jockeys, a horse was allowed to run in more than one race during the day, jockeys could mix with the crowds, weigh-ins were on a bathroom scale and there were no photo finishes or saliva tests.

What has changed since then? There are several pari-mutual betting areas and betters can choose several options such as: win, place, show, and feature pools (exactor, quinella, and triactor). There are no \$\$ limits for betting. United Tote Canada provides the tote services, betting machines, terminal tote boards, equipment, and video monitors all around the grounds. These electronic tote boards show instantaneous odds, indicate scratches, show winners and payouts. Races are videoed so photo finishes can be shown and race replays can be enjoyed after the races. Horse Race Alberta supplies personal for the races: two stewards in the judging stands who time each race and a starter who starts each race from the starting gate. Horse Race Alberta (HRA) supplies a camera in the judge's stand (providing photo finishes) and this organization gives a grant to support the purse money and upgrade the track. Woman and men jockeys often ride in more than one race and winning jockeys are weighed in on a legal scale after the race. Horses can run in only one race, do not a saliva test, and there is a vet attendant who takes blood samples for possible further testing on winning horses after the race. Horses from the USA are now allowed to race.



In the early 80's, the Stock Horse Race was revitalized. Contestants must live in the MD, be at least 18 years old, ride in a western stock saddle, and own the horse they are racing. The winner gets a buckle and bragging rights until the next year. One local contestant, Randy Fisher won the first two modern day Stock Horse Races. Randy had been an outrider for the Stampede Chuckwagon Races for 18 years, broke and trained thoroughbred horses and running a ½ mile race was just right for them. "It felt great to leave the other horses and jockeys in my dust." Horse racing was in his blood as the whole family was involved in raising race horses. His uncle Howie Kingston trained horses in Vancouver and his cousin Robert Kingston still trains horses in Edmonton.

Read more historical articles in our Facebook Group - Millarville Historical Society or email us millarvillehistoricalsociety@gmail.com if you have photos, information, or questions.

Check out our website: millarvillehistoricalsociety.ca



MILLARVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Celebrating the Millarville Races
by Lorretta Stabler - Millarville Historical Society President



Randy is one of those incredible volunteers, who started participating on Race Day as a contestant and then took on other duties such as patrolling the track for many years catching run aways. Now Randy is the MRAS Race Manager, as liaison between MRAS and Horse Racing Alberta. After the race meet is done, it's gratifying to know that he's been a part of this, along with the incredible hard-working team of volunteers. It requires hundreds of volunteer hours and preparation to get ready for this yearly event. Randy's glad to continue contributing his "bit".



Since 2005, Women's Side Saddle has been a feature race; a cup is awarded to the winner. This began as a trotting race and now has emerged into a full-fledged race, a real crowd pleaser.

Another interesting feature was the Packhorse Race started in 2013. Newest additions include Weiner dog Races and Indian Relay Races, both very popular!

The Millarville Derby is the last race of the day and is the longest race as it is 1 1/8 mile long, racing in front of the grandstand three times. It gives out the biggest purse, usually a \$10,000 purse. Other shorter races would usually have a \$5,000 purse.

Another change is how the concession operates. For many years the concession was a community volunteer operated venue and neighbours volunteered, serving hamburgers, french fries, ice cream, pop, and candy. Now the concession is a commercially operated concession, yearly tendered. As well, the VIP tent has undergone many changes through the years and recently has become more sophisticated, inviting participants to dress elegantly and experience a "Derby Western" atmosphere.

Every year on Canada Day, spectators can admire the fine horses, the color and excitement of horse racing (betting if they so choose), cheer on participants in kid's races, and experience the friendliness of a country event. This exciting event requires a large contingent of volunteers, and is truly a community effort.



"There's nothing like the thrill of having your horse cross the finish line first, whether you are the jockey, race horse owner, or person betting!"

Photo Courtesy
www.goldentales.ca/millarvilleraces

Read more historical articles in our Facebook Group - Millarville Historical Society or email us millarvillehistoricalsociety@gmail.com if you have photos, information, or questions.

Check out our website: millarvillehistoricalsociety.ca

SHEEP CREEK WEAVERS



Our Story

'Our Story' was created to celebrate and honour the past and present while looking towards the future. Five women from the Millarville, Turner Valley, and Black Diamond areas started meeting in 1974 to preserve the crafts of weaving and spinning. By June of 1976 that group was growing and registered as the Sheep Creek Weavers Society. 'Our Story', created by the Sheep Creek Weavers spinning and weaving groups, contains 52 hand-spun and handwoven blocks to represent the guild's past and present. Emanating from the spinning wheel, woven rays are anchored around it, growing and radiating from the centre to represent the community of fibre artists that the guild now embraces. The yarns are hand-spun from natural, or hand-dyed fleece, or commercial rovings which reflect the colours of the landscape around Millarville. The hand-spun yarns were woven into fabric, cut and combined into the mosaic pattern for the banner. The texture of the hand-spun yarn adds dimension that contrasts the plain weave structure, creating a beautiful dynamic surface. The border was hand-woven from commercial yarn for the evenness required to frame the assembled piece. This piece is inspired by the women who began the Sheep Creek Weavers (SCW) and honours their legacy while showcasing the talent and efforts of our current members.





Millarville Horticultural Club (millarvillehorticulturalclub@gmail.com) or <http://millarvillehortclub.com/>

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month , September to May at 7 pm.

The meetings are held at the Millarville Anglican Church House on Hwy 549 East

Friday July 10 at 6 pm, please bring cut flowers to the Millarville Anglican Church to decorate the headstones. If you have flower arrangements to put in the church with dedications, please bring them. Saturday and Sunday July 11th and 12th is the Millarville Anglican Church flower festival. There is always a delicious tea offered on the Saturday. Details to follow.

Saturday and Sunday August 15th and 16th is the Priddis Millarville Fair. Entry deadline is August 7th . The fair book is available online and in local businesses. Lots of classes to enter. Woodworking, horticulture, baking, honey, fibre arts and crafts, horses, and much more! Check it out. The Millarville Horticultural Club has sponsored special classes to celebrate our 50th anniversary with added money and club memberships for prizes. Please check the fair book online to see the special classes.

The founding of the Millarville Horticultural Club began at a public meeting at the Race Track Hall on April 21st, 1976.

Dave Zukerman, District Agriculturalist, and Arleen Cheney, Horticulturalist with Alberta Department of Agriculture were present to guide the procedure of setting up a club, with by-laws, and a planned program. They also explained the benefits of joining the Alberta Horticulture Society.

The first meeting drew 20 enthusiastic community members, some of whom are still with us 50 years later!

Dorothy Jackson.	Linda Bull
Grace Bull	Inez Schofield
Dessa Macklin	Norma Lyall
Betty Nelson	Alec Lyall
Pearl Laycraft	Jon Lowry
Theresa Patterson	Bill Jackson
Janet Mackay	Anne Vale
JoAnn Jackson	Patty Webb
Sandra Bull	Nancy Laskin
Susan McPherson	Julie Boulton

From the very first meetings, the Hort Club has pursued an ambitious program of garden tours, demonstrations by members at meetings, a Plant Sale Fundraiser, numerous door prizes, and a high degree of interest in all things gardening.

Grace Bull served as pro-term president, and Dorothy Jackson as secretary until the first AGM in November of 1976, when the first executive was elected.

President-	Linda Bull
Vice President-	JoAnn Jackson
Past President-	Grace Bull
Sec Treasurer -	Judy Williams
Director -	Mary Poffenroth
Chairman Plant Sale -	Veryl Laycraft, with Betty Nelson and Norma Lyall
Chairman Education -	Jon Lowry, with Patty Webb, Dorothy Jackson and Eileen Jameson
Chairman Tours -	Anne Vale, with John Weir

In 1976, the club hosted not one but three garden tours organized by Anne Vale.

1. Vic Hansen's Nursery, Theresa and Art Patterson's large vegetable and flower gardens, Dessa and Hugh Macklin's, and Mary Dover's.
2. Vale's Greenhouses in Black Diamond and her long English Cucumbers, and then to the gardens of Mitchells, Nitschkys, Ironsides, Gallaghers, Rishaug, and Betty and Leonard Nelson.
3. Bus trip to the Brooks Research Centre for their annual Field Day. 38 people attended.

New members always welcome at our upcoming meetings

If you are interested in attending any of our presentations, please contact Louise Patterson Bruns (our new President) at louisepattersonbruns@gmail.com or at millarvillehorticulturalclub@gmail.com. Whether you are a novice or expert in landscaping or gardening, join our club; \$15/year for singles or \$20/year for a family. Check us out on Facebook as well.



Christ Church Millarville Ladies Guild

invites you to

Flower Festival

Strawberry Tea

Scones, Homemade Strawberry Jam & Whipped Cream

July 11, 2026 - 11 AM to 3 PM; Cost \$10



Christ Church 130th Anniversary Service

July 12, 2026 10:30 AM

(Wear your 1896 Sunday Best, your bonnet and bolo tie) The service will echo the first service held at Christ Church on May 6, 1896, in song and in prayer. Gather for refreshments after the service at Church House next door.

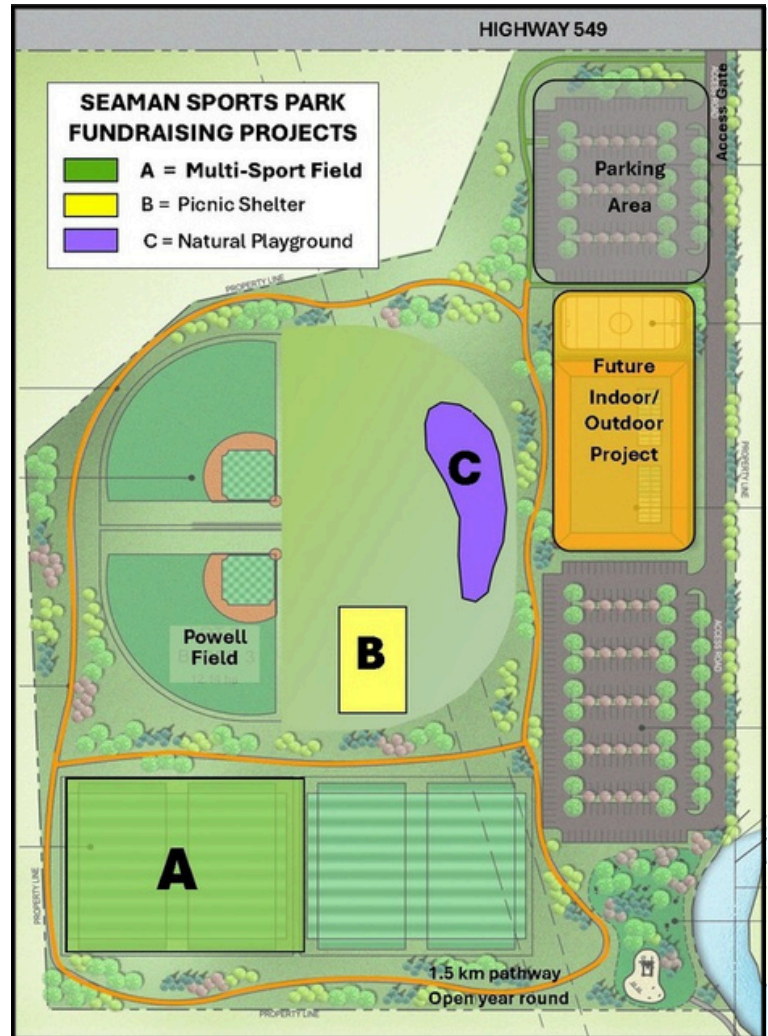
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