

World Charolais Congress Comes to Canada

Helge By

World Charolais Congress 2024 saw Canada welcome the world for 15 days from Ontario to Alberta. Charolais producers from 12 countries, not counting Canada, met in Toronto on June 21st and departed Calgary on July 6th. Three days were spent in Ontario, three in Manitoba, three in Saskatchewan and five in Alberta. The Congress is held every two years around the world, the last one in Canada was in 2006. This was also the first of the five times in Canada that it was held outside of Alberta. The Congresses are a mix of cattle and tourism and we tried to show a cross section of our country and cattle.



A group shot at John Scott Productions near Longview, AB



Craig Scott, CCA General Manager; Darwin Rosso CCA Director and Helge & Candace By were the hosts across the country



St. Jacobs Farmers Market was the first stop on the tour



At Rollin' Acres Charolais an hour and a half north of Toronto, they and the Uppin' the Ante sale group displayed cattle and had a tent to enjoy when it rained, listen to a band and have supper.





Day 3 at Cedardale Farms saw some pasture tours and other breeders bringing cattle to display.



It also included an informative tour down the road at Swain Feedlot with a big question and answer session



Niagara Falls was on many people's bucket list and the view at lunch on a beautiful day was icing on the cake



Miller Land & Livestock shared great information about their multifaceted operation with more question and answer sessions

Supper was on the shore of Lake Erie



Cattle displayed by five breeders and the mechanical bull made the stop at Steppler Farms in Manitoba very enjoyable



Seeing polar bears swim above you at the Zoo in Winnipeg was great for many to see



The pasture tour at HTA Charolais and pen displays from other breeders exemplified how quiet all the Canadian cattle were



High Bluff & Johnson Charolais had a cattle display in Inglis before we toured the historic grain elevators there



Hunter Charolais had an impressive display of herd bulls, cow/calf pairs and bred heifers in a pasture on a beautiful day



Young adults from France, Hungary, New Zealand, England & Australia were on the tour



Showers at the event hosted by White Cap & Rosso Charolais didn't deter the viewing of cattle



The BBQ rib steaks were a hit that day with many internationals checking out how they were cooking them



A tour and lunch at the impressive new BoviGen embryo & semen collection facility at Moose Jaw had guys checking out the donor females



Next stop was Norheim Ranching with a full line of livestock handling and haying & feeding equipment on display



A herd tour at Cedarlea saw 175 pairs come running towards the group. This was the largest group many had ever seen in a pasture, plus there were other breeder and commercial producer cattle displayed in the yard

Dancing with a great country band



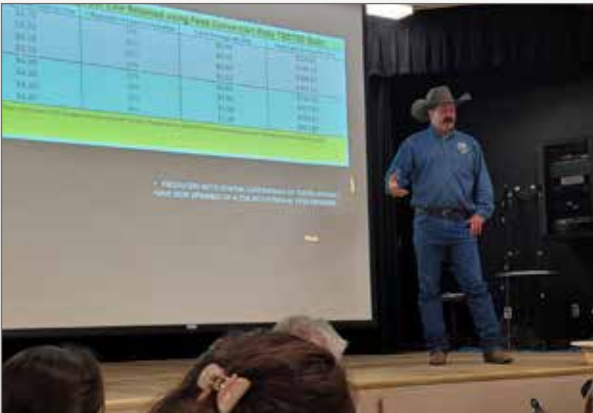
Roping lessons and hockey puck shooting were enjoyed by lots of the international guests at Cedarlea



Cam had his equipment cleaned up and on display which had many checking them out



After another free morning in Moose Jaw it was off to CK Sparrow farms for a pasture tour and pitch fork fondue steak supper



Highway 21 Group provided us with two informative stops. One at their Hanna ranch where they are doing feed efficiency and residual feed intake research and the other at their 20,000 head feedlot at Acme.



The Alberta Charolais Association hosted a tremendous event in Stettler with many breeders bringing cattle to display, attracting a huge crowd of producers which were entertained by champion fiddle player Ethan Harty at supper



At the Discovery Wildlife Park at Innisfail, many had their picture taken with a bear as well as seeing many animals indigenous to Canada



The final cattle day saw McLeod Livestock & Triple M Farms put on an impressive display of over 70 head from their operations

A very successful sale with offerings from across Canada gave the internationals a view of how our seedstock sales are run



A bucket list for many was to see the Canadian Rockies and a day at Banff fulfilled their wish. The day ended with the final Gala Banquet back in Calgary

The last day of the tour started with a Stampede breakfast at the Canadian Charolais Association office



The Canadian Charolais Stampede breakfast was followed by a full day at the Calgary Stampede (another bucket list item for many) including the rodeo, chuckwagons, Indian relay race & evening show