



# Jasper Heritage Rodeo

Box 1936, Jasper, Alberta, T0E 1E0

[www.jasperheritagerodeo.com](http://www.jasperheritagerodeo.com)

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Jasper Heritage Rodeo Association  
Back ground information:

We honour and thank the Treaty 7 and Treaty 8 Nations and the Mountain Metis as our community partners and traditional inhabitants of the lands of Jasper National Park.

In 2014 the rodeo was asked to move out of the Jasper Activity Centre arena where the rodeo had been held since 1976. In 2015 after negotiations with Parks Canada the rodeo was given a three year license of occupation for the “snow dump” area. We already had a 10 year license of occupation (for renewal in 2023) for a small space in that area that was used for storage of arena steel, supplies and holding pens for the stock. With the added space of the new lease and a generous donation from the Municipality of Jasper, a Community Initiatives Grant, and hundreds of hours of volunteer work the present rodeo grounds were accomplished.

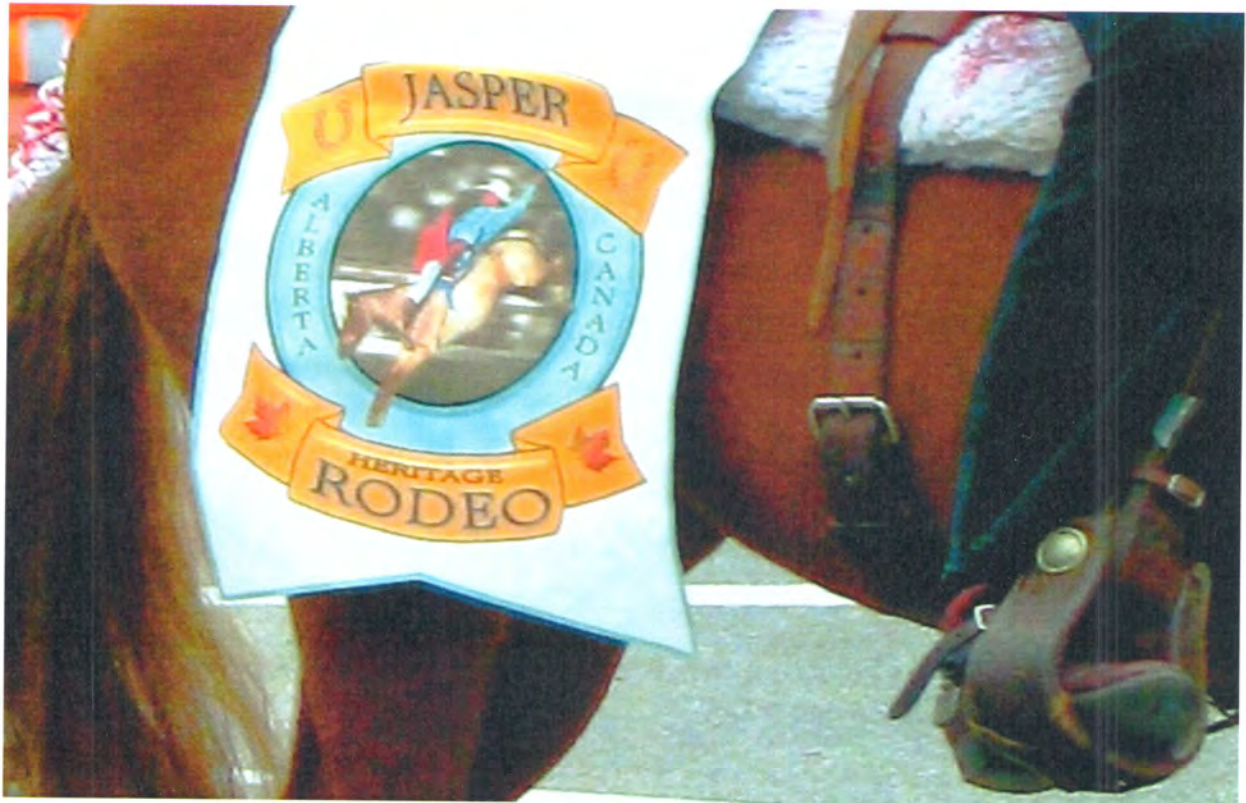
May 5, 2017 the Jasper Heritage Rodeo applied for a 5 year extension on the 3 year license of occupation for the “snow dump” area. The reply received from Field Superintendent Fehr stated there would not be an extension granted beyond 2018 and that we should “arrange for alternatives either in the town or outside of Jasper National Park”.

Because of the heritage of rodeo within Jasper National Park beginning in 1925 and the economic value the rodeo contributes to Jasper we are asking for your support to help us reverse this decision.

Respectfully,

Helen Switzer  
President  
Jasper Heritage Rodeo Association





## **JASPER HERITAGE RODEO DISCONTINUED AFTER 2018?**

**“I am unable to commit to a long-term agreement to allow the rodeo to continue in Jasper National Park. There are no locations in the park that are acceptable for this purpose.”**

**- Alan Fehr, Field Unit Superintendent of Jasper National Park**

After 92 years of history in Jasper, the Jasper Heritage Rodeo will not be allowed to continue to showcase the cultural heritage of Jasper's evolution from a fur-trading outpost to a professional rodeo. After one more year (2018), the rodeo will be discontinued. The reasons cited: unacceptable noise which forces closure of campground sites and loss of revenue, a requirement to use the current rodeo site for overflow parking as a deterrent to illegal overnight parking, and possible use of the current site as a staging ground for upcoming major construction.

Mr. Fehr recognizes that there is no documented substantiation of noise complaints, which have nonetheless been addressed by the rodeo committee through measurement and control of decibel levels during the rodeo, which takes place from approximately 6-9pm on 4 days in August, over well before the noise curfew of 11pm specified by Parks Canada. Use of the current rodeo site for overflow campground or town site parking has yet to be demonstrated.

Jasper does host other town and community events such as Folk Festival, the Jasper Canada Day fireworks, Jasper in January street parties also with fireworks, which create noise.



*Jasper Rodeo at Whistler Campground in the early years*

Rodeo has been offered in Jasper since 1925, well before the National Parks Act of 1930. Each year, we welcome Canadians and visitors from around the world to experience and enjoy the cultural, indigenous and Métis history and heritage of the area. The Parks Canada Departmental Plan 2017-2018 states that “Parks Canada will continue to work with Indigenous partners to ensure that the management of its natural and cultural resources integrates Indigenous traditional knowledge and respects Indigenous values and perspectives”.

The Jasper Heritage Rodeo derives from the pack-horse trains which opened the west during early exploration and the fur trade era, the survey parties for the routing of railways across western Canada, early ventures of indigenous peoples, outfitters, mountain climbers, surveyors, geologists, biologists and the first tourists into the Rocky Mountains. Many of the early organizers and participants in the Jasper rodeo represented indigenous and Métis families, even after these families were required by Parks Canada to leave their homesteads in the Jasper area.



*Jasper Heritage Rodeo 2015*

Parks Canada's mandate states: "On behalf of the people of Canada, we protect and present nationally significant examples of Canada's natural and cultural heritage, and foster public understanding, appreciation and enjoyment in ways that ensure the ecological and commemorative integrity of these places for present and future generations". Does this not include the development of rodeo in Jasper?

The Jasper Heritage Rodeo would like to enlist your recognition and support of continuation of rodeo in Jasper by sharing on social media and by writing letters to the following authorities, copied to the Jasper Heritage Rodeo:

- Jasper Heritage Rodeo  
PO Box 1936  
Jasper, Alberta, T0E 1E0, Canada  
Email: [jasperheritagerodeo@gmail.com](mailto:jasperheritagerodeo@gmail.com)
- Mr. Alan Fehr  
Field Unit Superintendent  
Jasper National Park  
PO Box 10,  
Jasper, Alberta, T0E 1E0, Canada  
Email: Alan.Fehr@pc.gc.ca

- Mr. Daniel Watson  
Office of the Chief Executive Officer  
Parks Canada  
Gatineau, Quebec, J8X 0B3, Canada  
Email: Daniel.Watson@pc.gc.ca-8-
- The Honourable Catherine McKenna  
Minister of the Environment, Climate Change and  
Parks Canada  
Room 433-C, Centre Block  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6, Canada  
Fax: 1-613-996-5323
- The Honourable Bardish Chagger  
Minister of Small Business and Tourism  
Room 107, Confederation Building  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6, Canada  
Fax: 1-613-992-6251

- The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau  
Prime Minister of Canada  
Room 313-S, Centre Block  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6, Canada  
Fax: 1-613-947-0310