



## **CANADIAN PROFESSIONAL RODEO ASSOCIATION**

December 2, 2022 | Airdrie, AB  
For immediate release

### **2022 WNFR - Round Two Highlights**

Two time world champion Hunter Cure led the bulldoggers on night two at the Thomas and Mack. The Holliday, Texas cowboy—who qualified for the 2019 Canadian Finals Rodeo—was a rapid 3.7 to earn his first 2022 NFR cheque. Cure is second overall in the World standings \$35,000 back of leader, Stetson Jorgensen.

For the second night in a row, three of the six Canadians in the bronc riding at the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo pocketed sizeable pay cheques. In an all-Canadian matchup, Logan Hay met up with the Calgary Stampede's Zoaria Hills for 85.5 points to be part of a three-way tie (2-4) with fellow countryman and two-time world title-holder Zeke Thurston, each of them earning \$17,410. Thurston, fresh from his third Canadian title now sits fifth in the world standings, \$102,000 back of Montana's Sage Newman. And while that deficit sounds insurmountable, a slip or two by Newman and Thurston, the Big Valley, Alta. talent, could move into contention for a third world crown. Newman managed an 84-point effort in go-round number two and a split of sixth that included the third Canadian money-winner on this night, Kolby Wanchuk. Both men registered 82 points to collect \$1555.

It was a bounce back night for Leighton Berry in the bareback riding at the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo in Las Vegas, Nevada. After a disappointing 72.5 score on night number one, the Texas cowboy, who was at his first Canadian Finals Rodeo just a month ago, put together a round-winning 86.5 score on Top Egyptian from Pickett Pro Rodeo for a tidy \$28,914 payday. Unfortunately, things didn't go as well for Canadian Orin Larsen who failed to make a qualified ride on the former World Champion, Full Baggage.

Among the other go-round winners was three-time world champion Hayley Kinsel with the barrel racing win courtesy of her 13.61 second time on her stand-out partner—Sister, and team ropers Clay Smith and Jake Long were 4.1 for top honours in their event.

Caleb Smidt continued his mastery of the Thomas and Mack Arena with a second straight go-round win, this one by virtue of a blistering 7.2 second run. The three-time World Champion has closed to within \$20,000 of Shad Mayfield, the leader coming in.

And only two men made the whistle in the bull riding that featured the semi-eliminators (aka rank bulls). Season leader Stetson Wright racked up an 88-point mark

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and Ky Hamilton chalked up a 77.5 for second. The two padded their bank accounts by \$49,666 and \$42,604 respectively. Canadian Champion, Jared Parsonage, was among the thirteen men who were unsuccessful in performance two.

**The Canadian Professional Rodeo Association** (CPRA) with headquarters in Airdrie, Alberta is the official sanctioning body for Professional Rodeo in Canada. The CPRA approves 55 events annually with a total payout exceeding \$5.7 million. The organization oversees the SMS Equipment Pro Tour Finals each fall in Armstrong, BC, holds their premiere event - the Canadian Finals Rodeo (CFR) - at Westerner Park in Red Deer, AB in early November and endorses the Maple Leaf Circuit Finals as part of Canadian Western Agribition in Regina, SK. Follow the CPRA on Twitter @prorodeocanada and Instagram @prorodeocanadaofficial, 'Like' Canadian Professional Rodeo Association on Facebook or online at [RodeoCanada.com](http://RodeoCanada.com).

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