

R.D. (Rick) Payne

Rick's entrepreneurial spirit began during his teenage years when he was proud to take ownership of his first successful business at the age of 20. His desire to support and provide for his family was strong and his dedicated work ethic helped him achieve success early in life.

Recognized for integrity and fairness in his personal and business dealings, he was highly respected by colleagues and others in the equine and agricultural industries across the country.

His love of horses led Rick into the business ventures that he would pursue for the rest of his life. After selling his first business, he became a farrier. Soon after he managed and then purchased a long established equestrian facility that became known as Westgates Horse Centre. Westgates grew to become one of the largest equestrian centres in the prairies, operating until 1996.

A rarity in the equestrian world, Rick excelled in both English and Western disciplines; riding, training, coaching and developing young riders. Rick enjoyed great success in showing cutting horses nationally and internationally as well as coaching hunter and jumper competitors up to the North American Young Rider level.

After many years of business in the retail and wholesale equestrian equipment industry, Rick decided to shift gears and retire in 2009. But it wasn't long after that he continued to provide specialized saddle fitting services for clients riding and competing in both English and Western disciplines.

Volunteering was a significant part of Rick's life. Throughout the years he worked to improve the profile of the equestrian sport and the quality of competition available to equestrians in Manitoba. He served as Vice President of the Canadian Equestrian Federation (now Equine Canada) and as such led the development of the first Western Coaching Certification Program. Among the many boards he served on he was proud to have been a founding director for the Manitoba Riding for the Disabled, which ran its programs at Westgates for 15 years.

In 1999, Rick served as an advisor to the Pan Am Games facilities committee for the equestrian events that were held at the Red River Exhibition Park. This led to a long association with the Red River Exhibition Association where, at the time of his passing, Rick held an executive position on the board.

Rick touched numerous lives throughout his career and lifetime. He served his family and the entire equestrian community with dedication and commitment.



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R.D. PAYNE EQUINE SCHOLARSHIP



In 2012, the Red River Exhibition Association's Board of Directors renamed the Red River Exhibition Association's Equine Scholarship, the R.D. Payne Equine Scholarship, in honour of former director Rick Payne.

The scholarship will provide financial assistance to individuals actively involved in the equine community whose passion for the equine sport and dedication are evident in their competitive activities and contributions to their chosen equine discipline.

R.D. PAYNE EQUINE SCHOLARSHIP



The R. D. Payne Equine Scholarship is presented annually to an individual striving to advance their equestrian abilities and, ultimately, pursuing a career in the equine industry. The scholarship was named to honour Rick Payne's lifelong commitment to the equine community, his ability to increase the profile of the equestrian sport and his ongoing efforts to elevate the quality of competition available to Manitobans. Rick passed away suddenly in November of 2011. At that time it was decided by the Red River Exhibition Association Board of Directors to rename the newly established Red River Exhibition Association's equine scholarship in Rick's name.

The Red River Exhibition Foundation was established in 1997 to provide scholarships to deserving Manitobans in keeping with the Association's mandate "to promote industry, commerce, tourism and agriculture." The Foundation now offers twenty scholarships annually for students to further their studies in the Aerospace, Tourism, Agriculture, Business and Automotive Industry sectors.

Application Criteria:

The \$1,000 R.D. Payne Equine Scholarship will be awarded to:

- An active participant in equine activities and able to outline plans to be involved in the equine industry in the future.
- A member of the Manitoba Horse Council
- A Manitoba resident

Scholarship funds may be applied to the cost of advanced technical and academic education and to subsidize relevant travel costs.

Submit your application as an email attachment in WORD, RTF or PDF to: foundation@redriverex.com

Application must contain:

1. Contact Information

Name: _____

Mailing address: _____

City: _____

Province: _____

Postal code: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

2. A concise proposal outlining the applicant's goals and specific plans for career development, including what the applicant intends to accomplish and its relevance to the equine industry. Please indicate the equine disciplines you have personally participated in and levels of accomplishments.

Application Deadline:

4:30 pm Second Friday in September



Donations:

Should you wish to donate to the R.D. Payne Equine Scholarship, kindly fill out the form below. Alternatively, you may email the Red River Exhibition Foundation for more information at foundation@redriverex.com. A charitable tax receipt will be issued with each donation.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Province: _____

Postal code: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

Donation Amount: \$ _____

Scholarship Award Ceremony

The scholarship will be formally awarded at the Manitoba Farm Family of the Year & Agri-Food Industry Scholarships dinner in late June, annually.

