

Northern Horse & Mule Harness Association

PO Box 274, RPO Downtown, Fort St. John, BC V1J 6W7

General Meeting November 10, 2026

Email: nhmha.harnessclub@gmail.com

Website: nhmha-harnessclub.ca

This meeting was held in Room fcc1617, NLC

Attendees:

- Treasurer: Susan Clarke
- Secretary: Marion Dunn
- Directors: Louise Kempthorne, Maureen Simard, Brad Clarke
- Members: Peggy Brown, Evelyn Green, Donna Gregoire

Susan Clarke chaired the meeting in absence of Julius. She called the meeting to order at 7:10pm.

Minutes: Minutes from October 13th were read by Marion. Correction made to Winterfest that "Donna will respond to the city on behalf of NHMHA " after which the minutes were adopted, seconded by Maureen.
Treasurer's Report: Susan reported for October: Closing Balance Chequing $1,470.48 with no O/S cheques. Savings balance was $5,715.76.
Susan moved to adopt the financial report; seconded by Louise. Carried.
Cheques were issued: 1) to Marion for our Christmas rental/donation to the Baldonnel School ($250), 2) reimbursement to Brian for the purchase of the dinner Turkey ($90), 3)renewal of HCBC for NHMHA 2027, 4) renewal of general liability and D&O insurance with Navacord (formerly Acera) for NHMHA 2027, and 5) for Target Printers for the printing of our Calendars.

.Old Business

Totes/Trailer: The new totes have not yet been purchased, so the trailer will not be reorganized until we have them. Supplies will be picked up and brought to the Christmas Dinner and Party by members who are able to do so as needed. Marion will what she thinks will be needed.

Taylor Gold Panning Weekend: A donation of $300 was received from the District of Taylor; Marion prepared a letter of thanks to them but in Julius's absence we signed on his behalf and will mail it.

Tumbler Ridge Visit Plan: Julius and Susan, with Brad's help, gave rides on October 25th for about 150 people at Tumbler Ridge! The route was approximately 10 minutes and everyone there was able to have a wagon ride. The line was full most of the day and people were becoming chilled when the wind picked up. Brad said that they would not stop until the Junior Rangers who were helping with lineups were able to have a ride too. Susan heard that the people were so impressed with the event and many hadn't been around horses in close quarters at all. It was a great success even though Tumbler Ridge gave us such short notice. More wagons/helpers/handlers would have been welcome but maybe next time! Tumbler asked if they could pay us because they were so pleased, and whether we could come and provide Christmas sleigh rides for their party on Dec 4th. Susan responded we wouldn't be able on that date as we have our event the following day, but that perhaps we could return in the new year.

Northern Lights College/UNBC: This will be pushed to spring 2027 for planning.

Christmas Party Planning: Location - Baldonnel School, Dec. 5th – Marion will take the donation cheque there and complete the Facility Use Agreement. Notices were put out to FB and email for "hold the date" directly to our members (email),onto our website, facebook and with our Oct minutes. The poster invitation was reviewed in draft print at the meeting and needed to have a line put in for 'Doors open at 4pm Dinner at 5pm and was then approved for posting. Will be updated and out next day.

More discussion on party planning:

Donna said she hasn't had any kids registered yet.

Susan and Brad said they'd pick up the key again, to open the school.
Decorating – *Please Come!!! Dec 5th*, meet at the school – 11am and bring whatever decorations and lights you can lend for the night! We will use the school Christmas tree. So far we have commitments from Louise, Susan and Brad, Peggy, Evelyn, Marion and Donna
Donna will bring Santa's comfy chair.
Laser lights – Marion and Donna have some. Bring more if you have them, and any kind of Christmas lights. A few extension cords would be good too.
Ray has confirmed he will be Santa. Donna is Santa's Elf.
Party will have doors open at 4pm, Dinner at 5pm
Gifts and Door Prizes – Donna

Food: Brian bought the turkey; Marion will cook turkey, stuffing and gravy. Alice has confirmed they will bring the ham.

The Invitation will have a registration cutoff date of Nov 30.

2027 Calendar: Connie is working on producing the Calendar in time for our Christmas Party. Marion reported that there was a $10 difference in printing costs between Target Printers and Community Printers, so we are staying with Target which will be $15/calendar. We decided that 60 would be printed.

2027 Winter Festival: February 6, 2027 – Kin Park: Donna said she and Bev talked with Dave from the City…everything will pretty much be the same except he's trying to get a better trailer! She asked about shavings or straw for the mini-pen and he thinks shavings would be ok. Maybe some sand there as well.

New Business, Admin and Membership

Club Wagon Seat Fabric: Louise has extra fabric from the wagon seat restoration. She will bring it to Marion to store for future purposes.

Club Wagon: Louise notified that the wagon welding done by Doug this spring failed because of the type of metal on the struts. The metal is a solid tube but so thin. It repeatedly breaks at the bottom of the step.

Sleigh Day: Louise noted we need to start planning one for this winter – will discuss next meeting.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS: **Reminder** - NHMHA annual membership fees are changing in 2027 as per a motion passed at our 2027 AGM. Family $45, Individual $20. Membership provides lower event fees plus the Calendar – which is now costing $15/calendar to print. Also a reminder that members must be in good standing in order to receive a Calendar. If not in good standing the Calendars may be purchased for $10 this year and will go up in cost next year.

Miscellaneous, Correspondence and Communication: no update

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.
NOTE: Meetings are held every second Tuesday of each Month: 7 to 9pm
Next general meeting is December 8th. **Room fcc1617 or 1701 Tumbler Ridge**



