

Dear Mayor and Council:

I would like to provide additional information about the abuses to animals at the Chilliwack Rodeo. In our letter of August 13, 2007 we provided you with information about an animal that was repeatedly kicked in the face and now I would like to show you more inhumane treatment of animals in our video entitled "Rodeo 101 - Lessons About Rodeo Lessons" – http://www.lifeforcefoundation.org/rodeo_video.php

Most of the photos were taken in 2007 at the Chilliwack Rodeo and shows a callous disregard towards animal welfare. For example, you will see one operator concealing a shock device that delivers a 5000 volt shock. Shocking and pulling the bucking strap makes them react to the pain - they aren't born to buck. Even "bucking dummies" are use to "train" them to buck.

The public is unaware of the behind the scenes abuses. The bucking straps are cinched tight to make the animals buck (they stop bucking when the straps are released), they are shocked with electric prods, their hair is twisted and sometimes pulled out, they are jabbed with spurs and more. The frighten animals leap out of the chutes to try to avoid the torment. During steer wrestling they can suffer from painful strains, pulled muscles, broken bones, dislocated joints etc.. This also applies to team steer roping in which the animal stretched out by the ropes around the head and hind legs. Calf roping has been renamed "Tie-Down" roping to take the focus off the young calf victims who are lassoed while running fast, flipped high in the air and legs tied. This also causes serious painful injuries. Numerous animals have died from these rodeo practices.

In addition to the adult games I was saddened to see how the very young kids were treated in Little Britches Rodeos. Some of the children looked as young as 6 or 7 years old. Some were crying and some were injured. They were not having fun. This also takes place in Chilliwack. Parents have to sign a waiver for "injury or death". I would not subject any child to this trauma. Further information/video "Bless the Beasts and the Children" is also available upon request.

I hope that this time you will advise us if you will take action to stop promoting violence in our society. Violence begets violence. What are we teaching children when animals are brutally mistreated to beat the clock for rodeo prize money? Why are kids being conditioned to accept it and be part of it? Violence towards animals leads to violence against people. We urge you to ban the rodeos and to replace it with family fun activities such as the Cirque Du Soleil.

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Visit our Website: www.lifeforcefoundation.org