

**Title of Special Initiative:** Peace River Forage Association of BC Annual Tour  
**Report Title:** Final Report  
**Report Covering Period:** April 1 – Aug 31 2003  
**Organization(s):** Peace River Forage Association of BC  
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**Objectives:**

- To bring forage producers, ranchers, researchers, and agribusinesses together to converse with each other.
- To tour and learn from forage and livestock operations in another area.
- To provide updates on current research & development projects, including managing feedlots, watering systems, and forage production in dry climate.
- To provide a forum for discussing the latest production tips and equipment innovations among forage and livestock producers.

**Accomplishments:**

- Over 25 Peace River area local people attended this tour.
- Over 20 local Vanderhoof people attended portions of the tour
- Facilitated great discussion with our quality destinations and provided local producers with some new perspectives and ideas to deal with the current ranching situations.
- Great support from several partners and agribusiness sponsors
- Complimented by ranchers, ranch hosts, and sponsors on a worthwhile, well-organized event.

**Extension and Communication:**

- Submitted articles to Forage First, Peace Country Farmer, Peace Prospects page of Northern Horizon before and after seminar, Country Life Newspaper.
- Invited media reporters to cover news worthy topics and facilitated their interviews.
- All the funding partners and sponsors are thanked in 3 ways: in posters at seminar, verbally by chair & during presentations and in print in the ads or articles about the seminar.

**Finances:**

Total Approved Budget	\$19460.00
Total Approved PRAD Funds	\$ 5000.00
PRAD Funds to Date(Sept 31, 2003)	\$ 0.00
Contributions In Kind	\$ 1500.00
Ag Industry Contribution/Participants	<u>\$ 6377.00</u>
Total Income (plus SCCC Contributions \$1000)	\$ 8877.00
Facilitation/Follow-up	\$ 3132.00
Travel/Accommodations/Facilities/Catering	\$ 7329.55
Materials & Operating/Advertising	\$ 721.36
Hosts	\$ 300.00
Administration (Professional Fees)	<u>\$ 300.00</u>
Total Expenditure	\$ 11782.91
Excess / (Deficit)	( \$ 2905.91 )

**Variances from original work plan schedule or budget:**

20 participants instead of 40, reduced accommodations, meals and travel costs, it also reduces income from registrations.

**Summary comments, conclusions:**

The tour was a success, enabling ranchers to get a new perspective and some new innovative ideas, which they can implement on their ranches. The ranch host provided unique opinions and advice as to how they are and how others could manage their ranches to survive the BSE crisis. Local ranchers enjoyed the tour because it facilitated conversation amongst themselves and other producers outside the local region, they eagerly anticipate next years forage tour.

**Attachments:**

Detailed financial summary as provided by bookkeeper