

Fundraising

Inspiration and Giving Back:

At the Ambassador training in May 2009, I learned about the B.C. 4-H Foundation and how important it is to the future of 4-H in BC. Right now, you may yourself be wondering, “What is the B.C. 4-H Foundation?”

The B.C. 4-H Foundation manages funds that have been donated by 4-H supporters and businesses over the past years. The interest earned from these investments is used to pay for Provincial 4-H programs. Things like Provincial Club Week (PCW), Youth Action, Food for Thought and much more rely on these funds. When these funds are not available we must look for more sponsors, and in these tough economic times, sponsors cannot afford to donate money to everyone that asks. So what happens? The programs or events do not run; we need to take extra money from the Foundation to pay for the expenses; members and parents are stuck with the bill. None of these options is very good, that is why we need to raise money for the B.C. 4-H Foundation so that in the future, all of the opportunities we enjoy today are available to others. So, what can we do?!?

... The first step was to educate all of the clubs in my district about the B.C. 4-H Foundation. To do this I held a small meeting at my house for all of the club presidents, and vice presidents to attend a meeting and PowerPoint presentation explaining the B.C. 4-H Foundation and its importance.

The next step was to get these members brainstorming on ideas of extra fundraising activities within their clubs. I went to the District Council meeting and explained to the Leaders what I was doing and what the goal was. They were excited about the idea and agreed to donate a cash prize to the club that raised the most money.

The Club totals and money were due to me before our District Awards Night so that I could announce the winner in front of everyone. My biggest concern was making sure that we covered the \$250 prize that was donated by the District; in hopes that the District would continue to support the challenge, and allow it to grow and spread across the province. As it turns out I had no reason to worry, between the six clubs in my district we raised \$2,201!

With this challenge being such a success in my district I hope that future Ambassadors will work together to spread this challenge throughout BC; and that someday it grows to the District and Regional levels!

Yours in 4-H,

Steven

Steven T.

B.C. 4-H Ambassador

