

CHRISTMAS Dinner and Party!
 December 6, 2025 (Saturday)
 Join us for our Christmas celebration. Doors open at 4pm, Dinner at 6 pm.
 There is NO SLEIGH DRIVE on the 6th... it will be planned separately.

Door prizes for the Adults and Gifts for the Kids (14 and under) ...register by November 28th

Location: Baldonnel School
 5836 Baldonnel Rd., Baldonnel, BC
 Please use the Main Front Entrance
 Outside footwear is to be removed upon entry

ADULT GIFT EXCHANGE... bring a wrapped gift if you wish to participate (max \$25 maximum value)
 You can bring a Door Prize Donation if you like



Members & Guests: no charge
 Please **RSVP** by November 29th
 E-mail: NHMHA.harnessclub@gmail.com
 or Phone 250-219-6074
 visit: www.nhmha-harnessclub.ca

Christmas Party Invitation
 THIS IS AN ALCOHOL-FREE EVENT
 THIS IS A POTLUCK DINNER - PLEASE BRING A POTLUCK ITEM IF YOU CAN
 THE HARNESS CLUB IS PREPARING THE TURKEY, H&M
 AND FIXINGS, JUICE, TEA, COFFEE, HOT CHOCOLATE AND JUICES...

Northern Horse & Mule
 Harness Association
 Sponsored by the Northern Horse and Mule Harness Association

"WE HEARD THAT SANTA IS VISITING US"

Northern Horse & Mule Harness Association

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

General Meeting November 11, 2025

Email: nhmha.harnessclub@gmail.com

The meeting was held at McDonalds due to the NLC being closed for Remembrance Day

Attendees:

- President: Julius Reimer
- Secretary: Marion Dunn
- Treasurer: Susan Clarke
- Directors: Louise Kempthorne, Maureen Simard
- Members: Donna Gregoire, Ray Warren,

Upon finding out the college was closed, we made a decision to have a coffee at McDonalds and hold a meeting. While waiting for people to arrive at the new location, we looked at 10 Calendar draft covers which Connie Lynn had sent for our selection. Then Julius called the meeting to order at 7:40pm.

Minutes: The Minutes from the October 14th meeting had been read by everyone in attendance, so Marion moved for adoption, seconded by Maureen and carried.

Treasurer's Report: Susan did not present a financial report update, but came to provide cheques for the upcoming Christmas Party Prizes and Gifts (\$500 to Donna for budget), to reimburse Marion for expenditures for the Get Well/Welcome Home gift basket to Deborah and Theo (\$145), and unfortunately did not have a 3rd blank cheque to cover the Invoice we received from Acera for renewal of our management liability insurance (amount will be \$155). This isn't due until the end of December though, so there's time to do this after our next meeting, at which time the HCBC club membership and the club Acera general liability insurance will also be renewed. A club vote is not necessary to pay the Acera and HCBC costs because we voted on these critical expenditures to be paid every year.

Old Business

Oilmen's Weekend at Peace Island Park: (August 16-18) No donation received yet but Marion hasn't been to the mail for a 2 weeks. Perhaps Theo/Deb can follow up.

Fall WagonTrek Followup: At our last meeting, we decided to obtain safety vests for a few riders to display "Pass Wide and Slow" HCBC has them. Louise reported that Jacqui has donated two vests for our use... Thank you so much, Jacqui!!

CHRISTMAS PARTY! December 6th at the Baldonnel School

Marion got the invite/registration out by email, FB, texts and website.

Discussed gifts and prizes, noting that registrations haven't been coming in. Everyone in attendance reported if they were coming and the number of kids under 14 who would be on the list. Donna tailors her gift purchases for each specific child. Louise is the contact for registration and will share any info she gets with Donna. Susan issued a cheque to Donna for shopping! Ray has offered to help her with this task. Maureen added that she will donate a door prize. Other commitments are from Ray, Louise, Marion, Donna and anyone else who wants to add something.

Marion thought we should have Christmas Music and people will bring their CDs, "Spotify", speakers, etc. as best they can.

Marion spoke about the venue and what to expect, and that someone needs to pick up the key and find out how the alarm system works – one week prior to our party. Susan volunteered and will meet with Crain Brownlee, principal. He waived the \$100 deposit normally required for the key access. Other conditions of the facility use were reviewed by Marion such as the parts of the school we can use, the entrance to use, and that we can come at noon to set up the tables/chairs in the gym. Outdoor footwear comes off at the entrance. We are to bring our own First Aid Kit at our session. Cleanup per the facility use agreement must be done after.

Food: we have use of a well equipped kitchen. There is domestic water there but the admin person commented we may want to bring our own drinking water. No one thinks that is necessary. Purchase of the turkey will be arranged by Brian, but Donna will pick it up because Brian/Marion will be away until Dec 1st. I think we landed upon the decision that Louise would buy the ham. But she will put out "the list" on FB to solicit everyone's plans for food dishes. Marion will check the club totes and see what supplies may be needed.

Decorating the gym was discussed; we can get in at noon and anyone who wants to help can show up. Santa needs a chair – Donna can provide that and a blanket. Table covers, lights, etc.: Donna will bring some table centrepieces and an artificial tree, Marion has some laser lights and other lights, Louise will look for what she may have. We may have another little organizing meeting during the first week of December. Contact Louise if you have any questions or can come out to help.

Sleigh Day: A separate sleigh day was discussed and Julius offered to have it at his farm with use of the shop afterwards. We'll plan on having a bonfire and weiner roast, hot chocolate, etc. We also chose a date: Sunday, December 14th. Arrive at 10am to harness up; out on trail at 11am. Louise and Maureen will take care of communicating this over our FB and email.

Calendar 2026: Marion showed some Calendar cover shots for consideration, and asked what format people wanted for the 2026 calendars. Examples were brought from previous years, which were different sizes and bindings (stapled or coiled).

High on Ice: Donna was finally contacted by Dave from the City FSJ and they do want us to hold the sleigh rides. There are some changes – the event is now going to be renamed **Winter Festival**, and will span the entire month of February. The City would like us to put on our sleigh ride for one day on Feb 1st in Kin Park, where they've kept the trails for our use. There will be other activities at the park at the same time. Donna will find out more about those and scope out the logistics. This will be separate from Bev and Dale's location where they will hold Ride for Disabled event(s). Donna reconsidered her plan to step down from being the contact for the Winter Festival for this next year – so we still have her!!!! She will continue to meet with Dave on this event planning. Thank You, Donna!

New Business, Admin and Membership

2026 Spring WagonTrek: Maureen lead a discussion on location for the Spring WagonTrek – suggested we return to the Doig. Everyone was in agreement that we would try to find the "lost trail". The pre-trek trail clean-up event is proposed to be an overnigher so we can enjoy a campout. More discussion to ensue in next meetings.

Correspondence / Communication: NLC Admin (Julie), who is our contact for Facility Use, let us know that our meeting room # will be changed for May 2026 to #1702 instead of #1701. Interestingly enough, she did not mention that the NLC would be closed to us on Nov 11th! Oh well, now we know what happens on all stat holidays! We get to have McDonalds!

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm by Julius, 2nd Donna.



NOTE: Meetings are every second Tuesday of the Month: 7 to 9pm
The next meeting is December 9th at NLC / UNBC Campus.

Website: maintained by ConnieLynnGraphics
NHMHA website...<https://nhmha-harnessclub.ca/events.html>