

Fellowship of Christian Cowboys

May 2026

Testimony Of Matt Strohschein



“Carrying the Message of Christ to the Cowboy World”

Fellowship of Christian Cowboys

"Carrying the Message of Christ to the Cowboy World"

Salvation Prayer

Will I go to heaven when I die?
Can I have peace and blessing in my life?
The answer is YES - by asking Jesus to be your
Lord and Savior. Pray a prayer like this ..

"Dear God,

I am a sinner, seperated from You. I am sorry for
my sins and I ask you to forgive me. I accept
Jesus as my Savior and the Lord of my life.
Thank you, Jesus, for dying for me on the cross
so I can have peace in my life and a home in
heaven to live forever with You. Help me Holy
Spirit to live a life pleasing to God, my Father.

In Jesus name Amen"

If you've prayed this prayer, please contact
anyone listed on the Directory in this magazine.
We would love to pray with you and send you a
free Cowboy Bible and some literature to help
you get started on your journey

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Find Us On

Webpage:

www.christiancowboys.com

Contact John at fitzherbertjohn1@gmail.com or 403-652-1377. There is no cost to receive this magazine. We do appreciate donations to cover the cost of printing/shipping and postage. Please make checks payable to: The Fellowship of Christian Cowboys and mail to John FitzHerbert 1012-9th ST W High River, AB T1V 1B1.

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Testimony of Matt Strohschein

I am Matt Strohschein from Trochu, Alberta. My wife Mallory and I run a ranch on the same piece of land which my grandfather settled on 85 years ago. We have three children – Isaac, Ellis, and Louisa. We currently run a yearling heifer program at home here and ride a few horses. I also run a general contracting company in the area. Mal has a photography business – 33 Bar Photography and is a big part of keeping our operation going as well.

When I was asked to give my testimony, my immediate internal response was – no. I don't like to talk about my feelings. But I tell my kids all the time that cowboys don't back down, so I will take my own advice and tell you, my story.

I've been involved in many aspects of the western lifestyle over the years. Early on, our family ran purebred cattle, I was able to show cattle as well as be in 4-H as a youngster. We later moved to a commercial cow-calf and have now started feeding yearling cattle with a replacement heifer emphasis. I've been buying and selling cattle almost as long as I can remember. I competed in bull riding from a young age until 2010. Then judged PBR events for a few years. I have worked hard on becoming a better horseman since that time and always have a few around, I'm "training". I love trying to build a true Cowboys horse in and out of the arena. I've spent time at horse shows, ranch rodeos, and many brandings.

My walk with God is perhaps very similar to many reading this. While perhaps unspectacular, I hope my testimony might be relatable to others and help them in their walk. I grew up in a Christian home and accepted Christ as my Lord and Savior at a very young age. As I write this, I can hardly remember much about that day as I was so young. I was lucky to grow up in a great community with a strong church presence. While all that is a blessing, it also came with a level of complacency for me. It was far too easy to sit in a church pew and think about everything other than the cross in front of me. While I have been a Christian nearly my entire life, it seemed to take a backseat to a lot of things until later in life.

As a young guy, I loved everything about the word "cowboy". I would tape any rodeo that was on tv and watch it until the tape fell apart.



I feel like I must have been one of the western horseman magazine's youngest annual subscribers – but that was me, I just soaked up as much information as I could. We didn't grow up ahorseback at home, but our neighbour across the way was an old cowboy that had a few hunting horses, and he was gracious enough to spend time with me to "show me the ropes". I've loved horses ever since. Trochu was a hard place to be a "cowboy" as a kid. The area is largely grain farmers, not much for cowboy culture. When I was around 12, some new kids moved to town that were steer riding at rodeos, and that gave me a door into rodeo. I was instantly hooked! I spent

the next decade going to any rodeo I could get to, progressing from the steer riding into bull riding. I had success on the amateur rodeo circuits and at college rodeos, before going on to compete in the CPRA, WPB, and PBR events. I had my moments but was largely a flash in the pan there.

It was at this point in life where I had some trials – as we all do. Being a bull rider, you are no stranger to broken bones, and you have no right to complain about them. But it was an injury that you couldn't see that really troubled me. I started to develop random seizures after being stomped on when I was 17. They continued to occur until the age of 25. I had a neurologist tell me I needed to stop riding. I lost my drivers license for several years and had trouble progressing on in life. It was a dark time looking back. I did not let it stop me from following my dreams, but it certainly shook my confidence. I am thankful for the great friends and family I had at the time to get me through. Goals and success in all aspects of life were important to me, and it felt like God had taken that from me. As many young Christians do, when things aren't going well in life, we look to other places in life for comfort.

While I certainly didn't walk away from my faith, I did develop some rough edges and those always strain our relationship with God. Like all hard times in life, eventually these passed. Life got back to normal for me. It wasn't long after I'd walked away from rodeo that I started to work in construction and then met Mallory. We got married, settled at home on the family ranch, and had kids. I now had a responsibility to grow up spiritually, I could no longer remain "lukewarm", and I needed to be a proper example. Now as a husband, father, and a leader in the local church, I find that being a spiritual leader has shown me where I had deficiencies, and where I needed to grow – and continue to grow.

In closing, I'd like to point out a couple common spiritual traps I've fallen into over my lifetime. I hope that by acknowledging these, those reading this might also be encouraged to deal with any areas of life in which they spiritually struggle as well.

- The first is Selfishness. We live in a world that tells you that you need to be fulfilled all the time, that everything is about you. It's easy to feel sorry for yourself and wallow in pity when things aren't going your way. What a waste of emotion. Many times, in life I was so focused on what I didn't have, I couldn't see what I had. God has given us each different skills and gifts, and I believe he wants us to use those to further his kingdom, not just satisfy ourselves. No where in the bible does God promise to fulfill our dreams, he promises one thing and that is Grace.

- The second is Shame. I have had trouble forgiving myself for moments where my judgment lapsed. I sometimes fault, and think that as a lifelong believer, there's no excuse for my sin and that I should be perfect. I'll bet many people have experienced this.



While I think it is important that our lives produce "fruit", we need to remember that it was never our works that saved us, it is the "works" of Jesus Christ. When we accept Christ's forgiveness, he doesn't rate our forgiveness level on how good of a Christian we were or how many times we attended church. All transgressions are forgiven.

John 1:5 – The light shines in the darkness and the darkness can never extinguish it. I would encourage all reading this to remember this verse. Followers of Christ needn't be fearful or back down from life's trials. The world we live in is increasingly troubling each day, but our battle is already won. Your light needs to be shown. It is not just the places that are already light that need your light – it is the darkness.

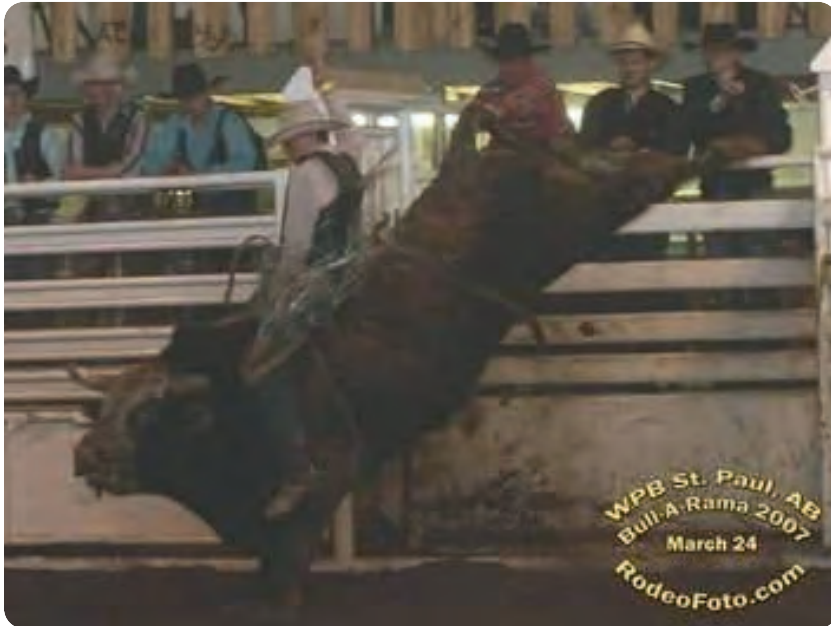
Matt Strohschein



The Cowboy as a Symbol of Christian Faith



WANTED



Your feedback, should we have our own Canadian Bible? We now use The Way for Cowboys. N I V with American cowboys pictures and American Cowboys testimonies. If we went with a new Bible, it would be probably T L V with Canadian Cowboys, testimonies and pictures. Give me a call with your opinion thank you.

John Fitzherbert - 1 403 652 1377

Living a life of miracles.



As each day unfolds, we have a choice. To see miracles in many ways, yes, we really can. Please let me explain how I see it that way.

As cowboys, cowgirls and ranchers we will tell you the miracle of a newborn calf, the morning sun rise from the back of a horse as the day begins. The fact that we see the seasons begin and end. The miracle of a faithful God who said as long as the Earth remains, there will be seed time and harvest, cold, and heat.

Let our lives be lived at a pace where we see miracles in the little things like the springtime song of the Red Wing blackbird, The sound of the Trumpeter swans flying high in the sky to their summer nesting grounds. Yes, the Bible tells us that nature itself points us to a God of miracles.

So let me ask you this question, is your life of go go go so fast, then when you look at the life, God created, and said it is good! do we forget that, He SAID I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE. Before we were created.

May we all who call on Jesus Christ be ever grateful for the miracle of eternal life.

God bless you all in Jesus name. Peter Koch.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It's April, but it sure don't look like it with all the snow we still have laying around. We have had a few warmer days which has resulted in some small patches of grass appearing, but then we get a big dump of snow, and one would never know it was supposed to be Spring.



I know and trust that the warmer days will come, and pray that those who are now heavy into calving will too. PTL, I only have one more left and she is very close (I have been saying that for awhile now...lol). Calving is never without its challenges, but we who choose this life would rather face these challenges than the 9-5 in town. I have cows and enjoy them for the most part, especially when I get to saddle up my horse and do some cowboying. I tend to lean towards the tougher horses and enjoy the challenge... to me that's cowboying. When you're passionate about something, the more risks you're willing to take. When I rode at the Community Pasture, we would ride in the heat, rain, cold and even snow. One round up it was very cold, windy and snowing really hard, so much so that I could feel the weight of the snow on my hat....to me riding wasn't always about the comfort, but rather the ride and experience. It's hard to believe that it has been 29 years, since Donna and I stepped into this cowboy ministry, not really knowing the ins and outs!!

But God is faithful when you give Him what you have, so when I finally allowed Christ to come into my heart, I was able to use my cowboying experiences to share His love and mercy. It is so cool that I can use my passion for cowboying to share my passion for Christ. The question I have is, as Christians do we really have a passion to share Christ...do we want others to know about Christ and the salvation He has brought? Acts, chapter 14, talks about one of Paul's first mission trips. Paul had brought God's word and many believed, despite the ones who were there wanting to cause trouble (some things never change). Paul continued to speak boldly in the Lord and God was working through him. As Paul was preaching the gospel, a man who never walked, heard the word and was healed instantly and could now walk. The people who witnessed what had happened didn't know how to react. They assumed Paul was a God and began preparing sacrifices.

CHRISTIAN COWBOYS



When Paul (and Barnabas) heard of this they tore their clothes and ran into the crowds stating that they were the same nature as them, sent to tell them to turn from the useless things (worldly) to the living God who made the heaven and the earth. There are still many today that need to hear this!! The past generations all walked in their own ways, but now they had an opportunity for change through the witness of Christ. Today we have His witness through His word and the Holy Spirit. So what happens next is crazy... the ones who witness this miraculous healing of the lame man believed Paul was a God and wanted to present sacrifices, but shortly after Paul convinced them not to, Jews from Antioch and Iconium persuade the crowd to stone him to death and drag him out of the city. The disciples gathered around Paul (wouldn't you like to have known their thoughts) and what happened next ... Paul gets up and goes back into the city to continue preaching the gospel. (it's really hard to keep a good man down). In verse 21, we learn that many came to know Christ. I would say that's passion over fear!!

Just think of what our world could be, if the churches of today stirred up that kind of passion in their congregations. James 1:21-25 gives us some helpful and encouraging words. "Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness and receive with meekness, the implanted word, which is able to save your souls." When we do this, it allows Christ to live in us. "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only deceiving ourselves," (VS 22). When you are truly passionate about something, you really dig into it and give it your 100%. We need to be digging into God's word, to be a doer, wanting to see people come to Christ; by telling them of the hope we have in Him. "For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in the mirror; for he observes himself, goes away and immediately forgets what kind of man he was," (VS 23-24). We need to continue being a doer of God's word, when we sit idle only being a hearer, we run the risk of forgetting who we are in Christ.

Verse 25 is a guaranteed promise that when we are genuinely doing the work of the Lord, we will be blessed "But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does." So let's all go out and do the work of the Lord with passion and in the boldness and confidence we gain from reading God's word. Our 2026 calendar is starting to book up with Cowboy Churches and events and we always look forward to seeing you, so if you're around drop by and say hi.

Blessed are those who put their trust in Him
Terry Baker



REPORT

FROM JOHN FITZHERBERT

Hi Folks,

The weather has been a big topic this winter with all the cold in the USA. Like never before, rain and snowfall records were set in many places and now they're dealing with hurricanes and tornadoes. What a difference here in southern Alberta; January was quite mild with just a few small storms and cold days, February was really warm with very little precipitation and even though March gave us several snowstorms, it wasn't very cold. It was thawing most days in March, so it could be an early Spring. Easter is early this year, so that could be the reason. I am praying for rain according to Zechariah 10:1.

Lots of things going on in the world now, I see Hollywood is rewarding some of their movie people with awards called Oscars. I haven't watched a movie for years, but I see clips of them on the TV. I see very violent stuff and the more violent the better, as it sells in the theatres. People get ideas, driving cars into crowds in stores, churches and synagogues, school shootings and etc. I think if you put garbage into your mind, garbage will surely come out. The opposite to that is to put the word of God in our minds so good things can come out. In Psalm 11:5, the lord tests the righteous but the wicked and the ones who love violence His soul hates. I often wonder how much longer will God put up with this pollution.

Now we have a war going on with USA and Isreal against Iran, looks like the whole world is getting blown up. Will the war end in total surrender or will it be another peace treaty that doesn't mean much to the Muslims? Will it be the end of Humas and the other terrorists groups that are determined to take Isreal and the USA off the map? Sure looks like end times according to Mathew 24 and Timothy 4.

On Saturday, February 24, we had good weather and dry roads to drive on for our Alberta Annual Meeting at Ponderosa City, near Alder Flats. Not much to report on, just the usual stuff like Trophy Bibles and Buckles that we donate every year, finances, booth locations and rodeos where we do Cowboy Church Services. We talked a lot about the magazine, going on-line, keeping the paper copies or both. No decisions have been reached. We had a small bunch, mostly Directors for the business meeting. The folks must've smelt the roast beef and all the trimmings that Kevin Rowland and his crew put on because about 140 people came for supper. Before and after supper, we had lots of music and Jarret Wideman from Provost, Albert preached a wonderful message that had the crowd watching and listening.

Sunday morning we had about 60 people come for breakfast and Cowboy Church, again with lots of music. I shared about bearing fruit for the Lord. It was a great weekend. Please try to attend next year - February 27 and 28, 2027.

It looks like it could be a tough year for all the cowboys and cowgirls that go to the rodeos due to the high price of fuel, those trucks burn a lot pulling those big trailers. This will really effect the wagon racers as they have big outfits to take down the road. We will pray the prize money goes up and the price of fuel goes down, as we get into the rodeo season.

Thanks again to all of you who support this Fellowship with your tithes and offerings. It is because of you that we are able to carry the Message of Christ to the Cowboy World. Thank you and God bless.

God's blessing on you all

John FitzHerbert .

Benefits of Giving

As in past issues, we again look at Galatians 5:22-23, which is called the fruit of the spirit. These are some of the attributes of the God we serve, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and the Creator of the universe who made the stars, the sun, the moon and the planets. He gave them their names and hung the earth on nothing, according to Job 26:7. What a mighty God who still has compassion on those he created, that's us. He loved us so much that He gave us His only begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life, John 3:16. He did not leave us after He sent us Jesus, but looks after us by meeting the needs that we have. David wrote in Psalms 37:25, I have been young and now I am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or His descendants begging bread. A good example of this is when the children of Isreal walked for 40 years in the wilderness. Lots of time spent in rebellion towards Him, yet He met their every need. Jesus raised the dead, healed the sick and fed thousands with only five loaves and two small fish. Jesus told us that after he was gone that God would send us a helper. John 14:26, And the Helper, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all the things that I said to you.

As I stated in the past, God's love is unconditional, we don't deserve it nor can we earn it. He gives it to us to receive or reject. I have to remind myself when I see things going on in total rebellion to His word like the blaspheming of His word and the denying of his existence, that He loves the sinner, but hates the sin.

I don't think I will ever fully understand the magnitude of God's love; the love he has shown us in so many ways. That love should filter down to dwell in us after we become a Christian by accepting Jesus into our lives and observing his commandments, John 14:15.

In Matthew 22:39, the lawyer asked Jesus what is the greatest commandment in the law? Jesus answered him, love the Lord with all your heart, soul and mind. That is the goal we can all work towards, perhaps easier then the second one Jesus gives Him, love your neighbour as yourself. Sometimes that is a hard one when we consider our neighbour is not always the one who lives next door but it's the people we meet and deal with everyday.

One way we can show our love and our faith is by helping those who are using the food bank on a regular basis. I know there are people using these food banks that don't need to but that should not stop us from giving. There are many who rely on that food to stay alive. I see this situation getting worse with the inflation going through the roof due to the high price of fuel. Everything we eat comes on a truck from somewhere so food prices will go up. The Salvation Army operates a thrift store in High River, mostly everything they have is donated. A lot of their help is volunteered so they're able to sell at bargain basement prices, making it one of the busiest stores in town. Why did I tell you that? I am sure you have clothes in your closet that you haven't even looked at for months or furniture that you don't use but don't want to throw away. Take it to the thrift store because there are all kinds of people who can use that stuff. What a great way to show your love to those not as fortunate as you.

Seems to me that our society today has a me first attitude, on the roads and many other places. 2 Timothy 3:2 tells us this very thing, so don't be surprised.

Thanks be to our Heavenly Father who gave us this great gift of love.

*Thank God for His Gift of Love.
John FitzHerbert*



DOWN THE GOSPEL TRAIL

Down The Gospel Trail

Jesus said “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.” Mark 16:15

We are all getting ready for a busy Rodeo season. March 20 & 21st was our first Pro Rodeo in Rimbey. We had a booth at it and were able to share with people and played lots of gospel music.

Your prayers would be greatly appreciated as the different Christian Cowboy Teams minister over the year. Our prayer is that we are able to be a light in the darkness and share the hope we have in Jesus.

Jesus said “The harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few; therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.”

Luke 10:2

We press on to put actions to our words as Jesus said. Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock.

Thanks for laboring with us as we reach out. May the Lord bless and keep you.

God Bless

Kevin Rowland

Jesus said “Come to Me all who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me for I am gentle and humble in heart and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”

Matthew 11:28-30

Thanks everyone for your prayers and support as we go forth with the gospel.

God Bless,

Kevin Rowland



Alberta Cowboy Church

Teepee Creek Hall

2nd Sunday of the month 10:30am
Barb and Kevin Quist 780 568 3510

Ninton Junction Hall

Every Tuesdays 7:00pm
Ron Deleeuw 780 728 9088

Viking Auction Mart Viking

Last Friday of the month 7:00pm
Pastor Doug Webb 780 897 4241

Holden Cowboy Church

4806 50 Holden St
Second Friday of the month 7:00pm
Pastor Doug Webb 780 897 4241

Ponderosa City - Alder Flats

Every Sunday - Service 10:00am
Followed by Fellowship
Kevin Rowland 780 388 3088

Seasons

660 7 Street High River
Last Sunday of the month 2:00pm
John FitzHerbert 403 652 1377

The Medicine Tree Manor

815 - 9st S.W High River
Last Sunday of the month 7:00pm
John Fitzherbert 403 652 1377

Saskatchewan Cowboy Church

Diamond C Cowboy Church

208 Sidney St
Maple Creek, Saskatchewan
Every Tuesday Night 7:00 - 8:00pm
Coffee/Lunch/Fellowship Afterwards
Chris Clark 306 661 6841
diamondccowboychurch@gmail.com

JUST GOD, ME, AND MY GUITAR



A hundred years from now

We will all be gone

We won't argue then

Who was right or wrong

We will all believe

Far beyond a doubt

Where will you be

One hundred years from now



It's an old saying when something didn't quite work out the way we planned. Something slipped while we were striking the arc, and believing it was straight, we welded instead of checking and we're stuck with it. So what if the exhaust pipe is a little out of vertical. "A hundred years from now, who will care." That's because ten years from now who will care. It probably won't last that long and the leaning exhaust pipe will only be a good story, a lesson learned. Unfortunately not all things expire. Our souls don't, and like that first verse says "A hundred years from now we will all believe." We will believe because we will be living it, but it's the last verse that is the most important.

A hundred years from now

It will be to late

To accept the Lord

You must choose today

Only God knows when

That trump will sound

Where will you be

One hundred years from now

*May I always let Jesus be stronger,
Than the will of my heart.*

**"Give Thanks for Unknown Blessings
already on Their Way"**

Fellowship of Christian Cowboys

Chapter Directory 2026



CANADIAN CHAPTER

President Terry Baker 204 849 2154

Box 187 Newdale MB R0J 1J0
tdbaker2012@gmail.com

Vice-President Marty Gilfillan 780 831 4399

#334 9008 99 Ave. Edmonton AB T5H 4M6
mgilfillan@ncldyde.com

Manager John FitzHerbert 403 652 1377

1012 -9th St West High River, AB T1V 1B1
fitzherbertjohn1@gmail.com

Director Heath Butler 204 937 7276

Box 1592 Roblin MB R0L 1P0
butlergh@gmail.com

Director Joe Simpson 403 638 1881

Box 34 Site 11, RR#1 Sundre, AB T0M 1X0
joe535simpson@xplornet.ca

Director Karl Allen 519 410 5235

R.R.#5 Simcoe, ON N3Y 4K4
shadylanecows@hotmail.com

ALBERTA CHAPTER

President Kevin Rowland 780 898 1721

Box 569 Alder Flats, AB T0C 0A0
info@ponderosacity.ca

Vice-President Ron Deleeuw 780 728 9088

13529 Twp RD 535 Yellowhead County, AB T7E 5G1
ron.deleeuw55@gmail.com

Manager John FitzHerbert 403 652 1377

1012-9th St West, High River, AB T1V 1B1
fitzherbertjohn1@gmail.com

Director Marty Gilfillan 780 831 4399

#334 9008 99 Ave. Edmonton AB T5H 4M6
mgilfillan@ncldyde.com

ALBERTA CHAPTER (con't)

Director Patricia Hanson 780 581 5557

5557 Box 3747 Vermillion AB T9X 2B7
patriciahanson105@yahoo.com

Director Kevin Quist 780 876 4649

RR2 Site 2 Box 1 Sexsmith AB T0H 3C0
kbquir2@hotmail.com

Director Harvey Lubeck 403 601 0384

Box 178 Cayley, AB T0L 0P0
olharv@hotmail.com

Director Marvin Engel 403 556 0787

Box 7 Site 12 RR2, Didsbury, AB T0M 0W0
marvinengel7@gmail.com

MANITOBA CHAPTER

President Terry Baker 204 849 2154

Box 187 Newdale, MB R0J 1J0
tdbaker2012@gmail.com

Vice-President Heath Butler 204 937 7276

Box 1592 Roblin MB R0L 1P0
butlergh@gmail.com

Sec-Treasurer Donna Baker 204 849 2154

Box 187 Newdale, MB R0J 1J0
tdbaker2012@gmail.com

Director Johnny Bartsch 204-750-0611

Box 99 Plumas man, MB R0J 1P0
johnnyannabartsch@gmail.com

Director Dwayne Whitehead 204 767 2135

Box 459 McCreary MB R0J 1B0

ONTARIO CHAPTER

President Karl Allen 519 410 5235

RR#5, Simcoe, ON N3Y 4K4
shadylanecows@hotmail.com

Director Daniel Dennison 519 323 3928

265 Normandy St N Mount Forest, ON N0G 2L1

Director Jason Korobka 519 443 7490

182 Washington St. Waterford, ON N0E 1Y0

Director Jeremy Schott 519 776 5869

23 Erie St S Selkirk, ON N0A 1P0

"Carrying the Message of Christ to the Cowboy World"