

4-H Canada Report

November 2024

Members must be 16 as of the trip to apply for the National Conferences. Leaders and members must have been involved in the program for at least two years before they are eligible to apply for any of the trips. Applications will be emailed to O.L's and then passed onto members. The following are highlights of the National and International programs that 4-H New Brunswick is involved with in connection with 4-H Canada:

Conferences:

U.S.A. National 4-H Members Conference: This event did not run in 2024 due to funding cuts. There have been no conversations on a 2025 trip.

4-H Canada Citizenship Congress: 4-H Canada hosted this event from May 21-26th, in Ottawa, ON. NB 4-H sent 1 member: Anthony Boyd from Farm Fresh. No chaperone from NB attended.

4-H Canada National Members Forum: The 2024 Member's Forum will be November 2-7th in Toronto, ON. Members who attended are: Angela Carhart, Kate Coleman and Katelyn Sharp from Farm Fresh, and Kayleigh Brewer from Keswick. The chaperone will be Kate Folkins from Farm Fresh.

4-H Canada Leadership Summit: The 2024 Leadership Summit took place April 11-14th, 2024 in Vancouver, BC. NB sent the following delegates: Trevor Ingraham from Big Axe Rangers, Emily Ingraham from Big Axe Rangers, Mary Ellen Trueman from Chignecto, Melanie Bourque from Irishtown, Stacy Matheson from Sussex Holstein, Ashley Storey from Gentle Giants and Friends, Sue McLaughlin from River Valley, Lori Hall from Chignecto, Karen Versloot from Keswick Ridge and YAC Member Kayleigh Brewer from Keswick Ridge. In 2025, the Leadership Summit will be virtual due to funding cuts.

International Rural Exchange Trip: Provinces across Canada joined together to organize this trip outside of 4-H Canada. Each province participated and we were able to send 28 members and 3 chaperones. Members traveled to Ireland from May 17-23rd to participate in multiple farm tours and activities put on by the International Rural Exchange. Kate Coleman and Ty Johnson from Farm Fresh attended from NB as delegates and Ashley Storey from Gentle Giants and Friends attended as a chaperone.

The trip was a great success and 4-H Canada is reviewing to see if it can be offered yearly and facilitated through 4-H Canada.

Scholarships:

McDonalds Canada Scholarship (\$5,000): For 4-H members pursuing agriculture education. 8 \$5,000 scholarships were available this year. Jack Raymond from Kings County Beef was awarded one of these scholarships.

Canadian Cooperative Wool Growers 4-H Scholarship (\$500): For 4-H members attending University or College in a course that will advance the sheep and wool industry. There were no recipients from New Brunswick.

John Deere Canada 4-H Scholarships (\$1,000): For 4-H members in a degree, certificate, or trade-based program. Emma Mullin from the Kings County Beef 4-H Club was a recipient in 2024.

TD 4-H Agriculture Scholarship (\$2,500): For 4-H members in an agriculture, ag-science, or agri-business program. Hannah Howe from the Keswick Ridge 4-H Club was a recipient this year.

Most applications for scholarships will open on March 1st, 2025, and close on May 31st, 2025.

Other Campaigns: Outreach Initiatives

Show Your 4-H Colors: SY4HC happened on November 6th, 2024. We offered the same photo contest from previous years and had 14 participants. The winners were: Terri Whyte from Napan for leaders, Abigail Wolverton from River Valley for seniors, Abygael Bourgault from Irishtown for Juniors, and Maddex Sandford from Napan for Cloverbuds.

The NB Legislative Building in Fredericton is working on a new policy for their lights and were not able to add green lights during this time.

Making a Splash: This program is geared towards supporting a healthy water ecosystem. It has a free activity book to download on the 4-H Canada website for 4-H leaders, members and families.

Powered Up: This program focuses on alternative, affordable and clean energy. There is a free activity book to download on the 4-H Canada website for 4-H leaders, members and families.

Proud to be a 4-H'er: This program looks at pollinators and how they help create a healthy and sustainable food supply. There is a free activity book to download on the 4-H Canada website for 4-H leaders, members and families.

My Career, My Future: My Career, My Future offers 4-H Canada members and their clubs across the country the opportunity to learn about the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal: Decent Work and Economic Growth and how they can play a role in supporting full and productive employment and decent work for all.

Food For Thought: Food For Thought introduces youth to Sustainable Development Goal: Zero Hunger and helps them to discover their personal role in food security and food accessibility in their community, their country, and their world. Food For Thought is the perfect chance to encourage youth to gain an understanding of the impact food waste has on their community and what they can do to help.

Dig Into Soil: Dig into Soil provides hands-on learning experiences for youth to discover how healthy soils contribute to addressing climate change while empowering them to champion soil conservation activities in their own communities. This initiative allows youth to learn either at home with their families or through their 4-H club supported by volunteer leaders.

Awards:

Distinguished Alumni Award: This award is presented to someone who shows outstanding leadership and contributions to the 4-H program as an Alumni. Jon Montgomery was the recipient of this award.

National Volunteer Leader of the Year Award: This award recognizes volunteer leaders that go above and beyond as a 4-H leader. They dedicate time and energy to bettering the 4-H program in their club to help shape their members to be the best they can be. The winning national volunteer will receive \$1,000 and an invitation to the 2024 Leadership Summit. The provincial winner for each province will win \$100 and an additional \$100 to use towards a party for their club. Ashley Storey from the Gentle Giants and Friends club was the provincial winner for NB 4-H.

Honorary Members: This award is presented to an individual who has embodied 4-H values through their life and have delivered outstanding services to one or more levels of the organization.

Grants:

FCC Club Fund Grant: This year, there was a total of \$100,000 available, with up to \$500 available per club. The money can be used to support the club's programming including local events and exchanges, supporting volunteers, or purchasing resources or materials. The clubs/districts that received this grant in 2023 from New Brunswick were: Chignecto, Countryside, Eastern District 4-H Council, Farm Fresh, Irishtown and McKees Mills.

The 2024 recipients will be announced late December/early January.

Current Funding Status: NB 4-H was successful in increasing our provincial funding to \$100,000 for the next 5 years. Our funding increase will begin early 2025. 4-H Canada has recovered some of the AAFC money that was promised from the 2023 year and NB 4-H will be receiving a total of \$17,990.00. There will be no provincial funding from AAFC moving forward.

Youth Safety and Risk Management:

4-H in Canada Accreditation: 4-H New Brunswick achieved Accreditation status on May 19th, 2021. NB 4-H passed the accreditation check for 2024 and remains in good standing.

Youth Safety at 4-H in Canada: All volunteers must complete the screening process to be allowed to be involved in the 4-H program. The current training and forms needed are: either New or Returning Leader Form, signed Code of Conduct and Covid-19 Waiver, Interview Questions (only if you are a new leader), an updated Criminal Record Check from the past 3 years, 3 References (if applying to be a new leader), Commit to Kids training (there will be refresher training after three years) and Youth Safety Training (there will be a three year refresher training). 4-H Canada has provided a refresher training course that will be shared with leaders who need to complete it. New leaders have been able to successfully complete and upload their screening documents and forms through the NB 4-H registration platform.