

T.H.R.I.L.



Therapeutic Horse Riding in Lindsay

Winter Newsletter – February 2021

COVID -19

Hope this newsletter finds you all well. We have been missing all of you and hope that the warmer weather to come will bring good news to Ontario and riding stables across the province that have been shut down since Christmas. We continue to have faith, that through ongoing COVID vaccinations, proper sanitization and mask protocol that our spring program will start in April. We will contact all volunteers and riders, past and new enquiries, as soon as we have regional approval to do so!



Your Board Needs Help!

In case you didn't know, T.H.R.I.L is an incorporated registered charity. The "Directors" of T.H.R.I.L are Joan Mercer, Bernie Mitchell and Kelly Russell. After a year of searching for a new Treasurer and a great deal of deliberation, Joan Mercer has thankfully agreed to become our Treasurer for 2021. **Leaving the role of Recording Secretary for a new member to step up!** Therefore the "Executive" of T.H.R.I.L are as follows

Kelly Russell: President (head instructor/program director)

Bernie Mitchell: Vice President (assistant to President and barn liaison)

Joan Mercer: Treasurer (fund-raising chair)

Secretary - **to be filled**

Rounding out our organizing committee are Anne Marie Finn as Volunteer Coordinator and Instructor. Samantha Hill (coming back from maternity leave) is also one of our program Instructors. Corinne Fell and Matt Kuiken are Liaisons for our volunteers and riders respectively. All of us are covered under our liability and/or Directors and Officers insurance. We meet at least twice a year in accordance with our bylaws in order to review and update our goals, financials and budget for the future, and have had ZOOM meetings and electronic email meetings these past 12 months. **Please consider joining us as Secretary (role includes attending and taking minutes/notes from meetings to be filed and distributed).** All of you are welcome to join in assisting our executive and committee members in their roles.

Winter Activities

Although the cold weather and snow make therapy riding at T.H.R.I.L too difficult to schedule a whole session of riding, we had hoped to schedule in appointments to come and visit and groom your pony or horse. However, with the provincial lockdown, this was not possible. Rest assured the ponies are receiving love and attention. **Our plan is volunteers will help keep the horses fit and happy starting in March, health regulations permitting!**

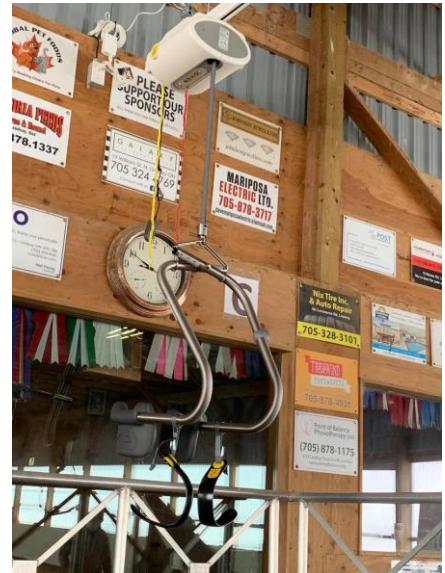


Future Developments

With **HUGE** help from The Maxwell and Ruth Leroy Foundation and a grant from the Government of Canada distributed by United Way for the City of Kawartha Lakes, we have been able to proceed with some of our capital purchase projects! A Sure Hands lift was installed in January. This lift will not only make it safer and easier for the rider, but for the horse and volunteers too!



Another project that T.H.R.I.L has been investigating is the purchase of a wheelchair accessible driving cart or carriage. This additional program will allow participants that are wheelchair bound or unable to ride astride enjoy the benefits of our therapy program with a different view!



Our search has found some local driving expertise that will help us get started and we have sourced a company that builds therapy driving carts and carriages with removable second seat and ramp, designed to be pulled by a strong pony or small horse. This photo above is a used 2 wheel cart we are anticipating purchasing in next few weeks to start us off!

Kelly has been diligently looking for a new horse for THRIL that has the skills to become our driving pony. We are hopeful to greet Luna in the next few weeks! She is a 6 year old arab/welsh 14 1 hand pony that comes with her custom made harness. She does have a trip ahead of her as she comes from North Carolina! Yes! More updates to follow!



Website and E-mail and Spring Program Registration

Look for the registration forms for the spring session on our website www.thril.ca and also please note that T.H.R.I.L has a new email address for direct deposit of rider fees and charitable donations at info@thril.ca. The office phone number remains the same at (705) 324-2756 and of course we still have our active facebook group and page!

Stay safe so that we can see you all at the barn!