



CANADIAN PROFESSIONAL RODEO ASSOCIATION

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For immediate release

Gardner Three-Peat Winner at Grande Prairie

There's no place like home. And Fort St John, BC cowboy, Jake Gardner, loves his north country roots. That was evident again as the two-time All-Around Champion of Canada won his "home-town" rodeo - the Grande Prairie Stompede - for the third consecutive time.

"I owe a lot of my Canadian Professional Rodeo Association career success to that rodeo," Gardner said. "I draw good there, I love riding there, the committee does a great job and Volds bring great stock. I've always started my year off with success at Grande Prairie. It's a good one to get the season rolling."

Gardner rode Vold Rodeo's 42 Last Rights to 89.5 points in the first performance of the SMS Equipment Pro Rodeo Tour stop - a score that stayed on top of the leaderboard throughout the four days of competition and netted the two-event cowboy the win and a cool \$3000.

"He's a really good bull and hasn't been ridden a lot," the 25-year-old added. "I've seen him at quite a few PBR short rounds and I knew when I saw my name beside him in the draw, if I could do my job properly, it would work out."

The win moved Gardner from tenth to the top five in the Canadian standings. And his early season bull riding success (second place at Dawson Creek), coupled with a solid steer wrestling placing at Falkland a week ago, makes the two-time CFR qualifier a potential contender for the CPRA's newly-minted Kenny McLean award. The award celebrates the amazing legacy of another B.C. legend. Kenny McLean was a Hall of Famer and a 13 time Canadian Champion in multiple events. The Kenny McLean award will be decided based on season earnings. To be eligible, a contestant must place at three separate rodeos in a riding event and three separate rodeos in a timed event.

With a National Finals Rodeo qualification one of Gardner's 2022 goals, the Grande Prairie Stompede title, along with a recent win at Redding, CA and placings at the PRCA Xtreme Bulls event in Alaska, the young athlete is off to a good start in pursuit of that goal.

Additional weekend winners included:

- Bareback: Cole Goodine, 89.5 points on Vold Rodeo's 63 Debbie Does Dallas, \$2763
- Steer wrestling: Matt Richardson, 4.2 seconds, \$2749
- Team roping : Brett Buss/Denim Ross, 3.8 seconds, \$2567 each
- Saddle bronc: Dawson Dahm, 87 points on Vold Rodeo's P87 Turf Wars, \$2763
- Tie down roping: Jason Smith, 8.4 seconds, \$2571
- Ladies barrel racing: Sam Smith, 14.82 seconds, \$3619
- Breakaway roping: Shaya Biever, 2.26 seconds, \$1275
- Novice bareback: Ethan Mazurenko, 77 points, \$434
- Novice saddle bronc: Colton Powell, 71 points, \$512
- Steer riding: Jestin Jacklin, 78 points, \$717

For complete CPRA results, check out rodeocanada.com

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272245 Range Road 292, Airdrie, AB T4A 2L5 Ph: (403) 945-0903 Fax: (403) 945-0936 Email: cpra@rodeocanada.com



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The Canadian Professional Rodeo Association (CPRA) with headquarters in Airdrie, Alberta is the official sanctioning body for Professional Rodeo in Canada. The CPRA approves 55 events annually with a total payout exceeding \$5.7 million. The organization oversees the SMS Equipment Pro Tour Finals each fall in Armstrong, BC, holds their premiere event - the Canadian Finals Rodeo (CFR) - at Westerner Park in Red Deer, AB in early November and endorses the Maple Leaf Circuit Finals as part of Canadian Western Agribition in Regina, SK. Follow the CPRA on Twitter and Instagram @prorodeocanada, 'Like' Canadian Professional Rodeo Association on Facebook or online at RodeoCanada.com.

For more information:

Barb Poulsen

CPRA Communications and Media

Phone: 403 625-2797

Mobile: 403 625-9225

Email: media@rodeocanada.com