



# Newsletter

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### Message from the South Simcoe 4-H Association

Welcome to a new season of 4-H! We are happy to report that we currently have 23 clubs running for 2020 - at this point, it looks like square dancing is the only club that will not run virtually this year. We thank all our volunteers and leaders who have risen to the challenge of embracing technology as a new way to deliver the 4-H program for this year. We hope that 4-H can return to normal next year! Fingers crossed!

As sent out in an e-mail to all of our 4-H families, the completion of a 4-H club in 2020 will certainly look different. The Covid-19 situation is very fluid and therefore, our decisions as an association will be fluid as well. Our Board of Directors is committed to working with our leaders to ensure that clubs are following a slightly different format for completion this year. We do not have all of the answers right now but we will be updating our 4-H families on a regular basis via e-mail and our website.

For livestock clubs, 4-H Ontario is not changing the provincial deadline date. Therefore, please ensure you register your 4-H project animal using Assist Expo by May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

If you have any questions or concerns please reach out to your leaders or to anyone on the board of directors. Follow our website and look for South Simcoe 4-H on Facebook. We thank you for your patience. Stay safe.

### Mental Health Resources for 4-H Members

**This is an unprecedented time for all of us. If you are feeling anxious, sad, lonely and need to talk, please reach out.**

**Kids Help Line** – 24/7 ([www.kidshelpphone.ca](http://www.kidshelpphone.ca))  
1-800-668-6868 or Text 686868  
For Ages 5 – 20

**Good2Talk** – 24/7 ([www.good2talk.ca](http://www.good2talk.ca))  
1-866-925-5454  
For Ages 17 – 25 (Post-Secondary Students)

**Jack.org**

**Mental Health Helpline** ([www.connexontario.ca](http://www.connexontario.ca))  
1-866-531-2600  
All Ages



# 4-H Opportunities

## 2020 Resource Guide

This magazine arrived in your mailbox in January. It is full of great

information and there are so many opportunities available to all of our members no matter what age they are.

Page 22-23 offers many scholarship opportunities for 4-H Members.

Many events in our area have been cancelled including Coaching Night, Judging Competition and Barrie Fair. Below you will find the events that have not been cancelled as of the date of this newsletter. As always, watch for changes on our website and Facebook page.

### August Events

TBD  
*Simcoe County Model Cow Competition*

TBD  
*Simcoe County Holstein Club Show*

### September Events

September 18-20  
*Beeton Fall Fair*

September 25-27  
*Great Northern Exhibition*

**Members who attend a 4-H Opportunity will be reimbursed 100%.** All you have to do is write and submit a brief report about your adventure to Carla Williams at southsimcoe4h@hotmail.com

#### Youth Adventure Camp

Geneva Park YMCA, August 10 - 13  
Orillia Register by June 15th

#### Provincial Leadership Camp

March 13-18, 2021  
Ontario Pioneer Camp Port Sydney Register by Jan. 31, 2021

#### E-Symposiums for Leaders – May 25 & September 28

1 Hour topics include Lifeskills – Thinking Critically about Critical Thinking and Livestock Leader Support Advocating Agriculture.  
*E-mail Faith Kirk to register – region4@4-hontario.ca*

## Fair Dates

Visit [www.ontariofairs.org](http://www.ontariofairs.org) for a full list of fairs.

<b>CANCELLED</b> Schomberg Fair	May 24-27
<b>CANCELLED*</b> Barrie Fair	August 22-25
Oro Fair	September 18 - 20
*Beeton Fall Fair	September 18 – 20
*Great Northern Exhibition	September 25-27
Markham Fair	October 1 - 4
Royal Agricultural Fair	November 6 – 15

*\*denotes an Achievement Day Fair*

### 4-H Clothing Update

Thank you to all of the members who purchased 4-H clothing at Rally Night. The supplier has the order ready but due to Covid-19, the supplier is closed. Once the supplier is open and able to give us our clothing, we will arrange to get it to our members when it is safe to do so.

### THANK YOU... to all of our generous donors!

Simcoe County Fed. Of Ag.  
Milligan Energy  
Kneeshaw Electrical Services  
Wayland Farms Inc.  
Gwillimdale Farms  
Grand Valley Fortifiers  
Town of Bradford West Gwill.  
Dunkerron Elevators Inc.  
Hallview Farms  
In Memory of Ross Lange

McCallum Farms  
Button Fence Ltd.  
Alliance Agri-Turf Inc.  
Harrison Farms (2018) Inc.  
Conestogo Agri Systems  
Co-operators Alliston  
Beckstead Milk  
Cattleman's Association  
Township of Clearview  
Simcoe County Dairy Producers

Bob & Nancy-Jean Lisk  
Dawson & Shirley Aitchison  
Gladys Fieldhouse  
Charwen Farms  
Wm. King Farms  
Hambly Ins. Brokers  
Collwest Grain Ltd.  
Township of Essa  
Grain Farmers of Ontario

## Livestock Policy Highlights

*Applies to dairy, beef, sheep and horse.*

One animal per commodity in order to attend Royal or be eligible for local awards.

Project Form must be submitted online by May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 using Assist Expo.

No animal substitutions. YOU MUST show with your project animal as indicated on your project form. Animals and ear tags are subject to being checked by a leader and/or an association board member at any time.



### Exchange Update

In February 2020, the SSFA 2020 Exchange Group were twinned with a group from Saskatchewan. Just as we were getting some details finalized, that Saskatchewan group pulled out and left us with nowhere to go in 2020. Needless to say, our group was very disappointed and we went ahead and started to plan our fundraisers with the promise of getting to go on the exchange in 2021 instead.

As events around Covid-19 have unfolded, the Club to Club Exchanges have all been cancelled across Canada for 2020.

Look for future fundraising events from the exchange group when the social distancing restrictions lift!

### Completing a 4-H Club in 2020....What does it take?

In order for 4-H Members to complete their club satisfactorily, they must:

- Complete and submit an electronic Project Animal Identification Form using Assist Expo and send the confirmation e-mail to their leader AND Carla Williams **NO LATER than Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>** (Livestock Clubs only);
- Sign a 4-H Ontario Participation Agreement (parent must sign as well);
- Be a member in good standing (i.e. fully paid his/her membership fee and abide by the 4-H Member Code of Conduct);
- Participate in at least 2/3 of his/her own meeting time (total minimum meeting time for a club is 12 hours)
- Complete the project requirements to the satisfaction of the club leader(s);
- Take part in an Achievement Program, as agreed upon with your club leaders. A member is allowed to participate in an Achievement Program only if he/she has participated in at least 2/3 of the meeting time of his/her own club prior to the Achievement Program; and
- Be between the ages of 9 – 21 (as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of current year).
- Those wishing to participate on the RAWF dairy or beef team must have their Royal Entry Eligibility forms to Carla Williams or their leader **NO LATER than Monday, September 28, 2020**. (More information will be send to clubs regarding this, should the RAWF continue in 2020.

### Livestock Entries

May 22, 2020 is the date that your Project Animal Information Forms (PAIF) should be registered online with Assist Expo.

We encourage every 4-H member to have two ear tags in their animal. A farm tag together with their mandatory CCIA/NLID/CSIP. Both numbers should appear in AssistExpo.

Premise ID field is mandatory for all dairy entries!

### Visit our website!

[www.4-hontario.ca/4h-in-my-area/south-simcoe.aspx](http://www.4-hontario.ca/4h-in-my-area/south-simcoe.aspx)

Visit us on Facebook at South Simcoe 4-H.

**Making the Best of 4-H in 2020 - What South Simcoe 4-H Clubs are Doing!**

**Chess Club** - The Chess Club started with an in-person meeting at the beginning of March, but quickly moved to an online format. Members and leaders had fun dressing up and presenting research they had done about famous chess players or special defense moves during online meetings. Following meetings, members would challenge each other to online chess matches and work through quick lessons/puzzles to that allowed them to learn more about chess at their own rate. All chess club members successfully completed their achievement program by participating in an online chess tournament where they used all of their skills learned over the course of this club. Congratulations to all members of the chess club, especially those who took a risk and tried chess for the very first time!

**Water/Environmental Club** - There have been three meetings held online already. The second meeting hosted a local business, Swaffield Septic via Zoom to discuss the importance of maintaining a septic system to protect our water. The 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting included a “live experiment” where members were taught about pH in water and various factors that can affect solubility.

**Garden Club** - 13 members will be learning gardening information from the 4-H resource project, “Let’s Get Growing,”. At our first ZOOM meeting members elected their executive members, and were introduced to the value and benefits of keeping a “Garden Journal”, which is one of the club completion requirements. Leaders provided a demonstration on making a rain gauge and making a garden plan, which is part of the home assignments to help ensure that members’ efforts to grow their garden has the best chance of success. Other online topics for meeting #1 included: types of soil; growing needs of plants; planting methods: companion planting, consecutive plantings and succession planting/intercropping.

**Hiking Club & Adventure Club** - The Adventure Club managed to get a snowshoeing meeting in before Covid-19. Meeting 2 for the Adventure Club and Meeting 1 for the Hiking Club included meeting via Zoom for club executive nominations. Scott Cullen also had a backpack that he had packed for a hike and the members had to guess what was in his pack and also what it weighed. Their take home assignment is to go on a walk or a hike if safe to do so and make a list of 20 signs of spring that they see.

**Clearview Beef Club** - The members met via Zoom for their first meeting to discuss 2020 plans and elect their club executive. Since then they have used their Instagram and Facebook pages to introduce themselves individually and talk about what 4-H means to them.

**Dairy Clubs** - all three dairy clubs have had one virtual meeting via ZOOM to review how to choose a calf and to ensure that all members know that a calf has to be chosen and registered via Assist Expo by May 22<sup>nd</sup>. They have also discussed plans on how the clubs can move forward this year with some ideas.

**Online Explore 4-H Project and Cloverbud at Home Experience** - both of these projects have been rolled out by 4-H Ontario and many of our members have been participating. Details for both of these projects can be found at [www.4-hontario.ca/youth](http://www.4-hontario.ca/youth).

**Look for all of our other clubs to be hosting their first meeting in the very near future!**

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	Karen Baker	Dan Baker
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