

### **What is the Alberta Horse Conference?**

Formerly called the Horse Breeders and Owners Conference (HBOC), the Alberta Horse Conference is North America's premiere equine conference. It is an annual event that took place in Calgary, Red Deer and in 2017 in Sherwood Park, Alberta. This equine event features internationally recognized speakers on a wide range of topics of interest to horse owners, breeders and professionals alike.

### **When is the conference?**

The conference takes place every year on the second full weekend in January after New Year's Day.

### **Where is the conference?**

\*\*\*New for 2017: Sherwood Park, Alberta. The conference has been in Red Deer since 1983 and for 2017 we've decided to try something new! Find a map [here](#) .

### **Who is speaking at the conference?**

We take pride in bringing a variety of internationally recognized and knowledgeable speakers to our conference. Our conference planning committee considers many factors when selecting and approaching prospective speakers. The program changes every year! For a list of our current confirmed speakers, [please click here](#) . If you would like to see a sampling of the quality of information at the Alberta Horse Conference, read through some of the [past conference proceedings](#) .

### **How did the conference start?**

The conference was first run by the University of Calgary. In 1978, Ron Cole, the coordinator of the continuing education department organized the first University of Calgary Equine Reproduction Symposium. The feature speaker at this inaugural symposium was Dr. Peter Rosedale from England. After the success of the first symposium, a decision was made to run the symposium annually. When Ron Cole retired from the University Of Calgary Department of Continuing Education, Doug Milligan, Les Burwash and Bob Coleman were on staff at the Horse Industry Branch with Alberta Agriculture conducting extension programs for the horse industry. In 1982, the Horse Industry Association of Alberta was informally established to conduct the annual conference. In 1983, the first Alberta Horse Breeders and Owners Conference was held in Red Deer, where it remained until 2016.