

Alberta-bred Ima Docs High Sign, “Simon”, has proven himself to be one of Canada’s top reining horses. Born in 2001, the red roan Appaloosa is owned by William Cookshaw of DeWinton Alberta. Simon was born on William’s property, Cee Arr Appaloosas, and has a pedigree full of reining and cow horse lines. His dam is Ima Natural High and his sire is Ima Doc O’Lena. Ima Natural High was sired by High Sign Nugget, a top producing sire of Appaloosa cutting, reining and cow horses and Ima Doc O’Lena was sired by Doc O’Lena, a top-producing Quarter Horse stallion. With \$38,000 lifetime total earnings, Simon was Canada's second highest money earning reiner in 2005. He won 16 NRHA Championship trophies and six Reserve Championships during his Futurity/Derby years.

Simon was shown by Nicole Brown of Reiner Nic Performance Horses in his 3 and 4 year old show season. At the 2004 Appaloosa Horse Club (ApHC) World Champion in Fort Worth, Texas, he won in Free Style Reining after Nicole and Simon wowed the crowd with their Superman themed choreography and costumes. Nicole removed the bridle and continued the pattern and the crowd rose to a standing ovation.

In 2007, Simon was shown by Shawna Sapergia of Rafter SS Ranch. He was presented with an NRHA Silver Certificate in honour of achieving \$5000 in NRHA lifetime Category 1 earnings in 2007. Although 2007 was Simon’s last year on the circuit, William continued to show in the non-pro competitions until 2010.

A one of a kind horse, Simon is “so intelligent you can almost talk to him” says William. He remembers a practice show in Red Deer when Nicole was riding Simon. They were in the gate about to go into the ring. A scary sunbeam was between the gate and the ring and Simon leapt over the horse-eating beam to the laughter of the crowd. The run was over as soon as it began but everyone around enjoyed a good laugh.

Despite being a stallion, William says that Simon is “very laid back and quiet.” Simon is currently standing at Moore & Co. Veterinary Services Reproduction Station in Southern Alberta.