



The Dewberry and District Agricultural Society will celebrate its 50th anniversary in April of 2022. This association's roots encompass a large area of what is referred to as Division 7 in the County of Vermilion River. Founding members of the Society included several Dewberry and Clandonald area residents. Names such as George Brodwin, Bert Shaw, Clarence Goldsmith, Roy Butz, Headley Dennill, John Whiteside, and others can be found as original members on the registration sheet dated April 10, 1972.

Over the course of its history this association can be credited with providing a large variety of community entertainment and developing and/or maintaining the facilities needed to allow those events to take place. What began simply as operating the skating rink changed to encompassing hosting Chuckwagon Races in 1976, the development of a monthly cash lottery, hosting an annual fair each summer, the

installation of artificial ice, improvements and additions to the concession, then came huge improvements at the race track, the purchase of a PA system and the first Zamboni. With the help of other community organizations and user groups improvements continued over the next several decades both at the arena complex and the sports grounds/ball diamonds. The arena building also provided classroom spaces when the school was under renovation in the mid 1980's. The original arena building transformed so many times over the decades that there were no less than 15 additions constructed over the years to accommodate the changing needs of the day. Planning and fundraising began in about 2008 to complete much needed major renovations. This plan transformed over the years to become a complete re-build. The difficult and frightening decision was made in the ensuing years to demolish the existing structures and begin the construction of a new arena. The "old arena" was demolished in the spring of 2016 and we moved into the new structure for the beginning of hockey season in 2017.

Although community needs and desires have continued to transform the Agricultural Society over the decades, there has always been one undeniable constant –VOLUNTEERS-- this Society and all of its endeavors would not be possible without the continuing support of our dedicated volunteers. Their commitment is a very large part of the reason we were able to construct the beautiful facility we have today. One other large piece of the successful equation that makes up the Dewberry and District Agricultural Society is the generosity of our community. There is no other area than can boast the support that we have experienced over the years, both in time and financial commitment, from Dewberry and surrounding area. You, our community, are why this Agricultural Society is what it is today, and we Thank You!