

A Timeline History of the Powell River Farmers' Agricultural Institute

POWELL RIVER FARMERS INSTITUTE

1915

Beginning with a Bang

At the turn of the century it is impossible for individuals to purchase dynamite so the farmers of Powell River come together to form the Farmers' Institute and are able to purchase dynamite to assist in the clearing of their lands to support livestock and agriculture. The Powell River Farmers' Institute (PRFI) is founded to "improve conditions of rural life so that settlement may be permanent and prosperous."

2015

PRFI celebrates 100 years in Powell River.

POWELL RIVER FALL FAIR

1932

Cranberry Ratepayers hold their first Fall Fair.

1933

The Powell River & District Horticultural Society is founded as a result of the previous years' successful Fall Fair, and continues to put on the fairs each fall.

1939

After 7 years of successful Fall Fairs, the event goes into hiatus as WWII starts.

1954

Fall Fairs resume at the Willingdon Beach Arena

1970's

When the Arena closes in the 70's the Fair moves to the Recreation Complex's two skating rinks

1982

Last Fall Fair at the Recreation Complex

1987

Fall Fair re-opens at the Paradise Valley Exhibition Grounds. Successful Fall Fairs continue with an outdoor focus and plenty of space to grow.

2015

Without a coordinator, a scaled- down version of a Fall Fair (*A Fall Affair*) is held.

POWELL RIVER & DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

1936

The Powell River & District Horticultural Society changes its name to The Powell River & District Agricultural Society (PRDAS) and Fall Fair continues. PRDAS promotes the local cultivation of fruits, vegetables and flowers.

1939

PRDAS takes a hiatus as WWII starts.

1954

PRDAS resumes and provides the community with unforgettable Fall Fairs at the Willingdon Beach Arena.

1970's

PRDAS moves the Fair to the new Recreation Complex

1982

PRDAS holds its last Fall Fair at the Rec Complex.

1987

PRDAS re-launches Fall Fair at the Paradise Valley Exhibition Grounds also opens the Farmers' Market. The society expands to include the local 4H club and participates in the administration of the Paradise Exhibition Park.

2015

After decades of success PRDAS faces a year without a Fall Fair Coordinator.

POWELL RIVER FARMERS' MARKET

1987

First Farmers' Market opens at Paradise Exhibition Park

2015

Farmers' Market enjoys its 28th birthday

2016 Discussions begin regarding the consolidation of the efforts of PRDAS and the PRFI in order to better support local farmers and agriculture.

2017 The Powell River & District Agricultural Society and the Powell River Farmers' Institute amalgamate their activities and resources.

2017 The Powell River Farmers' Agricultural Institute is created