

Canada 2012

By Hannah Braithwaite

When I found out I had been picked to go the World Hereford Conference, I was excited about a once in a lifetime opportunity along with Fiona Woollatt and James Ludgate, as juniors to represent the UK.

We flew from Gatwick Airport on the 12th July after getting up at 4.00 am! When arriving in Calgary after not much sleep and a 7 hour time difference, we were certainly ready for bed by 4.00 pm after a lovely Canadian steak! We listened to the different countries presenting their version of 'Herefords in our country' which was interesting seeing all the different ways and what they do! Following that juniors were meant to go to a "meet and greet pizza party" (which we thought we were really a bit old for).



We spent a day at the Calgary Stampede which was a range of all different things including showing cattle, rodeo, chuckwagon racing, auctioneer finals and a lot of stands and shops!

We also had the chance to show a calf in the junior show. Showing out in Canada was different to the UK; they did not wear white coats, just a red polo

top and jeans! When we were showing we had to wear our own country wear so we stood out from the rest and just to make it even better I had the liveliest calf at the show it seemed!

After spending the week at the World Hereford Conference and meeting a lot of new people, we had previously decided to stay an extra week to explore Canada more and have a better look around so between the three of us we hired a car and a condo, which was very posh!



In the second week we visited a number of different ranches, looking around their Hereford cattle. This was very impressive and the countryside was different to the UK, things were more spread out and driving three hours to go somewhere to them was nothing!



We also visited Calgary Zoo where there were a wide range of animals including bears, gorillas and other animals we wouldn't see at home.

We spent a day in Banff walking round the eye opening scenery and then hired a canoe on a glistening blue lake, we just hoped we didn't fall in because the water wasn't the warmest!

On the last day we went on a two hour trek western riding which was brilliant, it was different to riding in the UK, and then following that we went white water rafting. This was a little scary to start with but once you got into it, it was amazing... even though the river was only 4°C!



I would like to thank the Hereford Cattle Society and all of the Council Members for selecting me for this trip; it was an amazing opportunity which couldn't be missed! I learnt a lot

about Canada and their style of doing different things and even learnt more about Hereford Cattle!