

News Release

For immediate release

August 9, 2022

Queen City Ex has the Best Attendance Ever!

Regina, SK – The 138th edition of Queen City Ex (QCX) presented by SaskTel is in the books and it smashed all previous attendance records. This year a total of an incredible 278,306 QCX'ers took in the five-day fair. The new record is 18% more than the previous one set during the last five-day fair in 2019. It also beat the 2021 attendance mark which was eight-days and two weeks later than normal.

"Our team is absolutely blown away by the reaction to this year's exhibition," said Tim Reid, President, and CEO of REAL. "Thank you to everyone, young and old, that chose to celebrate fun at our fair. We know the infinite memories made will last a lifetime. The community support was amazing to see and we can't wait to do it all again next year!"

A new addition to this year's QCX was the first annual Mini-Donut Eating Competition in support of the Regina Food Bank. Fourteen competitors raised \$63,540 which equals 190,620 meals. An additional competitor was drawn at random to participate after making a minimum \$20 donation to the Food Bank. They competed against 55-time world record holder and professional eater Joey Chestnut. In eight minutes, Chestnut consumed an incredible 255 mini donuts. Maguire Abell from the University of Regina Rams Football Team consumed 76 while Rebellion Brewing President Mark Heise came in third at 61 donuts. The top fundraiser was nine-year-old Juliana Denouden who raised \$15,240 which was matched by her family's company Avana Builds.

The Original 16 Stage saw the largest concert in QCX history when multi-platinum singer, songwriter, and dancer Jason Derulo took to the stage. He was joined by Regina's own Teshler. Other acts throughout the week featured the Headpins and Streetheart, Kendra Kay and Tim Hicks, Saskatchewan's Own Tenille Arts and Tebey. Closing out the exhibition was the Regina Symphony Orchestra and an amazing fireworks display.

This year saw over 50 rides and almost 60 food vendors delight and excite every QCX'er. Some new food items for exhibition goers included pull pork inside a grilled cheese wrapped in a glazed donut and Mac and Cheese Soft Serve Ice Cream. This year the first ever **QCX Best in Food Competition** was held through an online vote. Beaver Tails narrowly beat out REAL's own Prairie Stack.

Two nights of the Pile O'Bones Rodeo saw the best attendance ever with over 7,700 people taking in the two-day event.

"I want to thank our sponsors who stepped up to support this year's QCX. As always and forever, we can't do this without you," said Tim Reid, "To our staff and partners, especially SaskTel, what an amazing five days. You helped thousands of people from across our province have the chance to turn up the fun during a staple of Saskatchewan summers, the QCX, and they will not soon forget it."

Over 2,100 pounds of food donations were collected on the final day of the QCX as a result of the SaskMilk Flip for Hunger Pancake Breakfast where over 15,000 pancakes were flipped.

We can't wait to welcome Saskatchewan to the 2023 Queen City Ex presented by SaskTel August 2 – 6.

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How Saskatchewan Turned Up the Fun at Queen City Ex presented by SaskTel

278,306 QCX'ers set the highest attendance in 138 years.

\$12.8 million economic impact

385,000 tickets to ride sold

37,500 Instagramable moments attributed to Jason Derulo as he rocked Confederation Park

\$63,540 raised for the Regina Food bank which is 190,620 meals

255 mini donuts consumed by professional eater Joey Chestnut

220,000 mini donuts consumed by QCX'ers

2,459 corn dogs down the hatch

137,549 oz of Saskatchewan brewed Original 16 beverages enjoyed.

15,000 pancakes served during the SaskMilk Family Day Pancake Breakfast

1,200 prairie stacks devoured

2,000 Cyclone signature drinks sold

Over 1,000,000 litres of water consumed by REAL staff

10,000 Instagram votes cast in the first ever QCX Best in Food Competition

810 entries submitted for the photo/video contest with \$4,900 in prizes

Over 7 million volunteer steps taken

7,700 rodeo fanatics at the Pile O'Bones Rodeo



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