

A Parks Canada Patrol Horse – His Life After Retirement

By Marie Nylund. Photos by Susan Jennings.

Jordan Jennings, age 12, shows off her ribbons after winning 1st in horsemanship, 2nd in pleasure and 3rd in showmanship at 4-H on Parade at the Calgary Stampede Grounds held May 29-31st, 2015. 4-H on Parade is the largest youth show in Canada and the 3rd largest in all of North America.



Jordan's horse is a retired Warden Service patrol horse formerly owned by Parks Canada Agency. Elko, a 23 year old gelding, was born in 1992 at Parks Canada's Ya Ha Tinda Ranch. He was one of the first full blood quarter horse foals sired by Hands Off Hans (aka "Arrow") and out of a registered quarter horse mare named "Scandal". He is a tall, well marked sorrel gelding with white socks on his hind legs and a classy white strip on his face. He proudly wears the Ram's Head brand on his left shoulder – the brand that has been used on Warden Service horses since 1913.



Elko gets a bath

Elko spent his entire career as a patrol horse participated in many local parades in Banff Parade and for many years he was a reliable Warden Ian Syme.

Elko was retired from Parks Canada about 3 years ago and was fortunate to be purchased by the Jennings' family as a 4-H horse for Jordan. Elko takes part in many 4-H horse shows and is not at all embarrassed to be dressed up in a costume for some of the theme events such



Getting ready for arm-up

in Banff National Park. Elko as well as the Calgary Stampede backcountry patrol horse for Park

years ago and was fortunate to be purchased by the Jennings' family as a 4-H horse for Jordan. Elko seems to love the life of a show horse and is not at all embarrassed to be dressed up in a costume for some of the theme events such as shown in this photo.



4-H Christmas Party Animal