



ERIN DITTBURNER

At 29 years old, Erin simply breathes fair – she truly embodies the spirit of fair and strives to improve the fair, the fair volunteers and the development of the sponsorship program. She has a fresh perspective on the fair and on leadership. Her abilities to lead, motivate and encourage others are proven. Her positive outlook on the fair – breathes much needed fresh air to seasoned board members and volunteers by reenergizing them.

2018 is Erin's first year as a Director and has already dove into the Board as Director of the Heavy Horse Show, Sponsorship Director and Volunteer Recognition Director. With a fresh and energetic approach to leadership she has revamped the Sponsorship program with a new and modern application and approach including the development on a new sponsorship package, new methods to deliver the sponsorship packages and new inclusions in the package to attract new sponsors and increases funds from current sponsors. The sponsorship in 2018 increased by 28% gaining new sponsorship and new relationship with government sponsorship for now and the future. Based on the positive feedback from the sponsors, we anticipate further increase in sponsorship. As a livestock volunteer director, Erin encouraged new exhibitors with warm and open communication. We all know the challenges facing livestock shows in small Exhibitions, lack of exhibitors, cost and talent. Only with the dedication of time and energy can you hope to increase livestock shows which Erin truly understands and has already implemented. With all small fairs, volunteers are the life blood of all events. Erin has single handedly planned events to recognize volunteers through unique recognition and celebration. She developed and did local high school visits, meeting with teachers, classes and individual students to encourage volunteers. She completed a formal volunteer application process and database. In Quebec, there is no program for volunteering through school programs, so this program exposed volunteering during the fair to a whole new local demographic thus increased the volunteer base for the fair in 2018 and for future fairs.

Even though this is Erin's first year on the Board, Erin has been a true Future Leader for a lifetime. Volunteering at the fair with her family, truly becoming part of the fair team from an extremely young age. As a child, she folded pamphlets, sold tickets, helped in many ways, even baking and delivering cookies to volunteers. Weekends were filled with planning the fair, delivering posters up to 3 hours from the grounds to every corner store, gas station, etc. She was part of the "Stomping Tom Conners" sellout at the fair. Growing up, she competed in 4-H calf shows both locally and regionally, displayed handicrafts in the youth program and was crowned Miss Shawville Fair in 2002 – allowing her from a young age to understand the leadership required to plan and develop these departments within our fair. As she grew up, she worked in the Beer Tent, sold raffle tickets to support minor hockey, assisting with setup and tear down the week prior to and after the fair, plus much more. As a young adult, she has announced and chaired a tri livestock show, Heavy Horse, Commercial Horse and Mini Horse successfully, keeping the fair goers and exhibitors satisfied for a three day division. She schedules her day to yield the maximum volunteer output and supports in as many other divisions and as Director as possible throughout the fair. Arriving on ground before 7 am daily and leaving after 2am. Not to mention, allows people to camp free of charge in her yard not far from the grounds so they too can enjoy and grow to love the Shawville fair the same way she does.

If you or anyone asks Erin about the Shawville Fair her eyes light up and she beams with pride as she tells you all about it. Ask her you will see!