

CITY OF SURREY

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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DIANNE WATTS
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His Worship
Mayor Nenshi
City of Calgary
PO Box 2100, Station M
Calgary, AB T2P 2M5

Dear Mayor Nenshi:

Re: Calgary Stampede

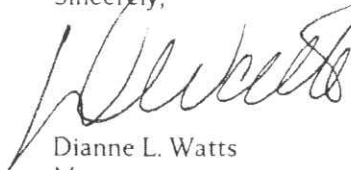
The Calgary Stampede is well underway and I trust that the prevailing attitude is a festive one. This rodeo is world renown and attracts some of the largest names, as evidenced by the recent visit of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge.

Surrey also has an annual rodeo, the Cloverdale Rodeo. While not the size of Calgary's, it is the second largest community rodeo in Canada and an important fixture in the culture of our region. We celebrated its 65th Anniversary this year and it was an exciting success.

In 2007, the rodeo made several changes, including removing the tie-down roping or calf-roping event from the program. While the result was that the Cloverdale Rodeo is no longer sanctioned by the Canadian Professional Rodeo Association, it has not had ill-effects on the rodeo's popularity. As such, I am writing to encourage you to advocate for the removal of calf-roping from Calgary Stampede. As the Calgary Stampede Rodeo is not sanctioned by the CPRA, there is no danger in losing status by dropping calf-roping.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this request, which would improve animal welfare and serve as an example to the Rodeo world. I wish you the best in your position as Mayor and hope that you enjoy the remainder of the Stampede.

Sincerely,



Dianne L. Watts
Mayor

cc Debra Probert, Executive Director, Vancouver Humane Society