Non-Recognized 4-H Project Newsletter

CANADA
4-H Nova Scotia

This Non-Recognized Project Newsletter contains information specific to the Non-Recognized Project. Please use it in conjunction with the General 4-H Information Bulletin, so that you are aware of Achievement Day completion requirements as well as general opportunities and information pertaining to all 4-H members. This Project Newsletter, as well as the General 4-H Information Bulletin, will be updated each year, if necessary, based on changes made at the 4-H Nova Scotia Leadership Forum.

4-H Nova Scotia offers over 30 official 4-H projects for members to choose from each year. With most of those projects, opportunities for exhibit exist at club Achievement Days, Exhibition and County level shows, and 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show. If a member has an interest outside of the official project list, they are encouraged to talk with their Regional Program Coordinator (RPC) about signing up for a Non-Recognized 4-H project.

4-H Nova Scotia Resolution Regarding Official Projects

A project must have fifteen (15) project completions, in at least three (3) counties, for two (2) consecutive years, to become an official 4-H Nova Scotia project. A Non-Recognized project will be added to the official 4-H Nova Scotia project list when resolution requirements are met.

Accommodation will be made for Non-Recognized 4-H projects to be displayed at Achievement Day and compete at Exhibition or County level show, if applicable. Non-Recognized 4-H Project articles are eligible for 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show if they are submitted to Class 19: 4-H Showcase. The top two (2) junior and top two (2) senior articles will move on to 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show. Resource information will not be provided for Non-Recognized projects.

Class 19: Showcase, was introduced in 2003 as a way for members to showcase new and exciting project ideas, that are not already being offered as an official project. Those new and exciting ideas can entice new members and leaders to our program; therefore, the Showcase class was developed to display them. If you are planning to do project work that already fits into an official project class/section, you may be asked to register for that specific project, instead of 'non-recognized' (e.g., A paper craft can fit in the Scrapbooking or Crafts project).

Non-Recognized 4-H projects completed across the province include the following, but did not have sufficient project completion numbers to qualify as an official project for 2025-2026:

- Archery
- Blacksmithing
- Fine Arts
- Fire Safety
- Fisheries
- Forging
- Miniatures and Models
- Oxen
- Pigeon
- Plumbing
- Swine

Draft Horse is a Non-Recognized project for the 2025-2026 4-H year.

Last Revised: December 2025

Non-Recognized 4-H Project Work Requirements

On Achievement Day, Non-Recognized 4-H project members must meet the following project work requirements:

Non-Recognized Life Skills Projects	Three (3) project work articles
Non-Recognized Livestock Projects	Showmanship

At Achievement Day, articles are evaluated based on member's age, years in 4-H and the project, etc. therefore it is important to remember that quality and content of project work must be appropriate and adequate to receive project completion.

4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show Class & Sections:

Each county is eligible to send the top two (2) junior and top two (2) senior articles 4-H Showcase projects to the 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show. The sections are as follows:

Class 19: 4-H Showcase

Section 1:	4-H Showcase Articles

Note: Live animals are not to be used for display at 4-H Achievement Days, Exhibition, or 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show. Reports, displays, posters or demonstrations are acceptable methods of displaying projects about live animals.

Note: If members require video/slide equipment to display their project, specialty item or project activity, they must provide their own equipment at 4-H Achievement Days, Exhibition, or 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show.

Non-Recognized 4-H Project Judging Requirement

Non-Recognized 4-H project members must complete judging at the County level. RPC's will try to provide an appropriate judging class for each non-recognized 4-H project.

Livestock Registration

4-H members must select their 4-H animals by May 1st of the current 4-H year and must submit livestock registration information to 4-H Nova Scotia by May 15th of the current 4-H year. Livestock Registration will only be accepted through the online Livestock Registration Form; if you need assistance with this form, please contact your RPC directly. Information in this form is necessary to assist with county show/exhibition planning, including judges, class schedules, awards, etc. The following information must be submitted for Livestock Registration requirements: name of member, junior member/senior member, conformation class entered, sex of animal, breed of animal, and date of birth of animal.

4-H animals may be substituted between the registration deadline of May 15th and Achievement Day in the case of injury, sickness, disease, or death of the animal. If an animal is to be substituted prior to

Please note that the National Farm Animal Code of Practice should be followed when housing animals for 4-H events.

These standards can be found at: http://www.nfacc.ca/

Achievement Day, pre-approval from the RPC is necessary. A vet certificate may be required. After Achievement Day, no substitutions are permitted.

Contagious/Infectious Disease & Quarantine

4-H members, leaders, parents and livestock owners are reminded that 4-H Achievement Days and shows are showcases for the 4-H program, and the agricultural industry in this province. They are reminded that infectious diseases can be transmitted during transport, as well as at the show. As such, it is strongly recommended for the protection of the public, participants, and the animals at the show, that animals having or showing signs of infectious diseases not be brought to shows. As well, livestock exhibitors and owners must understand that in attending 4-H Shows, there is a risk of their animal contracting disease regardless of the best efforts of all involved.

If you suspect that your animal has a contagious/infectious disease, please contact your local veterinarian immediately and learn more about the consequences, treatment, and transmission of the disease.

Brochures, "Skin Infections of Particular Concern to 4-H Calves: Ringworm, Warts and Lice" and "Fact Sheet: Animal Health and Safety Best Practices" are available. If you wish to receive a copy by mail or email, please contact your Regional Program Coordinator. It contains important information for all livestock members on this topic and will be critical to review with 4-H Clubs, livestock owners, and your local veterinarian when making decisions about attending 4-H achievement days and shows.

Animal Movement Reporting

Regulations around moving animals to and from Fairs, Exhibitions, Achievement Days, 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show and other events are in place or are coming into place for some species. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency is responsible for these regulations regarding the identification of animals and how livestock owners report moving animals on and off the farm. This includes individual animal ID tags and reporting the movements of animals. Tag numbers are to be reported by the owner/operator of a premise when the animals enter, and then by the farmer/owner when the animals are brought back to the farm or where they are housed for the species affected.

Movement Document – A Movement Document is to travel with the animals. This document will record the departure premise and destination premise, as well as the quantity of livestock being transported. These documents will be made available by CFIA once the regulation changes come into effect.

There are three things 4-H members can do to prepare for these changes.

1. Identify your livestock premises by applying for or confirming a premises identification (PID) number with the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture www.novascotia.ca/agri/pid.
2. Confirm or set up a Canadian Livestock Tracking System (CLTS) database account at https://www.canadaid.ca/ with Canadian Cattle Identification Agency (CCIA) by toll-free telephone at 1-877-909-2333 or email: info@canadaid.ca CLTS MOBO - a free app to submit animal movement events quickly and easily to your CLTS database account using a mobile device
3. Voluntarily report receipt (move in) event data to your CLTS database account for livestock arriving at your livestock premises using the individual animal identification, within seven days of receipt.

For more information please contact the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture Premises Identification Office at 902-956-2707 or NSPID@novascotia.ca.

Livestock Insurance

4-H Insurance does not cover project animals. Insurance coverage for animal liability, injury or death is the animal owner's responsibility.

Activity Involving Animals	
Involving Animals refers to activities in which members are working directly with animals or in a location with animals. (Examples: Livestock members training, fitting and showing, clubs hosting livestock shows or petting farms, groups visiting fairs, farm tours.)	**High-risk Activity** The nature of the activity or the presence of hazards pose a foreseeable risk of harm, illness, or injury to participants.

Risk Management Strategies

Safety information and recommendations contained in this safety checklist are believed to reflect best practice to reduce risk. The suggested risk management strategies are considered minimum standards for livestock handling.

Training and Preparation

- ☐ All youth members and their parents/guardians are informed of potential risks involved in the activity, as well as the safety rules and procedures.
- ☐ Instruction on safety precautions is received from a trained leader or an experienced instructor who is capable of demonstrating the skills and safety precautions.
- ☐ Animal behavior and handling techniques are reviewed by a trained leader or an experienced instructor who is capable of explaining animal behavior and handling techniques.
- ☐ All sessions are conducted in a safe environment.
- ☐ Safety rules and procedures are learned prior to participation.
- ☐ Skills/movements are learned in proper progression.
- ☐ All youth members and their parents/guardians are informed of the equipment/clothing required for the activity.
- ☐ Emergency contact and medical information for all participants will be on hand throughout the event, as well as dedicated phones for emergencies.
- ☐ A first aid kit will be available.

Supervision

- ☐ Adheres to Youth Safety Supervision Policy, Rule of Two and Supervision Ratios.
- ☐ Safety rules and procedures are enforced throughout the activity.
- ☐ Emergency action plan is in place to deal with accidents/injuries.

Facility

- ☐ Respect biosecurity protocols of the facility.
- ☐ Ensure activity area is free of hazards/debris.
- ☐ Proper lighting and ventilation, when applicable.
- ☐ Safety rules/regulations are posted/reviewed prior to the activity.
- ☐ Indoor facility has a clearly marked emergency exit.
- ☐ Animals should be worked with in an enclosed space, with proper safety exits, such as an arena or pen to prevent animals from getting loose.
- ☐ When in a public venue, use gates and signage to separate the public traffic flow from animal movement.
- ☐ When in a public venue have signage regarding handwashing and touching animals.
- ☐ Animals should be safely and securely tied or caged when not being handled according to animal welfare standards to keep animals and people safe.
- ☐ Animals should have access to food and water according to animal welfare standards.
- ☐ Handwashing stations to be available for members and the public after handling animals.

Animals

- ❑ Ensure animals are healthy and suitable for use in the activity.
- ❑ Where applicable, follow all animal transportation regulations.
- ❑ Where applicable, ensure animals are tagged properly.
- ❑ Where applicable follow quarantine recommendations after an event.

❑ Ensure animal owners are aware of their responsibility to have insurance coverage for their animals, 4-H Canada holds no insurance coverage for animals.
Equipment ☐ Equipment to be used is suitable and in good condition. ☐ Equipment should be cleaned and sanitized following best practices. ☐ Equipment is checked by a qualified person before every session. ☐ Halters and collars to be properly fitted to ensure good control and animal comfort. ☐ Instructions are given regarding the proper use and maintenance of equipment. ☐ Leaders check to ensure that each youth has the required materials prior to participation. ☐ Leaders ensure that there is a First aid kit and a designated emergency phone are available
Clothing/Footwear ☐ Appropriate and properly fitted footwear is worn. For example, steel toed boots are recommended for large livestock. ☐ Appropriate clothing is worn. For example: Helmets are recommended for horseback riding.
Inclusion ☐ The activity is suitable to all participating youth member's age, ability, mental condition, and physical condition.