Welcome to the 2018 Ontario Federation of Sled Dog Sports Fall Symposium!

October 13, 2018

230 Durham Street South
Madoc ON
(at the Skate Park)

Agenda and Speakers

8:30 am…Registration

9:00 am…Welcome, President OFSS, Ralph Schade

9:10 am…Dr. Tara Hudye

10:30 am…BREAK****

11:00 am…Dr. Tara Hudye

12:15 pm…Lunch

1:15 pm…Aaron Peck

2:30pm…BREAK****

3:00pm…Aaron Peck

4:30 pm…Wrap up, Raffles etc.

Aaron Peck Biography

Life began for Aaron in southern Ontario Canada in 1979. Growing up on his parents small farm, Aaron was exposed to animals of all kinds. Life was full of excitement for Aaron. Working with the animals and taking care of them, seemed to be just what Aaron was meant to do. After Aaron was able to witness the Iditarod on TV as a boy, he developed a keen interest in the awesome sport of dog mushing. Already a dog lover, combined with Aaron's love for winter and adventure made the idea of running sled dogs too hard to resist. In 1992 when Aaron was 13 years old an old sled dog team joined the family farm. Training his dogs and going to mid distance races around Ontario was Aaron's primary focus during his teenage years. Looking back Aaron thanks his sled dogs for keeping him out of trouble and teaching him to focus on setting and achieving goals.

After several years of running his dogs in Ontario Aaron realized his dream of running the Iditarod in Alaska was strong enough for him to head north. So when Aaron was 18 years old in 1998, he moved to Alaska to apprentice under Martin Buser, a 4 X Iditarod Champion. Aaron spent two years under Martin's guidance learning about what it really takes to prepare for and compete in the Iditarod. After 2 years of training with Martin, Aaron ran in his first Iditarod.

Aaron returned home to Ontario with a plan. In 2005 Aaron made it to the Iditarod once again, but this time with his own dogs. The logistical challenges of competing with his dogs in Alaska while living in southern Ontario needed to be solved. So in 2006 Aaron moved to Grande Prairie in northern Alberta. The Adam Buffalo Ranch was an ideal location for Aaron to continue building his Iditarod team. Over the next few years Aaron and his dogs competed in numerous long distance races and also operated sled dog tours in Lake Louise and Panorama ski resort.

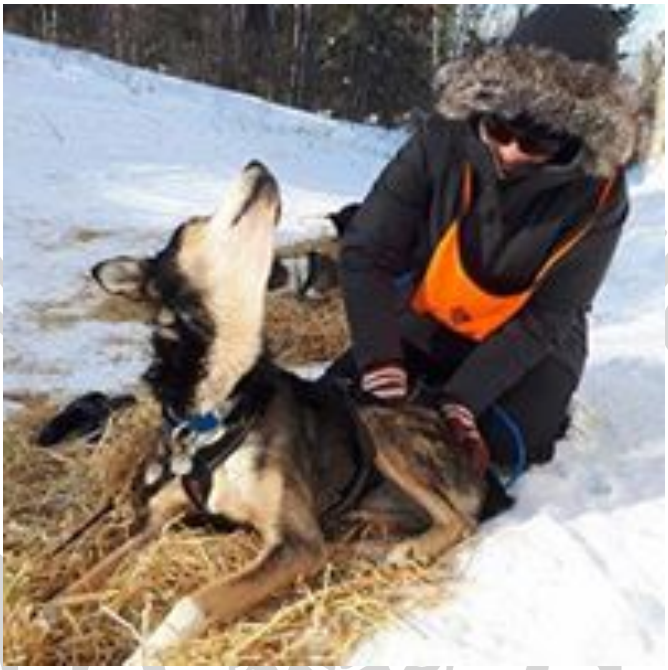
Aaron's skills with his dogs continued to develop during these years. In addition to running the Iditarod 2 more times in 2009 and 2013, Aaron won the 2011 Canadian Challenge 320 mile race in northern SK, also after 5 attempts Aaron won the prestigious International Pedigree Stage Stop Sled Dog Race in 2013, a gruelling 7 day stage race in the mountains of Wyoming.

In 2012 Aaron began managing the Kleskun Hills Bison Ranch, also near Grande Prairie. Soon thereafter Aaron met his wife Eva while racing in Yellowknife in the Canadian Championships. Eva who is from Switzerland was no stranger to snow and competition, Aaron credits his marriage with Eva for taking his professionalism with his dogs to the next level.

In 2014 Aaron and Eva re-branded their sled dog team as Elevation Sled Dogs. In addition to racing, Elevation Sled Dogs also offers tours to the Grande Prairie region. Aaron and Eva also began a dog boarding business in 2014.

Currently Aaron and Eva have two children, Clancy 4 years old and Sunny 2 years old. After a 5 year absence from Iditarod Aaron returned to compete in the 2018 race. Aaron and Eva along with all of the supporters are taking their dogs to a new level. The goal is to be competing at the front of Iditarod within the next 3-4 years with the ultimate goal of becoming the first Canadian team to win the toughest race on earth - the Iditarod.

Dr. Tara Hudye BSC. DVM CCRP



Tara Hudye BSC. DVM CCRP

Tara grew up on a farm in Kamsack, Saskatchewan, Canada.

Graduated University of Regina 1996

Western College of Veterinary Medicine 2004

Canine Rehabilitation Certificate from University of Tennessee 2012

Specializing in Musculoskeletal Ailments

Veterinarian 2018 Canadian Challenge