

The Heritage Animals Act

The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador passed this Act to support the work of the Newfoundland Pony Society and to recognize the Newfoundland Pony as an important part of the heritage of Newfoundland and Labrador. As the first animal recognized under the Act, the Newfoundland Pony stands alone as the foremost symbol of the settlers' struggle to survive a history of hard work and barren landscapes. The story of the Newfoundland Pony is the story of Newfoundlanders. They evolved together.

Characteristics of the Newfoundland Pony

The Newfoundland Pony stands between 11 to 14.2 hands in height. Weight can be from 400 to 900 pounds. Frames vary from fine to heavy boned. Bay is the most common colour but black, brown, chestnut, grey, dun and roan are also found. Some of the roans experience radical colour changes over the seasons. White markings are minimal on most ponies. The mane and tail are thick. Some roans and chestnuts have flaxen manes and tails. There is slight feathering at the fetlocks. Typically the head is pony-like with deep jowls, a narrow muzzle, intelligent eyes and short hairy ears. The hooves are relatively small and flint hard. The tail is low set. The overall conformation is that of the pony type. The Newfoundland Ponies are particularly sure footed and have an ingrained pony sense. They are winter hardy, tireless and economical to keep. They are talented, intelligent, adaptable and easy to work with. They make excellent mounts for both children and adults and can easily jump four feet. They excel under harness and are known to work well with the disabled.

What the Future Holds

The Newfoundland Pony Society is working in co-operation with the Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Agriculture and pony owners to protect and preserve the Newfoundland Pony. At present, the Newfoundland Pony is being bred across Canada and there are also a small number of ponies in the U.S.A... About 53% of the registered ponies reside in Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Newfoundland Pony is on Rare Breeds Canada's critical list. Too few ponies are being born annually. The population is divided. The majority of ponies outside the province of Newfoundland and Labrador are located in Nova Scotia and Ontario. The Newfoundland Pony Society is firmly committed to strengthening the numbers of Newfoundland Ponies in an effort to secure a future for this historical equine.

One of the Society's chief mandates is to educate fellow Canadians about the important role the Newfoundland Pony played in the history of Newfoundland and Labrador and the role it can play in today's and tomorrow's equine world.

The Society is seeking new members who are interested in becoming involved in our efforts.

Join the Society

We invite you to be a part of the important work being done. Get involved today. Please contact us at:

The Newfoundland Pony Society
P.O. Box 8132
St. John's, Newfoundland
A1B 3V9
Or
www.newfoundlandpony.com

Annual Memberships: \$30 Family; \$20 Single Adult; \$15 Senior/Junior. Newsletters are published quarterly. The Newfoundland Pony Society is a Federally Registered Charity in Canada (# 899 123 053 RRO 001). Charitable receipts are issued for Membership Fees and Donations.