

Prairie Fire

- Michael Wahba

Iconoclast, innovator, radical, rioter.

Born with shovel in hand and horse in tow, grit in his teeth, fire in his veins, feet in the soil, hat to the sky.

A true pioneer.

Tending fields where bright minds grow. Building pastures for dreamers to roam.
"We can do it here, only bigger and better".

We're not just known for cowboys and canola. But for advances in STEM, biology and medicine. He built Alberta's future among fields of wheat.

Lab coat meet frock coat.

Rhinestone Cowboy, Ph.D.

He led the mighty Stampede for 20 years. Charging ahead in boardroom and on horse back. Advisory boards, councils and committees, serving premiers and his community equally. Changing the landscape with every step of his spur, incinerating conventional thought with a smoldering gaze. Cultivating his silver vision in the ashes of custom, rooted in resolute Rocky View bedrock, watered with grit.

His lab coat adorned with the Order of Canada.
His duster coloured by the Order of Excellence.
Too many awards to name, too many accolades to list.
Too many lives touched and too many futures changed.
A fulfilling life ends,
across valleys, hills and stoney plains.