

A Note from Dr. Jackie

I am so sorry to be writing this note—truly sorry!

I don't really have the right words to express all the things I've felt since yesterday morning getting injured. Mostly I feel the weight of letting you down. I live for all things cattle—I love this industry and God willing I will be back and fully functional as soon as I possibly can.

Your job and my job is never safe—never completely without risk. I think even now of producers on my prayer list, farms losing leaders, and fellow veterinarians laid up. We have always done our best in every situation and sometimes even the best intentions can turn sideways in the blink of an eye.

Last week I got chased and rolled around by an angry bull—that wasn't fun and we have been joking about my nasty bruises. This week I got kicked by a bull and unfortunately this time its bulls 2 and Jackie 0!

I want to say thank you to the quick thinkers who helped get the angry bull off of me, to my staff who packed me up and drove me back, to the lovely lady that got her vehicle and drove a shitty vet to the hospital when I couldn't figure out how to get back in my truck—you are amazing and I am grateful.

Long story short is I'm waiting for surgery for a nasty broken tibia and a bit of rebuilding of my knee—they say any minute now and I am grateful to our health care system for exceptional care when we need it! I am grateful to my kids and my husband too as they've picked up all the extra things that I can't do right now.

I could dwell on the negative and trust me I go there a lot right now but one thing I've seen time after time in this community is resilience and resolve so I'm going to cling to that and take this one literal step at a time.

I love bull testing and calving season (nobody loves rock picking or bull testing but I'm weird that way and I truly love it!) and it is my greatest disappointment to let you down and cause you stress as you scramble to find other options to get this done. I feel completely helpless and I am so so sorry.

I've reached out to my fellow veterinarians and the clinic will also be happy to help reach out as far and wide as we need to in order to get the work done! Dr.'s Peter Lawson, Skylar Bieleny, Kelly Loree and crew at Ponoka, and more are going to work hard to get this done. They're as passionate as I am and they're mentors I've looked up to over the years.

I am thankful for your support and understanding and if you need to swear, I understand—I did!

Wish me well and send your prayers my way—we all get to be vulnerable sometimes and I guess this time its my turn. Maybe pray more for my husband cause Lord knows he's about to put up with a lot!

With all my respect,

Jackie Dobinson, DVM
Stettler Veterinary Clinic