

CANADIAN RECREATIONAL HORSE AND RIDER ASSOCIATION (CRHRA)

The newly formed Canadian Recreational Horse and Rider Association (CRHRA), is now ready to accept members. The CRHRA is poised to become the most relevant equine organization to represent and advocate on behalf of recreational horse enthusiasts in the country.

Finally we have **an organization that is dedicated solely to represent and advocate on behalf of Recreational horse people**. As a fledgling organization we will focus on: Representation & Advocacy; Risk Management & Equine Welfare; Education; and in the future, Funding for qualified projects on a fund-matching basis.

While other equine organizations include Recreation in their mandate, the truth is that this category of equestrian is often ignored and takes a “back-seat” to organized horse sport participants. Recreational horse participants are by far, the largest horse using demographic, and receive the smallest representation, advocacy, funding etc. whilst paying high dues because they are lumped together with sport horse users.

Who are Recreational Riders? In a phrase: any horse enthusiast that is involved in horse related activities that are not required to be members of Provincial or National Sport organizations. All backyard horse owners, trail riders, riding school participants, club show, schooling show, and Fall Fair participants, Driving horse enthusiasts, and many more categories are eligible for membership in the CRHRA.

Affordable yearly membership fees. The \$30 +HST Membership fees include \$5,000,000.00 Personal Liability Insurance, \$30,000.00 Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance, as well as \$2,500.00 Tack & Equipment coverage on named perils. For new members, the CRHRA is pleased to offer a special extended membership opportunity. This membership is offered at \$45 + HST and commences from the current date and expires 31 August 2016.

Whether riding or driving your horse on the trail, the show grounds, public roadways, etc. many private organizations as well as municipalities require personal liability insurance and just as important, proof of insurance. The CRHRA include insurance as part of their membership benefits and provide plastic membership cards, key-tags, and bridle tags for **easy proof of personal liability insurance**.

While this organization may be brand new, the founding members that make up the board of Directors have in excess of a century of collective experience in the horse industry.

The President of the Canadian Recreational Horse and Rider Association is Jack Dewit. Jack's name has been synonymous with the Recreational horse industry for many decades. In the recent past Jack has served as President of the Ontario

Equestrian Federation, and chair of Recreation for both the O.E.F. and Equine Canada. He is currently the president of the Ontario Trails Council, Vice President of the Canadian Trails Federation and Co-Chair for the Ontario Trail Coordinating committee for the Ministry of Tourism Sport and recreation.

Bruce Brown has been an active proponent for the promotion of all horse pursuits for many decades. Bruce owned and operated Rouge Hill Stables, and Audley Road Stables, offering lessons, trail rides, boarding, Pony club, training and horse shows. He has served as a director of the OEF and the Canadian Equestrian Federation. He was President of the Association of Riding Establishments, which morphed into the facilities council of the OEF. Bruce was inducted in the OEF Hall of Fame for his many years of service on many the OEF committees including: Recreation, Risk Management, Industry, and Finance.

Bonnie Simpson brings years of experience with a unique perspective as a Para trail rider to the CRHRA. She has served on numerous national and provincial equine boards including the OEF. Her passion in recent years has been to develop trails and campgrounds for horse related use.

Gary Yaghdjian is currently the Vice President for CRHRA. Gary has served on the board of directors of the O.E.F., Equine Canada, Ontario Reining Horse Association, Trillium Hunter/Jumper Association and many more equine organizations. He is past president of the OEF, ORHA, and the CE Trillium zone. He is the youngest inductee into the OEF Hall of Fame. Gary has made his living exclusively in the horse industry since 1978, and continues to do so to the present day.

The Canadian Recreational Horse and Rider Association will have a presence at multiple booths at the Can-Am Equine Symposium. Members of the board of directors will be on-site to answer questions and meet with all interested parties.

If you are a horse lover, an enthusiast of recreational riding or driving and tired of funding horse sport organizations, come and join with us in this unique organization dedicated to promote the recreational horse and their human partners.