



ONTARIO HARNESS HORSE ASSOCIATION

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June 30, 2005

COLLEEN ODRISCOLL
7-7481 MITCH OWENS RD
OTTAWA ON K1G 3N4

Dear COLLEEN ODRISCOLL,

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU READ THIS – IT WILL IMPACT YOUR OHHA MEMBERSHIP.

I am writing to you because you are currently enrolled as a member of OHHA with residency in District 1, encompassing Rideau Carleton Raceway. As you are probably aware, there is another organization (the National Capital Region Harness Horse Association – the "NCRHHA") now claiming to represent certain horsepeople, and to be their sole bargaining agent, in the Ottawa region by signing a contract with Rideau Carleton Raceway. As a result, OHHA finds itself in a situation in which we must confirm our membership in the district. It is important to know who our members are going forward in order to ensure that we can provide them with the benefits of membership and to ensure that we can provide for the costs of those benefits when we sign a contract on our members' behalf. There is a direct link between having a contract with the racetrack and the benefits our members receive. OHHA relies on revenue from the track in order to pay for the members' benefits. OHHA is not currently receiving any funds from Rideau Carleton.

As well, one of the terms and conditions of your membership in OHHA has been and is that OHHA is your sole and exclusive bargaining agent. This ensures that we actually speak for horsepeople and can state with certainty, to track management and the federal and provincial governments, that we represent horsepeople's interests. This allows OHHA to contract with the track on your behalf. As I am sure you can appreciate, you therefore cannot have two different groups both be your sole and exclusive bargaining agent at the same time. You cannot be both a member of OHHA and a member of the NCRHHA. Also, OHHA cannot be expected to fund benefits and programs for NCRHHA members.

The enclosed ballot has been sent to you in order for OHHA to be able to confirm its membership. We need to know if you are now a member of the NCRHHA, and therefore no longer intend to be a member of OHHA (you cannot be a member of both associations). The enclosed ballot will be handled by BDO Dunwoody LLP, Chartered Accountants, an independent audit firm located in Mississauga. Representatives at that firm will compile and report the results. If you are a member of the NCRHHA and therefore will not continue to be a member of OHHA going forward, you must check the box on the ballot, sign it and send the ballot back in the enclosed, pre-addressed and stamped envelope. It must be received by July 20, 2005. If you do not check the box and send the ballot back, then that means that you wish to continue your OHHA membership and you are not represented by the NCRHHA. In other words, if we do not hear back from you to the contrary, we assume that you intend to continue your current OHHA membership (which you renewed in the past year).

Your answer is very important to yourself and to OHHA. It will guide us in determining the best course of action to take to ensure that your individual and collective rights as horsepeople are defined and protected. Thank you for taking the time to consider the status of your OHHA membership.

Yours truly,


Jim Whelan
President