

## **DR. MITCHELL DOWNEY**

Saint John, New Brunswick

**Nominated as: Breeder Director, Atlantic Region**

I am currently what you would consider a third generation horsemen. As it stands, I own 12 racehorses, two broodmares and a stallion, so I am indeed afflicted with the same "disease" that most of us are. As a true admirer of the equine athlete it was at a young age I chose to pursue a career in the field of veterinary medicine, graduating from the Atlantic Veterinary College in 2005.

After a 3 year stint in Maine, my family and I returned to NB; purchased two veterinary clinics, while focusing my professional energies on racetrack medicine. I am the Vice-President of the Saint John Horsemen's Association, and currently sit as the VP of Horse Racing NB. I am young and energetic; eager to give back to an industry that provided for my family and taught me many important lessons about myself and the equine athlete.

I believe the key to our survival and regrowth is at the grassroots level. We have to get the fan base growing at these levels. We need nationwide attention for our superior athletes in North America. Very few horses over the last 20 years in harness racing make national headlines. We need a way to get our industry/sport available to the masses and I am confident that SC in partnership with the participants of this great industry will see it done.