

Ontario Horse Racing Industry Association

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OHRIA Notice to the Industry - February 25, 2016 Re: 2016 Ontario Budget - Clause for extension of Horse Racing Partnership Plan

Today, Ontario's Finance Minister, the Honourable Charles Sousa, presented the 2016 Budgetary Policy in the Ontario Legislature.

The budget makes reference to the government's future commitment to our industry. This is good news and we thank the government for this commitment.

OHRIA will work to bring resolution to the need for clarity on what this commitment will mean in detail.

"While we have not yet resolved certainty in our future, I have assurances from the Premier that the provincial government will continue to support and fund horse racing for many years to come," said Sue Leslie, Chair of OHRIA.

"The budget presented today by Minister Sousa acknowledges the importance of the horse racing industry to the rural economy and the cultural fabric of Ontario. We look forward to working with the government to assure a robust future for Ontario horse racing." added Ontario Racing Executive Director, John Snobelen.

The 2016 Budget clause for OLG Modernization extends the \$100 million in government support each year along with breeder support through the HIP program until the year 2021.

For more information on the existing Horse Racing Partnership Plan visit http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/about/transition/index.html

For more information on the OLG Modernization clause in the 2016 Budget visit http://www.fin.gov.on.ca/en/budget/ontariobudgets/2016/

For additional information or comment please contact the Ontario Horse Racing Industry Association (OHRIA) horses@ohria.com ~ www.ohria.com ~ 416-679-0741