

Dr. Mitch Downey
Saint John, NB



Nominated as ATLANTIC BREEDER DIRECTOR

For those who don't know me, I have had the pleasure of just completing my first term ever as a SC director. I have also had the great honour of being the Breeder's Committee Chair for two years, and this past year, Chair of the Board of Standardbred Canada.

My family's roots in harness racing go back three generations on both sides; the Stevenson side having just been recognized at this year's Atlantic Breeders Crown in Charlottetown. The Downey name is familiar to most for many years here in New Brunswick. My father, Mike (and mom Susan) have been working in this industry since the 1970's. The same goes for my uncles David and Ian, both of whom are now residing in Ontario. As you can see, I grew up in this industry and have been fortunate enough to have a career as a veterinarian practically as a result of harness racing.

Currently, I own a dozen horses that are a mix of broodmares, young horses and race horses. I own two veterinary hospitals (Loch Lomond and Dairytown Veterinary Hospitals) in Saint John and Sussex. My wife Michaela and I have two children, Michael and Lauren. I also serve as President of Horse Racing New Brunswick. As you can see, I keep a busy schedule.

This industry has given me everything; a childhood around horses, a career caring for them and a family of my own. I believe that those who can lead, should lead, no questions asked. I believe in the value of harness racing on many levels. It is important for me to see it succeed all across Canada, so my children and those of other horse people can grow up learning life lessons from our amazing equine athletes and pursue careers in harness racing.