

**James A. Whelan**  
Troy, ON



### **Nominated as ONTARIO ACTIVE DIRECTOR**

Jim Whelan born in Alberton, PEI lives with his wife Angela on the family farm in Troy Ontario. The Whelan stable was a PEI fixture until 1979 when he relocated his operational base to Ontario, competing successfully at major racing venues in Canada and the United States.

As a trainer, Jim has sent over 6,000 starters to the gate, with over \$8 million in earnings and a UDRS of .349. As a driver, he has competed in more than 15,000 races with over \$9 million in earnings with a UDRS approaching .300 and 2429 victories.

Jim is well known as the voice and President of the Ontario Harness Horse Association, representing almost 2200 industry participants. Known for his relentless pursuit of justice and fairness for horse people, Jim has dedicated his life to the preservation and expansion of the Equine Agricultural Industry. Under his leadership, the OHHA recently created the Ontario Equine Education and Employment Program (OEEEEP). Funded by the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, OEEEEP is delivered in partnership with Equine Guelph and VPI Working Solutions. In line with Jim's vision, this program is designed to fill the skill and labour shortage in the equine industry with qualified, trained workers. A true success story in its first year of operation, OEEEEP has matched hundreds of workers to existing industry vacancies.

Jim is a very familiar face to politicians across the political spectrum. He is a skilled and passionate advocate, constantly in the ears of key political decision makers.

Jim was a founding Director of Standardbred Canada and served three terms subsequent to the amalgamation of the Canadian Trotting Association and Canadian Standardbred Horse Society in 1998.

In December 2019, Jim was elected to Standardbred Canada as an Active Director for Ontario. He was subsequently elected Vice Chair by the SC Board and to the Executive Committee and By-Laws/Regulations/Licensing Committee. Outspoken and fearless, often putting his own

personal interests on the line to support others, Jim is seeking re-election to further pursue a level playing field for horse people and the industry he loves.

Jim Whelan, husband, father, grandfather and horse industry best friend. A true giant literally and figuratively. Harness Horsemen International Award Winner as MAN OF THE YEAR in 2005 and Queen's Diamond Jubilee recipient (2013), Jim is recognized by all for his unwavering support of the industry we all love and rely upon. His pedigree and track record makes Jim our best bet for a secure future for the standardbred horse racing industry.