

## **About Brad McCallum, P.Ag. Nominated as ATLANTIC ACTIVE DIRECTOR**



Brad McCallum grew up in the rural farming community of Upper Onslow, just outside of Truro, Nova Scotia. Growing up he was a member of the local 4H Club and also played softball, soccer and football on both club and school teams. In 2001, upon graduating from high school he was named the Doug Brown Scholarship winner from the Harness Horse Youth Foundation, he used this scholarship to attend the NSAgricultural College where he received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Agricultural Economics.

During his working career, Brad has worked for the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture as a Policy Analyst and then worked for Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada as a Policy and Planning Officer. Since 2010, Brad has been the Executive Director of the Agri-Commodity Management Association. Brad's role with ACMA includes internal and external policy development, member and government relations as well as program management and delivery.

Brad has served on several regional and national committees related to agriculture and was a Council member of the Nova Scotia Institute of Agrologists from 2007 to 2014, serving as President in 2012 and was named NSIA Outstanding Young Agrologist in 2014.

Brad is very involved in his local community by volunteering with the Kinsmen Club of Bible Hill, he also serves on the executives of his local and provincial softball umpire associations as well as being an instructor in the Nova Scotia Umpire Development Program since 2009. In 2008, Brad received the Community Volunteer Recognition Award from the County of Colchester for his involvement with several community organizations.

Harness racing has always been a part of Brad's life. His father Gardner (Wink) has operated a small public stable at Truro Raceway for more than 30 years and prior to her passing, his mother worked as a pari-mutual seller. Brad started as a child cleaning stalls and became more and more involved in racing as he grew up. In 2007, he formed the Won't Back Down Stable as a small ownership syndicate with the primary goal to introduce new people to horse ownership in a way that was not cost prohibitive but still allowed them to feel the excitement of horse racing. Since 2007, his stable has owned more than 15 horses and introduced more than 20 first time horse owners to the sport. Brad has also been an active volunteer at Truro Raceway in the past by providing handicapping selections for the race day program and local newspaper, race day commentary as well as hosting the annual awards banquet in the past.

Brad believes that his unique experience working with agricultural organizations, community involvement and dedication to the harness racing industry would serve him well as Standardbred Canada Active Director for Atlantic Canada. While Director, Brad's primary focus will be on internal and external promotion and economic sustainability of harness racing in the Maritimes.