

## Long-Term Plan Coming for Ontario's Horse Racing Industry

*Ontario Government Committed to Sustainability of Industry*

NEWS

May 13, 2013

Ontario has asked the Horse Racing Industry Transition Panel to bring forward a long-term plan to implement recommendations from its final report.

As transition funding negotiations with track operators are now substantially complete, the province has asked the panel for a plan that sets a clear path forward on:

- modernizing the governance and regulation of the horse racing industry
- growing the fan base and providing more wagering options
- providing ongoing government support
- ensuring animal welfare

A draft plan for consultation is due in June 2013, with a final plan to be completed by October 2013.

The panel will work with industry partners, the Ministry of Finance and the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation on integrating horse racing with the province's gaming strategy to offer new gaming products and generate additional revenue.

The new Ontario government is committed to supporting a sustainable racing industry as part of its plan to create jobs and help people with their everyday lives.

### QUOTES

"I know how important this industry is to communities across Ontario and I am confident that the expertise and guidance of this panel will help the horse racing industry move toward a bright, sustainable future."

— Kathleen Wynne, Premier and Minister of Agriculture and Food

"Significant strides have been made over the past months to ensure there is horse racing in Ontario for this year and beyond. The panel looks forward to continuing our work with the government and the horse racing industry to ensure a sustainable future for the industry."

— John Snobelen, member, Horse Racing Industry Transition Panel

### QUICK FACTS

- The [Final Report of the Horse Racing Industry Transition Panel](#) has been re-released with details regarding the recommended government investment included.
- The Ontario Racing Commission has issued the 2013 Racing Calendar, with race dates for 15 tracks, including Woodbine, Mohawk, Hanover, Western Fair, Clinton, Grand River, Flamboro, Georgian Downs, Fort Erie, Kawartha, Sudbury, Hiawatha, Dresden, Ajax and Rideau Carleton.
- Up to \$30 million will be used to develop the Standardbred and Thoroughbred components of the [Horse Improvement Program](#).

## LEARN MORE

- [Final Report of the Horse Racing Industry Transition Panel](#)
- [Minister's Letter to the Panel \(May 1, 2013\)](#)

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Gabrielle Gallant, Minister's Office, 416-326-3069  
Susan Murray, Communications Branch, 519-826-3145

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