Media Release

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Ontario Trainers Meet With OHHA Officials To Discuss Aminorex Testing Issue

Campbellville – On Friday September 14th a group of 10 Ontario horse trainers met with OHHA President Jim Whelan and senior OHHA staff to discuss the Aminorex testing issue, including the individual impact that it has had on them and the entire industry.

Ontario trainers who attended the meeting were: Kelly Sheppard, Jeff Nichol, Anthony Montini, Jeff Gillis, Lynn Privett, Ken Duncan, Sandra Houghton, Anthony Haughan, Ben Wallace, and Kevin O'Reilly. In total, 10 of the 11 Ontario trainers involved in the Aminorex testing issue were present.

Ontario trainers expressed their thoughts on the Ontario Racing Commission (ORC) process that they have gone through and their frustration with the length of time that it has taken. This included lengthy legal efforts required to elicit from the CPMA and the regulator the knowledge and scientific studies as to the origin of Aminorex positives. Group members also expressed concern about the lack of 'proper justice' that they have received considering past knowledge related to Aminorex testing and the information that is already available from other North American racing jurisdictions associated with Aminorex testing. Included in this concern is the question of why they continue to be prosecuted while other jurisdictions, including Ohio and Pennsylvania, have seen fit to withdraw charges given the scientific knowledge available regarding the apparent source of Aminorex.

As a result of the Friday meeting OHHA has agreed to assist the Ontario trainers in holding an upcoming media conference. Information on the details of this media conference will be made available in the very near future.

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