

# THE H.B.P.A. OF ONTARIO

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"Horsemen helping horsemen"



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Representing the Thoroughbred Horsemen of Ontario

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## **HORSEMEN – FORT ERIE UPDATE**

As you are aware the Fort Erie Live Racing Consortium (FELRC) has leased the Fort Erie Race Track for three years effective 1January2010 to 31Dec2012. The FELRC is composed of the HBPA, the Town of Fort Erie and the Fort Erie Economic Development and Tourism Corporation

The FELRC is working tirelessly to bring a new attitude and era to the Fort Erie Race Track, however there are complicated and time consuming issues and decisions that have to be made daily. It is the intention of the FELRC to seek and engage the best possible management team we can to make Fort Erie Race Track a successful enterprise that treats horsemen, employees and customers with courtesy and respect.

The FELRC is currently cleaning up the kitchen and they understand this is a huge inconvenience for horsemen, but it will open soon and the traditional HBPA Easter dinner will be held. We will advise you of the date once we obtain the necessary Health and Safety Clearance from the Ministry of Labour.

Effective April 1<sup>st</sup>, Mr. John Whitson will assume the duties of Racing Secretary at Fort Erie. The HBPA extends a warm welcome to John and we encourage horsemen to visit John and offer him support.

The FELRC is working on many fronts and soon they will come forward with a plan that includes some Quarter Horse Racing. This is being handled by the HBPA, the Quarter Horsemen and the Ontario Racing Commission. A decision on the number of dates and the number of races has not been made, but we will advise you as soon as one has been reached.

Finally, the FELRC was formed to save live horse racing at Fort Erie. We, your HBPA Board and I, your President need all the help and support horsemen can give us. Please continue to be patient as we work through this complex process and never doubt that this is all about live racing. We need to be a team, all of us. We need everyone's input and support, and positive thoughts to make this happen. We are counting on all of you to be part of that team.

Sue Leslie  
President

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