



EQUINE LIFE-CYCLE MANAGEMENT POLICY

To Maximize the Horse's Quality of Life and Death Through Management

As an organization dedicated to the horse and equine activities, Equestrian Canada considers the health and welfare of the horse its highest priority.

Equestrian Canada endeavours to provide a *'voice for the horse'* in all matters pertaining to health and welfare, from birth to death, to all levels of government and at all levels of involvement, from recreational through to international competition.

Equestrian Canada's membership has grown increasingly concerned with the need for a national policy with respect to life management for our Canadian horses.

The objective of the policy is to maximize the quality of life for each horse, from birth to death, and at all levels of involvement.

Our Policy Objective

To maximize the horse's quality of life and death through the following equine life-cycle management action steps, from birth to death respectively.

- Working towards a balanced equine population in Canada.
- Working to ensure all horses are treated humanely throughout their lifetime.
- Fostering longer, healthier, active careers in industry.
- Maximizing opportunities for a secured retirement.
- Ensuring a humane death for all horses.

These action steps would apply equally to all of the unique roles the horse plays in Canadian society, from companion animal to a valuable component of our agricultural/processing sector.

How We'll Implement Our Policy

The Equine Life-cycle Management Policy will be implemented relying on the following **CLEAR** principles.

Communication: The widest possible sharing of information.

Liaison/Collaboration: The use of all concerned organization's perspectives, resources and strengths.

Education: The development, promotion and provision of formal and informal training.

Action: The application of incentives and levies, subsidization of research and compliance supervision.



Review: The regular review of policy and programs on a defined basis.

The Equine Life-cycle Management Policy will be implemented using the **Five R Program**. This program will incorporate the popular and descriptive three **Rs**:

Reduce

Retain

Retrain

Retire

Respect

The first four **Rs** will develop a balanced and dynamic population base, which when coupled with better research, education and supervision, maximizes opportunities for the policy's fifth R, Respect, representing both respect for the final act of good equine stewardship — a humane death — and respect for good environmental stewardship, handling of the body.

Learn More

To learn more about our Equine Life cycle Management program, and to learn how you can support this important horse health and welfare initiative, please email: info@equestrian.ca.