



## THE FIVE 'R' PROGRAM

The Five 'R' Program has been developed by Equestrian Canada to implement its Equine Life cycle Management Policy. The program incorporates the descriptive three **Rs — Reduce, Retain, Retrain** and two additional equine **Rs, Retire and Respect**.

The program defines objectives, short and long term for each of the five Rs, with implementation initiatives. It aims to develop a balanced, dynamic horse population with maximum potential for good horse stewardship.

**Reduce** seeks to balance the horse population through birth and impact management.

**Retain** promotes care of horses within a discipline, hence staying active longer.

**Retrain** encourages the breeding and care of horses to permit multidisciplinary careers.

**Retire** fosters supervised, collaborative retirement homes.

**Respect** defines our active approach to stewardship in the final stage of the horse's lifecycle, death.

### Our Overall Objectives

- To communicate a simple, functional, national horse welfare policy to the horse industry.
- To communicate the mainstream role of the horse in Canadian society to the general public.
- To establish a horse identification / traceability program permitting implementation of a Life Management Program

### Our Specific Priority Objectives

**Reduce:** To encourage responsible ownership and breeding through education and discourage unacceptable import levels of horses for processing.

**Retain:** To inspire recognition of mature horse advantages, develop opportunities for participation at competitive levels and encourage research into an implementation of policies that reduce sport injury rates.

**Retrain:** To promote industry collaboration in developing retraining sites and adoptive centres, and encourage breeding for longer, multidisciplinary careers.



**Retire:** To foster industry collaboration on retirement facilities, as well as development of a code of care and procedure for auditing.

**Respect:** To ensure that humane death and disposal options are economically and geographically available nationwide and that welfare standards are regularly reviewed and are stringently adhered to, particularly at time of death.

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](mailto:info@equestrian.ca).