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HORSE COUNCIL BRITISH COLUMBIA



e-Bulletin

February 23, 2010

For Immediate Release

What is the state of BC's Horse Industry?

In 1998, the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands along with Horse Council BC did a detailed survey to estimate the size of the horse industry and its economic contribution to the British Columbia economy. Results from this 1998 survey indicated land use exceeded 245,000 acres and an annual economic impact of 771 million dollars. The past eleven years have seen significant population growth, economic challenges and a change in perspective on agriculture and livestock among the general public. These issues along with economic changes in BC necessitate an in depth review of the horse industry in its current state

Horse Council BC in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands is embarking on a province wide "Horse Industry Study". The purpose of this study is to determine the current status of BC's horse industry and estimate its economic benefits and values to our economy. This study will focus on a broad scope of businesses and services in BC directly and indirectly related to the horse industry. The changing perspective of agriculture and livestock among the general public has a direct impact on issues such as environmental stability and animal welfare. These issues are important to all horse people and must be addressed through valid and acceptable strategies by equine industry stakeholders.

Please take the time to complete this **VERY** important survey. Your input is extremely valuable and this is your opportunity to have a say in the direction you want to see BC's equine industry grow. All information will be kept strictly confidential.

Please forward this survey to every horse owner, professional or equine service provider you know!

[Take This Study](#)

If you or someone you know would like to complete this study, but do not have access to the Internet please contact Kelly Coughlin, Manager Industry, at 1-800-345-8055.

About Horse Council BC

Horse Council BC is a member service organization committed to working together on behalf of the equine interests of our members. Representing horse enthusiasts in BC, we collaborate with individuals, businesses, industry professionals, and government to strengthen communication, education, and safety. We strive to preserve and enhance equestrian use of public lands and to promote and foster participation in all varieties of equine activity.

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