

## **BC THOROUGHBRED OWNERS & BREEDERS ASSOCIATION**

"One Voice for Thoroughbred Owners & Breeders in British Columbia"

BCTOBA NEWSLETTER

by Mike Heads

Opening day at Hastings has finally arrived and after a couple of difficult entry mornings, two 8race cards were put together for Saturday and Sunday. Post time both days is 1:50 p.m. There are a few nice Allowances races this weekend as the Stakes stars get a prep-race in before the Stakes schedule starts at the end of this month. The jockeys' room welcomes newcomers Aaron Gryder and Scott Williams who have both committed to riding at Hastings for the 2013 season, which will bolster an already strong riding colony. Enrique Gonzalez and Antonio Reyes are back from Mexico, but noticeably absent is the 2012 riding champ Amadeo Perez, who is very close to having his paperwork complete to be able to ride at Hastings and it is rumoured that he could be riding as soon as next weekend. Some new faces are Terry Jordan and his Assistant Anita Bolton, who are back in Vancouver after racing the past few years at Woodbine.

## NEW STRIDE

Every horse owner has the option to donate 1% of their winnings during the 2013 racing season to the New Stride Thoroughbred Adoption Agency. Bookkeeper Merrilee Elliott has forms available in her office if you wish to aid this worthy cause. New Stride has been responsible for re-training numerous retired race horses for new careers. They currently have 12 horses in the program preparing for adoption.

Here are the 2013 Nominations that closed on March 24:

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