

January 26, 2017

# Re: Changes within the Canadian Arabian Horse Registry

Dear CAHR Members and Arabian Horse Enthusiasts Canada Wide,

We trust that this letter finds everything well with you and your family in this New Year. They say the one constant in life is "CHANGE" and we here at CAHR are experiencing that right now. The board of directors of the CAHR wanted to let you know, if you were not already aware, about the changes that occurred in December 2016 for our organization.

It was decided unanimously by the board that, effective January 1, 2017, that the CAHR office in Alberta will be closed immediately and that the Arabian Horse Association of Aurora, Colorado will be processing all CAHR paperwork on behalf of our organization. This will include all paperwork and permits associated with breeding, registering and transferring purebred and partbred Arabian horses in Canada.

This change was brought forth after considering several factors:

- The breeding of Arabian Horses and thus registry revenues has been in a serious decline not only in Canada but around the globe for several years.
- Declining revenues and increased costs meant that the CAHR had slipped into a negative cash flow situation over the last few years.
- Most recently to the point of where the organization had nearly exhausted its lines of credit for \$85,000.00

While donations from the Carrot River Arabian Horse Association, the Wildrose Arabian Horse Association and fundraisers such as the Western Canadian Breeders Show managed to slow the inevitable, the financial situation came to a head this past year.

In April of 2016, CAHR was notified of upcoming changes by our registration partner of well over 20 years – the Arabian Horse Association of Aurora, Colorado. (For those not aware, AHA has hosted the CAHR database since 1996 and provided CAHR the computer system on which all Canadian Arabian horses have been registered. In fact, for the last five years AHA has provided that system at no cost to CAHR.)

CAHR was notified that AHA was in the midst of changing their accounting and registration software which would represent a multimillion dollar upgrade to their systems. These upgrades would certainly impact CAHR in various ways.

CAHR was presented with three scenarios:

- 1. CAHR could take our database back and try to go on our own or find another partner.
- 2. Fund the CAHR portion (approximately 8%) of the upgrade to AHA's system and continue operating with the Alberta office (an approximate initial cash outlay of \$170,000 in US funds, plus \$43,000 US in annual maintenance costs).
- 3. Work with AHA to find a resolution that would work for all parties while still utilizing the new AHA computer system.

After many meetings, much travel and earnest negotiation, the board opted unanimously for option #3. After examining our financial position and considering our long-standing relationship with AHA, it really was a simple conclusion to arrive at after taking sentimentality out of the equation.

CAHR has opted to contract AHA for a minimum period of ten (10) years to perform those customer service duties which were performed in the CAHR office in Sherwood Park, Alberta.

AHA had been our partner for over 20 years and has showed the CAHR nothing but good faith and a genuine caring over that whole period. In fact, many CAHR members are also members of AHA and utilize their services on many fronts.

Moving forward, CAHR Members and Non-Members will now benefit from a larger customer service presence at AHA with which to transact their registrations and transfers. Everyone in Canada will continue to receive their distinctive Canadian Registration Papers and your transactions will be conducted in Canadian funds.

In addition, ALL membership money and a portion of the registration fees will continue to flow to CAHR from AHA. So please do not hesitate to renew your membership, as the proceeds all come to CAHR.

We do anticipate a few bumps in the road as the transition progresses throughout 2017 and will endeavour to make these as small as possible. We ask for your patience throughout this process as this will certainly be a large undertaking for all parties concerned.

While it's sad to let go of what we consider a part of our history, we are thrilled for what the future holds for the CAHR and the Arabian horse in Canada. 2017 will be the dawning of a new day here at CAHR as we focus our efforts on positive outcomes for our members through increased public awareness initiatives with the Arabian Horse.

The CAHR has many positives in which to move into the future with. Through great planning from past board members, we are in a unique situation as we own the condo units where CAHR was housed in Alberta. The plan moving forward is to use those offices to help generate cash flow. Our first order of business as we make this transition in 2017 is to formulate a budget with which to pay off our debt through the cash generated by our office condos and by the operation of the Western Canadian Breeders Show. 2017 will not be an easy year, but together we can succeed and flourish.

Once we are our way to our goal, it is the intention of the board to become more of a promotional vehicle for the Arabian Horse in Canada. The future ahead for CAHR will be exciting...... different, but certainly exciting.

We have included a FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) list with this mailer to help guide you through any questions you may have.

Thank you for being a part of the Arabian Horse Community in Canada. Together we will forge ahead and embrace this new destiny of the CAHR!

Best Regards,

Tex M. Kam President – CAHR tkam@cahr.ca



# **FAQ**

#### When does this transition take place and what does it mean to me?

Transition to "Arabian Horse Association" of Aurora, Colorado took place Jan 01-2017.

Due to rapidly decreasing revenues from Arabian horse registration and related activities within Canada, our board of directors unanimously decided to contract out the customer service and data entry portion of CAHR to our partner "The Arabian Horse Association" of Aurora, Colorado. The CAHR and AHA have been partnered in registering Canadian Arabian horses for over 20 years through the utilization of AHA's computer system and accounting software.

The main change Arabian horse owners in Canada (both purebred and partbred) will see is that you will now mail your forms to AHA in Aurora, Colorado instead of to the Alberta CAHR office. For the most part, everything else remains the same, and you will still receive the distinctive Canadian Registration papers you have always received.

## Can I still purchase my CAHR Membership?

Absolutely, we will be mailing out renewal applications in the new year. We will be offering one, three year and lifetime memberships which entitles you to reduced rates for most CAHR services.

#### Is the CAHR still in existence?

Definitely!

The CAHR will still be the WAHO (World Arabian Horse Registry) registering authority for all Purebred Canadian Horses in Canada. We will maintain for 2017 our own registrar and our Board of Directors will still mandate our rules and policies.

#### Where do I mail my forms for all CAHR Transactions?

Arabian Horse Association (A.H.A.) 'Registry Services' 10805 East Bethany Drive Aurora, Colorado, USA 80014

Phone 1-303-696-4500 "Ask to speak a Registry Services Team Member" Fax 1-303-696-4599

www.arabian horses.org email: info@cahr.ca

# Does my registration work need to be mailed in or can I scan and email the paperwork?

You can email in any work that needs to be completed (provided it does not involve the processing of a certificate) to AHA at **info@cahr.ca**. If a certificate of registration is involved, then you must mail in all your paperwork.

#### Can I still contact CAHR?

The office will be closed as of February 15, 2017.

After Feb. 15-2017, please send any inquiries you may have by email only to:

# directors@cahr.ca

Directors can also be contacted individually via email; contact info can be found at www.cahr.ca/board-of-directors/

Also, please note, effective immediately:

#### **NEW CAHR MAILING ADDRESS:**

Canadian Arabian Horse Registry Box 3197 Sherwood Pk Sherwood Park, Alberta T8H 2T2

#### Do I use AHA forms or CAHR forms?

Please always use CAHR forms; this will signify to AHA that this is a Canadian transaction.

Forms can be downloaded at www.cahr.ca

## How do I pay for my transaction?

Download the payment form from the CAHR website (www.cahr.ca), fill out your payment information and send it PAYABLE to Arabian Horse Association. \*\*\*\*(Please do not make anything payable to CAHR)\*\*\*\*\*

# What currency will the transactions be in?

All CAHR transactions performed by A.H.A. will be in Canadian Funds.

*PLEASE NOTE*: If you do other activities outside of CAHR registry business with AHA (eg Sweepstakes and Futurities) – those will continue to be in U.S. funds and are not part of CAHR business.

# \*\*\*ALWAYS ENSURE THAT YOUR TRANACTION IS SENT IN <u>COMPLETE WITH</u> <u>FULL PAYMENT</u>, ALL SIGNATURES AND DATES VERIFIED. \*\*\*

\*\*\*YOUR PROCESSING TIMES WILL BE INEVITABLY DELAYED UNLESS THE TRANSACTION COMES IN COMPLETE. \*\*\*