



***Attention Lifestyles, Features, Assignment Editors:***

## **Thoroughbred Racing Community Takes Positive Steps in Supporting Newly Retired Racehorses**

VANCOUVER, SEPT. 9, 2011: Hastings Park race days are dwindling in the 2011 season and the New Stride Thoroughbred Adoption Society is running full gallop into the off season with their largest annual fundraiser, The Shed Row Fall Market. Now in its third year, this annual market is key to supporting the adoption society (new stride) as they ready to care for retired racehorses through the fall and winter months.

2011 has been a year of positives in the mind of New Stride Thoroughbred Adoption Society president, Marcy Emery, "It's been an eventful year for our society both in a recent name change to help better reflect our mission and in the steps taken by Hastings Racecourse with the creation of a new funding initiative that will help to support newly retired race horses." In 2011 the Thoroughbred horse community came together in an effort to ensure that these animals are being given appropriate aftercare as their racing days come to a close.

"Owners, trainers and management at Hastings have created a funding initiative aimed at assisting New Stride with funding from owners' purse money," notes Emery. "The program is still in its infancy and will take time to grow into a steady source of funding, but it is a tremendous step for our organization."

Emery notes this is where the annual Shed Row Fall Market helps fill the funding gap. "The market is our largest annual fundraising event away from the track. Money raised on October 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> will help us fund spaces to take on new horses this fall."

Planned the weekend before Thanksgiving, the Shed Row Fall Market invites visitors to Fields and Flowers Farm on Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>. For a minimum donation of \$2.00, the public are invited to visit the working horse farm and purchase heritage vegetables, locally grown fruit and festive preserves for their Thanksgiving tables.

That won't be all that is available at this year's event; visitors to the market will be able to sample everything from artisan cheeses and hand crafted baked goods to handmade jewelry, art, fresh flowers and more.

People are passionate about horses and New Stride's support comes from a wide range of people from horse owners to animal lovers who simply appreciate the beauty of these animals. Visitors to the Shed Row Fall Market will be able to meet with some of the ex-race horses who are destined to become much loved companions as they move to a new stage in their young lives.

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The market will be held rain or shine in the covered shed row of Fields and Flowers Farm Gate Store at 900 232 Street, Langley. Fields and Flowers Farm owners Barb and Onno are long standing supporters of New Stride and the proud owner of Musing, a former racehorse and National Champion sport sire. For more information and a list of vendors visit [www.theshedrowmarket.com](http://www.theshedrowmarket.com) or follow @ShedRowMarket on Twitter.

New Stride Thoroughbred Adoption Society was founded in 2002 and has since facilitated adoption and provided care and retraining for non-competitive and injured Thoroughbreds. More information about the foundation and horses available for sponsorship or adoption can be found by visiting [www.newstride.com](http://www.newstride.com)

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