



January 26, 2026

RE: AQHA Affiliate Classification in Canada Effective 2027

Dear Canadian International Affiliates,

The American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) values its long-standing relationship with the Canadian Quarter Horse community and appreciates the continued efforts of the Canadian Quarter Horse Association (CQHA) and Canadian provincial affiliates to support and grow the American Quarter Horse industry within Canada. AQHA writes to formally communicate an upcoming change regarding affiliate classification in Canada and to provide clarity on the affiliate structure that will apply beginning January 1, 2027.

Canada has been classified as an international affiliate since 2018. Since that time, Canada has operated using domestic policies and organizational structures within an international context while also receiving international funding. To ensure consistency, equity, and clarity across AQHA's international affiliate network, AQHA has determined that, effective January 1, 2027, Canadian provincial affiliates and their associated regions will be reviewed and recognized as domestic affiliates within AQHA's established regional structure, just as U.S. states are recognized.

Accordingly, effective in 2027:

- AQHA will recognize provincial affiliates only.
- Provincial affiliates will be assigned to AQHA domestic Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6, consistent with the U.S. regional structure.
- Provincial affiliates will continue to receive director allocations as they do currently.
- International programs and grant funding will no longer be available for use in Canada. However, provincial affiliates may request affiliate grant funding through the domestic affiliate grant process.
- Provincial affiliates will be required to uphold their individual affiliate agreements as domestic affiliates.
- Provincial affiliates will independently determine whether they wish to remain organized collectively under CQHA, separate from AQHA.



AQHA recognizes and appreciates the role CQHA has played in uniting provincial affiliates across Canada and recommends that CQHA continue to operate in a capacity that supports collaboration, communication, and unity among provincial organizations, independent of AQHA's affiliate structure.

AQHA remains committed to working collaboratively with Canadian provincial affiliates and CQHA to ensure a smooth transition and continued support of American Quarter Horse owners, breeders, and exhibitors throughout Canada. Additional guidance and implementation timelines will be provided as 2027 approaches.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Scott Neuman".

Scott Neuman
Director of Competition

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joanne Canedo".

Joanne Canedo
Manager of International