

# Rt Hon Winston Peters

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## Deputy Prime Minister

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control

Minister for State Owned Enterprises

Minister for Racing

31 JUL 2020

George Morrison

fyi-request-13038-9b286f6f@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear George Morrison

This letter concerns your Official Information Act request, received 5 June 2020 and numbered for ease of reference, for the following:

*Please provide me with all information and communications held by you or your office relating to the:*

- 1. Decision to extend the period until cameras are required on fishing boats from the following entities: Vela Group (or its representatives), and/or Talley's (or its representatives), and/or Sir Peter Tally, and/or Sealord (or its representatives), and/or Te Ohu Kai Moana (or its representatives), and/or the High Seas Group (or its representatives), and/or any NZ First MP.*
- 2. Reform of the Property Law Act and the establish of a fund to support arbitration, and the following entities: Conrad Properties (or its representatives), and/or Ben Dearlove, and/or Jamie Hutchens, and/or Rob Holden, and/or Doug Wollerton, and/or any NZ First MPs.*
- 3. Reform of or government support for the horse racing industry in New Zealand from or to: Garry Chittick and/or Waikato Stud (or its representatives), and/or Brendan or Jo Lindsay, and/or Cambridge Stud (or its representatives), and/or Windsor Park Stud, and/or Nelson, Sue or Rodney Schick, and/or Kent Baigent, and/or Doug Woolerton, and/or Clayton Mitchell or any other NZ First MPs.*

No communications relating to parts 1 and 2 of your request exist, therefore those parts of your request are declined under section 18(f) of the Act: the information requested does not exist.

In regards to part 3 of your request, a number of documents have been identified as being in scope, and are attached.

Some information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act: to protect the privacy of natural persons.

You have the right under section 28(3) of the Act to seek a review of this response by the Ombudsman.

Yours sincerely



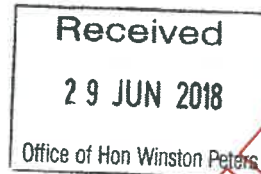
W.P.

Rt Hon Winston Peters  
Deputy Prime Minister

# CAMBRIDGE STUD

Rt Hon Winston Peters  
Acting Prime Minister  
Executive Wing, Parliament Buildings  
Private Bag 18888  
Wellington 6160

25<sup>th</sup> June 2018



Dear Acting Prime Minister,

We are writing in relation to your role as Minister for Racing, and have pleasure in enclosing our first issue of the Cambridge Stud brochure since we assumed ownership of the iconic thoroughbred nursery in April.

Long-time supporters of the New Zealand thoroughbred racing & breeding industry, Jo and I had never actually planned to immerse ourselves to this degree, but neither could we stand idly by with the spectre of one of our country's national assets either falling outside of New Zealand hands, or being asset stripped and sold to developers.

So, now we find ourselves at the helm of an internationally renowned stud. We are faced with the dual challenge of respecting the wonderful history & traditions established by Sir Patrick and Justine Lady Hogan over the past 40 years, whilst taking steps to secure the future for Cambridge Stud for the next half century.

We have made significant investments in new bloodlines, illustrated by our recent acquisition of Almanzor (FR), who arrives in New Zealand late next month ready for stud duties this season. In addition, we have also purchased majority shares in two exciting three-year-old colts, Embellish (NZ), a son of Savabeel, and Age Of Fire (AUS), a son of Fastnet Rock, in the expectation that they will join our stallion roster when they finish their racing careers.

We have also committed to a substantial re-development project for the stud to secure that long term future which we feel is so integral to underpin the continued strength of the New Zealand racing & breeding industry. We understand you have a very busy six weeks ahead, but would like to extend an invitation to you to visit Cambridge Stud. Jo and I would be honoured to welcome you and hear your vision for our industry's future.

If you are able to find a convenient time in your diary, your office can contact us at any time via our Executive Assistant, Rachael Pointon, on 5 9 (2) 6 or by email on [rachaelp@lindsayinvestments.com](mailto:rachaelp@lindsayinvestments.com).

Thank you in advance for considering our invitation, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



Brendan & Jo Lindsay

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**From:** Henry Plumptre <henry@cambridgestud.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 6 September 2018 6:44 AM  
**To:** Rt. Hon. Winston Peters  
**Subject:** thoroughbred Industry

**Categories:** Racing

Dear Minister Peters –

I am writing in connection with the recently released Messara report into New Zealand racing – a document that, hopefully, will give New Zealand breeding and racing a pathway back to profitability and restore its place on the international stage.

I have only briefly looked at the report but have heard a number of critiques from other members of the industry – some trainers, some breeders. In relation to John Messara, a number of years ago I ran Arrowfield for him as general manager, a role that included overseeing Ra Ora Stud in Auckland. During my time with him, we bred Zabeel and sold him as a yearling in the inaugural sale at Karaka. It would be an understatement to say that John is a good administrator, the role he has played in Australia – both at Racing NSW and Racing Australia speaks volumes for his business acumen and vision and it was a masterstroke to secure him for this report.

I have recently moved from Sydney to manage Cambridge Stud for Brendan and Jo Lindsay, following their purchase of the farm last year. Previously, I was CEO for Sheikh Mohammed in Australia, running Godolphin for ten years and on their board for fifteen.

Obviously, Brendan is a believer in New Zealand and the industry here. Apart from his purchase of Cambridge last year, he has spent significantly on yearlings and recently purchased the Southern rights to ALMANZOR, the European Champion three year old of 2016. His commitment is for the long term and he is a strong advocate for the changes Messara has listed in the report. I believe you sat next to him at Tauranga last week and he attended your release the following day.

I am writing to you on two fronts - the first to congratulate you on the initiative which should be a catalyst for the fundamental change that New Zealand needs in order for it to survive and prosper in the thoroughbred world. The second is to offer our assistance in any form that will assist a positive passage of the report through the next few months. There is no doubt that there will be detractors and some have already voiced their opposition. It is interesting, in a country that is renowned for its collective approach to business and sport, that racing reports tend to polarise the industry here, rather than unite it. Rather than push the one barrow, for the overall good, individual preferences take over and the industry turns on itself.

However, as you have eloquently put it on numerous occasions, it is way past five minutes to midnight for the New Zealand industry. In Australia, they are steaming ahead off the back of John Messara's restructure of wagering, administration and the racefields legislation. He is proposing very much the same medicine here and we are here to offer our support for those changes.

However it would appear on first glance that there will need to be a complete restructure of the racing board for anything to happen – particularly in the key area of racecourse closures etc. The board do not appear to have the appetite for change and why would they? It is a behemoth that eats \$220 million a year so there are plenty of mouths being fed there!!

We offer our unconditional support for the report and applaud you for the initiative. It is not too late but we are at the Last Chance Saloon. Please feel free to contact myself or Brendan if you would like to discuss the matter further.

Yours sincerely,

HENRY PLUMPTRE

CEO Cambridge Stud

Mobile 59(2)(5)

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

RELEASED UNDER THE  
OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

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**From:** Clayton Mitchell  
**Sent:** Thursday, 27 September 2018 5:28 PM  
**Subject:** FW: Messara Report

Messara Report feedback FYI  
Regards  
Clayton

Clayton Mitchell  
New Zealand First  
Senior Whip  
List MP based in Tauranga  
Unit 103, 45 Grey Street,  
Tauranga 3110  
P:  
M: 59(2)(u)  
E: clayton.mitchell@parliament.govt.nz



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**From:** Steve Till [mailto:Steve@windsorpark.co.nz]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 18 September 2018 9:59 a.m.  
**To:** Clayton Mitchell  
**Subject:** Messara Report

Minister

I have read the Messara report in full. I have derived my livelihood from the Thoroughbred industry for more than 40 years. As a stakeholder breeding, selling, owning and racing gallopers I fully support the Messara Report recommendations.

The Racing Industry is on its knees and therefore the implementation of the recommendations can't come quick enough. As mentioned in your Reform Or Die speech at Claudelands, which I attended, the necessary change needs to be above politics if the Racing Industry is to have a future.

Since you released the Report, in general the response from the Thoroughbred code at least has been very supportive. Now more than ever we need strong leadership to implement the required changes and I implore you to progress the report recommendations expeditiously.

I voted for you at the last election to lead reform such as is recommended in the Messara Report. This report delivers a blueprint for progress and a pathway forward and must not be ignored as have so many previous reports on the Racing Industry that have subsequently been consigned into the 'too hard' basket.

I want to thank you for instigating the report and I will continue to support your leadership as Minister For Racing in the hope we can achieve the necessary outcomes for the betterment of generations of New Zealanders to come, the New Zealand economy and New Zealand society in general. Let's get it done.

Best regards  
Steve Till  
Cambridge

<b>STALLIONS 2018</b>	
<b>CHARM SPIRIT</b>	<b>P.O.A</b>
<b>TURN ME LOOSE</b>	<b>\$15,000*</b>
<b>RIP VAN WINKLE</b>	<b>\$12,500*</b>
<b>SHAMEXPRESS</b>	<b>\$12,500*</b>
<b>MONGOLIAN KHAN</b>	<b>\$10,000*</b>
<b>RAGEESE</b>	<b>\$5,000*</b>
<b>VANBRUGH</b>	<b>\$5,000*</b>
<b>FALKIRK</b>	<b>\$4,000*</b>

\*all service fees exclude GST and include a Live Foal Guarantee

Steve Till  
General Manager  
+64 27 479 8901  
+64 7 827 6656



[www.windsorparkstud.co.nz](http://www.windsorparkstud.co.nz)



RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

**From:** Clayton Mitchell MP <Clayton.Mitchell@parliament.govt.nz>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 27 September 2018 5:28 PM  
**Subject:** FW: Joh Messara Report

Messara Report feedback  
FYI

Clayton Mitchell  
New Zealand First  
Senior Whip  
List MP based in Tauranga  
Unit 103, 45 Grey Street,  
Tauranga 3110  
P: 59(2)(a)  
M:  
E: clayton.mitchell@parliament.govt.nz



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**From:** rodneyschick@gmail.com [mailto:rodneyschick@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 18 September 2018 4:12 p.m.  
**To:** Clayton Mitchell  
**Subject:** Joh Messara Report

To the Minister of Racing

Firstly I would like to thank you for commissioning the Messara Report on the racing industry's behalf. I am a co-owner of a large commercial thoroughbred stud - we employ up to fifty people and we have a heavy investment in bloodstock including Stallions, mares and racing stock. For us to continue in this industry, both as an employer and an investor, we need to see major changes structurally and legislatively. I feel the Messara report needs to be taken in it's entirety to have the full effect. I am strongly of the opinion cherry picking or failing to action this report will be the demise of the New Zealand racing industry. Decisive and immediate action needs to be taken. Leadership is of key importance to success in this instance. The New Zealand racing industry has the potential to attract considerable investment both nationally and international. This is of course of dual benefit to both the industry participants and the economy.

I urge you to show the leadership required to implement the necessary reforms. Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,  
Rodney Schick  
WINDSOR PARK STUD



# Rt Hon Winston Peters



## Deputy Prime Minister

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control

Minister for State Owned Enterprises

Minister for Racing

05 DEC 2018

Rodney Schick  
Windsor Park Stud  
rodneyschick@gmail.com

Dear Rodney Schick

Thank you for your email of 18 September 2018 to Clayton Mitchell MP about John Messara's review of the New Zealand Racing Industry (the Review). The Minister for Racing notes your views and suggestions, and thanks you for your commitment to the industry.

It is encouraging to receive support from racing industry stakeholders, such as yourself, regarding the Review and the work ahead of us. As you are aware, the Review revealed that the status quo offers a gradual decline of the New Zealand racing industry. In order for the industry to survive and flourish, we need to be willing to adopt changes. Change is challenging and difficult, but real reform is also the pathway to restoration of this once great industry. Many of the recommendations in Mr Messara's report have merit but require careful consideration. The Government will shortly be announcing the next steps in the reform process.

You may be aware that an official call for public feedback on the Review was announced on 13 September 2018. Your correspondence has been passed on to the Department of Internal Affairs, which is managing this consultation process on my behalf. Your comments about the Messara report will be considered as part of that process.

As a person who is interested in the future of the New Zealand racing industry, your views and comments are considered very important.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Winston Peters'.

Rt Hon Winston Peters  
Minister for Racing

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**From:** Clayton Mitchell MP <Clayton.Mitchell@parliament.govt.nz>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 27 September 2018 5:27 PM  
**Subject:** FW: Messara report

Messara Report Comments  
FYI

Clayton Mitchell  
New Zealand First  
Senior Whip  
List MP based in Tauranga  
Unit 103, 45 Grey Street,  
Tauranga 3110  
P: *S9(z)(w)*  
M:  
E: clayton.mitchell@parliament.govt.nz

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-----Original Message-----

From: Nelson [mailto:neschick@gmail.com]  
Sent: Tuesday, 18 September 2018 8:14 p.m.  
To: Clayton Mitchell <Clayton.Mitchell@parliament.govt.nz>  
Subject: Messara report

Sent from my iPhone. Clayton I am very pleased with fullness of the Messara report but does need urgent action .I think there is only one person to start the implementation and that is the author himself please can you pass onto The Minister our appreciation of report on racing but it will be of little value without a strong disissive captain to steer the chart as presented. There is tremendous support though out NZ for this change to be started ASAP

Nelson Schick

# Rt Hon Winston Peters



**Deputy Prime Minister**

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control

Minister for State Owned Enterprises

Minister for Racing

**05 DEC 2018**

Nelson Schick  
Windsor Park Stud  
neschick@gmail.com

Dear Nelson Schick

Thank you for your email of 18 September 2018 to Clayton Mitchell MP about John Messara's review of the New Zealand Racing Industry (the Review). The Minister for Racing notes your suggestion to appoint Mr Messara to spearhead the implementation of the Review's recommendations, and thanks you for your commitment to the industry.

It may interest you that the Minister for Racing will shortly be announcing the next steps in the reform process. Your correspondence has been passed on to the Department of Internal Affairs, which is managing the consultation process on the Review's recommendations. Your comments about the Messara report will be considered as part of that process.

It is encouraging to receive support from racing industry stakeholders, such as yourself, regarding the Review and the work ahead of us. As a person who is interested in the future of the New Zealand racing industry, your views and comments are considered very important.

Yours sincerely



Rt Hon Winston Peters  
Minister for Racing

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

# CAMBRIDGE STUD

11 October 2018

The Right Honourable Winston Peters  
Freepost Parliament  
Private Bag 18 888  
Parliament Buildings  
WELLINGTON 6160



Dear Minister,

Cambridge Stud very much supports the findings of the Messara Report.

To put that in context – and in response to your request for feedback, let me tell you how the Report impacts on Cambridge Stud and our future plans for the farm.

Cambridge Stud is both an icon in the New Zealand thoroughbred industry and a brand known worldwide for producing quality thoroughbreds.

Its long and storied history fostered by Sir Patrick and Justine Lady Hogan, led to Jo and my decision to purchase the farm and its bloodstock and forms the foundation of our commitment to carry that legacy into the future.

The direction we take, will of course be largely influenced by the overall environment we operate in and as has been widely acknowledged, there are some very worrying indicators for the industry.

For example, since 1990, the New Zealand thoroughbred broodmare population has declined by an astonishing 66% (9,000 resident broodmares in 1990 to circa 3,200 in 2018). At the same time and of equal concern, there has been a reduction in quality – as many of New Zealand's best broodmares have been sold offshore.

This has flowed into the quality of our annual New Zealand yearling catalogue, which in the late 1980's was demonstrably the best in the southern hemisphere but has now been relegated to third, or even fourth position in the Australasian yearling market.

To maintain relevance in the Australasian market place, New Zealand breeders must have a relevant performance benchmark by which the quality of their thoroughbreds can be determined. Currently – and as the Report observes, this is sadly lacking.

Over the last 25 years, there has been no overall increase in prizemoney in New Zealand. In the same period, prizemoney in the key Australian states has increased by as much as 65% (NSW & Victoria). In terms of sales, that impacts directly on all New Zealand's markets (Australia, Singapore, Hong Kong and the rest of Asia). While we have not observed any significant impact on the yearling market to date, without radical change, it is inevitable that the demand for NZ thoroughbreds will fall as the product becomes less relevant – in comparison to our competitors.

Our business plan at Cambridge has two alternative models. The first anticipates the adoption and implementation of the recommendations in the Messara Report as

soon as possible, which will have the effect of injecting confidence into the racing and breeding sectors.

The second model is based on the Report being largely ignored and the New Zealand Government failing to acknowledge the importance and potential of the racing industry to the country's GDP.

If the Government is prepared to back the Report, we believe that the industry will be reinvigorated, and the investment so sorely needed, will return over the next five years.

Why? Because the key stake holders will have confidence in the future. Government endorsement of John Messara's report, based on the success of the New South Wales racing system (and Australia generally under his guidance) will see an immediate injection of confidence into the industry which has been lacking for the past twenty years.

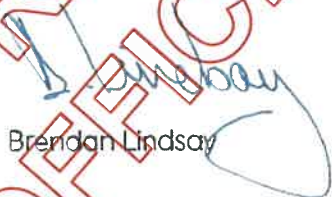
If however, the report is ignored, it is not difficult to see that New Zealand racing and breeding will become completely irrelevant in the next ten years. At Cambridge Stud, our business model would change fundamentally to support Australian based stallions and the Australian racing system. Our view is that we can rear thoroughbreds in the Waikato and we would be able to sell to a limited market overseas but, without that legislative change and the injection of confidence needed, Australia will become the major beneficiary, not New Zealand.

It is important for the Government to recognise that Messara's success in New South Wales and the wider Australian industry is largely due to the fact that he had overwhelming Government support, which allowed him to make decisions autonomously.

No one relishes painful reconstructions but, in New Zealand, a large employer and, potentially, contributor to GDP, these changes, however painful, must be pushed through - regardless of the noise from the industry.

Thanking you for recruiting John Messara to undertake this Report. If I can be of any assistance in its implementation, or otherwise, please let me know.

Your sincerely,



Brendan Lindsay

Next Generation of New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing

77 Duke St., PO Box 1130

CAMBRIDGE 3450

18 October 2018

Minister for Racing

Office of Rt. Hon. Winston Peters

7.4 Executive Wing, Parliament Buildings

WELLINGTON 6160

Email: [Lee.Carter@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:Lee.Carter@parliament.govt.nz)

Dear Minister,

We are writing to you as the next generation of New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing, as herein identified by the names to this letter, to offer our support for the urgent implementation of the Review of the New Zealand Racing Industry by John Messara AM (Messara Report).

Following your public address on August 30th 2018 regarding the Messara Report and a thorough review of the distributed document, it is clear to us that the blueprint within it is the way forward to revitalise a once vibrant industry and take it to new heights.

As such, we put our full weight, confidence, ambition and trust behind the Report and implore you and all relevant officials to support and implement the Messara Report on our behalf.

As members of the next generation of New Zealand racing we represent a wide variety of jobs, backgrounds, and geographic regions that are united by a shared passion for the industry. Racing is our life and livelihood, a part of the history and social fabric of this country, a significant employer and a key contributor to the overall economy. We are also a provider of an elite sporting product that Kiwis can be proud of the world over.

The future belongs to those who prepare for it and for too long ours has languished at the hands of those too short-sighted or ill-equipped to make the tough decisions and necessary changes. Despite this, the industry has punched above its weight on the global stage and we believe with the support of the Government regarding enactment of the Messara Report's recommendations it will be able to thrive again, providing an even greater contribution to the New Zealand economy.

We are undoubtedly at a pivotal moment and acknowledge what this means for the future of our industry in general, and in particular for our generation which will ultimately prosper or decline based on the decisions you make now. While we know that change will not come easily, we are fully committed to implementing the recommendations of this Report and will play our part in their execution. If the reforms recommended by Mr Messara are not enacted soon, many of us will be forced to join other young New Zealanders already forging successful thoroughbred industry careers in Australia and beyond.

We thank you for your courage and foresight in initiating the Messara Report and agree that the time for change is now. We offer any assistance we may be able to provide collectively or individually going forward regarding the implementation of the Report.

Those that put their name to this letter, do so in support of the Messara Report, the enactment of its recommendations and our commitment to assisting in its execution.

Respectfully yours,

The Undersigned

Grace Baker

Stud Hand, Windsor Park Stud, Cambridge

Christine Bambry

Owner/breeder, Chantilly Bloodstock, Palmerston North

Sam John Beatson

Director, Riversley Park, Cambridge

Johno Benner & Hollie Wynyard

Trainers, Benner Racing, Otaki

Andrew Birch

Chief Executive, New Zealand Thoroughbred Marketing, Hamilton

Libby and Sam Bleakley

Highden Park, Palmerston North

Angelique Bridson

Marketing Manager, Cambridge Stud, Cambridge

Mark Brooks

Trainer/Director, Brooks Racing Ltd, Cambridge

Nicole Brown

Racing and Stud Administrator, Valachi Downs, Matamata

Scott Calder

Sales and Nominations Manager, Cambridge Stud, Cambridge

Mathew Cameron

Jockey, Auckland

Jim Carroll

Dry Mare Manager, Windsor Park Stud, Cambridge

Andrew Carston

Horse Trainer, Christchurch

Newcomer to Training Award winner 2017/18

Canterbury Branch President NZTA

Sarah Catherwood

Stud Administrator, Westbury Stud, Matamata

Steven Christopher

Veterinarian, Cambridge Equine Hospital, Cambridge

Kane Clayton-Greene

Farrier, Waikato Stud, Matamata

Stephen Cole

Trainer, Stephen Cole Racing, Pukekohe

Dominic Corban

Yearling Manager, Pencarrow Stud, Cambridge

Ronan Costello

Veterinary Surgeon, Waikato Equine Hospital, Cambridge

Kerrie Cox

Bloodstock Manager, Waikato Stud, Matamata

Marsha Crinion

Farm and Racing Manager, Lindsay Racing, Karaka

Liam Cunningham

Curraghmore Stud, Te Awamutu



Patrick Cunningham

Curraghmore Stud, Te Awamutu

Robert Dennis

Trainer, Robert Dennis Racing/Ravelston Stud, Invercargill

Ryan Elliot

Jockey, Hamilton

Nick Fairweather

Farm Manager, Carlaw Park, Ohaupo

William Fell

Owner/General Manager, Goodwood Stud, Palmerston North

Neil Florence

Farm Manager, Windsor Park Stud, Cambridge

Mark Forbes

Trainer, Kiltannon Stables, Cambridge

Josh Fox

Farrier, Kia Kaha Forge Ltd., Hamilton

Nicholas Fursdon

Stud Groom, Blandford Lodge, Matamata

Kurtis Gillovic

Stud Manager, Highview Stud, Hamilton

Bridget Grylls

Jockey, Cambridge

Troy Harris

Jockey, Cambridge

Dean Hawkins

Owner/Manager, Wentwood Grange, Cambridge

Emily Holmes

Trainer, racing and breeding manager, Bulls

Miranda Horton

Office Manager, Windsor Park Stud, Cambridge

Matt Ivil

Trainer, Diamond Lodge 2018 Ltd., Cambridge

Natalie Jamieson

Marketing Coordinator, New Zealand Bloodstock, Auckland

Danielle Johnson

Jockey, Cambridge

Dylan Johnson,

Sales and Racing Manager, Westbury Stud, Karaka

Callum Jones

Stud Manager, Westbury Stud, Matamata

Kane Jones

Airfreight Operations, New Zealand Bloodstock, Auckland

Lena Jones

Stable Manager, Te Akau Racing, Matamata

Jamie Kennedy

Farm Manager, Blandford Lodge, Matamata

Samantha Kennerley

Yearling Manager, Valachi Downs, Matamata

Benji King

Stud Manager, Brighthill Farm, Tauwhare

Harry King

Marketing Assistant, New Zealand Bloodstock, Auckland

Vicky Leonard

Managing Director/Owner, Thoroughbred Daily News AusNZ, Kick Collective, Kiwi based in Sydney

Jamie Lock

Foreman, Peter Lock Racing Stables, Te Aroha

Rory MacDonald

Farrier, Owner/Operator, Kings Ransom Forge, Cambridge

Ross Mackay

Owner/Operator, Leagath Lodge, Cambridge

Stephen Marsh

Trainer, Marsh Racing, Cambridge

Haylie Martin

General Manager, Gavelhouse, Cambridge

Simon Moore

Stud Hand, Windsor Park Stud, Cambridge

David Murtagh  
Stallion Manager, Windsor Park Stud, Cambridge

Kelly Myers  
Jockey, Palmerston North

Jack O'Brian  
Veterinarian, Waikato Equine Hospital, Cambridge

Chad Ormsby  
Owner/Operator, Riverrock Farm, Tirau

Todd Pollard  
Racing Manager, Marsh Racing, Cambridge

Mike Rennie  
Business Manager, Waikato Stud, Matamata

Jaime Richards  
Trainer, Te Akau Racing, Matamata

Cameron Ring  
Bloodstock Consultant, Waterford Bloodstock, Cambridge

Jasmine Robertson  
Marketing Manager, Waikato Stud, Cambridge

Scott Robinson  
Stud Hand, Windsor Park Stud, Cambridge

Bruce Slade  
General Manager, Newgate Farm, Scone, NSW

Bevan Smith

Bloodstock Consultant, Mulcaster Bloodstock, Cambridge

Jason Smith

Foreman, Baker/Forsman Stables, Cambridge

Joshua Smith

Marketing Executive, New Zealand Thoroughbred Marketing, Hamilton

Katy Smith

Yearling Manager, Cambridge Stud, Cambridge

Michael Smith

Racing and Bloodstock Assistant, Waterford Bloodstock/China Horse Club, Cambridge

Wade Smith

Racing Manager, David Greene Racing, Hamilton

Joe Smithies

Farm Owner, Monovale Farm, Cambridge

Max Smithies

Farm Owner, Monovale Farm, Cambridge

Adrian Stanley and Hannah Kettleby

Owner/operators, Woburn Farm, Ohaupo

Jason Stewart

ZIC Stud Manager, White Robe Lodge, Dunedin

Shannon Taylor

Sales and Marketing Manager, Haunui Farm, Auckland

Natasha Thomas

Marketing Coordinator, New Zealand Bloodstock, Auckland

Jason Thomasen

Broodmare Manager, Windsor Park Stud, Cambridge

Sarah Thompson

Stud Groom, Blandford Lodge, Matamata

Dylan Treweek

Assistant Manager, Lyndhurst Farm, Hamilton

Nathan Van Den Broek

Stud Groom, Lyndhurst Farm, Hamilton

Kelly Van Dyk

General Manager, Prima Park, Ohaupo

Michael Wallace

Head of International Bloodstock, China Horse Club International Ltd., Cambridge

Nicola Wallace

Company Director, Waterford Bloodstock, Cambridge

Rachel Wallace

Ardsley Stud, Masterton

Teina Walters

Stable Foreman, Te Akau Racing, Matamata

Robert Wellwood

Trainer, Kingsclere Stables, Cambridge

Scott Wenn

Trainer, Scott Wenn Racing, Te Aroha

Jeremy Whale

Stable Manager, Diamond Lodge 2018 Ltd., Cambridge

Andrew Williams

Andrew Williams Bloodstock, Sydney/New Zealand

Dean Williams

Racing Manager, Pike Racing, Cambridge

Gus Wrigley

Inglewood Stud, Kaiapoi

CC

John Messara AM

Ian McKelvie, National Party Spokesperson for Racing

Bernard Saundry, Chief Executive Officer, New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing

John Thompson, President, New Zealand Thoroughbred Breeders' Association

Tony Pike, National President, New Zealand Thoroughbred Trainers Association

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Waikato Stud

NZ RACING BILL PART TWO

This is apparently our opportunity to express our support or concerns at the proposed changes to the administration of our Racing Industry. I will address my views as they relate to the Thoroughbred Code with which I am more familiar.

My involvement spans a long period, a Board Member of Thoroughbred Breeders, Chairman of the Manawatu Racing Club, a Board Member of the NZ Racing Conference, Chairman of the NZ Racing Board for four years. My family and I have been breeding and selling yearlings since 1975, the major suppliers of sales yearlings for the last decade recognised as leading vendor for this period. This involvement has been acknowledged with induction to both The Hall of Fame, and Thoroughbred Racing's award for Outstanding Contribution to Racing.

Our current Minister of Racing has been consistent with his support and understanding of our industry. The commitment to reduce the wagering duties to a comparable level to that of our then newest competitors, the Gaming Machines was exercised when NZ First coalesced with the Helen Clark led Government of the time. His commitment to further tidy up our opportunities during this term of Government with the Point of Consumption, Race fields, and further wagering duty reduction is greatly appreciated.

However Part Two of the Racing Bill is a long way from any understanding we may have had. The abolition of duties and collection of fees for the use of our intellectual property is a far cry from the attempt to restructure an industry that has been through many crisis successfully managed by very capable individuals with many varied skills. The tenure of the proposed changes seems to be predicated with the belief we are in the position we trying to recover from because of the previous administrators. The Bill provides for a Ministerial fall back position or intervention. If we dissect my concerns, I would start with possible intervention in the composition of the Thoroughbred Racing Board. This is unacceptable, my view is that Boards selection process needs to return to the democratic process where as in the past Regional Clubs elected the member for their region. This was always a competitive process, one which I was subjected to. The Board Members were a selection of very competent people who then gave their time for nothing. It is hard to imagine Clubs accepting a Ministerial appointment.

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The opportunity for the Minister to have an ability to impose changes to any Clubs Constitution will and should be treated with the same concern. Members of this Select Committee will have attended their local race meetings, and will understand the passion and commitment of the local administrators, to suggest they are lacking the skill or acumen to maintain and run the club or to suggest at the higher level of Racing Administration that the Minister will impose people with the ability to manage their Code just will not work. It needs to be recognised that this local involvement results in sponsorship, local effort, an event for the district. Attempt to impose on these people an outside direction will result in the outsiders running the event without the locals.

The intent to give the Codes the opportunity to direct a change in venue with any resulting funds being put to use elsewhere, or be subject to a Ministerial directive to sell is somewhat of a poison chalice to the Code. This proposal is considered part of the Messara Report, regrettably my view is it was an ill-informed recommendation, not because there shouldn't be change but apart from a couple of venues of value in the North Island a significant amount of change has already occurred. In the North Island alone there are eleven clubs who have moved to more appropriate venues. As you can imagine that leaves only a handful who over time will see the wisdom of change. There is only two of those possible venues who would contribute any significant capital, which hardly requires a draconian threat of a Ministerial directive. In fact knowing who the jewel in the crown may be I wish whoever the Minister is the best of luck.

The South Island with its sparsely populated length is entitled to have a reasonable geographic spread of venues, those that are surplus would have little value, the same natural attrition will occur with two venues in the last six months changing venues. The Committee would be surprised at how many venues would not provide any capital as they are racing on local body land.

The changes to the Racing Integrity Board are a little beyond my brief, I will say though the only common interest the Codes have is the Totaliser Agency. Their sports are vastly different, it would seem to me this has the potential to grow to a cumbersome increased burden unless the Codes can keep the Board under control.

The Act of 2003 created one Board, my Chairmanship had finished two years earlier but I supported the intent of the change. My tenure was of the Racing Board, in the same building the TAB operated with its own Board. The Combined Racing Industry Group was our conduit for the Codes, Tab, and Racing Board to meet. These were very useful meetings, which really set in motion the belief two Boards were superfluous, the process of progressing the Change occurred subsequent to my retirement. It must be remembered the two Boards had dual members, however two Chief Executives and Executive staff administering what is not really a complicated business in the same building created more problems than necessary.

Under my Chairmanship my Board was determined to devolve the Code management to the Codes. This was the intent of the 2003 Bill, however a Board with one Code member for

each Code and four independents changed the balance. Having a Chairperson of any business with a 2.5 Billion turnover with no previous or current industry experience borders on the ridiculous.

We are a cash business, at the time of the 2003 Bill we had \$80m reserves, the problem with the new structure was the perception we were incapable of running our business and rather than operating as a wagering agency they believed their role was to run racing. The independent Board Members were supposedly appointed with the agreement and support of the Code Chairpersons, without going into lengthy explanations suffice to say the Code involvement did not weigh as heavily as intended. We weren't listened to on independents on a number of occasions.

The Minister confirmed the appointments then and will again. So what's difference, there is no guarantee anyone with Code or Industry experience may make the grade.

There is a document from the appointed Chairman of the Ministers R.I.T.A. Who suggests there should be a preference for Board members of commercial experience ahead of those in racing. An unusual vote of no confidence in a number of people I could list who clearly have not only outstanding credentials in both business and racing. I will remind the Committee since the majority of the Board were commercially independent, we have spent and pulled the plug on 17 million for an upgrade on our betting platform, our new betting app, apparently in the vicinity of \$40+ m - it was within ballpark of budget but has delivered no upside to date and we are left with a balance sheet with no real tangible assets. All paid for by racing but primarily for the benefit of sports wagering.

The reserves, and a building gone, but stakes maintained by borrowing 12m a year resulting in a \$40 m of extra debt. It would seem to me this is an industry that requires the understanding of those in it.

We ask of no more from any Government than the rightful opportunity to be responsible for our destiny. We have no idea whom may be any future Minister, my Chairmanship was accountable to four Ministers, one of whom made a worthwhile contribution



Garry Chittick

Waikato Stud Ltd

# Rt Hon Winston Peters



**Deputy Prime Minister**

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control

Minister for State Owned Enterprises

Minister for Racing

13 FEB 2020

**Garry Chittick**  
**Waikato Stud**  
[info@waikatostud.co.nz](mailto:info@waikatostud.co.nz)

Dear Mr Chittick

Thank you for your letter of 16 January 2020 expressing your concerns about the proposed governance changes within the Racing Industry Bill. Your concerns have been noted.

As you are aware, the Government's final legislative response to the Review of the New Zealand Racing Industry, the Racing Industry Bill, is currently being considered by a Select Committee. The Committee is considering a range of views and feedback and is due to report back later this month. Further information can be found via the Parliament website by searching 'Racing Industry Bill'.

Your support and contribution to the industry is appreciated. The work of people like you is important in ensuring the ongoing progression and future success of the industry.

Yours sincerely

*Winston Peters*  
**Rt Hon Winston Peters**  
**Minister for Racing**

RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

3 February, 2020

The Hon. Winston Peters, MP;  
Level 7, 4 Executive Wing  
Parliament Buildings  
Wellington NZ

**PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL**

Dear Minister,

On behalf of Cambridge Stud, we have today lodged our submission in response to the draft Racing Bill which was received in early December. I am drawing our submission to your attention because we have concerns about the review process for public submissions. We were told to keep our response short and concise and that all submissions would be considered by a select committee. However, it is our understanding that some of the members of that committee have very little knowledge of the racing industry and its various parts. We also feel it is impossible to be short and concise in assessing draft legislation from your office and the DIA that ran to 100 pages.

That said, we are hopeful that the changes we have asked for will be put in place because, without them, we do not see the Bill having any positive effect on the industry, either in the short term or the long term.

Cambridge Stud has been a massive investor in the New Zealand industry over the past two years, since a change of ownership in 2017. Brendan and Jo Lindsay are very positive about New Zealand's capacity to produce premium thoroughbreds but the success we are all looking for in the medium term will not be achieved unless the Bill contains the majority of John Messara's proposals. In our submission we have reinforced the key aspects of his review.

We thank you for your ongoing support for positive change in what has been and could still be an iconic New Zealand industry.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



HENRY PLUMPTRE  
CEO

OUT OF SCOPE

-----Original Message-----

From: W Peters (MIN)  
Sent: Tuesday, 4 February 2020 8:35 AM  
To: Steve Till <stevetillnz@gmail.com>  
Subject: RE: 2020 Racing Industry Bill

Dear Mr Till,

On behalf of Rt Hon Winston Peters, Deputy Prime Minister of New Zealand, thank you for your email.

Your correspondence has been referred to the Minister for his information.

Kind Regards,

Office of Rt Hon Winston Peters  
Deputy Prime Minister | Leader of New Zealand First | Minister of Foreign Affairs | Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control | Minister for State Owned Enterprises | Minister for Racing  
L7.4 Executive Wing | Parliament Buildings | Wellington 6160 | New Zealand

-----Original Message-----

From: Steve Till [mailto:stevetillnz@gmail.com]  
Sent: Saturday, 1 February 2020 1:49 PM  
To: W Peters (MIN) <W.Peters@ministers.govt.nz>  
Subject: 2020 Racing Industry Bill

Dear Winston

As a racing industry participant in ownership, breeding and racing for 45 years I was heartened with your replies to The Optimist's questions on his blog this week. You seem to understand well how critical the Messara report recommendations are to reforming our great industry and thereby acknowledging the massive contribution the industry can make to the economy and well being of NZ in general. This critical legislation is long overdue as you have stated.

I would hope that Racing Industry leadership displays the same intellect, understanding and vision through their recommendations in the upcoming submission process to rectify the anomalies in the current draft of the Racing Act legislation where it has wandered from the intent of the Messara report. Then, hopefully with legislation in place, Racing Industry leadership will have the skill required to implement the reforms.

Keep up the good work you've done, get the Racing Act reformed along the lines of the Messara Report and the second part of the Racing Act legislation put in place in this years budget and you'll be getting my vote at this years election.

Yours  
Steve Till  
General Manager

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OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT