

Julie Cull Communications and Media Relations Coordinator Coordonnatrice des communications et relations de presse Tel: 613 248-3433 ext. 136 E-mail: jcull@equinecanada.ca 2685 Queensview Dr. Suite 100 Ottawa, ON K2B 8K2

22 March 2012

Canada at the 2012 Asian Tent Pegging Championships

Ottawa — Equine Canada is pleased to announce that Canada will compete at the Asian Tent Pegging Championships, to be held 23-27 March 2012 in Delhi.

A 2500 year-old cavalry sport, Tent Pegging was created to develop and to test the skills of mounted warriors, and it is now an FEI Regional Discipline.

In addition to teams from across Asia, the 2012 Asian Championships will include a team from each of the other continental regions: Great Britain for Europe; South Africa for Africa; and Canada for the New World.

Canada's athlete will be Akaash Maharaj (Almonte, ON), who earned our country's first gold medals in the sport's International Championships. He will once again ride for Canada in partnership with UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund.

"We feel deeply privileged to carry the flag for Canada, in competition with some of the finest combat riders in the world," said Colonel the Honourable Henry NR Jackman, OC, OOnt, who serves as Akaash's Equerry, "and we will do our utmost to represent our country with honour."

- 30 -

About Equine Canada

Equine Canada is Canada's national governing body for equestrianism. A member-driven, charitable institution, it is the executive branch of the Canadian Equestrian Team, and the national authority for equestrian competition; the national voice for recreational riders; and the national association for equine welfare, breeding, and industry. Equine Canada is recognised by the Government of Canada, the International Equestrian Federation (FEI), and the Canadian Olympic Committee as the national organisation representing equestrian sport and equine interests. For more information about Equine Canada, please visit <u>www.equinecanada.ca</u>.

Source: Julie Cull Communications Co-ordinator Equine Canada Tel: (613) 248 3433 ext 136 E-mail: jcull@equinecanada.ca