

Health management services for Handibear Hills Equine Sanctuary, Inc. and the PEI Equine Retirement Society, Inc.

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These two service projects have provided consistent basic and preventive health care to incoming and resident horses at [Handibear Hills Horse Sanctuary](#), Inc. in Breadalbane, PEI, since 2004, and at the [PEI Equine Retirement Society](#), Inc. (PEIERS), in O'Leary, PEI, since 1997. Care is now also provided to horses at [Sadie's Place](#), a second facility of the PEIERS, in Brookfield, PEI, which opened in 2009. The aim of these three facilities is to provide unwanted or retired horses and ponies with care, rehabilitation, and a home. The goal of Sadie's Place, which has an active fostering programme, is to adopt the horses out to a permanent home in a second career as a pleasure or companion animal.

Health care provided through the SJDWC funding includes physical examination, screening for parasites and appropriate treatment, vaccination (tetanus, Eastern and Western encephalitis, influenza, and rhinopneumonitis), dentistry, and gelding of the occasional intact male. Humane euthanasia is carried out if a horse's quality of life is deemed unsatisfactory due to advancing age and/or health problems such as arthritis, a chronic respiratory condition, or other debilitating illness. Senior veterinary students are closely involved in the care of these horses, which provides the students with opportunities to perform routine equine health management work not commonly seen in academic practice, and to learn about on-farm issues.



Fourth-year students Vanessa Gruffydd and Tovah Caldwell performing dentistry on Knightly Trouble at the PEIERS.