

## Wendover unveils new all weather training track

The finishing touches are being applied to the new 1/2 mile training track at Wendover Training Centre and preparations are underway for their grand opening in August. The excitement has been building for managing owners, Paul & Melanie O'Sullivan, who are anxious to offer their clients the added benefits of training on their new all weather cushion surface.

The track was planned and built by experts including Melanie's father, Eric MacDonald, an engineer and horse owner; Clearway Group, a premier Canadian construction contractor; and TravelRight Surfaces, the creators of the all weather surface for the track.

TravelRight, who is owned in partnership by Lawton Adams, Peter Kyle and Karen Leeming, have been perfecting their all weather surface over the past four years in the United States. "The surface has to withstand the elements", explained Karen Leeming, "because we formulated the surface in the climate where it is being using, we have managed to eliminate a lot of the teething problems other surfaces are currently going through."

The TravelRight surface is formulated to withstand both the cold and heat and offers horses a consistent footing which acts like a traditional track but with better

drainage, stability and no dust.

"We designed the footing with the natural movement of the horse in mind," Karen continued, "when they are galloping at full stretch they need to hit a somewhat stable surface which is forgiving at the same time."

TravelRight uses high-grade rubber, the finest silica sand, fibres and wax, which is combined in precise proportions, to create a footing which is similar to natural turf.

The track at Wendover has also been graded slightly to allow water to naturally drain and roll off the surface offering a consistent training surface no matter the weather.

"We stayed away from the black top under the surface because of the extremes in the weather we experience in North America," says Karen when asked about the base of the racetrack, "We used two types of tightly compacted granular for the base each at a 1.45% pitch to allow for water to drain off."

The main construction and excavation of the track was completed by Clearway Construction Inc., who is one of the largest pipeline and municipal infrastructure constructors in Canada.

This was the first racetrack that the company has built however Clearway's president, Anthony Di'Batista was so

impressed with the construction team's performance that they will now be adding racetrack construction to their impressive portfolio and range of high-profile construction projects.

"Clearway are expanding their horizons in construction and will be adding horse track construction services to their portfolio based on this highly impressive prototype thoroughbred horse training track project," commented Anthony.

The owners of Wendover Training Centre also expressed their outstanding pleasure with the services of Clearway and TravelRight Surfaces, "I was very pleased with the whole working relationship with Clearway and the final track so much so that, I regard it as second to none of the training surfaces on which I have ridden in both the U.K. and throughout North America," says Paul O'Sullivan, the principle trainer at Wendover.

The new track, which also features a starting chute complete with starting gate, will be ready for use in early August upon completion of the installation of the race-track safety railings.

For more information on the new training track or the TravelRight all weather surface contact Wendover Training Centre at 905-939-2625 or visit [www.travelrightsurfaces.com](http://www.travelrightsurfaces.com)



**Karen Leeming, a partner with TravelRight Surfaces, shows us a sample of the TravelRight all weather surface on the new training track at Wendover Training Centre.**



**The new 1/2 training track at Wendover is scheduled to open in August**