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# News Release

For Immediate Release  
Thursday, March 31, 2005

## **ORC assists investigation leading to shut down of illegal betting operation**

An extensive three month investigation has resulted in the shut down of an illegal bookmaking business that was operating out of a Markham teletheatre known as Select Winners Lounge.

In cooperation with its partners at the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) - Organized Crime Section, Illegal Gambling Unit, OPP officers tied to the Investigative Unit of the Ontario Racing Commission have assisted in the investigation and subsequent bookmaking related charges.

"Investigating and removing criminal elements from the horse racing industry sends an important message that we will not tolerate activities that compromise the industry's integrity," remarked John Blakney, Executive Director of the Ontario Racing Commission.

Through its Investigative Unit and using its available regulatory powers, the Commission has been concentrating its resources in areas related to illegal gambling and organized crime.

"It is encouraging to see the results produced by this coordinated effort of the various police forces," said Mr. Blakney. "The Commission is committed to building confidence in the honesty and integrity of the industry."

Man Fai Hung, 43, of Scarborough, Ontario has been charged with Engage in Bookmaking contrary to the Criminal Code. Hung was released by York Region Police for an appearance in the Ontario Court of Justice on May 4th, 2005.

The investigation is continuing and further charges may be pending.

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