Tina Varughese

'50 Shades of Beige'
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Everybody can benefit from communicating more effectively. However, when 20% of Canada’s population is foreign-born (and much higher in urban centres), communicating with the cross-cultural advantage is arguably one of the most important types of communication to understand in the 21st century. Veterinary practices, with an ever more culturally-diverse client base plus an increasingly multicultural workforce, will benefit greatly from this topic.

Sponsored by IDEXX and WDDC

Judy Currie, DVM, SVMA Registrar

VCPR Case Discussion
3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Understanding the VCPR is more important now than ever. All of us have questions about creating and maintaining a proper VCPR with clients. This hour will cover handling VCPR correctly in common and uncommon situations. Bring your questions!
Elemir Simko, DVM, DVSc, DACVP

**Honeybee Biology and Basic Beekeeping Practice**
8:00 am - 8:50 am

A brief overview of honey bee biology and beekeeping practices in Western Canada will be presented with special emphases on those aspects that are related to honey bee health and diseases.

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**Most Important Honeybee Diseases in Saskatchewan**
9:00 am - 9:50 am

Emphasis will be on etiology, pathogenesis, diagnosis, therapy and prevention of most common diseases (e.g. Varroosis, Nosemosis, American foulbrood, European foulbrood). The objective of both lectures is to provide basic information that is important to understand for all future "Bee Vets"

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Erin Wasson, MSW RSW

**When Conversations Are Tough: Managing Challenging Conversations with Rural Clients**
10:30 am - 11:20 am

Veterinarians are trusted experts in food animal and equine medicine. Some of the more challenging calls come when the issues with a person’s herd are related to issues in a person’s home. As trusted members of agricultural communities, veterinarians are sought for psycho-social support which can often feel beyond their scope of practice. As a result, veterinarians should equip themselves with referral information for clients in cases where health is a factor. Learning how to approach clients about these issues, and familiarizing oneself support services, is key to resolving cases where client issues impact on herd health. As veterinary responsibilities grow, ability to redirect clients is also a step towards preventing or resolving identified human and animal welfare issues. Join Erin Wasson (BSW, MSW, RSW) in talking about how to get the conversation going. This talk is about when you feel like you’re beyond your depth with the “touchy feely” stuff, someone’s herd is about to be or is a “wreck”, and you want to know how to pass them on to somebody else.

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Julia Montgomery, Med Vet, PhD, DACVIM (LAIM)

**Tying Up Loose Ends in the Tied-up Horse**
11:30 am - 12:20 pm

Dr Montgomery’s lecture will cover recommendations on diagnostic testing for horses with recurring Rhabdomyolysis and options for their long-term nutritional management.

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Virginia Fajt, DVM, PhD, DACVCP

**Critical Appraisal of Evidence about Drugs**
1:30 pm - 2:20 pm

This presentation will be a review of what types of evidence support drug decisions and how to critically appraise the evidence and apply it to clinical decision-making.

Sponsored by Merck Animal Health

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**Principles of Antimicrobial Stewardship**

2:30 pm - 3:20 pm

This presentation will focus on defining stewardship, outlining a framework for applying stewardship in practice, and reviewing some of the data on how to reduce antimicrobial resistance.

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**Drug Decision-Making Scenarios**

4:00 pm - 4:50 pm

This hour will highlight common uses of drugs, particularly antibiotic, and the evidence for or against their use. Possible scenarios will be perioperative use, respiratory disease, contagious abortion, and footrot in ruminants.

Sponsored by Merck Animal Health

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**LARGE ANIMAL SESSIONS**

Sunday September 9, 2018

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**Andrew Niehaus, DVM, MS, DACVS-LA**

**When Things Go Wrong: Dealing with Surgical Complications in Alpacas**

8:00 am - 8:50 am

All veterinarians know that sometimes things go wrong despite our best efforts. Camelids are susceptible to the same complications as other animals. However, sometimes their unique anatomy and physiology can make even experienced veterinarians feel out of their comfort zone when dealing with complications. In this session, we will discuss some of the complications that we’ve experienced at one referral hospital, including incisinal complications, orthopedic complications, and obstetrical complications.

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**Anesthesia and Surgery of Pet Pigs**

9:00 am - 9:50 am

Pet pigs are gaining popularity in the US and Canada. As such, surgical procedures and routine care that are commonly performed on other pets such as dogs are being frequently performed in pigs. Spays and castrations are among the most commonly performed procedures in pet pigs. Also, anesthetic procedures are needed to enable veterinary surgeons to safely and humanely perform these surgeries. However, these animals are not merely a different breed of dog, and there are special anatomic and physiologic differences that can make these procedures challenging. We will discuss some of the important anesthetic and surgical considerations in these animals and will highlight some of the key differences between pigs
Useful Nerve Blocks for Cattle
10:30 am - 11:20 am

Many surgical procedures in cattle are performed without the benefit of general anesthesia. Routine surgeries such as DA correction, C-section, exploratory, dehorning, castrations, and invasive hoof procedures are commonly performed in conscious animals. Nerve blocks are very useful to provide local or regional anesthesia to facilitate surgical procedures or increase animal comfort. Nerve blocks can also be used in conjunction with general anesthesia or sedation to decrease the amount of anesthetic drug required. Although some procedures are quick enough to be performed without a local block, local or regional anesthesia should be considered whenever the pain of the surgical procedure or the post-operative pain of the procedure places unnecessary stress on the animal.

Cassandra Tucker, PhD

Pain Sensitivity and Healing of Hot Iron Brands in Cattle
11:30 am - 12:20 pm

Hot-iron branding is widely used for herd identification. Other studies have documented that cattle vocalize, show signs of restlessness and escape attempts during the procedure itself. Little work had documented the pain associated with the brand wounds as they heal. New evidence suggests that these wounds remain painful throughout the healing process (8+ weeks). At least 2 possible practical solutions, a single injection of NSAID or a cooling gel applied at the time of branding, do not hasten healing or affect painfulness of the wounds. Alternatives are needed. These results will be discussed, along with some general consideration of other factors including age of the procedure, as well as the size, shape, and location of brand. 

Sponsored by Easy Boss E

Animal Welfare Assessments for Cow/Calf Operations: Practical Learnings from 30 Ranches
2:00 pm - 2:50 pm

Animal welfare assessments are being widely used in other sectors of animal agriculture. We recently developed an assessment for cow-calf operations and used it to examine the health and behaviour of beef cows being worked in a chute on 30 California ranches. We found relatively little variation among health outcomes. Injury, lameness and low body condition were all rare. In contrast, we found that ranchers varied considerably in how they handled their animals. For example, some ranchers never used an electric prod, while others used it on 75% of their animals. Using this variation, we identified that cows touched with an electric prod were more likely to balk, vocalize, stumble and fall in the chute, and stumble and run as they exited. In addition to generating knowledge about how management practices affect cattle behaviour, we also provided each participating ranch with a benchmarking report, showing them how they compared to the other 29 ranches in the study. These benchmarking results, along with other health and behavioural findings will be discussed.

Sponsored by Easy Boss E
Animal Welfare and Society: Market-Driven Change
3:00 pm - 3:50 pm

The largest driver of changes in animal welfare in the US are corporate and industry-led assessment and audit programs. These programs aim to ensure a minimum level of care for food animals. Producer participation comes in two forms: 1) voluntary or 2) because it is required by a component of the supply chain (either a purchaser or a retailer). Outcome-based measures of animal welfare are typically included in the cattle-focused programs. This non-regulatory approach to animal welfare has a number of benefits in terms of widespread and rapid improvements and the ability to update programs on a regular basis. The challenges include 1) the scale of assessment in terms of both number of operations to visit and with what frequency, 2) determining key welfare criteria to include in terms of validity and feasibility 3) ensuring consistency among auditors, and 4) the emergence of competing assurance programs within a sector. These challenges and benefits will be addressed with specific examples.

Sponsored by Easy Boss

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LARGE ANIMAL WET LAB

Thursday September 6, 2018  Dinner break 6:30 – 7:00 pm  Western College of Veterinary Medicine

Kate Robinson, DVM, BSc

Equine Dentistry in Ambulatory Practice
5:00 pm - 9:00 pm

This wet lab will focus on routine as well as advanced equine dentistry procedures in a field practice setting. Participants will have the opportunity to review basic dentition on skulls and as well as cadaveric heads, practice charting, and use of the PowerFloat®. Participants will practice basic dental radiography, which can be useful in a field setting for identifying disease processes in teeth which may not be apparent on oral exam. Participants will also practice local anesthetic techniques and intra-oral extractions. Active hands-on learning is of utmost importance for these techniques, and as such, this lab has no formal lecture component. Dr Robinson will be assisted by Dr Michelle Husulak. Scrubs are recommended. Maximum 20 people.

Sponsored by scil Animal Care Company
When the Conversations Are Hard: Managing Challenging Conversations with Companion Animal Clients
8:00 am - 8:50 am

With Dr. Jordan Woodsworth. Veterinarians are trusted experts for pet owners. Cases can become challenging when the welfare of the animal is compromised by the welfare of the client. When these issues are identified by veterinarians, or clients seek out psycho-social support in order to safely care for their animals, it can feel like you are practicing beyond your scope. As a result, veterinarians should equip themselves with referral information for clients in cases where health is a factor. Having accurate information and clear methods of redirecting clients is key to resolving these issues. As veterinary responsibilities grow, ability to redirect clients is also a step towards preventing or resolving identified human and animal welfare issues. Join Dr. Jordan Woodsworth (BSc, DVM) and Erin Wasson (BSW, MSW, RSW) in discussing how to manage challenging conversations.

Margaret Doyle, DVM, BSc, MVB, MSc, MRCVS

Veterinary Forensics: Recognition and Reporting
9:00 am - 9:50 am

Recognizing animal abuse is a difficult thing for veterinarians to do. Lack of training combined with our compassionate natures leaves us frequently blind to potential abuse victims in our practices. This lecture will address factors to increase suspicion of abuse as a diagnosis, as well as how to approach making the diagnosis. We will discuss terminology commonly used in abuse and neglect cases. Mandated reporting creates an obligation in our profession to appropriately report cases of animal abuse in practice. This session will address how to prepare your staff and your practice for reporting. We will discuss possible negative consequences of reporting and balancing these with benefits to society via ‘the link’.

Veterinary Forensics: The Basics
10:30 am - 11:20 am

Collecting the necessary information and documenting what you find ultimately makes for solid evidence in the prosecution of the offender in court. Veterinarians are essential in helping build that solid case for court in incidences of animal abuse. This session will discuss the live forensic exam and collection of evidence including photography, documentation of findings, and necessary diagnostics specific to legal cases.

Veterinary Forensics: Forensic Necropsy
11:30 am - 12:20 pm

This session will cover the approach to the forensic necropsy. We all have the tools to perform a good necropsy for diagnosis of cause of death. This session will cover a more in-depth approach and discuss drawing conclusions and making interpretations from findings. We will conclude by discussing writing statements for law enforcement, what they want out of your statement, and what will be expected of you in court if you are asked to testify.
Vincent Defalque, DVM, DACVD

**Isoxazolines: A New Class of Ectoparasiticides used in Companion Animals**  
1:30 pm - 2:20 pm

Flea and tick infestation is a major health problem in dogs and cats. A new class of veterinary insecticides/acaricides, the isoxazolines, has demonstrated excellent efficacy against them. After covering the differences between isoxazolines and the older oral flea adulticides (including their mechanism of action), we will discuss and compare the isoxazolines currently available in Canada (fluralaner, afoxolaner and sarolaner). Isoxazolines also happen to be effective against numerous other canine and feline external parasites.

*Supported by Royal Canin*

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**Clinical Consensus Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Treatment of Canine Demodicosis**  
2:30 pm - 3:20 pm

Demodicosis is a common disease in canine practice caused by a proliferation of Demodex mites. Evidence-based clinical consensus guidelines are now available to all veterinarians. Their purpose is to provide veterinary practitioners with a straightforward description of diagnostics and treatment options in dogs.

*Supported by Royal Canin*

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**A Practical Approach to Feline Pruritus**  
4:00 pm - 4:50 pm

Chronic pruritus is a common reason for consultation in feline dermatology. Different syndromes or "feline skin reaction patterns" (miliary dermatitis, symmetrical alopecia, eosinophilic dermatoses, head and neck pruritus) can be associated with a variety of underlying causes. They will be presented in a didactic way. Various treatment options will be discussed.

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### COMPANION ANIMAL SESSIONS
Sunday September 9, 2018

Andrew Mackin, BSc BVMS MVS DVSc DACVIM FANZCVSc

**Approach to Immune-Mediated Hypolytic Anemia**  
8:00 am - 8:50 am

Practitioner-oriented diagnostic approach to immune-mediated hemolytic anemia in the dog and cat.

**Approach to Immune-Mediated Thrombocytopenia**  
9:00 am - 9:50 am

Practitioner-oriented diagnostic approach to immune-mediated thrombocytopenia in the dog and cat.
Immunosuppressive Therapy: Better Use of Established Drugs
10:30 am - 11:20 am
Discussion of the practical use of the standard established immunosuppressive agents, including cyclophosphamide, chlorambucil and azathioprine.

Immunosuppressive Therapy: What’s New
11:30 am - 12:20 am
Discussion of the practical use of the newer immunosuppressive agents, including cyclosporine, leflunomide and mycophenolate.

Erin Simmonds, BSc DVM DACVECC

Marijuana Toxicosis
2:00 pm - 2:50 pm
Marijuana/THC toxicosis is becoming an increasing concern for veterinarians as pets are exposed to a variety of recreational and medical marijuana products. We are seeing an increase in the number of cases of toxicity as well as in the severity of toxicity. Ingestions involving concentrated cannabis products (shatter, butter, oil etc) can result in life threatening poisoning. We will discuss routes of exposure, diagnosis, and treatment (including lipid therapy for life threatening toxicity).

Diabetic Emergencies in Dogs and Cats
3:00 pm - 3:50 pm
Diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA) and hyperglycemic hyperosmolar syndrome (HHS) are common diabetic emergencies that require intensive medical treatment. At the other end of the spectrum, severe hypoglycemia can be equally life threatening. We will discuss the diagnosis, prognosis, and management options for diabetic crises in both primary care and emergency room/ICU settings.

COMPANION ANIMAL WET LAB
Thursday September 6, 2018    Dinner break 6:30 – 7:00 pm    Western College of Veterinary Medicine

Romany Pinto, DVM, CVA, CCRP

Rehabilitation for Cranial Cruciate Ligament Rupture
5:00 pm - 9:00 pm
This lab provides an introduction to rehabilitation for both surgically and conservatively-managed cases of cranial cruciate ligament rupture (CCLR). It will address analgesia, modalities and therapeutic exercises, focusing on techniques easily performed in general practice. It will also go over the general progression of exercises and useful milestones for knowing when to increase the difficulty of exercises. Participants will have the opportunity to practice measurement of joint angles, muscle palpation, passive range of motion, stretching and therapeutic exercises in healthy dogs and dogs with CCLR. We will also include a brief demonstration of the underwater treadmill. Dr Kira Penney will assist with lab segment. Maximum 20 people.