

# SVMA NEWS



SASKATCHEWAN  
VETERINARY MEDICAL  
ASSOCIATION

NOVEMBER 2019 VOLUME 54, ISSUE 4

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CONFERENCE  
GALLERY

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IN ACTION

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MULTI-DISCIPLINARY  
INTERVENTION  
CRITICAL FOR ANIMAL  
HOARDING CASES



**SVMA NEWS** is a publication of:

**SASKATCHEWAN VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION**

202-224 Pacific Avenue,  
Saskatoon, SK S7K 1N9  
T: 306.955.7862 • F: 306.975.0623  
E: svma@svma.sk.ca • www.svma.sk.ca  
Editor: Sue Gauthier  
T: 306.955.7868 • E: sgauthier@svma.sk.ca

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**SVMA MISSION**

We are an organization dedicated to the protection of the public by ensuring the proficiency, competency and ethical behaviour of its members in the practice of veterinary medicine. Our association promotes veterinarians and veterinary medicine. We support the physical, personal, financial and professional well-being of our members through continuing education and professional interaction. We regulate our profession through the licensing of veterinarians, approval of practices and disciplining of members as required.

**THE SVMA BELIEVES IN**

- the personal responsibility of veterinarians to develop and maintain competency in their chosen area of veterinary medicine
- fostering our profession by involvement in education of future and present veterinarians
- quality veterinary practice, humane animal care and compassionate treatment of the client
- providing for public protection and confidence through the fair and unbiased administration of The Veterinarians Act
- enhancing the public's awareness of veterinary medicine and its contribution to society
- the unbiased treatment of members and we expect members to treat each other fairly
- supporting members by providing guidance and information

**COMMERCIAL FOUR-COLOUR AD RATES:**

	Single	4 issues
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Quarter page	\$275	\$1000
Business card	\$150	\$500
Insertions	\$300	\$1100

**All advertising rates are subject to GST**

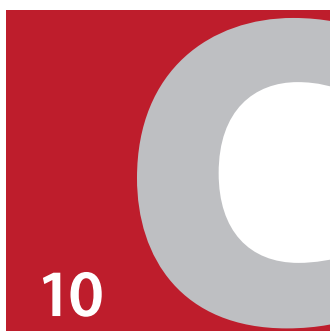
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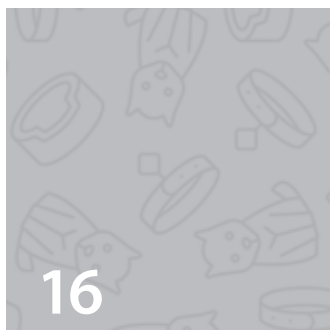
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SVMA 2019  
CONFERENCE  
GALLERY



COMMITTEES  
IN ACTION



MULTI-DISCIPLINARY  
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HOARDING CASES

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# President's PERSPECTIVE

Dr Kent Weir, DVM  
weirvet@gmail.com

**A**s I sit down to write my first president's report, I enter this role like I've entered any other role I've held in this career, with nerves, anticipation, fear, but mostly with excitement. Truly, my first thought is that it's both an honour and privilege to serve on one of the most well respected veterinary association councils in North America.

I am proud that we have one of the youngest and most "rural" councils that I know of. We are certainly the envy of a lot of councils that I have had the chance to meet with. I think this is exciting because it keeps us "in the loop" with the sometimes forgotten parts of veterinary medicine. Our diversity is going to give us great perspective on the entire practice of veterinary medicine in our province.

Here in Saskatchewan, we are faced with the same challenges faced by many of the other governing bodies around North America and even the world. At the forefront of the conversations are issues we've been dealing with for years here in Saskatchewan. Governance around telemedicine continues to be a hot topic among veterinarians all over North America. I think as mixed animal rural practitioners, we've been practicing a form of telemedicine for ages, and the time has come to develop best-practice policies around it.

The other thing that keeps coming up is the use of cannabis for pets. At this point we have no official statements on medical use of cannabis for animals, but that is going to change very quickly. SVMA will keep members and the public fully informed as we go forward.

In my new role as president, I've already



been queried quite a bit about what's important to me as a veterinarian in Saskatchewan and what I want to focus on. Interestingly, this question has largely come from non-veterinarians. It amazes me how unfamiliar the general public is with what we do on a regular basis and therefore the issues that we are facing as a profession. It's a big question, and one that I have spent

a lot of time thinking about over the years. Having been licensed in multiple provinces (apparently I have a thing for practicing in border towns) I've observed many things that have affected veterinary medicine in our neighbouring provinces and hope that we can learn from that. Then there are issues that are affecting us in the same way that they are affecting our neighbours. Some of these

critical issues are things that are just part of our time, like the current funding crisis at the WCVN and the veterinary professional shortage. I would personally love to see our Association become a leader in resolving some of these difficult issues.

I am also excited to work along the Saskatchewan Association of Veterinary Technologists to help raise the profile of these amazing professionals in our industry. Technicians play such an important role in veterinary practice. I personally believe we've been under-utilising them and underpaying them for far too long. We as veterinarians keep complaining that it's so hard to keep technologists in the profession, when what we really need to do is recognize the value they bring to our practices, both financially, and in their skills. Although RVTs' primary role is to provide professional assistance to veterinarians, they have specialized training in many technical aspects and patient care. We need to take a cue from other health professions and elevate these skilled colleagues to the highest level possible. I'd like to work more closely with members of the SAVT and develop some materials educating our DVM membership on how they might more effectively draw on the expertise of their technologist colleagues.

The veterinary labour shortage is occurring all over North America, not just

in Saskatchewan. Take a look at the CVJ and you'll see more want ads for veterinarians than ever before. I was also noting the number of want ads from the US showing up in the CVJ. This is something that has been increasing for a few years and has now reached crisis status, and SVMA Council recognizes that solving it will take a multi-pronged approach.

We on Council have made multiple appeals to the Saskatchewan government to increase funding to WCVN by raising the number of Saskatchewan quota students, currently sitting at 21 and unchanged since 1972. Dr Victor Kernalleguen has worked tirelessly at this task and I plan to continue working on that with him. I'd also like to see Council work to get Veterinarians and Technologists added to Saskatchewan's In-Demand Occupations List. This would allow veterinarians and technicians from outside the country quicker and easier access to immigration and working visas in Canada. Council has also started looking at the Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence (PAVE®), which provides graduates from non-accredited veterinary schools in North America an alternative route to becoming licensed in Saskatchewan.

Council has approved Marc Cattet's proposal for evaluating our current complaints process and has already hired an independent consultant to take this on. With more complaints coming in, we need to make sure that the process is happening as quickly and efficiently as it can with the appropriate amount of legal advice required.

I am looking forward to a very successful year as Council president, largely due, as I have said, to this Council's youth and diversity when compared with the majority of veterinary councils. I think this, combined with the great leadership of the new registrar Marc Cattet and the staff at the SVMA, is going to result in some envelope pushing ideas around the board table this year.

I am excited to lead this group and hope that as I embark on this journey, you feel comfortable enough to shoot me an email, give me a call or if you find yourself headed west on Highway 16, stop in and visit me at the clinic. Thanks for your trust in me- I am very excited to grow with the SVMA this year.

## KEEP INFORMED



**Keep informed** of the decisions Council is making and actions being taken on your behalf. The minutes from Council meetings are posted on the Members' Side of the SVMA website [www.svma.sk.ca](http://www.svma.sk.ca).

Council welcomes comments and suggestions from all members. Email your comments or questions to a councillor (addresses are on the website's Contact Us page) or to the office and they will be passed on to Council.





# Introducing the 2019-20 SVMA Council

## VOTING MEMBERS OF COUNCIL



**PRESIDENT**  
Dr Kent Weir (2018)  
Weir Veterinary Clinic  
Lloydminster  
780-875-2281  
weirvet@gmail.com



**VICE PRESIDENT**  
Dr Nick Hawkins (2018)  
Warman Veterinary Services,  
Emerald Park  
306-347-9995  
nhawkins@warmanvetservices.ca



**PAST PRESIDENT**  
Dr Victor Kernalleguen (2016)  
Gateway Veterinary  
Services, Melfort  
306-752-7387  
info@gatewayvet.ca



Dr Sarah Allin  
(2019)  
South West Animal  
Health Centre,  
Swift Current  
306-773-4121  
sarahallin01@hotmail.com



Dr Katelyn McIntyre  
(2019)  
Victoria Vet Clinic  
Regina  
306-522-8802  
kmm452@mail.usask.ca



Dr Deana Schenher  
(2019)  
Animal Health Centre  
of Melville  
306-728-2633  
deanaschenher@  
hotmail.com



**RVT MEMBER**  
Nadine Schueller, RVT  
(2019)  
WCVN, Saskatoon  
306-966-7136  
nadine.schueller@  
usask.ca



Dr Lisa Wayman  
(2019)  
CFIA/ Corman Park VS,  
Saskatoon  
306-385-4898  
lisa.wayman@canada.ca



**PUBLIC MEMBER**  
Mr Cody Lockhart  
(2016)  
Candll Lamb & Cattle,  
Debden  
306-724-4451  
lockhart76@hotmail.com

## EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS OF COUNCIL



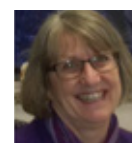
**CVMA REPRESENTATIVE**  
Dr Tracy Fisher  
306-545-7211  
rickespie@sasktel.net



**WCVN REPRESENTATIVE**  
Dr Doug Freeman  
306-966-7448  
douglas.freeman@usask.ca



**SAVT REPRESENTATIVE**  
Lois Ridgway, RVT  
Lois.ridgway@usask.ca



**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE  
REPRESENTATIVE**  
Dr Betty Althouse, CVO  
306-787-5547  
betty.althouse@govt.sk.ca



**CFIA REPRESENTATIVE**  
Dr Alex McIsaac  
306-975-5010  
alex.mcisaac@canada.ca

# Registrar's DESK



**Marc Cattet, DVM**  
mcattet@svma.sk.ca

**O**n September 5th, the Council for the Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association (SVMA) approved a proposal to review the SVMA's complaints process and to pay for this review with SVMA investment funds. Although this decision, announced the following day at the 2019 Annual General Meeting, cancels the internal review that I described in the last issue of the Newsletter, I believe it was the right decision. Independent consultants will be able to conduct the review in a more timely and cost-effective manner. Further, having independent consultants carry out the review will assure the public and members that the collection and analysis of information will be done objectively, and that the final recommendations will be valid.

The review will be conducted by two consultants. Dr Glenn Pettifer is the Project Lead and will be responsible for accessing all required documentation, files and relevant information. He will conduct the interviews with designated SVMA staff, Committee and Council members and other stakeholders and will conduct the data analysis and draft the final report. Dr Pettifer is a veterinary anesthesiologist who practised for many years in many locales, including Saskatchewan. He currently serves as the Registrar & CEO of the College

of Denturists of Ontario and as a Director of the Federation of Health Regulatory Colleges of Ontario. Ms Rebecca Durcan is consulting counsel on the project, providing legal insight, advice and assessment where needed. Ms Durcan is a partner at Steinecke Maciura LeBlanc in Toronto and acts as general counsel, prosecution counsel and independent legal counsel to several Ontario regulators. Dr Pettifer and Ms Durcan provide these consulting services under the umbrella of PREMISE – A Canadian Regulatory Consulting Group.

The review will address many specific questions and the aggregate answers will provide an assessment of the SVMA's complaints process through a lens of best practices in regulation. However, the major questions are: Is the SVMA's complaints process transparent, fair, proportionate, consistent, expeditious, and focused on public protection? What are the areas of commendable practice? Where are there opportunities for improvement?

The specific questions designed to provide insight into these broader questions will include:

- 1) Is the SVMA's complaints process accessible?
- 2) Are serious complaints prioritized?
- 3) Are complaints appropriately investigated?
- 4) Are complaints dealt with in an expeditious manner?
- 5) Does the regulator provide the parties to a complaint with regular updates on the progress of a complaint?
- 6) Does the regulator provide appropriate and reasoned decisions?
- 7) Are final discipline decisions published as permitted by the enabling legislation?

- 8) Is aggregate, anonymized information regarding the complaint process gathered, analyzed, and shared?
- 9) Is information about complaints securely retained?

To address these questions, the consultants will use various methods including:

- A review of documentation that includes the legislative framework in which the SVMA operates, policies and guidelines relevant to the complaints process, and complaints files opened and closed within the past 3 years;
- Conducting interviews with SVMA staff who manage complaints intake and support the work of the Professional Conduct Committee (PCC), the Discipline Committee, and the SVMA Council;
- Observation of at least one PCC meeting and an SVMA Council meeting; and
- The collection and analysis of information received from an online survey provided to a subset of individuals who presented a complaint to the SVMA and individuals who were the subject of a complaint during the 3-year sample period.

Although the timeline has not been finalized, I anticipate the review will begin in January 2020 and culminate in a final report to be received from the consultants within six months. This report will be posted on the SVMA website to be accessible to both the membership and the public. Opportunities for improvement will be identified throughout the review and integrated into a strategic plan to ensure the SVMA's complaints process complies with best practices in professional self-regulation going forward.

I welcome your comments or questions about this review at [mcattet@svma.sk.ca](mailto:mcattet@svma.sk.ca).

## WHAT'S YOUR RENEWAL DEADLINE?

**DVM Renewal Forms & Payment**  
**Practice Renewal & Payment**  
**Professional Corporation Renewal & Payment**  
**RVT SVMA Renewal Form**  
**RVT SAVT Renewal & Payment (includes SVMA fees)**

November 30, 2019  
November 30, 2019  
December 15, 2019  
December 15, 2019  
December 15, 2019

# 2019 SVMA CONFERENCE

## Sue Gauthier

Communications & Members Services Coordinator

**A**utumn is upon us again, and another annual SVMA Conference has come and gone. It was wonderful to see so many veterinary professionals from Western Canada gathered at the Delta Regina Hotel for another great weekend of CE, networking and socializing.

This year's AGM allowed members to take to the microphone and address their peers. Opinions and debate were lively. Mr Bryan Salte, Q.C., Associate Registrar, College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan, provided expert guidance in parliamentary procedure when needed. We are fortunate to have such proficient assistance during our annual meeting to keep procedure orderly and organized. As always, you can find up-to-date Bylaws and Practice Standards on the website under Legislation.

After the AGM and its companion Members Forum Lunch concluded, the afternoon plenary sessions on emergency preparedness in Saskatchewan and the many advantages RVT staff provide in the practice kicked off the weekend CE program.

This year, we changed up the order of social events. Friday's Welcome Reception opened the Trade Expo with plenty of socializing, spirits and spotlights on new innovations from our industry partners. As always, the Welcome Reception offered spirits and a full meal of delicious edibles (including fresh carved prime rib and sizzling garlic shrimp) to fortify attendees while they toured the Expo.

Our evening wellness event this year, dubbed 'UnWINEd for Wellness' presented Dr Greg Harasen, a member who is also an educated wine connoisseur, introducing the principles of wine tasting. The session was as fascinating as it was informative, and according to attendees, one of the best social events we've ever had!

Saturday and Sunday CE went very smoothly. A full day each of equine and bovine sessions offered our large animal practitioners the option of focusing on

their specialty in one single day if they chose. (Still, as always, the full conference is by far the most popular choice of registrants.) This year's companion animal stream was highlighted by two very engaging speakers: Dr Stephen Carey on canine flu and infectious respiratory disease, and Dr Mike Willard (who preferred to be introduced as Mike from Texas) with a full day on gastro-intestinal disorders. If there was a popularity prize for SVMA conference speakers, Mike from Texas would be this year's winner!

It was my great pleasure to organize a collection of artworks from the hands of our talented members. A 'Member Artisan's Gallery' was tucked into an exhibit booth (which may have been the most visited spot during the Trade Expo). Our member RVTs and DVMs have so much artistic talent. We thank them for sharing their beautiful work with all of us. Look for photos on the following pages.

The Trade Expo concluded on Saturday afternoon with draws for many great exhibitor and SVMA prizes. Congratulations to the winners of our Trade Expo Challenge game: Dr Ellen Amundsen-Case, who nabbed a free full registration for the 2020 SVMA conference, and Dr Paula Conrad from Killarney (MB) who won the grand prize, a \$500 Visa gift card.

On to the Awards Night Gala! Our annual member banquet and awards celebration is held every year during the conference. This year's banquet was held on Saturday night, and we moved it to the Delta Hotel, which hosted the premier annual social event for the Saskatchewan veterinary profession in fine fashion. Thanks to Dr Kent Weir who did double duty as host for the evening in addition to his new role as SVMA President. Kent is an endearing person who is as passionate about our professional community as he is fun to be with. It's my sincere hope that Dr Weir will consent to emceeing the annual awards celebration for many years to come.

Welcoming new Life Members is

a special part of every SVMA awards evening. Our congratulations to the following members who have been awarded eligibility for Life Membership:

### 25 YEAR LIFE MEMBERS

**Dr Barry G Watson**

### 35 YEAR LIFE MEMBER

**Drs Janice Sopatyk, Alan Gilbert and Elizabeth Griebel**

### 40 YEAR LIFE MEMBERS

**Drs Darlene Derow, Marshall Patterson and Karen M. Wagner**

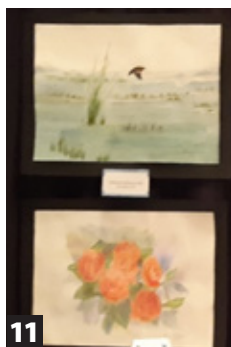
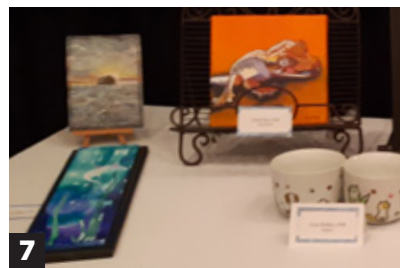
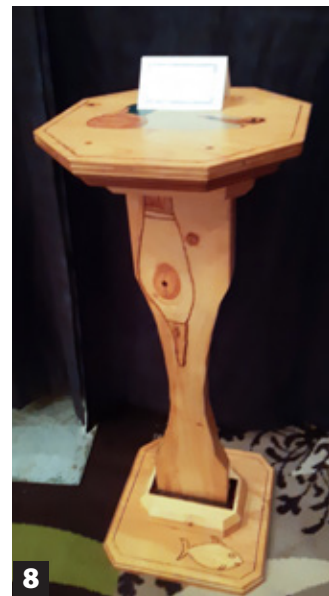
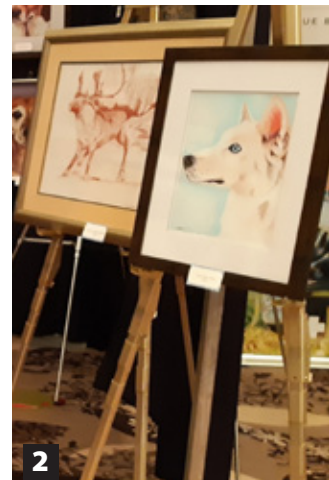
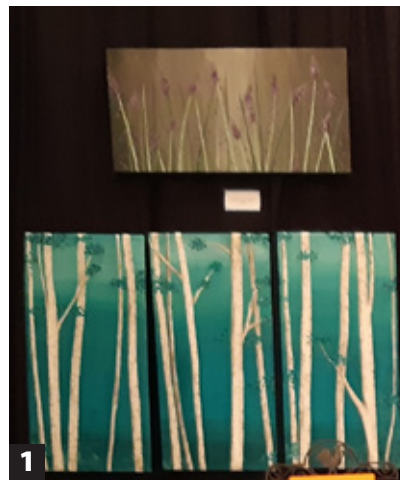
The 2019 Awards of Distinction were presented to their deserving recipients. Look on the following pages for details of the winners and their nominations.

This year's awards evening was capped off by a laugh-fest courtesy of veterinarian and comedian Dr Ted Morris from the Yuk Yuk's circuit with his 'veterinary professionals only' observational humour. It appears it takes an insider to really raise the eyebrows of our seasoned professionals! (Fortunately, we were assured that Dr Morris' material for 'civilians', as he calls them, is more tactful and complimentary to veterinarians!) Ted is a lively performer who sometimes crossed into unorthodox territory, but truly was hilarious.

SVMA and the Continuing Education Committee members take great pride in offering a full year's worth of RACE approved CE hours to our Saskatchewan veterinarians and visitors each year, and we thank attendees for their speaker and topic suggestions as we move forward with planning for next year's CE program and another great conference weekend.

Thanks to Council, the CE committee, our excellent speakers, our many talented member artisans, our industry partners, my fellow staffers and all our awesome attendees for coming together to make this such a great professional event on so many levels!





1 Single and tri-panel canvasses by Dr Fran Walker

2 Framed works by Dr Genevieve Rosseel, Dr Erica Simms.

3 Digital art by Dr Erica Simms

4 Two equine masterpieces by Dr Kathy Taylor

5 Acrylic by Dr Tom Steele (AB)

6 Linecuts by Dr Nicole Fernandez and wood carving by Dr Meg Smart

7 Tile and canvas by Dr Gwen Roy; Mugs by Dr Fran Walker

8 Woodburned 'Duck' table by Dr Kenn Wood.

9 Four gorgeous canvasses by Dr Lorelei Petreny

10 Four framed prints by Dr Mel Hoffer

11 Watercolours by Dr Maureen Harper (ON)

12 Quiltings by Lois Ridgway, RVT





FOUR NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE ELECTED AT THIS YEAR'S AGM.



UNWINED FOR WELLNESS WINE TASTING SEMINAR





## NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Drs Janice Sopatyk, Darlene Derow, Marshall Patterson and Karen M. Wagner



**PASSING THE GAVEL**  
to the new president, Dr Kent Weir



**OUR SINCERE THANKS TO** outgoing Council members Drs Davinder Bath, Al Chicoine and Lesley Sawa. (Not present: Dr Claire Card)



Ted Morris, Toronto DVM and Yuk Yuks comedian, shared his edgy 'for vets only' material to raucous laughter



**JOIN US NEXT YEAR FOR THE 2020 SVMA CONFERENCE, AGM AND TRADE EXPO, SEPTEMBER 10-13 AT THE SHERATON CAVALIER HOTEL IN SASKATOON. WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!**

# 2019 AWARDS OF DISTINCTION

## J.J. MURISON DISTINGUISHED VETERINARIAN AWARD



*Barry Blakley is presented with the 2019 J.J. Murison Distinguished Veterinarian Award by his nominator, Dr Al Chicoine.*

## DR BARRY BLAKLEY

The J.J. Murison Distinguished Veterinarian award is the highest level of recognition the SVMA can bestow on a member. The selection criteria for this annual award include service to the SVMA, the profession and the public as well as competency, personality and character.

This year's J.J. Murison Distinguished Veterinarian award was presented to Dr Barry Blakley in recognition of his outstanding service and dedication to veterinary pathology at the WCVI, to his fellow academicians and to students. Per nominator Dr Al Chicoine,

"As a veterinary toxicologist in charge of the toxicology lab at Prairie Diagnostic Services, Barry has shared his expertise with veterinarians across Western Canada for over 30 years. He will unfailingly take the time to discuss the case history, diagnostics required, and treatment options. Due to the nature of toxicological outbreaks, entire herds of animals are often affected. The toxicology lab service and Barry's consultations can therefore impact the lives of dozens or hundreds of animals at a time and have significant financial ramifications for the client as well. Barry's veterinary toxicology expertise is renowned, and he has been an expert witness in many civil lawsuits across North America involving cases of animal toxicity. Veterinarians

working in all types of clinics – food animal, equine, small animal – may not often think about the service that Barry provides through the toxicology lab, but when disaster strikes and veterinarians need guidance on diagnosing and treating toxicity cases, they are sure glad he is available!

In addition to his role as veterinary toxicologist, Barry has been extremely active at the WCVI. He teaches numerous courses in toxicology to veterinary and undergraduate students. He has served the university with distinction as well. In addition to his role on many university committees over the years, he served as Department Head of Veterinary Biomedical Sciences for 8+ years. Dr Blakley has also served as acting Department Head for Veterinary Microbiology and Veterinary Pathology."

Dr Julie de Moissac also commented: "Here is an individual who has been providing outstanding service to the veterinary community for many years. He always takes the time to communicate his expertise and has provided toxicological information to his colleagues at a level that is truly above and beyond his position at PDS. I know that from a practising veterinarian's point of view, I would struggle with this area if not for Barry's invaluable service and assistance."

Dr Blakley shared a few words about receiving the SVMA's highest award: "I would like to thank the members of the SVMA and the selection committee who recommended that I receive this most prestigious award. I have been in my present position for almost 40 years. Every day is unique and exciting. The charm has never disappeared. The students keep me in line with their enthusiasm and motivation to learn. In addition, I receive hundreds of phone calls and emails from producers and veterinarians about complex and challenging cases. These interactions solve many unique problems that personally provide me with the satisfaction that I have made a difference. The profession is changing rapidly. With the development of electronic communication, my role has changed dramatically, in particular on the national and international levels. The veterinarians in the province have played an

important role in many ways.

The painting, an outdoor hockey rink, was a great choice. I have been actively involved in sports including hockey and ball for decades. Thank you all- it will be displayed prominently in our home."

## MENTORSHIP/LEADERSHIP AWARD



*The 2019 Mentorship/Leadership Award is presented to Randy Hlady by nominator Andrea Ulmer.*

## DR RANDY HLADY

The Mentorship/Leadership award was inaugurated in 2014 to recognize an SVMA member or group of members who makes an outstanding contribution through leadership or mentorship in our profession. This year's Mentorship/Leadership Award was presented to Dr Randy Hlady.

Dr Hlady was nominated by Dr Andrea Ulmer, who wrote:

"Dr Hlady has been a long-time member of the SVMA and has mentored several veterinary students throughout the years, including myself. He is patient and kind and knows how to foster confidence and professionalism in his students. He is practical, relatable and cares about the students he mentors, with regard to their professional endeavours as well as their personal wellbeing. He demonstrates the importance of community involvement and investing in client relationships both inside and outside of work. Many, many years later, he is still a mentor to me, and I feel blessed to have had him as part of my veterinary journey and development.



## Recognizing member excellence is a valued SVMA tradition. Each year, Awards of Distinction are presented at the annual SVMA Awards Night. The SVMA congratulates the following deserving recipients of its 2019 Awards of Distinction:

### YOUNG VETERINARIAN AWARD



*Outgoing president Victor Kernalguen presents the Young Veterinarian Award to Sarah Bater.*

### DR SARAH BATER

Many veterinarians who are relatively new to practice are as involved and engaged as their senior colleagues and deserve to be recognized for their significant contributions to the veterinary profession as well. SVMA

Council inaugurated a Young Veterinarian Award in 2018 to recognize a veterinarian who has graduated within the past five years and has demonstrated emerging leadership through enthusiasm for veterinary medicine, eagerness to learn from colleagues and clients, willingness to share new knowledge with senior colleagues, and/or advocacy for the profession.

This year's winner, Dr Sarah Bater, had several nominations. Brittany Glackin, RVT commented,

"Sarah is the most enthusiastic and hard-working new vet I know. She does so much on her time off that goes unrecognized. She is the smiling face you need to see on a busy day at the clinic and is a pleasure to work with and for. She is always willing to take the time to teach you something and is great at explaining concepts. She makes every day at work better."

These sentiments were shared by Jackie MacDuff, RVT, who wrote,

"Sarah not only goes above and beyond

for her patients and clients but for her support staff too. She spends a lot of her time making sure everyone feels appreciated as well as teaching anyone she can. Sarah is patient and always understanding of how this profession works."

Finally, one of Dr Bater's students at WCVM, Megan Mackintosh commented:

"Sarah is the most deserving person I know for this award. She is an absolutely amazing veterinarian – some think she has been practising for many years! As a veterinary student, I am so lucky to have her as a mentor. Sarah goes out of her way to teach students, involving me in her appointments and surgeries. Sarah is also one of the most hard-working people I know, dedicating time outside of work to check on patients and follow up with clients. Every one of her clients loves spending time with her. She is so caring, and you can tell she loves her job. Central Animal Hospital is lucky to have her and the SVMA should be proud to have her as a member. Sarah is truly one of a kind!"

### TECHNOLOGIST OF THE YEAR AWARD



*Brenda Smith receives the 2019 RVT of the Year Award from nominator Tom Avey.*

### BRENDA SMITH, RVT

The Technologist of the Year award recognizes outstanding contributions to the field of veterinary technology by an SVMA member RVT.

Brenda Smith, RVT was celebrated for her professionalism, dedication and excellence in her work at Park Range Veterinary Services. Said nominator Dr Tom Avey:

"Brenda Smith has been a technologist

for over 22 years. She graduated from SIAST (now Sask Polytech) in 1996. She has spent all those years since graduating at the same clinic, Park Range Veterinary Services in Prince Albert. When I was a student, she helped me, supervised, gave instruction, had patience and was a teacher. I watched the way she worked and how her work ethic rubbed off on others and how it won the respect of the veterinarians she worked with and lay staff alike. She is relied upon, not only for technical aspects of her job, but for client communication, anticipation, judgement, memory, diligence and so much more.

Brenda's personality is like no other. She greets clients in a warm and friendly manner. Regulars know her and ask for her by name. Some even inquire about her family – of which she is always willing to show you pictures. She gives a sympathetic ear and shoulder when called upon by clients and writes warm compassionate letters when those beloved animals pass.

Now that I am a veterinarian working alongside her, I see her help new students,

high schoolers interested in the world of veterinary medicine, technologist students wanting to hone their skills, and young new veterinarians – giving them help and confidence when they need it.

Brenda has also recently made the transition to office manager and jumped in with both feet and no hesitation. This woman looks for new challenges, keeps the "ship" running, never faults or disappoints, is a reliable cornerstone in the practice of which we could ask for no one more suited to the position. In my time as a high school student, university student, veterinary student, veterinarian and now owner in a practice to which I have seen her grow in experience, knowledge and enthusiasm. I have been very proud to call her a teacher, assistant, technologist, co-worker, office manager and friend.

Brenda has given so much over the years to others, not only in this immediate clinic and those who have passed through these doors, but also to the people of this community. It is time we honour this wonderful individual."

# COMMITTEES

Self-regulating professions require member involvement to govern them in a fashion reflective of the views and interests of the members. The members who volunteer their time to serve on Council, legislated and advisory committees and in representative roles are the lifeblood of the Association. The SVMA is literally run by you, the readers!

As a member of your professional association, you'll be interested to know what the Council and committees are dealing with and working on. For Council news, see the President's report in every issue of this magazine, or for meeting minutes, log in to your member account on the [svma.sk.ca](http://svma.sk.ca) website. Following are annual updates from the chairs of the legislated and advisory committees.

## LEGISLATED COMMITTEES

**SVMA's legislated committees, Professional Conduct and Discipline, are guided by their mandate of public protection along with addressing your concerns. Here are updates from PCC and DC about their activities over the past year.**



### PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

**Dr Rodney Webber, vice chair**  
[rodney.webber@sasktel.net](mailto:rodney.webber@sasktel.net)

As one of the legislated committees of the Association, the Professional Conduct Committee (PCC) has been active in the past year. The Committee's primary mandate is to investigate complaints made against Association members and make recommendations as to whether or not the complaint should proceed to a full discipline hearing. As always, the cases presented for investigation have represented a wide range of situations, species and practice types.

In the past year, the PCC has reviewed and investigated numerous complaints made against veterinarians in relation to the practice of veterinary medicine. Because the complaints process is mandated by The Veterinarians Act, 1987, its importance cannot be understated. All complaints received by the SVMA about a member being

accused of professional misconduct or professional incompetence are reviewed by the PCC and appropriate action relevant to the investigative process commences. Additionally, if evidence of professional misconduct or professional incompetence that fits within the definition outlined in the Veterinarians Act, 1987 or SVMA Bylaws is discovered, a case summary is written and the completed investigation file is reviewed by the entire PCC wherein a decision to pursue, if appropriate, Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) or forwarding the complaint to the Discipline Committee (DC) for a hearing is determined by a majority vote.

In 2018, the PCC was presented with a total of 10 complaints involving members. Of these, 7 were reviewed and dismissed while 2 cases were forwarded to the DC. Another remains under investigation.

This year, a total of 17 complaints

have been submitted against members to date wherein: 11 complaints were reviewed by the PCC and dismissed; two complaints were investigated but concluded without evidence of professional misconduct or professional incompetence; one complaint was resolved by corrective action; and three complaints remain under investigation. Additionally, one complaint case from 2017 is scheduled to go to a Disciplinary hearing by the end of 2019.

Current members of the PCC include Drs Tania Baker, Brad Scandrett, Chris Luby, Natalie Preikschat, Wendy Nugent, Kim Tryon, Stephanie Smith, Ashley Eastmond, Henry McCarthy, RVTs Lisa Mallory and Carolyn Cartwright, Dr Lina Johansson (chair), and myself (vice chair). The dedication, attention to detail and common-sense attributes of this committee are essential to the investigative process and successful completion of the PCC's duties.



### DISCIPLINE

**Dr Al Theede, chair**  
[d.alan.theede@gmail.com](mailto:d.alan.theede@gmail.com)

There were two Professional Conduct Committee (PCC) Cases referred to the Discipline Committee (DC) for which hearings were held during this past annual reporting cycle. A DC hearing was held for Cases #2017-06 a

nd #2017-05. The details of these and previous DC decisions are available on the SVMA website.

Discipline Committee members include Jo-Anne Wolan (public member), Dr Rick Burton (public member), Dr Jim Nykoliation (public member), Drs Barb Eatock, Greg Harasen, Al Choquer, Ed McCall,

Don Wyand, Wanda Mann and Al Theede. The veterinary members of the Discipline Committee extend a special thanks to the public members for their dedication, hard work, insight, experience and support of our profession through their participation in this legislated committee.



# IN ACTION

## ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Your colleagues on SVMA advisory committees continue to be active on your behalf. Initiatives, events and articles that make a real impact on the SK veterinary profession continue to emerge from these prolific groups.



### ANIMAL WELFARE

**Dr Dennis Will, chair**  
md.will@sasktel.net

The Animal Welfare committee is currently chaired by Dr Dennis Will. Members include Dr Bridget Gray, Dr LeeAnn Forsythe, Dr Karen Machin, Dr Leo Perlinger, Don Ferguson, RVT, Filmon Tzeggai, RVT, Nicole Crossman, Frances Wach, Erin Wasson, Dr Yolande Seddon, Dr Karen Schwean-Lardner and Garner Deobald. SVMA staffers Sue Gauthier and Lorraine Serhienko, RVT continue to assist the AWC with its activities.

There are members with a wide variety of backgrounds on this committee, including: Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Protection Services of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan SPCA, RVTs, WCVM, Large Animal and Small Animal Clinical Sciences, Veterinary Social Work and the student body. There are members from the College of Agriculture, a former CFIA staff member and recently added, a producer group representative. Diversity is our greatest strength.

The committee met four times over the last year. This has been a busy and productive year.

#### ***Animal Protection Act, Mandatory Reporting and Continuing Education***

The Province of Saskatchewan made changes to the Animal Protection Act and Regulations in 2018 that included mandatory reporting of animal abuse. To facilitate greater understanding, several companion animal and food animal welfare related topics were included in the September 2018 convention.

#### ***Joint VMA Animal Welfare Guide and Atlas Project***

This is a large multiyear project that has been undertaken by a large

and dedicated sub-committee. The objective is to develop a web-based Veterinary Animal Welfare Guide and Atlas. There is a Food Animal section, a Companion Animal section, and a section that addresses transportation, slaughter and euthanasia. There will be text, pictures, videos, and references. Contact information for individuals and organizations that provide support for veterinarians will be specific to the province in which they work. There will be many case studies to help provide direction when veterinarians are faced with animal welfare related situations.

The sub-committee formed to work on this project is composed of members of the SVMA AWC. It also includes members from private practice who are not on the AWC. A software developer has volunteered to join our team to enable this project to function on several web platforms. There is a member from each of the Manitoba and Alberta VMAs. There has been dialogue with our colleagues in British Columbia who have expressed an interest in joining this committee. The CVMA is interested in this project as well. It is our intent to make this a national animal welfare reference that is beneficial to veterinarians in all provinces and in all types of veterinary practice.

#### ***Pet Care and Service Industry Care Codes***

A sub-committee has been set up to develop a Saskatchewan Pet Care and Service Industry Care Code. The sub-committee members include individuals from the SVMA AWC, Animal Protection Services and Industry. Progress on the text and consultation with industry is going well.

#### ***Severe Drought and Cold Weather Communiqué***

Drought in many parts of the province continues to compromise the availability of pasture for livestock. Feed shortages are a serious concern and can have a significant negative impact on animal welfare during the winter months and early spring. The SVMA and Animal Protection Services have developed a communication package to raise awareness of the significance of the drought and the impact it can have on feed supplies and animal welfare. This information package is to be distributed at strategic times over the summer, fall and winter. The information will be distributed through various media outlets, as well as several industry related organizations.

#### ***African Swine Fever, Animal Welfare and Vietnam***

A very large outbreak of African Swine Fever in the pig herds is occurring in several countries in Asia. There are very significant animal welfare and disease control concerns associated with this outbreak. A member of our committee was asked to provide animal welfare training related to the humane destruction of pigs in Vietnam. A concerted effort was made to increase knowledge, train trainers, raise standards, and improve animal welfare. Linkages have been made with the Vietnamese Veterinary Medical Association. The dialogue continues.

#### ***Backyard Swine Handbook***

Drs Bridget Grey, Kathryn Tonita and Yolande Seddon have written a backyard swine handbook, which is in the final review stage prior to publishing.

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## FROM PAGE 2

### **Communication, Education, Smaller Focused Training**

Online and in-person training opportunities continue to be well received by members in Saskatchewan and veterinary professionals across Canada. Don Ferguson (APSS) and Dr Margaret Doyle developed and delivered an online forensic veterinary medicine training session which had good participation by SVMA members. Lorraine Serhienko, RVT and Dr Karen-Schwean Lard-

ner worked with SK Agriculture to develop a five-hour online CE course about health and proper care of backyard poultry flocks. Sue Gauthier worked with SSPCA to coordinate a one-day Inter-Agency Animal Hoarding Workshop in June.

### **Thanks**

I would like to personally thank each of the Animal Welfare committee members and individuals from the office of the SVMA for their involvement with and support for this committee. I would also like to thank the

software developer and individuals from the Manitoba and Alberta VMAs who have volunteered their time and travelled to this province to help make this animal welfare project possible. What we accomplish together is only possible because of everyone's dedication, hard work and continued support.

Please feel free to contact the chair or members of the Animal Welfare committee if you have any comments on the direction we are taking, or if there are animal welfare issues you wish to discuss.



## CONTINUING EDUCATION

### **Dr Kent Weir, chair**

kentdweir@gmail.com

As I embark on my fifth year as CE Chair, I can't believe how complicated this whole thing used to be! Sue Gauthier and her vision for CE and our annual conferences have been such a wonderful addition to this committee. As a Council member of the SVMA, I have now travelled around the Canada and even into the USA to represent the SVMA, and after all I have seen I am even more proud of what we have to offer here in Saskatchewan. I really appreciate committee members Heidi Potter, Tara Baker and Tanya

Duke for their hard work and their genuine care and consideration for speaker and topic choices, and a warm welcome to new committee member Zach Johnson!

Because of the variety of remotely accessible courses we now have in our Online Classroom, regional CE didn't happen over the past year. It's definitely an important part of the CE that the SVMA has to offer and we will certainly be trying to get it going again in the coming year. Topics and speaker ideas would be very much welcomed.

The Annual Convention in Regina was another roaring success. As always, we try to make our

conference practical and affordable. We want you to learn something today and be able to take it home Monday and put it into practice. The last few years have really seen a change from having a large number of speakers presenting for really small amounts of time on a variety of topics to a smaller number of speakers covering a more targeted topic. I personally have really enjoyed this, and the reviews we have been receiving about this have been very positive.

Thank you for your continued support of CE in Saskatchewan. I truly think we have something special going on here!



## PRACTICE ECONOMICS

### **Dr Bob Bellamy, chair**

b.bellamy@sasktel.net

The Practice Economics Committee includes Drs Chris Clark, Brian Gibbs, Tariq Bajwa, and myself, and I'd like to extend a warm welcome to our newest member, Dr Taryn Schachtel.

The Practice Economics Committee continues to partner with the CVMA Business Management Program to conduct yearly Economic Surveys and produce Suggested Fee Guides. The CVMA has arranged funding to continue the program into the future. In 2009 after

consultation with all provincial VMAs, the Business Management Program was enhanced by adoption of a uniform timetable across the country. All provinces will receive Economic Surveys in September. The data collected in the surveys allows creation of suggested fee guides for both companion animal and large animal practices to be delivered in early January. For the 10th year in a row, the fee guides were on time!

Practices that submit data are provided with a Practice Diagnostic Report that allows comparison of revenue and expense benchmarks.

Access to benchmarking data is crucial to managing the business portion of your practice. It is virtually impossible to change what you don't measure. In addition, Practice Diagnostic Reports contain an estimated value of the practice based on cash flow.

Response rate to the Economic Survey was adequate to produce reliable data, but low given the potential benefit practices would gain from participating. My only comment is, "a horse led to water may not drink, but those that do, satisfy their thirst".

**In order to keep the Association vibrant and moving forward, the committees must be maintained, re-populated, and active. If you are interested in participating on an SVMA legislated or advisory committee, please indicate on your 2020 license renewal submission, contact the chair of your committee of interest or email the office:**





## PRACTICE STANDARDS

**Dr Sylvia Wiebe, chair**  
sjwiebe10@gmail.com

It is an honour to represent the PSC as chairperson. We continue to refine the practice standards and the inspection process. There have been concerns with recordkeeping in respect to narcotic and controlled drug logs. We continue to monitor that and help the practices to be in compliance with the Practice Standards, Health Canada regulations and other provincial and federal regulations.

The Practice Standards

committee and Council are taking steps to ensure that veterinary practices from outside of Saskatchewan, which are conducting veterinary medicine within Saskatchewan, are complying with the Practice Standards of the SVMA. This is necessary because veterinary regulations (including practice standards) differ from province to province but, by law, veterinary practices must meet the regulatory requirements for the provinces that they conduct business in, even if the practice's physical location is in

another province. Thus, the SVMA Council approved at its March 22nd meeting, under Motion 2019-26, that such out-of-province practices undergo inspection and be placed on SVMA's 5-year inspection rotation going forward.

Members of the Practice Standards committee include Drs Michael Evenson, Angela Oranchuk, Adewole Adeniran and Dorrie Laberswieler, RVT. If you are interested in volunteering for this committee, contact Lorraine at the SVMA office.



## WELLNESS

**Sue Gauthier, CMSC**

Wellness continues to be a priority for the SVMA. Thanks to all Wellness committee members for continuing to volunteer their time and creativity to brainstorm wellness initiatives for their colleagues. The Wellness committee includes Drs Katelyn McIntyre, Trisha Dowling, Kim Tryon, Lindsay Murphy, Mike Bugg, and RVT Raya Harder. Thank you to Drs Larissa Goodman and Julia Montgomery for their efforts over the past year, and welcome to the committee's newest member, Dr Sam Gwillim.

Knowing that professional connection and sharing are always beneficial, evening wellness events in Regina and Saskatoon continue. In February, a Wellness Bistro at Crave Kitchen and Wine Bar in Regina brought 30+ veterinary professionals together for dinner and discussion with Tom Robinson, Senior Psychologist with the SK Health Authority, who addressed trauma and stress management for veterinary professionals. This fall, Trisha Dowling, DVM and Anita Charkravarti, MD are teaming up on November 12 to present "Stopping the Second Arrow: Compassionate Care for Yourself when a Medical Error Occurs". This talk will be presented as a dinner and CE session at the USask University Club. Registration is open on the

svma.sk.ca website.

The 2018 Spring Veterinary Retreat was so popular, another retreat was held at Manitou Springs Resort and Spa this past April. Drs Lynne Sandmeyer and Trisha Dowling once again facilitated mindfulness training, this year in conjunction with yoga sessions led by Janis Riise. 24 registrants were treated to a relaxing weekend devoted to veterinary team wellness. The first two Veterinary Mindfulness Retreats have been so well received, another retreat is scheduled for next spring. Mark your calendars for the weekend of March 28/29 at Manitou Springs.

Each issue of SVMA News over the past year included articles directed at supporting member wellness:

- *8 Habits of Highly Successful Practice Owners* – Various SaskVets (Aug 2018 issue)
- *The Mind-Body Connection* – Dr Trisha Dowling (Aug 2018 issue)
- *Escaping the Perfectionism Trap* – Dr Brian Faulkner, UK (Nov 2018 issue)
- *HALT: Take a Break* – Terra Shastri, OVMA (Feb 2019 issue)
- *Pets, Grief and Loss: Support for Ourselves and Others* – Erin Wasson, WCVN (May 2019 issue)
- *Get a Better Sleep!* – Dr Lindsay Murphy (May 2019 issue)

- *7 Lessons in 75 Days* – Dr Mike Bugg (August 2019 issue)

The wellness committee added some new and fun newsmagazine features for engaging members. The first was a member comment page on different funny topics called 'You Said It!'. The second is a Healthy Living Gallery that features photos of members themed after the four pillars of wellness: self care, physical activity, healthy cooking and eating and acts of kindness.

Wellness is always part of the SVMA Conference. At our 2019 conference in September, wellness got some new twists. A collection of member art pieces was exhibited to affirm art expression as a form of self-care and to celebrate the outstanding talent of many of our member veterinarians and RVTs. DVM and wine connoisseur Greg Harasen taught an introduction to wine tasting session called 'UnWINEd for Wellness'. Wine education using proper tasting protocols was featured as part of a broader discussion about recreational pursuits as part of a balanced, healthy lifestyle. The conference also offered a sunrise yoga session for motivated early risers.

SVMA continues to provide four hours of professional mental health support annually to all members through the Member Wellness Support Program.

Finally, the Member Wellbeing page on the SVMA website is loaded with articles and resources exploring and supporting veterinary health and wellbeing. **Check it out!**

**PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT  
OR DISCIPLINE** Marc Cattet  
mcattet@svma.sk.ca

**PRACTICE STANDARDS**  
Lorraine Serhienko  
lserhienko@svma.sk.ca

**ANIMAL WELFARE, CONTINUING EDUCATION,  
PRACTICE ECONOMICS OR WELLNESS**  
Sue Gauthier sgauthier@svma.sk.ca

*We are saddened to report ...*

It is with great sadness that the SVMA shares the sudden passing of Dr Richard Faintuck on August 8, 2019.

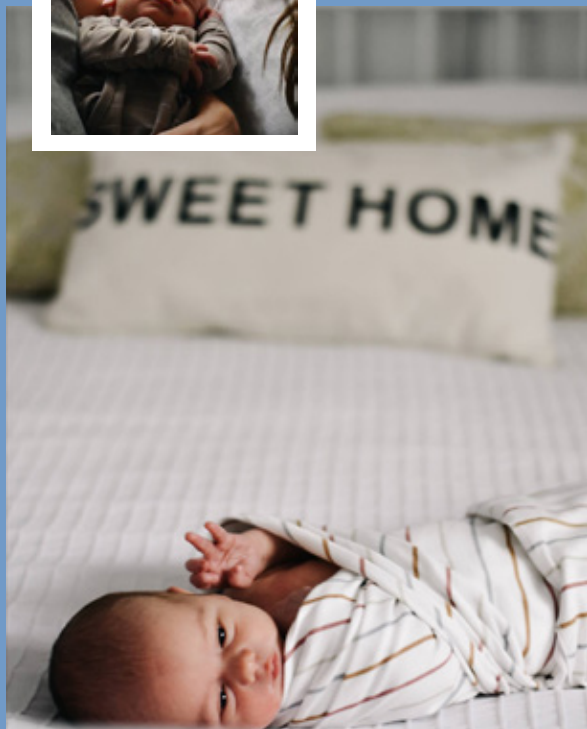
Dr Faintuck was a 1985 graduate of the Ontario Veterinary College. He was a large animal practitioner and owner of Stockyard Veterinary Services which has locations in Edmonton and Tofield, Alberta.

A memorial service was held on Aug 12, 2019, at the Edmonton Jewish Cemetery, and a memorial gathering was held on August 29 at the Tofield Community Hall.



**Dr Rick Faintuck**

*Photo courtesy Stockyards Veterinary Services*



**CONGRATULATIONS** Dr Lindsay Murphy and family!  
Introducing Lawson Paul Murphy who arrived October 2  
weighing 8 lbs 11oz. Mom and baby boy are doing great!

# Dr Greg Harasen achieves sought-after certification as a wine connoisseur

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Dr Greg Harasen, who recently passed his WSET Level 3 exam with merit.

The Wine and Spirits Education Trust (WSET) is a registered non-profit foundation headquartered in London, UK, that provides worldwide education in wine and spirits. While it started out 50 years ago aimed at providing certification for those in the wine industry, much of the focus now is for those who have a hobby interest in wine. The organization offers 4 levels of certification, 1 through 4.

Level 4 is a 20-month Diploma program which is a prerequisite for entry into the prestigious Master of Wines program. Currently there are fewer than 350 Masters of Wine



in the world. Greg attained Level 3 this past summer in Bordeaux.

His current plans are to share his certified wine expertise through a casual business doing wine tastings and fun events, much like the session at the SVMA conference.



# Dr John Campbell receives 2019 Canadian Beef Industry Award for Outstanding Research and Innovation



Calgary, AB – A leader in beef animal health and welfare has been awarded the 2019 Canadian Beef Industry Award for Outstanding Research and

Innovation. Dr John Campbell was honored August 14th at the 2019 Canadian Beef Industry Conference, held in Calgary, Alberta.

Dr Campbell is a professor and researcher at the University of Saskatchewan in the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences. His work focuses on clinical research in beef cattle health management and the epidemiology of infectious diseases. He received his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine in 1985 and his Doctor of Veterinary Science in 1991 from the Ontario Veterinary College at the University of Guelph.

Dr Campbell has assisted producers, researchers, veterinarians, and policy makers across Canada with his numerous research projects on infectious diseases, such as respiratory disease and trichomoniasis, and industry-relevant issues, such as antimicrobial resistance and animal welfare. As the Head of the Disease Investigation Unit at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVN), he has led an effort to keep local veterinarians, provincial officials, and beef producers updated with the information they need to keep their cattle healthy.

Dr Campbell was responsible for establishing the Western Canadian Cow-Calf Surveillance Network and subsequently the national Canadian Cow-Calf Surveillance Network. Through this network, Dr. Campbell and his colleagues have been able to examine a variety of topics which help scientists from across Canada manage future research projects, identify emerging problems and evolving practices, and support beef producers as they manage production decisions in their herds.



*Dr John Campbell (centre) was honored at the 2019 Canadian Beef Industry Conference, August 14 in Calgary.*

“Dr. John Campbell embodies the spirit of cooperation and communication between academia and the cattle industry,” said Ryan Beierbach, Chair of the Beef Cattle Research Council (BCRC) and producer near Whitewood, SK. “He maintains impactful and relevant research by staying actively engaged with cattle producers and is not afraid to get his hands dirty as he digs into the details to solve complex herd health and nutrition problems.”

Over the course of his career, Dr Campbell has served on numerous beef industry committees such as the National Beef Research Strategy, Western Beef Development Centre Strategic Advisory Committee, Antimicrobial Stewardship in Canadian Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine Conference Organizing Committee, and International Symposium of Beef Cattle Welfare Organizing Committee. He was also a member of both the Scientific and Technical Committees for the Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Beef Cattle for the National Farmed Animal Care Council, a document that is now a

best-practices manual for Canadian cattle producers.

“There are few veterinarians practicing in Canada who have not been impacted by Dr Campbell,” added Matt Bowman, Vice-Chair of the BCRC and a producer from Thornloe, Ontario. “John’s teaching, research, communication style, willingness to help, and his personable approach have contributed greatly to veterinary medicine, as well as the competitiveness and sustainability of the Canadian beef industry.”

As a researcher, teacher, and veterinarian, Dr Campbell has more than 80 peer-reviewed publications, has trained over 50 graduate students, and has influenced innumerable veterinary students. He is frequently called upon to present at conferences and regional producer meetings, as well as to contribute to columns in agricultural publications. Dr John Campbell's commitment to beef producers and bovine health is extremely evident in his efforts to provide information and advance best practices within the industry.

# MULTI-DISCIPLINARY INTERVENTION CRITICAL FOR ANIMAL HOARDING CASES

Rigel Smith, WCVM

**There are potentially two million hoarders in Canada, and while scientists have gained a better understanding of people who excessively collect objects, research and awareness of animal hoarding is still limited.**

**A** workshop in Regina, Sask., which took place in June 2019, helped to address that lack of knowledge in society. The day-long event brought together professionals from both human service and animal welfare disciplines to focus on animal hoarding – a disorder that exhibits much differently than object hoarding.

Object hoarding is caused by a hoarding disorder that impels people to collect too many objects and makes it difficult for them to discard items. With cases of animal hoarding, people collect an excessive number of animals — to the point where they can no longer provide adequate care.

“[For] the Saskatchewan SPCA ... one of our priorities is education and working collaboratively,” says Frances Wach, executive director of the Saskatchewan SPCA and one of the workshop’s organizers. “In terms of working on hoarding, if we work collaboratively, we can meet the needs of both people and animals.”

The workshop was organized by a planning committee with representatives from the Saskatchewan SPCA, the Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association (SVMA), Animal Protection Services of Saskatchewan (APSS), Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA), Community Safety and Well-being, and the province’s Ministry of Agriculture.

The workshop is the first step towards better collaboration between human and animal health sectors. There is a knowledge gap present between the two sectors that needs to be addressed to ensure people and animals in animal hoarding situations receive adequate care.

“I think the committee itself is a good example of a collaborative and collective approach to getting the workshop done,” says Wach.

The event attracted about 60 attendees from various backgrounds including social work, animal protection services and animal shelters, fire and police, public health, veterinary

medicine, and mental health and addictions.

The day featured keynote presentations, a session highlighting Saskatchewan agencies that work to identify and help people with elevated risk levels, a case-study panel discussion, and a forum for feedback and recommendations.

One of the workshop’s keynote speakers was Dr. Colleen Marion (WCVM ’99), a Manitoba veterinarian who has served on several animal welfare committees at provincial and national levels.

The other keynote speaker was Christiana Bratotiis, an associate professor in the School of Social Work at the University of British Columbia, who believes animal hoarding is an issue that demands a multi-disciplinary approach.

“No one discipline or [one] person working within that discipline has all of the expertise needed,” says Bratotiis. “It’s really going to take the animal community and the psychiatric community coming together to

accomplish this.”

Bratotiis says events like the workshop help foster advancements in the field.

“Where there’s conversation, then there’s understanding, and out of that grows [the] will to make changes.”

Erin Wasson, veterinary social worker at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM), says members of the college’s team are working with representatives from other organizations to address animal hoarding situations.

“We are bringing veterinary social work and veterinarians into the homes of individuals struggling with animal hoarding and using our unique collaboration to partner with animal protection agencies to address a dangerous and serious gap in human and animal health services,” says Wasson.

She adds that without on-the-ground mental health services, very few individuals involved in these cases would receive the care they desperately need.



It's also important for veterinarians — and everyone else involved — to understand the distinct roles that people play in these cases.

"The WCVI [has many vets] that have all been called out onto calls where there's an animal health concern," says Wasson. "But the human health concern is what is driving the animal health concern."

There is still a long road ahead when it comes to engaging both human and animal health services in this issue. Wasson says oftentimes, mental health professionals don't have the tools necessary to enter animal hoarding situations and to provide proper care. This can leave service providers at-risk if they're not properly vaccinated or clad in personal protective equipment.

Additionally, without knowledge of best practice assessment tools, it can be a challenge to appropriately gauge the level of risk to individuals

living in circumstances that are often a combination of object and animal hoarding.

Wasson's primary goal is the inclusion of all sectors and educating everyone on how to properly address the issue. In Saskatchewan, she points out that only a handful of people have the necessary background and experience to intervene in animal hoarding situations.

"For a long time, the human health and animal health people did not get together to talk about much," says Wasson. "The thing I advocate for the most is the inclusion of animal health and animal protection people at the same tables as the human health and the human protection people."

One of those human health workers is Doug Harder, manager of emergency and transitional services with the Saskatchewan Health Authority's Mental Health and Addictions Services in Saskatoon. Harder got involved in the event

because of his connection to Wasson and his collaboration with her around the veterinary social work program and exposure to the cases she was seeing.

"It's pretty obvious that mental health has a key piece in this area," says Harder. "[This workshop] gives us a deeper understanding of the attachment issues that these individuals have with their animals."

Harder says it's important to understand all aspects of an animal hoarding situation and events like the workshop help to achieve that goal.

"If I'm not educated in what I'm walking into, I'm not going to understand what I'm doing," says Harder. "We just really need to have a high level of understanding – it leads to better intervention and better patient care."

Harder believes multi-disciplinary workshops like this should continue.

"I don't think we realize how prominent [animal hoarding] is. We really haven't conceptualized what hoarding is about, so exposure in this kind of workshop exposes us to the pathology as well as the challenges that the other agencies have."

For Wasson, seeing how a simple conversation evolved into a day-long workshop was encouraging.

"This started out as just myself and the former executive director of Animal Protection Services of Saskatchewan talking about a case," she says. "And it's blossomed into multiple agencies sitting on a panel and going through a case example together. That's incredible."

Harder agrees.

"This type of workshop really empowers some of us to really just keep working away at this ... this gives you hope."



Trisha Dowling, DVM



Lynne Sandmeyer, DVM

# VETERINARY MINDFULNESS RETREAT

## MARCH 28-29, 2020

**Last year's spring mindfulness retreat at Manitou Springs was so popular, we're doing it again!**

**Mark your calendar for another relaxing weekend at Manitou Springs Resort in Watrous.**

The retreat has been designed to refresh mind, body and spirit. Facilitators Drs Trisha Dowling and Lynne Sandmeyer are once again teaming up to bring you and your veterinary colleagues a wonderful mindfulness experience that also earns you CE credit.

The retreat runs from Saturday afternoon to Sunday afternoon, and there will be plenty of time for "floating your stress away" in "the Dead Sea of Canada". You can even book a massage or spa treatment.

Registrants will again have the choice of private or shared accommodations in one of the hotel's newly renovated rooms. Retreat registration is \$300 per person for a private room on March 28 or \$200 per person to share a room with a friend. All meals, CE and admission to the therapeutic mineral pools are included.

Registration will open in January. Visit the SVMA website for details.

# APPLICATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR SUMMER 2020 MENTORSHIP AND PRECEPTORSHIP PROGRAMS

**SVMA has two student job placement programs on the go: one for first- and second-year students, and one for third-year students. Both programs offer an agriculture-based practice experience that showcases this career path and demonstrates the range of professional and lifestyle options to be found in the agri-food sector in rural Saskatchewan, giving students the context to seriously consider food animal or mixed practice as a career.**

## MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

You may have already been approached by a first- or second-year WCVN student eager to have your practice mentor them over the summer of 2020. The annual Summer Student Mentorship Program (SSMP), sponsored by the SVMA and SK Agriculture, offers first- and second-year Saskatchewan origin students a 14-week summer introduction to real life veterinary practice in a large or mixed animal practice or in a food animal production facility.

Mentorship Program students must approach practices on their own to arrange a summer job placement. Once a practice has agreed to mentor a particular student, the student submits their application and an agreement signed by both the student and the practice to the SVMA office. (The practice is not obligated to hire the student unless the application for Mentorship Program funding is successful.)

## PRECEPTORSHIP PROGRAM

The Preceptorship Program (PP), subsidized by SVMA and a PP Fund made up of contributions by producer groups, offers third-year veterinary students a more intensive practice experience in a rural large or mixed animal practice. Our thanks once again to the Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association for partnering with us in providing the Preceptorship Program (PP) in 2020.

**The 2020 Preceptorship Program will see a few changes:**

- The placement period is being shortened from 14 weeks to 12 in order to avoid conflict with spring rotations in May.
- The Preceptorship Program is open to all third-year veterinary students from accredited Canadian veterinary colleges, but preference will be given to Saskatchewan origin applicants.
- Students and practices must still apply separately, but students can identify a practice they wish to work with and vice versa. SVMA will still match qualifying third year veterinary students with practices in areas of rural Saskatchewan that are most in need of veterinary service, but preferences will be taken into account.

**VISIT THE SVMA WEBSITE / PROGRAMS & SERVICES FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION AND APPLICATION FORMS.**

**The application deadline for both programs is November 30, 2019.**

SVMA NEWS

**SVMA News is published quarterly in February, May, August and November. All members are able to access it from the SVMA website.**

**Starting in 2020, in order to defray costs as well as minimize the Association's environmental footprint, if you would like to have a physical copy mailed to you, you will need to subscribe on your renewal form. The subscription fee is \$25 (GST included) per year, payable by cheque or credit card.**





# Animal Health Perspectives

## Provincial roles in animal disease events

*By: Dr. Betty Althouse, Chief Veterinary Officer, Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture*

The four pillars of emergency management are prevention, preparedness, response and recovery.

The province has many roles in animal disease emergency management. We manage surveillance, detection and response for provincially named diseases. We play a role in foreign animal disease (FAD) events, with the province supporting federal response, and coordinating with and supporting the affected livestock sector.

Prevention activities are focused on enhanced biosecurity at all levels, from preventing disease entry into the country through border activities that restrict or impose conditions on imports of animals, animal products, feeds and feed ingredients; as well as travelers; through to biosecurity at animal events and preventing disease entry and spread at the farm level.

Preparedness activities include training on early disease recognition for producers and veterinarians; ensuring laboratory capacity to recognize and confirm the disease; and, developing disease response plans and exercising them. Saskatchewan has a Terrestrial Animal Disease Emergency Support (TADES) plan with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) that outlines a collaborative

response to a terrestrial foreign animal disease (TAD) event, and clarifies responsibilities such as communications pathways and notifications.

Some of the provincial roles and responsibilities in emergency response include ensuring animal welfare, coordinating the involvement of industry, providing premises identification information and mapping, as well as providing animal health expertise in biosecurity, epidemiology, disease control and emergency management. In Saskatchewan, the Public Safety Agency coordinates provincial-level emergency responses such as evacuations, flood response, forest or grass fire response. In an animal disease event they can assist with general coordination, additional staff for roadblocks or security, accessing equipment like portable generators, or large excavation equipment for disposal.

Provincial staff work closely with livestock organizations to ensure communications are effective and reach all producers. For example, information is needed not only on the current outbreak but also on early disease recognition and prevention and biosecurity.

Current prevention and preparedness activities for African Swine Fever (ASF)

provide a good example of integrated emergency management planning.

CFIA, working with the national swine industry, has developed response plans that include small containment zones around infected farms. Zoning agreements are in place with the United States, the European Union and are in development with Japan. But, we expect, and are planning for, border closures for at least a short time, until it can be shown that the disease is contained.

The Canadian pork industry is highly export dependent, so if border closures to swine or pork occurs, even for a short time, there are market concerns. Loss of sales can quickly lead to overcrowding and an immediate price drop, reducing or wiping out farm income while producers still have costs to feed and house animals. National work continues on alternatives or enhancements to existing insurance and emergency funding supports. Nationally, the Executive Management Board comprised of CFIA, industry, and the three largest pork producing provinces (QC, ON, MB) coordinates and prioritizes ASF prevention, preparedness, and response and recovery initiatives.

Because of the integration of the western swine industry,

### WHAT'S INSIDE

- 1 Provincial roles in animal disease events
- 2 Vitamin Status and its Association with Neonatal Beef Calf Losses
- 3 Two cases of testicular blastomycosis in male dogs
- 4 Vitamin A Results in Bovine Fetuses and Stillborn Calves at PDS from June 1, 2014 – June 1, 2019

the western Chief Veterinary Officers, pork industries and CFIA have formed an ASF western steering committee, with 4 priority working groups. The groups are:

- Events management and communications
- Destruction and Disposal
- Zoning and permitting
- Market Interruption and financial assistance

ASF emergency management planning continues to be a work in progress, with a focus on prevention and preparedness. We hope we never need to implement the response and recovery phases. In an emergency event, there are always things that can't be anticipated or planned for, so having strong relationships and communications with producer organizations and across governments are invaluable.

# Vitamin Status and its Association with Neonatal Beef Calf Losses

By: Dr. Barry Blakley, DVM, PhD, Veterinary Toxicologist, WCVN

Vitamins, in particular, vitamins A and E, play a crucial role in the growth and survival of beef calves. Fetal development, abortion, stillbirths and postnatal survival are influenced by vitamin nutrition. The assessment of vitamin status and the risk of disease and mortality is influenced by a variety of factors. In general, as the vitamin status declines, the probability of disease and a lack of vigor increases. Interpretation of diagnostic data and the implementation of preventive measures and treatment of affected calves remains a challenge. Intervention using corrective strategies is often unsuccessful.

The vitamin status is controlled by many factors which impact on survival and resistance to infectious disease. Primary sources of vitamin A nutrition are variable from region to region and influenced by feed type, drought, storage after harvesting, season, and susceptibility to degradation. In green feeds consumed during the summer months carotene is the predominant form. Little vitamin A (retinol) is present. Carotene is converted to vitamin A. In the cow, storage of most forms of vitamin A may last up to four months. In most beef cattle operations, pregnant cattle are approaching mid-gestation when vitamin intake begins to decline. The vitamin requirements to maintain pregnancy, and provide sufficient amounts for lactation and colostrum increase substantially. During this time period, cattle are no longer consuming fresh vitamin-enriched green feed. Vitamin A is light sensitive and moisture sensitive. Consequently, up to 95% of the vitamin A content in the feed may be lost prior to consumption. In addition, the transfer of carotene and vitamin A across the placenta is extremely limited. The stability and

kinetic impact is evident in the fetus or neonate. The liver vitamin A content is extremely low. This deficient status results in altered embryonic development which is manifested by abortion, stillbirth, abnormal nervous tissue development and weak calves postnatally. Weak calves respond to varying degrees to vitamin A injections at birth. Since vitamin A affects epithelial tissue development, placental degeneration and retained placentas may also be evident.

In order to minimize the impact of vitamin A deficiency in the calf, supplementation of vitamin A by injection or in the feed is essential by mild gestation. The full impact will become evident in calves consuming colostrum. Carotene and all forms of vitamin A, particularly retinol, are present at high concentrations in the newborn calf following colostrum ingestion. The vitamin content in the newborn may increase 5-10-fold. Diagnostically, it is often possible to determine whether the newborn ingested colostrum based on serum vitamin A concentrations. The impact on growth and resistance to infectious disease is clinically significant.

Analytically most laboratories measure only retinol. In the liver, retinyl palmitate is the predominant storage form (approximately 90%). In the blood retinol is the predominant form. Fortunately most analytical methods convert all other forms of vitamin A to retinol to assess the total vitamin status. Feed analysis for vitamin content may be misleading. Stability and multiple forms of the vitamin compromise interpretation in the feed. Associated with tissue analysis, the most significant confounding variable is age. The "normal" vitamin A status as detected in the liver or blood is distinctly age-dependent. From

fetus to adult the variability may exceed 100-fold. It is critical to estimate age for all submissions. In the first month of life, dramatic differences are observed. Investigative strategies should focus on population rather than individual animals. As the overall herd status declines, the risk of disease and neonatal mortality increase. Serum and liver evaluations are informative and useful from a dose-response perspective. It should be emphasized that vitamin A is highly teratogenic. Over supplementation will result in abnormal developmental problems depending upon the dose and time of supplementation during pregnancy. This highly teratogenic consequence is not associated with over supplementation with vitamin E.

Many of the factors associated with vitamin A status also apply to vitamin E. Deficiencies of vitamin E are associated with muscle disease and immune dysfunction. Deficiency is manifested by weak calves, stillbirths and abortion. Again, the status is age-dependent and influences the interpretation of diagnostic data. Liver and serum are routinely analyzed for vitamin E (alpha-tocopherol) the predominant tissue form. Serum concentrations are highly age-dependent. The fetal liver concentrations are much lower as compared to other ages. Liver concentrations, postnatally, exhibit less age-dependent variability. By approximately 6 months of age the vitamin concentrations attain adult values. Limited placental vitamin E transfer accounts for the distinctly lower liver concentrations in the fetus. Once colostrum is administered, a major source of vitamin E, the tissue concentrations increase substantially and the muscle degeneration (white muscle disease) and immune dysfunction are less likely to occur. From a kinetic prospec-

tive, vitamin E is not stored in the liver to any great extent. Liver concentrations reflect recent uptake or supplementation. Recent injections with a day or so can be identified and often classified as high-normal. Age, colostrum and supplementation status are important historical facts impacting interpretation. In live calves, collect serum samples prior to supplementation.

Other risk factors such as drought, have little impact for vitamin E. Often heifers have an overall lower vitamin status and often produce calves with a greater occurrence of disease. If vitamin E supplementation of the pregnant heifer is delayed, muscle degeneration may occur. Supplementation at a later time may restore the status to normal, but the degenerative muscle remains. The vitamin E-selenium interaction also compromises interpretation. Both nutrients prevent oxidative damage, but there is an absolute requirement for both agents. Many therapeutic products contain a mixture of both agents. These products often contain limited amounts of vitamin E by design or the vitamin may have degraded during storage. Excessive administration of the combined product to enhance the vitamin E status may result in over supplementation of selenium, producing toxicity with normal to subnormal vitamin E stores.

In summary, the interpretation of vitamin E and vitamin A status is influenced by age, nutritional status of the cow, kinetic and placental factors, vitamin stability in feed and vitamin form and interactions with nutrients such as selenium. The lack of well-established, age-dependent normal values remains a major challenge for veterinarians and producers from diagnostic, treatment and preventative perspectives.



# Two cases of testicular blastomycosis in male dogs

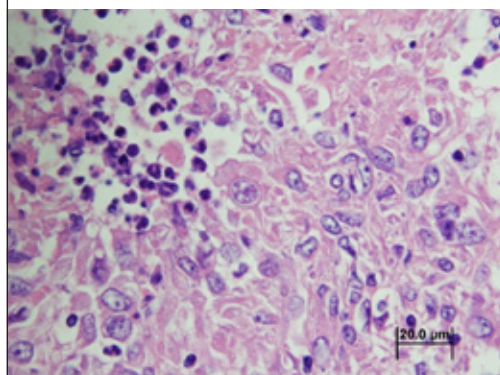
By: Steve Mills, Veterinary Pathologist, PDS

## CASE #1

A 5-year-old male English Cocker Spaniel presented to a primary veterinary clinic in rural south-eastern Saskatchewan in mid-June 2019 for a routine wellness visit and vaccination. Incidentally upon physical exam, a firm lump was palpated on the cranial aspect the left testicle. Neuter was recommended by the examining veterinarian and performed a short time later. Both testicles were submitted to PDS for histopathologic examination.

Histopathologic examination revealed marked, mixed inflammation with multi-focal to coalescing granulomas and variable necrosis effacing the

**Figure 1: Blastomyces sp yeast (Hematoxylin and Eosin stain, 100X)**

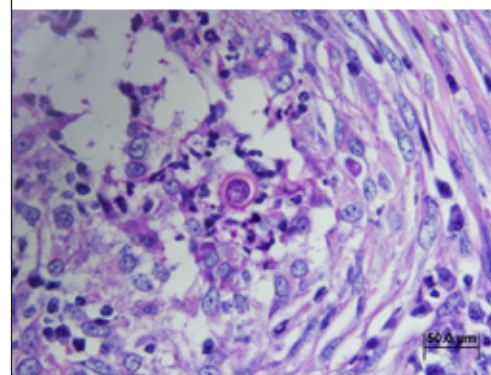


normal testicular tissue. In numerous locations, round, yeast-like organisms were observed, characterized by a thick, double-layered refractile capsule

and a heterogeneous magenta protoplasm (see Fig 1).

The morphological diagnosis was marked bilateral granulomatous orchitis consistent with

**Figure 2: Blastomyces sp yeast (Periodic acid Schiff, 100X)**



systemic infection with *Blastomyces dermatitidis*. Histochemical stains for fungal organisms were also supportive of this diagnosis (see Fig 2).

## CASE #2

A 1-year-old male Cane Corso presented to a primary veterinary clinic in south-central Saskatchewan in early July 2019 for examination of an enlarged right testis. The testicle was firm and sore; a small scab was present on the scrotum. Neuter was recommended by the examining veterinarian and performed promptly. The epididymis was reported to be thickened, with purulent fluid and a draining tract. The abnormal testicle and attached spermatic cord were submitted to PDS for histopathologic examination.

On histopathologic examination, the testicular tissue and epididymis exhibited multi-focal to locally extensive pyogranulomatous inflammation and necrosis. In rare fields, round, yeast-like organisms were present, characterized by a thick, double-layered, refractile capsule and a poorly defined heterogeneous basophilic protoplasm. The morphological diagnosis

was marked pyogranulomatous orchitis and epididymitis consistent with infection with *Blastomyces dermatitidis*. Histochemical stains for fungal organisms were also supportive of this diagnosis. *Blastomyces dermatitidis* is an environmental fungus belonging to a group that also includes *Histoplasma capsulatum*, *Coccidioides immitis*, and *Sporothrix schenckii*. In Canada it is historically acknowledged to be endemic in specific regions of southern Quebec, Ontario, and Manitoba. However, a recent retrospective report concluded that *B. dermatitidis* should be considered endemic in southern Saskatchewan, particularly along the Qu'Appelle and Assiniboine river systems.<sup>1</sup> It is not uniformly distributed however, instead found in widely dispersed 'hot spots'.

*B. dermatitidis* is a dimorphic species. The mycelial form grows optimally at 22°C - 25°C within wooded areas with sandy acidic soils that are in close proximity

to water sources. They produce infectious spores (also called conidia) that once inhaled, are rapidly taken up by lung macrophages.<sup>2</sup> In the lung they transform into larger round yeast that are resistant to destruction, and instead proliferate asexually at body temperature (38°C) to cause pneumonia. The organisms can then spread to other organs via blood and lymphatic vessels. Lymph nodes, skin, eyes, and bone are reported to be the most common extra-pulmonary sites of infection, but numerous other tissues can be involved. Opportunistic infection with *B. dermatitidis* is most prevalent in young immunocompetent dogs, but it has been documented in cats, humans, and numerous other terrestrial mammalian species. The incubation period may vary from weeks to months. Clinical signs are usually acute or subacute, non-specific, and variable depending on the extent of organ/tissue involvement. Peripheral lymphadenopathy

is common, and a large majority of dogs present with lung lesions that may or may not be manifest clinically. Hematology and biochemistry results are also non-specific but non-regenerative anemia, leukocytosis (with or without a left shift), and hyperglobulinemia are common. Hypercalcemia of granulomatous disease is an inconsistent finding.

Pre-mortem diagnosis of *B. dermatitidis* infection via serology can be very frustrating due to a lack of sensitivity. A more recently developed urine immunoassay for fungal cell wall antigen is highly sensitive for active disease but cross reaction with similar fungal agents such as *Histoplasma sp.* can occur.<sup>4</sup> PCR can be performed on fixed or unfixed samples to confirm. Cytology and histology of affected tissues is recommended where possible, and often diagnostic. Histology can

Continues on Page 4

From Page 3

be particularly fruitful when ancillary stains specific for fungal organisms are applied (Periodic acid–Schiff and/or Gomori Methenamine–Silver Nitrate). Culture is very helpful for a definitive diagnosis but rarely pursued due to significant risk of human (zoonotic) infection. Indeed, it bears repeating that although the yeast form of *B. dermatitidis* is not considered transmissible (and thus infected animals are not considered contagious), the mycelial form that grows in culture is highly infectious.

For intact male dogs, the testes and epididymis are important and often overlooked as potential nidi of disseminated *B. dermatitidis* infection. In one retrospective study, testicular lesions were observed in 17% of male dogs with blastomycosis.<sup>5</sup> Clinical signs may or may not be present. Testicles can be swollen, painful, or misshapen with or without accompanying scrotal lesions. Complete urogenital evaluation is recommended for intact male dogs with *B. dermatitidis* infection. Importantly, the testes and/or

epididymis can become a source of persistent clinical infection that may confound attempts at antifungal treatment.<sup>6</sup> **Blastomycosis should be a differential diagnosis in any dog with testicular or epididymal lesions in geographic locations where the fungus is endemic.**

#### References:

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## Vitamin A Results in Bovine Fetuses and Stillborn Calves at PDS from June 1, 2014 – June 1, 2019

By: Shelagh Copeland, Veterinary Pathologist, PDS

During what we commonly call “abortion season” earlier this year I was surprised at the number of calves that were deficient to marginal for hepatic Vitamin A. The calves did not have the squamous metaplasia of the parotid salivary gland ducts however, which is reported to be specific for vitamin A deficiency. How then to interpret the result for the referring veterinarian? Do we have adequate normal value ranges for this age group?

To help understand the issue, the Vitamin A results from our laboratory were compiled on bovine fetuses and stillborns. Results were only used on those animals we felt reasonably confident were true abortions or stillborns. This is important as colostrum is very rich in Vitamin A and any ingestion would skew results. Those that were near term and had breathed or with unclear histories were not included. This lowers the total

numbers but it supports ~ 38% of fetuses and stillborns can reach what has been considered normal values.

We still need more research in this area but there is a concern low Vitamin A can be a factor in abortions, stillbirths and weak calves or a warning sign there is something lacking in the ration that underlies the problem. **Now is the time of year to assess body condition in the**

**herd, sort animals and ensure the winter feed program will produce strong healthy calves.** Feeds can be analyzed for protein and energy. Vitamin A levels could be assessed by taking serum from a few representative cows (3-5) and having it analyzed. One could also consider other analyses including Vitamin E. Provincial government livestock specialists are often available to help formulate

adequate least cost rations. Injectable products may be available but they should only be used when necessary and in consultation with a veterinarian. If losses do occur and laboratory submissions are made please try to provide information on estimated gestational age and if colostrum was given. This will help us in interpreting the results on the animal submitted and on reviews such as this.

### Bovine Fetus and Stillborn Hepatic Vitamin A Results June 1, 2014 – June 1, 2019

YEAR	DEFICIENT	MARGINAL	NORMAL	HIGH NORMAL	TOTAL
2014	0	1	1	0	2
2015	15	12	18	0	45
2016	23	22	35	0	80
2017	16	12	36	0	64
2018	38	23	22	0	83
2019	20	15	13	0	48
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>322</b>

#### READERS' FEEDBACK

The Animal Health Perspectives editorial team (Dr. Moira Kerr, Brian Zwaan and Kathryn Tonita) invite readers' comment on material published in the newsletter or questions on material submitted by contributors.

Submit your comments or concerns to Dr. Moira Kerr (email: moira.kerr@pds.usask.ca) and they will be forwarded appropriately.





# RECERTIFICATION OF VET TECHS IS NOW EASIER

**T**he SAVT and SVMA are excited to announce that a recertification program has been created that will allow VTs who have successfully passed the VTNE but have not been registered for more than three years to return to active RVT status without having to rewrite the VTNE.

The SAVT and SVMA recognized that there is a critical shortage of veterinary professionals in the province of Saskatchewan and across Canada and to do our part in ensuring that RVTs are available for continued excellence in animal care and to provide a high level of animal welfare throughout the province, we wanted to remove barriers for those wishing to return to practice.

It is also crucial that the skills and abilities of those returning VTs meet the professional standards that our clients and patients deserve and expect. Throughout 2019 the SAVT's Recertification Committee discussed, created, and instituted a Recertification Policy and corresponding

procedure. This policy and procedure outlines the conditions under which a person is eligible to go through the recertification process and what steps are to be taken. The new policy and procedures were officially adopted in July 2019 by the SAVT Board of Directors.

#### **The process for VTs to become recertified in Saskatchewan is:**

1. They will apply to the SAVT and SVMA. On the SAVT form, they should select the option that they wish to begin the recertification process.
2. Once all their documentation and requirements are met, the SAVT Office will contact them with a questionnaire that they must fill out for review by the Recertification Committee.
3. The Recertification Committee will be the group that is responsible for carrying out the required Executive Interview. The Executive Interview will take place between the committee and

the individual who wishes to become recertified. The interview will allow the applicant to share any information with the committee and the committee to ask questions and better understand what the individual will be required to complete prior to becoming an active member again.

4. Following the Executive Interview, the Recertification Committee will outline the requirements that the individual must complete before they can have their restriction removed and become a full active member again. These requirements could include, but are not limited to, specific Continuing Education credits, a fine, supervised time, and required time in a clinic.
5. These requirements are shared with the SVMA and included in the official correspondence about membership status along with the timeline for completion. This will include a requirement to attend the next SVMA licensing seminar

and then complete the online licensing exam.

6. Once all the requirements are met and approved by the SAVT and SVMA, the member will be transitioned from Temporary Active status to Active.

Throughout this process, it is still the responsibility of the supervising veterinarian to ensure that all tasks are being completed adequately and performed within the governance requirements as outlined by the Veterinarians Act, SVMA Bylaws, SAVT Code of Conduct, and all other legislative bodies and documents applicable.

#### **For more information about this process, please contact the SAVT or SVMA offices:**

**Jasmin Carlton**  
SAVT Executive Director  
savt@savt.ca

**Lorraine Serhienko, RVT**  
SVMA Regulatory and  
Education Coordinator  
lserhienko@svma.sk.ca

# MEMBERS' HEALTHY LIVING GALLERY

**This issue's theme:**

## HEALTHY COOKING & EATING

Welcome to the Members Healthy Living Gallery, a four-part photo celebration of your strategies for work-life balance, based on the four pillars of wellness: self-care, physical activity, healthy cooking/eating and acts of kindness. For this issue, we asked you to show us things you do to celebrate great food and balance healthy nutrition with deliciousness!

For each issue, a photo will be drawn at random from all photos received to win a \$100 credit in wellness spending. This issue's winner is Julia Montgomery.

**Congratulations!**

### NEXT ISSUE'S HEALTHY LIVING PHOTO CONTEST

*The next Members Healthy Living gallery will feature ACTS OF KINDNESS.*

You know you perform acts of kindness all the time – next time, we want you to take a photo and send it to us. It can be something you've done or do, something someone else has done for you, or something you had no part of, but that really inspired you.

Send in your photos of acts of kindness by January 30, 2020 to be published in the February issue. Each issue, a photo is drawn at random from all photos received to win a \$100 credit in wellness spending. Submit photos anytime to [sgauthier@svma.sk.ca](mailto:sgauthier@svma.sk.ca).

Winners must submit receipts to the SVMA office for your wellness purchase and will be reimbursed up to \$100.

By emailing photos you are giving SVMA permission to publish them in an upcoming issue of SVMA News and/or be displayed on the Member Wellbeing page of the SVMA website.







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10



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**1 Summer berry salad.** It doesn't have to be complicated, and it reminds my taste buds of summer days! – Trisha Dowling

**2 Mmmm – BBQ!**  
Thanks Julia Montgomery.

**3 Beef pot roast** – Carmen Durovick

**4 Veggie prep!** I do this to have 'em ready to go for snacks and meal additions through the week. – Mike Bugg

**5 Mmm...** hearty soup is good for the soul especially with snow in the forecast! – Lindsay Murphy

**6 In the spring we built a chicken coop** and now have eight hens. While we are still waiting for farm fresh eggs, it turns out chickens are great composters and eat all of our kitchen scraps! – Katelyn McIntyre

**7 This Lemon Zucchini Bread** combines two favourites in one delicious loaf of bread! Topped with a sweet lemony glaze, it's a great way to sneak in extra veggies and the BEST way to wake up! <https://www.lemontreedwelling.com/lemon-zucchini-bread/> – Katelyn McIntyre

**8 We love spending time in the garden** - it's always exciting to see what's ripe for picking. While the kids eat their "snacks", I try and get some weeding done. – Katelyn McIntyre

**9 Broccoli cheddar casserole**  
– Shannelle Bleakney

**10 Chicken parmesan with cauliflower mash** – Cami Kerr

**11 Roast veggie lasagna**  
My husband, son and I like hearty dinners with meat, but my 16 year-old daughter is vegan. It isn't easy making space for multiple eating styles at the table, but we try to do vegan or at least vegetarian for everyone at least 2-3 nights a week as a way to respect our different diet preferences and normalize plant-based meals for the whole family. – Sue Gauthier

**12 My virtuous stove popped popcorn** - Sue Gauthier







# Summer camps introduce kids to the world of veterinary medicine

**Sue Gauthier**

Communications and Members Services Coordinator and

**Maureen Bourke, LLB**

Director, Sci-Fi Camps

Each summer in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan kids are introduced to veterinary medicine as a potential career.

Summer VetMed camps are offered by the USask College of Engineering Sci-Fi (Science First) program in partnership with the WCVM. Camp instructors work with WCVM staff to develop interesting hands-on projects which enable campers to explore the exciting connections between the sciences and the world of veterinary medicine.

Two different weeklong VetMed camps run multiple times over July and August. 'Bentham' is an introductory camp for grades five and six, and 'Fulton' engages grades sevens and up at a higher level.

Campers are provided with the unique chance to become a veterinarian for a week. They get to do animal exams, learn about animal physiology and behavior, perform a simple dissection, and interact with real live animals. Campers also receive a behind the scenes look at various WCVM facilities, including the dairy barn, small animal clinic, and anatomy lab.

The partnership with the WCVM also extends to satellite camps in communities around the province. Content developed for Saskatoon VetMed camps is included in the satellite camps as well.

Starting in 2018, SVMA Council approved an annual bursary of up to \$2650 to the Sci-Fi program for the purpose of enabling up to ten campers to attend the VetMed camps. Parents apply to the Sci-Fi program for the bursary based on financial need. We are happy to report all 10 bursaries have been used in both 2018 and 2019. Not surprising, considering VetMed camps are the most popular Sci-Fi camps year after year!

For more information about VetMed and other Sci-Fi camps, visit <https://scifi.usask.ca>.





# We Are Here to Help

## Services for Livestock Producers and Professionals

**Alicia Sopatyk, PAg,**  
Regional Livestock and Feed Extension Specialist

**W**hile it is not our formal motto, it is the truth, “we are here to help.” In Regional Services Branch alone, we have a team of Livestock and Feed, Range Management, Agri-Environmental, Agriculture Programs and Crops Extension Specialists available to help clients across the province with all aspects of their farming operation or business. More specifically, we are here to help translate research into practice and provide unbiased advice, two services important specifically to livestock producers and professionals are water testing and ration balancing.

Water can have specific parameters that may cause mineral imbalances or toxicity in livestock. For livestock producers with a valid Premises Identification Number, the ministry is able to offer free water testing services for water intended for livestock

use. This complementary testing is thanks to the partnership with the Roy Romanow lab in Regina. Water samples of one litre are first screened using an electroconductivity meter available in regional offices, and if further testing is required, samples are sent to the Roy Romanow lab. Testing provides a detailed report on the water source itself and provides an opportunity for producers to better manage mineral programs and feed. Livestock and Feed Extension Specialists will help clients review their results and discuss the implications for their operation.

Winter feed is the largest expense of any livestock operation. Producers do their best to put feed up in good time for prime quality, but target quality is not always reached. Livestock and Feed Extension Specialists can assist producers with feed testing and ration balancing. Feed probes are available in each

of our ten regional offices for producers to use. The specialists can guide producers on proper sampling techniques, representative sample collection and selecting the right test and lab to determine the quality or potential toxicity of a feed. The feed test provides specific nutritional values of the feed which can be used to more strategically meet the needs of livestock throughout their production cycle. Livestock and Feed Extension Specialists will help clients review their results and use those results to create balanced rations for their herd.

The bottom line, we truly are here to help. We are only a phone call or an email away. Below is a listing of all of our regional offices; contact one today to get in touch with your local specialist. You can visit our website [saskatchewan.ca/agriculture](http://saskatchewan.ca/agriculture) or send us an email at [aginfo@gov.sk.ca](mailto:aginfo@gov.sk.ca).



# Wellness Bistro

Tuesday November 12, 2019  
6:30 - 9:00 pm

USask University Club  
101 Administration Pl  
Saskatoon

## Stopping the Second Arrow:

Compassionate Care for Yourself  
when a Medical Error Occurs

with Patricia Dowling, DVM  
and Anita Charkravarti, MD

Dinner included.  
2H approved CE.  
\$50 per person.  
Register at  
[www.svma.sk.ca](http://www.svma.sk.ca)

*Presented by  
the SVMA  
Wellness  
Committee*



**THERESA COLLINS-NELSON, AHT/VT**  
TERRITORY MANAGER - MANITOBA/SASK

Email: [tcnelson@rafter8.ca](mailto:tcnelson@rafter8.ca) Cell: 204 771 1497  
Toll Free: 800 461 8615 BUS: 403 291 3640 Ext 23  
Toll Free Fax: 888 292 4548 Fax: 403 250 2703  
87 Skyline Cr NE, Calgary AB T2K 5X2



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Phone: 604.939.2323 [info@jandacga.com](mailto:info@jandacga.com)



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**An RVT?  
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Check out the  
**CLASSIFIEDS** page  
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up to 200 words for  
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## wcvm update

Dr Douglas Freeman  
Dean, WCVM

**We welcomed 80 Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) students during the college's annual White Coat Ceremony on Sept. 20. This is always one of my favourite events of the year: the sense of professionalism is very moving, and it's a wonderful preview of veterinary medicine's future. We have an amazing cohort of students who will be well prepared to meet the changing needs of our profession.**

This year's first-year class includes 21 students from Saskatchewan. Sadly, the Class of 2023 also includes the last group of 20 first-year students funded by the Government of Alberta. These Alberta students are included in the college's previous Interprovincial Agreement (IPA), which represented a highly successful 54-year partnership between Saskatchewan, Alberta, Manitoba and British Columbia.

Throughout my tenure at the WCVM, this agreement has been regarded as one of the most unique and successful interprovincial partnerships out there. With the former Government of Alberta's decision to withdraw from the partnership, our new draft IPA includes only Saskatchewan, Manitoba and British Columbia.

Members of the WCVM Advisory Council met on the same day as the White Coat Ceremony. It was great to connect with the college's stakeholders from across the West and to focus on the college's needs and opportunities. During the meeting, there was robust discussion about the large demand for veterinarians in western Canadian clinics, particularly in rural areas. Preparing graduates for



*The WCVM's Class of 2023 includes 21 students from Saskatchewan.*

CHRISTINA WEESE



*Congratulations Sarah Revell, who received the 2019-20 SVMA Award at the WCVM Awards Banquet on Sept 20."*

rural mixed practice is recognized as one of the WCVM's longstanding strengths, and we will continue to work in partnership with the provinces to meet the needs of the region.

Although the college is facing significant funding challenges that may affect our

ability to deliver all of our programs and services, we remain committed to working collaboratively with our provincial partners and stakeholders to serve the needs of veterinary medicine in Western Canada. We're grateful for the support of the SVMA Council

**FOR MORE WCVM NEWS, VISIT [WCVMTODAY.USASK.CA](http://WCVMTODAY.USASK.CA) OR FOLLOW @WCVMTODAY ON TWITTER OR FACEBOOK. YOU CAN ALWAYS CONTACT ME (306-966-7448; [DOUGLAS.FREEMAN@USASK.CA](mailto:DOUGLAS.FREEMAN@USASK.CA)) IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS.**

and you the members as we navigate our way through these discussions.

After the advisory council meeting concluded on Sept. 20, many of our guests joined us at the WCVM's annual fall awards banquet that evening. This is another gratifying event that recognizes our DVM students, graduate students and faculty for outstanding academics, extracurricular and research achievements. Here are some of the awards created by or for Saskatchewan residents:

- Sarah Revell received the \$1,000 SVMA award, which is given to a fourth-year Saskatchewan student each year. The award recognizes academic performance as well as leadership and participation in student affairs and government at the WCVM.
- Adam Lichtensteiger received the \$2,000 Chicken Farmers of Saskatchewan Award in Veterinary Medicine for his interest in the poultry industry as well as academic achievement.
- Kim Foster, a registered veterinary technologist in medical oncology at the WCVM's Veterinary Medical Centre, received the Veterinary Technologist Teaching Award, which is voted on by students from the Saskatchewan Polytechnic's veterinary technology program.

I'd also like to extend my congratulations to two of our WCVM representatives who recently received SVMA Awards of Distinction: WCVM professor Dr. Barry Blakley, who received the SVMA's highest honour — the J.J. Murison Distinguished Veterinarian Award — and WCVM lecturer Dr. Sarah Bater, who received the Young Veterinarian Award.

To conclude my report, I want to highlight one additional award: WCVM professor and researcher Dr. John Campbell received the 2019 Canadian Beef Industry Award for Outstanding Research and Innovation. Campbell received this honour in mid-August during the 2019 Canadian Beef Industry Conference in Calgary, Alta. The Beef Cattle Research Council (BCRC) annually presents the Canadian Beef Industry Award for Outstanding Research and Innovation on behalf of Canada's beef industry stakeholders. Dr. Campbell is truly deserving of this award — he is a leader in beef health and welfare, and we congratulate him on this honour from the industry that he has served for so many years.

# on campus at the wcvm

Gracyn Johnson, 2020

**H**ello! I am a third year student here to share student news from the WCVM with you. I grew up in Lloydminster, SK, and spent time at the Lloydminster Animal Hospital in high school and my first year of university. I am excited to gain clinical experience there next summer. My career goal is small animal general practice, with interest in welfare and dentistry.

We are now over two months into the 2019-2020 school year, and we are all very busy! The Class of 2023 was welcomed to the college with many social events hosted by the second and third year students in August. Congratulations to all who have joined our school community! First years were officially welcomed to the profession in September at the White Coat Ceremony. They are now adjusting to life at the WCVM as they enter the dreaded midterm season.

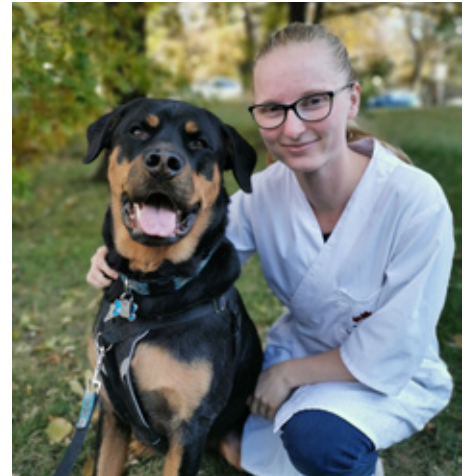
Second year students have a schedule full of labs and never-ending exams. They have begun fundraising for Global Vets as they prepare for the volunteer veterinary work they will partake in around the world next summer.

Third years are up to our elbows in practical labs — quite literally! Mare palpations, ovariectomies, and dentistry are just a few of the hands-on labs we are experiencing. As we start writing more exams, we are also busy choosing electives for next semester.

The seasoned pros of the WCVM, the fourth years, are well into their clinical rotations. I am sending well-wishes near and far to our most senior students as they prepare for the approaching NAVLE while gaining great experience here at the WCVM and on external rotations.

There have been many activities and events since the start of the semester to get us away from the books and immersed in the many opportunities this profession provides. Many students volunteered at the La Ronge clinic in September, where spays, neuters, and wellness exams are provided for a community without nearby veterinary care. We completed 83 surgeries and 96 wellness visits, continuing the success of this great program. I personally had an amazing time and look forward to volunteering again in 2020!

The Job Fair welcomed over 50 potential employers to the college, connecting students with those in the veterinary profession from across Western



Canada. Clubs have begun hosting labs to extend learning beyond classes, with topics including feline behaviour, rabbit procedures, and radiology rounds. We are also lucky to be treated to many lunch talks throughout the year, and so far have learned about urinary health, obesity, and preparing for the NAVLE — all while enjoying free food!

The highlight of the semester so far was Vetavision. This student-run event welcomed the public to the WCVM for a two-day open house to showcase the veterinary profession. Over 3000 people attended the event, learning from the many booths and demos set up throughout the college. Favourites included inflating horse lungs in anatomy, pathology specimens, surgery simulations, calving demos, and interacting with all the live animals, of course!

Saskatchewan students attended the Third Year Student Dinner with SVMA Council. We chatted about our classes, interests, and summer plans, receiving some great advice throughout the evening. We also enjoyed plenty of funny stories from the Council members about their time at WCVM and in practice. Thank you very much, SVMA Council, for the amazing meal and fun evening!

Students from all years have social events to look forward to that will keep us afloat during midterms and final exams. The tradition of carolling for professors will lift our spirits before final exams. Christmas break gets closer with every passing day!

***Wishing you all the best as 2019 comes to a close.***





# SASK AGRICULTURE REPORT

## The Saskatchewan Producer Rebate – an advantage for vets too

**Wendy Wilkins, DVM, PhD**  
Disease Surveillance Veterinarian  
Animal Health Unit, Livestock Branch

The Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture provides funding for Assurance Systems Programs under the federal-provincial Canada Agricultural Partnership (CAP) agreement. Assurance programs seek to improve competitiveness and resilience of the sector through disease prevention and control and by improving animal health and welfare.

The Assurance System Producer Rebate Program is designed to provide support to producers in the apiculture, beef cattle, cervids, dairy, goats, poultry, sheep and swine sectors. The purpose of the program is to increase participation in biosecurity and animal welfare initiatives.

The Rebate Program requires that, with the exception of beekeepers, every producer who applies for a rebate must have had an on-farm veterinary assessment done in order to be eligible for the rebate. The intent is to have the veterinarian assess animal welfare and biosecurity on the farm, and to make recommendations on equipment or improvements that will improve biosecurity and/or animal welfare. The Program will reimburse the producer 50% of the cost, up to \$500, for the on-farm visit.

If a producer does not have an existing VCPR with a veterinarian, this program provides a perfect opportunity to establish. While on-farm to conduct the assessment, the veterinarian will also have the opportunity to tour the producer's operations, view the animals and learn about the producer's management protocols. It may even be possible to outline a herd health plan with the producer during the visit, if sufficient time has been allotted. By the time the vet leaves the farm, a VCPR will have been established.

If a producer does have an existing VCPR with a veterinarian, the veterinarian may be able provide recommendations for equipment for improving biosecurity/welfare without conducting a new on-farm assess-

ment, provided he/she has current and thorough knowledge of the farm operation sufficient to accurately complete the full equipment recommendation report. However, in most cases an on-farm visit is preferred.

Large/mixed practice veterinarians reading this article may be thinking to themselves that they are entering the busy fall season, and won't have time to take do on-farm assessments or take on new clients. However, the assessment and recommendations can be added on to an existing pregnancy check or other herd-health visit. Veterinarians can also think about how to use this program to their advantage during slow periods. Promoting the program at certain times of the year can help you plan to arrange on-farm assessments during less busy times of the year. The Rebate Program is a continuous intake program, and runs until December 2022, so there is plenty of time to put this into action.

### PROGRAM INFORMATION:

Program eligibility requirements and eligible rebates may differ depending on the species involved. Applications for rebates must be submitted on the appropriate form which is specific for each species. More information related to programming and rebate request forms for specific species can be found by going to [www.saskatchewan.ca](http://www.saskatchewan.ca) and searching for "producer rebate program".

**Note:** Equipment Recommendation Reports must be completed online. Reports completed by hand will not be accepted.

### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

The following requirements must be met in order to be eligible for a rebate under this program:

- Producer must be 18 years of age or older;
- Producer has a Saskatchewan Premises

Identification number (PID);

- Apiculture, cervids, goats and sheep: must have a minimum of \$15,000 in gross farm income in the year of the application to the program
- Beef, bison, dairy, poultry and swine: must have a minimum of \$50,000 in gross farm income in the year of the application to the program
- An on-farm assessment must be completed by a veterinarian licensed in Saskatchewan, with the following exception:
  - Apiculture: must have completed an on-site self-assessment and it has been validated by the Provincial Apiculturist.
- The veterinarian completing the assessment must be an arms-length party from the operation being assessed. After the visit to the operation, the veterinarian completes the online Biosecurity/Animal Welfare Equipment Recommendation Report based on the on-farm assessment, saves a copy for their records and provides a copy to the producer.
- In addition, the producer must complete biosecurity and/or welfare training or certification must be completed to be eligible for rebates:
- Apiculture: Saskatchewan Beekeepers Development Commission Biosecurity training
- Beef: Verified Beef Production+ Training or Certification steps.
- Bison: Bison Biosecurity and Welfare program training
- Cervids: On farm Cervid Biosecurity training
- Dairy: ProAction registered

# Program

- Goats: Saskatchewan Goat Industry Biosecurity and Animal Welfare Training
- Sheep: Canadian Verified Sheep Program training
- Poultry: relevant training and audit as follows:
  - **Chicken:**  
Raised by a Canadian Farmer On Farm Food Safety Program; and  
Raised by a Canadian Farmer Animal Care Program.
  - **Turkey:**  
On-Farm Food Safety Program; and Flock Care Program.
  - **Egg Producers:**  
Start-Clean Stay-Clean; and Animal Care Program.
  - **Hatching Egg Producers:**  
Canadian Hatching Egg Quality (CHEQ); and Animal Care Program.

#### REBATE AMOUNTS:

Approved eligible costs are funded at 50 per cent. Program payments are subject to a minimum rebate of \$250. The maximum program payment is \$15,000 per operation, except when applying under the Beef Training Stream where the maximum payment is \$2,500. The maximum rebate for veterinarian assessment is \$500.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

If you would like to talk to someone at the Ministry of Agriculture about the Producer Rebate program, please contact the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377 or 866-457-2377.

# REAL LIFE ... IN VETERINARY PRACTICE

*What is practice life really going to be like?*

## Lunchtime series for wcvm students

"What sorts of decisions will I have to make? What are the hours like in mixed animal practice? What do RVTs and office staff do? How much do I have to know about SVMA Bylaws and Practice Standards? What am I going to be responsible for? What are the lifestyle differences between practising small animal vs large animal medicine? What are the downsides? The upsides? What if ...?"

There are a lot of things students can't know until they transition into their careers in veterinary practice. At the same time, there is a recognized advantage to having an understanding of the changes and demands coming their way. In an effort to fill this information gap, to help open students' minds and to encourage communication between students and their practising colleagues, SVMA is presenting a series of four sessions this fall and winter called Real Life in Veterinary Practice. The sessions will be held during the lunch hour at the WCVM and are open to all DVM students.

#### OCTOBER:

##### Large Animal Practice

**Dr Glen Griffin**

South West Animal Health Centre,  
Swift Current

#### NOVEMBER:

##### Mixed Animal Practice

**Dr Kent Weir**

Weir Veterinary Services,  
Lloydminster

#### JANUARY:

##### The Veterinary Team

RVT – to be announced

#### FEBRUARY:

##### Companion Animal Practice

**Dr Lesley Sawa**

Animal Clinic of Regina





Representing the *interests* and *priorities* of Canada's diverse veterinarians.

## canadian veterinary medical association (CVMA) **ONE PROFESSION. ONE STRONG VOICE.**

**Whatever and wherever you practice veterinary medicine and wherever you are in your career, the CVMA's advocacy and resources can help make you more successful.**

**This information is provided to update you on the CVMA's recent activities and resources that benefit our members in Saskatchewan and across Canada.**

### **WE HELP SHAPE NATIONAL POLICY AND LEGISLATION AFFECTING YOU.**

#### **Canada, Mexico and U.S. plan North American Strategy for African Swine Fever Prevention and Preparedness**

The CVMA collaborated with CFIA and other stakeholders to share information to prevent AFS from infecting the Canadian pig herd. Read more in our African Swine Fever section of the CVMA website.

#### **Online Guidelines for Veterinary Antimicrobial Use Created by Canadian Veterinarians for Canadian Veterinarians**

The CVMA Guidelines for Veterinary Antimicrobial Use provides Canadian veterinarians with world-class advice on decision support for selecting which cases require antimicrobial treatment and recommended treatments. Visit: [canadianveterinarians.net/AMU-UAM](http://canadianveterinarians.net/AMU-UAM) Funding: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's AgriAssurance Program, and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

### **CVMA RESOURCES HELP YOU SUCCEED THROUGHOUT YOUR CAREER.**

#### **Attend Canada's Veterinary Convention**

Join colleagues for superior continuing education at Canada's only national, multi-species veterinary convention in Québec City, Québec from July 9 to

12, 2020. Summer's place to be, ranking first among Canadian destinations, Québec City has European charm, romantic ambiance, exquisite cuisine, and delightful hotels. Stroll around Old Québec, visit Parc de la Chute-Montmorency (30 metres higher than Niagara Falls), or explore Parc National de la Jacques-Cartier. New in 2020: even more labs and workshops for the entire team, and keynote speaker, Dr. Pierre-Yves Daoust, an

early adopter, promoter, and leader of wildlife health and One Health concepts. Registration opens January 15, 2020.

#### **Mental Health Awareness Week**

##### **It's Time to Talk about Mental Health in Veterinary Medicine**

The CVMA, in partnership with Merck Animal Health, held its inaugural Mental Health Awareness Week from September 9 – 15, 2019. Visit the CVMA website to view our recorded Suicide Awareness and Prevention Webinar and other resources, including a Mental Health Checklist and Resource List: [canadianveterinarians.net/mental-health-awareness-week](http://canadianveterinarians.net/mental-health-awareness-week).

### **WE ADVOCATE FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO ANIMAL WELFARE.**

#### **Canadian Cannabis Pet Poisoning Statistics**

The CVMA recently received Canadian cannabis pet poisoning statistics from the Pet Poison Helpline in the U.S. Read more under the News & Events section of our website.

#### **The CVMA Revised Two Position Statements: Neutering of Cats and Dogs Note:**

- The CVMA supports educational efforts to promote responsible pet ownership. Responsible owners prevent unplanned breeding.
- Neutering dogs and cats also provides health and behavioural benefits, such as reduced disease risks and undesirable behaviours influenced by reproductive hormones.
- Owners' decision to neuter their pet, including when, should be made in consultation with a licensed veterinarian.
- The CVMA advocates for pre-pubertal neutering of cats and pre-pubertal

neutering of dogs.

- The CVMA advocates for further research into data suggesting large breed dogs benefit from neutering after growth plate closure.
- The CVMA supports neutering of dogs and cats prior to adoption from animal shelters.

#### **Surgical Castration of Horses, Donkeys, and Mules Note:**

- Surgical castration is an elective procedure which can pose significant animal welfare risks.
- Castration is a painful procedure requiring close peri-operative monitoring and can be associated with post-surgical complications.
- Donkeys, mules, and mature horses carry the greatest risk of surgery complications.
- The CVMA strongly recommends provincial regulatory authorities regard castration of horses, donkeys, and mules as a veterinary practice act and regulate accordingly.
- Castration without anesthesia and analgesia results in significant preventable suffering which the CVMA considers animal cruelty.

*Access position statements in the Policy & Advocacy section of our website.*

### **WE RECOGNIZE OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO VETERINARY MEDICINE**

#### **2020 CVMA Awards Nominations**

Annually, through its awards program, the CVMA proudly recognizes individuals who have demonstrated significant accomplishments, exemplary leadership, and tireless commitment to Canada's veterinary community. Nominations for the 2020 CVMA Awards are accepted until January 31, 2020. Award nominees (excluding those nominated for Honourary Membership) must be current CVMA members; however,



# SAVT UPDATE

they can be nominated by non-members. More awards information can be found at [canadianveterinarians.net/about/awards](http://canadianveterinarians.net/about/awards).

## YOUR CVMA MEMBERSHIP VALUE

### Learn About PetNurse and How it Can Improve Your Practice!

LifeLearn added PetNurse to their list of services, an after-hours telehealth triage service. The CVMA's partnership with LifeLearn entitles CVMA members to a 10 per cent discount on PetNurse and all other LifeLearn services. PetNurse provides your clients with after-hours support and quality pet health care, while maintaining your clinic's focus.

In addition to PetNurse, LifeLearn offers:

- WebDVM websites, custom-built to rank veterinary practices higher on search engines.
- Sofie search tool, created by veterinarians to provide veterinary teams with the most current, trusted and credible veterinary medical information (CVMA members are eligible for a free 30-day trial of Sofie prior to purchase!).
- ALLYDVM scheduling and tracking tool, which sends automatic appointment reminders.
- ClientEd library contains over 2,000 pet articles written, edited and reviewed by animal experts.

Visit the Member Benefits and Services section of our website to learn more about what LifeLearn Animal Health offers CVMA members.

**Questions or Suggestions?** Contact your CVMA National Office: Tel: 1-800-567-2862, or email [admin@cvma-acmv.org](mailto:admin@cvma-acmv.org). Contact your provincial Council Representative, Dr Tracy Fisher at [sturm1@sasktel.net](mailto:sturm1@sasktel.net)



**Tamara McLoughlin, RVT**  
president.elect@savt.ca

**F**all is upon us and with Fall comes our annual SAVT conference Nov 1 – 3, 2019 at the Saskatoon Inn. This year is a big one as it is our 35th Anniversary. This conference is such a great opportunity for networking, for catching up with old friends and meeting new ones, and of course, for continuing our education. This will be the second year that the conference has expanded to offering sessions on Friday afternoon with a Job Fair and Marketplace in addition to the Saturday full day of speaker and Sunday wet labs. The WCVMA has once again graciously allowed us to use their facilities to offer such an important hands-on component of our conference.

With conference also comes AGM which means this will be my last submission as the President-Elect. Reflecting over the last year so many positive accomplishments were achieved this year. Along with the usual board dealings, policy updates, committee work, getting ready for our 35th anniversary and SAVT booth appearances we networked with other provinces at their associations conferences, we had representatives at the World Small Animal Veterinary Association congress that was held in Toronto this

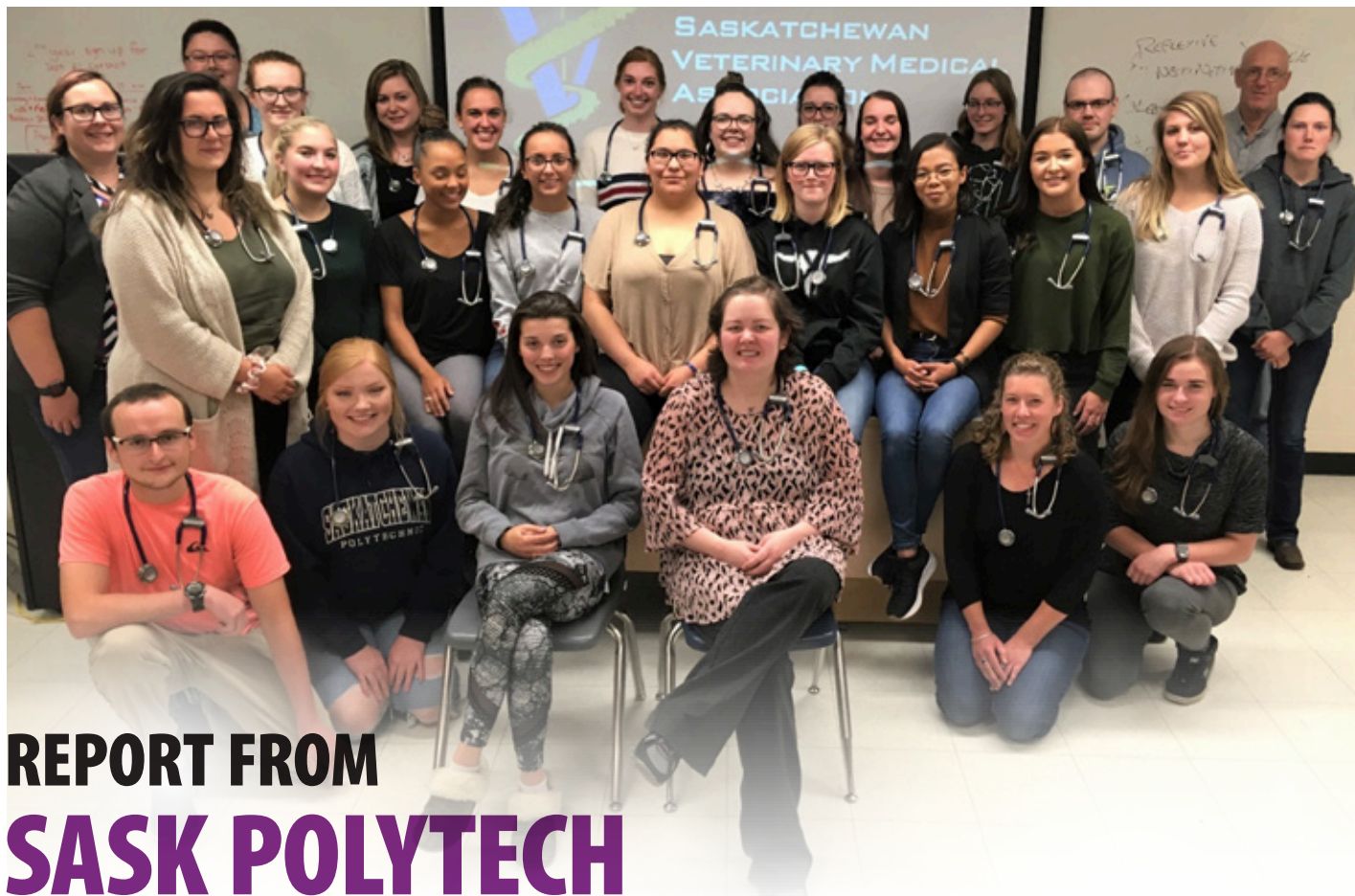
year, and we updated our booth banners and were able to unveil them to the public at Vetavision and the Animal Human Relationship conference. This year also saw a huge expansion in our social media presence on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

One of the big roles I had on the board this year was to expand the Wage Survey 2019 to include questions on Job Satisfaction. This gave us a lot of valuable information and will be a regular addition to our wage survey to allow us to have results for comparison over the years. We had over 300 RVTs answer the survey, about 64% of our membership, and I would encourage everyone to view the results online at [www.savt.ca](http://www.savt.ca).

Last but definitely not least, we instituted a new recertification process that allows veterinary technologists to come back as RVTs without having to rewrite the VTNE.

In a nutshell, it has been a productive, rewarding year and I look forward to continuing on that path this upcoming year.

As always, if you have any questions, comments, concerns please contact our Executive Director Jasmin Carlton by email at [savt@savt.ca](mailto:savt@savt.ca).



## REPORT FROM SASK POLYTECH

**Dr Cemaine Tsang**

Program Head, Veterinary Technology Program

The Veterinary Technology Program at Sask Polytech welcomed its newest class of 26 students on September 3rd. Since 2014, Veterinary Technology students have been registered as student members of the SVMA. This holds our students to a standard of professional ethics and practice while rotating through partnering clinics and the WCVM. On September 10th, the students met Dr Marc Cattet and Lorraine Serhienko, RVT during a presentation on the SVMA as an advocacy and regulatory body. Each new student was also presented with a stethoscope from the SVMA as a welcome to the veterinary team. Many of you in the SVMA community will be meeting the first year students who have started their rotations through Saskatoon and surrounding area clinics.

In 2015, the Veterinary Technology program embarked on a process of curriculum review and revision that involved input from many program alumni, employers, and the CVMA Veterinary Technology/Animal Health Technology Accreditation Committee. In June 2019, we



graduated the first class from this revised curriculum. Highlights of the revised curriculum are as follows: increased emphasis on clinic training (decreased hours in general chemistry, statistics and Microsoft Office applications; 80 additional hours of nursing skills training); increased handling of live animals starting in semester 1; introduction of technical skills

on simulation models prior to progressing to live animals; emphasis on the clinical basics in microbiology and clinical pathology; increased hours in large animal medicine. Results from the Veterinary Technology National Exam's summer exam window suggest that the current curriculum has successfully met its curricular goals. I want to extend a sincere thank you to everyone who contributed to developing the current curriculum, to the Saskatoon SPCA for their support of student learning, and to the many community veterinarians and RVTs who have volunteered their time with the CatSNIP program.

In the 2019-20 academic year, the Veterinary Technology program will

introduce 10-12 hours of Indigenous content to the curriculum in a meaningful and relevant manner as part of the Sask Polytech's Indigenization Strategy. In follow-up to recommendations from our Program Advisory Committee, we are creating a practicum library. The library is a catalogue of veterinary practices and ancillary industries that employ RVTs (including government, diagnostic laboratories, feedlots, research facilities) who can accept senior Veterinary Technology students for 5-week practicums in the spring. This catalogue will become an excellent resource for students looking for practicum placements and for potential employers to introduce students to their practice. For more information on Veterinary Technology student practicums or to have your practice included in our practicum catalogue, please contact Claudine Tan at [tanc@saskpolytech.ca](mailto:tanc@saskpolytech.ca) or visit our booth at the SAVT conference in November.

Here's to the start of a wonderful academic year!

**WELCOME FIRST YEAR  
VET TECH STUDENTS!**



# CLASSIFIED ADS

For complete, up-to-date listings, look for Classifieds under News & Classifieds on the SVMA website.

## LOCUMS WANTED

### REGINA

The Animal Clinic of Regina is looking for a locum veterinarian to work with our team over the next few months. Days, shifts and hours worked are all completely flexible and could range from 1 day per week up to four days.

We are a steady, walk-in practice that does a high volume of surgery as well as consultations. Our team focuses on providing quality patient and client care in a highly supportive environment. Please visit our website for information about our practice.

Applicants must have, or qualify to obtain, a valid license to practice veterinary medicine in Saskatchewan and be aware of and adhere to SVMA Bylaws. Successful applicants will be contacted to arrange an interview.

Interested applicants should e-mail their resume to Michelle Achter at [animalclinicofregina@sasktel.net](mailto:animalclinicofregina@sasktel.net).

### YORKTON

Companion Animal Hospital in Yorkton, SK is looking for a locum veterinarian to work February 10 – 21, 2020. Shifts are weekdays Monday – Friday; after hours call negotiable.

We are a single veterinarian small animal practice with exceptional front-end CSRs, extraordinary RVTs and a 40+ year history in the community. You will be well supported during your locum experience and the option to overlap with the veterinarian prior to his leave can be arranged. Accommodation and meals included in negotiation.

Applicants must have (or qualify to obtain) a valid license to practice veterinary medicine in Saskatchewan as well as be aware of and adhere to SVMA Bylaws.

For further locum details, email resume to [jdvet@outlook.com](mailto:jdvet@outlook.com) or message/call (306) 620-7545

## VETERINARIANS REQUIRED

### INDIAN HEAD

Full Time Small Animal Veterinarian Needed! The Indian Head Animal Clinic is a progressive small animal practice in the picturesque Town of Indian Head, located about 45 minutes east of Regina on the Trans-Canada Highway.

The clinic is equipped with digital xray (both full size and dental) machines, a new ultrasound machine, full dental equipment and is well-equipped for many types of surgery including orthopedic surgeries such as the TPLO. We are currently in the process of purchasing in-clinic blood testing equipment.

Currently, the owner works a 4-day week and our associate veterinarian works a 3-day week, with no after-hours call required. The owner is interested in reducing her hours to a more part time position.

This position would be ideal for a candidate who may be interested in practice ownership in the future but prefers to have a current owner available for mentoring.

Please contact Dr Melanie Roth by email at [ihancin@gmail.com](mailto:ihancin@gmail.com) or by phone at 306-660-8889 (texts work well) if you are interested in this position and would like to apply or obtain more information.

### KINDERSLEY

Full time or part time mixed animal veterinarian needed! Kindersley Veterinary Clinic is seeking a full time or part time veterinarian to join our busy mixed animal practice. We are a long established clinic in a ever growing rural community. Our clinic is equipped to handle all routine medical, surgical and dental cases.

Please contact Dr Andrew Klebek by email [kvet@sasktel.net](mailto:kvet@sasktel.net) or by phone (306) 463-2651

### LUMSDEN

TM's Veterinary Clinic has openings available for SMALL ANIMAL ONLY or MIXED ANIMAL Veterinarians. We want to provide a positive influence on the lives of our clients and their pets while maintaining life balance for our team members. Our focus is on veterinary care with a difference and it's our goal to make a difference in the pet/client/vet relationship. Mentorship and assisting each other is a key part of our practice. There is no small animal after hours, they are referred to the 24 hour clinic in Regina.

We offer a RELOCATION and SIGNING BONUS along with a competitive salary, full benefit package, paid CE, dues and more. We have a diverse case load ranging from general practice to emergency cases. We encourage and nurture advancement of your skill set. If your interest lies in general practice OR you have a desire for a more specific focus such as surgery, imaging (ultrasound/x-rays/endoscopy), internal medicine, or dentistry we'd love to talk to you.

We're located in Lumsden, 20 minutes from Regina. Our 8000 sq ft clinic was built new in 2013. We're looking for great people to join our team.

Please contact Lynda Croft by email at [jobs@tmzvetclinic.ca](mailto:jobs@tmzvetclinic.ca) if you are interested in this position and would like to apply or obtain more information.

### MAPLE CREEK

We are growing! Creekside Veterinary Service is looking to add one or more DVM's to our team. We are a small-town mixed animal practice that strives to foster strong client-patient relationships while maintaining a modern, high standard of care. Caseload is predominantly cow/calf and equine, with the opportunity to grow the companion animal side of the practice.

Our team values an upbeat, low-stress, collaborative environment that allows all team members an opportunity to pursue individual strengths, interests, and specialties. As a locally owned and operated clinic we pride ourselves in our ability to sit down as an entire staff to make clinic decisions to best fit our goals, having flexibility in scheduling, and making changes to whatever may need it in real time. While experience is an asset, new grads are certainly welcome to apply. Mentorship and collaboration are important components of our practice philosophy, ensuring success for all team members.

Please give us a call - let us know what your ideal job would be, visit with us about why we are excited to go to work each day, and why we love living in this community. Clinic vision, amenities, and compensation package can be discussed at the same time.

Contact Luke – 306-661-7469 or office@[creeksidevet.com](mailto:creeksidevet.com)

### MELVILLE

Do you have an area of interest that you want to excel at? Dentistry, orthopedics, physical rehab, acupuncture? We want diversity and we want you to practice what you love. Interested in mentorship with a flexible on call schedule? Perhaps it's every third weekend on call and a few nights a month (or you can take more as compensation is paid for all calls seen outside of regular business hours). Low after hours call volume exists (average 3 to 5 calls per week) in mixed animal practice (65 % SA and 35% LA).

Our amazing, newly built facility accommodates in house DR xray (portable unit for all animals), DR dental xray and full dental cart, In house lab for CBC, CHEM and more (fructosamine, phenobarb etc). The majority of LA obstetrical cases are handled in clinic. Potential to earn more than \$85 000 per annum with paid licensing fees, continuing education allowance, group insurance plan (health, life and disability), staff discounts and more! Planning to retire on day? We also have a matched RRSP contribution into the

Saskatchewan Pension Plan. We offer a signing bonus of \$10 000 and can assist with some moving expenses.

Melville is a great, growing community with ample opportunities for family members to seek employment, play (regional and provincial parks are not far away, lots of kid and adult activities and sports) and enjoy life outside of work! You must be able to be licensed in Saskatchewan and Canada and have passed the NAVLE and CPE if you have training outside of the USA or Canada. This is not small town living and this is not your typical rural mixed animal practice! Visit [www.melvillevet.com](http://www.melvillevet.com) and check us out! We are also on Facebook, Instagram and twitter!

Be part of this amazing team and apply to Dr Deana Schenher at [deanaschenher@hotmail.com](mailto:deanaschenher@hotmail.com) or call 306-728-2633 for more information.

### REGINA

Our small animal clinic located in wonderful Regina SK is accepting applications for a full time veterinarian. We are looking for someone willing to commit to our vision of a clinic that offers every possible service to our clients and the utmost care to our patients.

Our clinic is a one of a kind walk in practice that only makes appointments for surgery. Our focus is exceptional patient and client care in a comfortable and accommodating environment. We encourage our veterinarians to pursue their special interests with paid CE opportunities and strive to provide a supportive setting for developing skills. Stress management capabilities would be beneficial due to our high patient volume and client demands.

Regina is a wonderful big city that strives to maintain our small town feel. We are located in the historical Cathedral district that has both old charm and new vibrancy. Arts, music, culture and food are all well represented within walking distance of the practice. We are also steps away from Mosaic Stadium and our beloved Saskatchewan Roughriders!

Successful applicants must have, or qualify to obtain, a valid license to practice veterinary medicine in Saskatchewan and be aware of and adhere to SVMA bylaws. This position is currently Tuesday to Saturday, with varying eight hour shifts and no emergency or on call. Benefits include group medical and dental coverage, valuable staff discounts as well as no emergency or on call hours. We offer a competitive salary and encourage new graduates and experienced vets alike to apply. Successful applicants will be contacted



# CLASSIFIED ADS

to arrange an interview.

Interested applicants should e-mail their resume to Michelle Achter at [animalclinicofregina@sasktel.net](mailto:animalclinicofregina@sasktel.net).

## REGINA

Are you a veterinarian who values your personal time? We do too! Careport Animal Hospital is an AAHA accredited hospital and we care about our team having a work-life balance, which means no after hours or on call, no evenings, and limited weekends. We carry out our vision by working together in a positive, approachable, supportive, and respectful way to create a stress-free environment for our patients, clients and team.

We are a progressive hospital that is fully equipped with digital x-ray, digital dental x-ray, digital lab equipment, surgical laser, therapy laser, ultrasound, ultrasonic dental unit and electronic medical records. We offer a competitive salary (based on experience) and up to a \$10,000 signing bonus. Benefits include an RRSP plan, great health/dental plan, paid license dues, continuing education, and discounts on services and products. Must be a DVM (or equivalent) and are NAVLE certified.

For additional information about our hospital, please visit our website at [www.careportanimalhospital.com](http://www.careportanimalhospital.com) or check us out on Facebook. We look forward to you joining our team!

To apply, please send a resume and cover letter to Nicole Jones, 4645 Rae Street, Regina, Saskatchewan, S4S 6K6, or by email: [operations.careport@sasktel.net](mailto:operations.careport@sasktel.net).

## REGINA

We are looking for a fourth veterinarian to join our dynamic team! Wascana Animal Hospital is a fully equipped companion animal hospital located on the beautiful East side of Regina close to all major amenities and several new developments. We value work-life balance and personal wellness, as such we do not have any after-hours call! We are looking for another team member who embraces our core values and who can embody our mission statement; find out more about being a part of our team on our "Work With Us" page of our website. In addition to our positive supportive work environment, we have a modern facility with excellent equipment and cutting-edge technology. We also offer our patients alternative therapies such as acupuncture and laser therapy. Our entire team is Fear Free certified and committed to providing our clients and patients the best experience possible.

If you think this could be the right team for you, please send your CV attn: Dr Ulmer

to [wascanaanimalhospital@gmail.com](mailto:wascanaanimalhospital@gmail.com)

## SASKATOON

Do you have superior communication skills and a passion for veterinary medicine based on a relationship-centred approach? Are you energetic, reliable, and a supportive team player? Do you desire to be part of the Fear-Free movement? Are you excited by a dynamic, ever evolving approach to veterinary medicine? If you answered "yes" to these questions, then you may have found the perfect match!

Please submit your resume with 3 references that we may contact to [eah@sasktel.net](mailto:eah@sasktel.net).

## SASKATOON

Veterinarian Wanted! VCA Canada Frontier Animal Hospital located in Saskatoon, SK is currently recruiting for a Veterinarian to join our team of highly engaged and committed veterinary professionals. With an exceptional mentorship program, we welcome new and recent grads to apply. Our friendly team strives to provide the best possible medical and surgical care, creating an exceptional client experience. As part of our company, you will receive a competitive compensation, generous CE allowance, VIN & SVMA membership, paid vacation, generous personal pet policy and much more.

To apply, please visit: [https://vca.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/Careers/job/Saskatoon-Saskatchewan/ER-Veterinarian--DVM---VCA-Canada-Frontier-Animal-Hospital--Saskatoon--SK\\_R-22234-1](https://vca.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/Careers/job/Saskatoon-Saskatchewan/ER-Veterinarian--DVM---VCA-Canada-Frontier-Animal-Hospital--Saskatoon--SK_R-22234-1)

## WEYBURN

Looking to find a place to call home? Find it in southeast Saskatchewan. Weyburn was named the best city to live in on the prairies by MoneySense magazine. Take this opportunity to come live and work here. Prairie Animal Health Centre Weyburn is seeking a mixed animal veterinarian. Full time or part time, you decide! We get it, there is more to you than work.

Grow your network of colleagues while growing your skills. Our network of three clinics is a definite asset, opening up access to more minds, more skill and more opportunities.

Tired of working at practices with high staff turnover? PAHC's staff retention is AMAZING, 90% of our staff have been employed with us for over 5 years and 70% for over 10 years.

Bring your clinical skills and a great attitude and help us deliver exceptional care and client service. Be part of team where you are valued. Our practice size allows for specialization in certain

species/services while maintaining the ability to share on-call. That's right the dreaded on-call word, we know it's the worst but we try to take the ick out. You are paid to be on-call; we share it between two clinics to reduce the load and are always looking for ways to improve the system.

No great team is complete without a few tools to make the magic happen. PAHC has what you need digital dental radiography, CR radiographs, ultrasound, video otoscopy, Abaxis HM5 and VS2 and a paperless Avimark practice.

You will have the opportunity to make an exceptional salary with lots of perks. PAHC insists you seize the day and take full advantage of your CE opportunities.

Check us out on the details link and the City of Weyburn at [weyburn.ca](http://weyburn.ca). Better yet, don't delay- send me your resume or call and ask questions. We can't wait to meet you!

## TECHNOLOGISTS REQUIRED

### MARTENSVILLE

Are you looking for an exciting job that not only utilizes all of your skills, but also rewards your hard work and dedication? Martensville Veterinary Hospital, located ten minutes outside of Saskatoon, is growing and now interviewing applicants for a full time registered veterinary technologist position. Experience is an asset; however, we encourage new grads to apply. Our clinic is AAHA and AAFP Feline Friendly Silver certified! We have IDEXX and Abaxis in house computerized diagnostics, including CBC, blood chemistry, PT-aPTT, and urinalysis. Come see what it's like to work in a modern practice where you can use all of your technical skills, work in a supportive team environment that appreciates your training, and enjoy paid continuing education opportunities in areas that specifically interest you. We offer paid SAVT dues, uniform allowances, group health/dental benefits, and discounted employee pet products and services. Please send your cover letter and resume to [mvh@myvethosp.ca](mailto:mvh@myvethosp.ca).

## REGINA

Do you love the idea of coming to work every day and enjoying what you do working with animals? We do too! Careport Animal Hospital is seeking a full-time or part-time RVT/RAHT to join our small animal hospital.

Careport Animal Hospital is an AAHA accredited hospital and we care about our team having a work-life balance, which means no after hours or on call, no evenings, and limited weekends. We carry out our vision by working together

in a positive, approachable, supportive, and respectful way to create a stress-free environment for our patients, clients and team.

We are a progressive hospital that is fully equipped with digital x-ray, dental x-ray, digital lab equipment, surgical laser, therapy laser, ultrasound, ultrasonic dental unit and electronic medical records.

We are looking for an individual who enjoys working in a fast-paced environment, learning new technologies, practicing quality medicine, and taking the time to provide an exceptional customer service experience to our clients and their pets.

At Careport Animal Hospital, our team is our most important resource. What this means is that you will have the opportunity to work a reduced work week (four 9 hour days) with a rotation of some Saturday mornings.

Additional benefits include a great health/dental plan, continuing education, staff discounts, and scrub allowance. Wage is commensurate with experience.

For additional information about our hospital, please visit our website at [www.careportanimalhospital.com](http://www.careportanimalhospital.com) or check us out on Facebook. We look forward to you joining our team! To apply, please send a resume and cover letter to Nicole Jones, 4645 Rae St, Regina, Saskatchewan, S4S 6K6, or by email: [operations.careport@sasktel.net](mailto:operations.careport@sasktel.net).

## SASKATOON

Stonebridge Veterinary Hospital is searching for a Registered Veterinary Technologist to join their team of dedicated professionals. The hospital is a busy small animal practice that is fully equipped to handle all routine and minor emergency medical, surgical, and dental cases.

The candidate should be dependable, have strong initiative, and have strong interpersonal skills. Experience within a small animal setting is considered an asset, however new graduates are encouraged to apply.

Please send all resumes to [stonebridgevets2@stonebridgevethospital.com](mailto:stonebridgevets2@stonebridgevethospital.com)

## SASKATOON

Erindale Animal Hospital is accepting applications for a full-time registered veterinary technologist to join our rapidly growing and progressive small animal practice. Our clinic is newly designed to adhere to the "Fear-Free Movement" and is located behind the Co-op on Attridge.

Experience in a veterinary hospital is preferred, as well as competency in veterinary practice management

software, MS Office Suite, POS systems and cash flow management. A flexible schedule is mandatory to accommodate evening and weekend shifts. Wage commensurate with experience. We offer a health and dental package to full-time employees, paid SAVT dues, continuing education, uniform allowance and subsidized pet care. We offer "have it your way benefits" such as paid CE allowance and association fees, group health benefits, insurance, competitive wages, monetary compensation for after-hours and employee pet discounts. We have two complete and up to date in-house labs, digital radiography, ultrasound, new dental equipment, access to a local lab and board-certified specialists by referral and telemedicine so we can offer our patients the best care and second opinions when needed.

Are you an energetic, reliable, and supportive team player? Do you have superior communication skills and believe in providing exceptional veterinary care through a relationship-centred approach? Do you desire to be part of the Fear-Free Movement? If you answered "Yes" to these questions, then you may have found a perfect match!

Please submit a resumé with 3 references that we may contact to eah@sasktel.net. Only suitable applicants will be sent a formal application form. Thank you for your interest in EAH.

#### SASKATOON

Corman Park Vet Services is seeking a full-time RVT to join our busy mixed animal practice that is located 10km west of Saskatoon on Highway 14. We are seeking a tech who will be confident, has great people skills and the ability to work independently as well as a supportive team member. Experience is an asset but new grads are welcome and encouraged to apply. Wages are based on experience and benefits are available after 3 months of full-time employment.

Please submit resume to Dorrie at dorrie.cpv@gmail.com.

#### YORKTON

Additional technician required IMMEDIATELY for a busy 1-2 veterinarian, mixed

practice. Duties would include radiology, anesthesiology, lab work (with in house vet scan and ABC machines), client education and patient care.

Yorkton is a moderate sized city with all the amenities of a larger centre but the hometown feel of a smaller community. Wage is based on experience. Benefits are available. Applicant MUST have written and passed VTNE exam.

Send Resume to: Yorkton Animal Health Centre, Attention Dr Marie Slipiec Box 1238, Yorkton, SK S3N 2X3. Fax (306) 782-6624 Email: yorkvet@sasktel.net

#### OFFICE STAFF NEEDED

##### SASKATOON

Stonebridge Veterinary Hospital is searching for a Veterinary Office Assistant to join their team of animal caregivers. The candidate should be enthusiastic, dependable, and be comfortable interacting with the public. Experience within a small animal setting is considered an asset.

Please send all resumes to stonebridgevets2@stonebridgevethospital.com

##### SASKATOON

Corman Park Vet Services is seeking a full-time Veterinary Technician Assistant to join our busy mixed animal practice that is located 10km west of Saskatoon on Highway 14. We are seeking a person who will be confident, has great people skills and the ability to work independently as well as a supportive team member. Wages are based on experience and benefits are available after 3 months of full-time employment.

Please submit resume to Dorrie at dorrie.cpv@gmail.com.

##### SASKATOON

Corman Park Vet Services is seeking a full-time receptionist to join our busy mixed animal practice that is located 10km west of Saskatoon on Highway 14. We are seeking a person who will be confident, has great people skills and the ability to work independently as well as a supportive team member. Experience is an asset but not a necessity. Wages are based on experience and

benefits are available after 3 months of full-time employment.

Please submit resume to Dorrie at dorrie.cpv@gmail.com.

#### PRACTICES FOR SALE

##### EARL GREY

Earl Grey Veterinary Services P.C. Ltd. - Mixed Animal Practice For Sale: Owners wanting to retire but need to find someone with the ambition and motivation to continue this well established and profitable business! We have great staff, including 2 local RVT's that make running all the diagnostic testing in our in-house lab fast and efficient. Our clients are exceptional, loyal and appreciative of having the convenience of all our services offered at the clinic in one location.

This business is very rewarding, not only financially but the location is close enough to the big city to have all your desired amenities but not the traffic and noise of the city. You can see the northern lights from your doorstep! Recent valuation has been completed and we will help make this an easy profitable transition to you. Ideal opportunity for husband/wife team! Owners willing to stay for transitional period. Contact: Dr Debbie Hupka-Butz @ egvets@sasktel.net

##### PREECEVILLE

Mixed Animal Practice located in Preeceville, Saskatchewan. This is a vibrant community with an abundance of small lakes, boating, fishing, excellent hunting, groomed snowmobile/ cross country ski trails and camping. Preeceville has a curling rink, hockey arena, hospital, library, fitness club, dancing club, figure skating club, Kelsey Ecological Society, Grade 1-12 school, veterinary clinic, farm machinery dealers.

Municipal vet clinic available at reasonable rent. Travel subsidy available. Excellent business, excellent clients. Prefer to sell! Might consider temporary employment while individual assesses the practice. Must be capable of both large and companion animal services.

Dr Richard Krauss Phone: 1-306-

547-2105 Fax: 1-306-547-2193 Email: preecevillevet@sasktel.net

#### SASKATOON

Rare opportunity - Successful profitable veterinary practice for sale with over \$1M in gross revenues in Saskatoon. Owner willing to assist with transition. Serious inquiries. Reply in confidence. veterinarypracticesale@gmail.com

#### SOUTHERN SASKATCHEWAN

Successful Small Animal Clinic in Southern Saskatchewan for Sale.

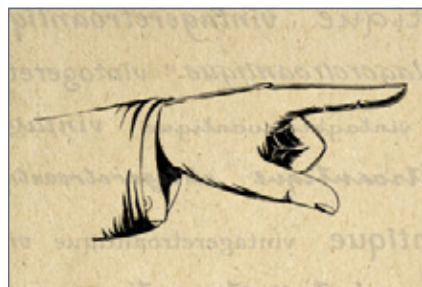
Successful, popular small animal clinic with long history in the community for sale as the current owner is looking to work part time. This profitable clinic has been serving the local community and area (including Regina) for the past 20 years and has a very strong and stable financial track record as well as a large, stable customer base. The current owner has maintained and updated the clinic and equipment with continuous improvements. Real estate and inventory included. Revenue Average 2013-2017 - \$753,191. Return to Owner Average 2013-2017 - \$ 316,190.

Contact - Darryl Fox Broker, Prairie Business Brokers, Saskatoon, SK, C 1.306.220.0980, darryl@prairiebusiness-brokers.com

#### STOUGHTON

Successful Mixed-Animal Clinic in South-Eastern Saskatchewan for Sale! Successful and well-known animal clinic with long history in the community for sale as the current owner is looking to retire. This profitable clinic has been serving the local and surrounding community for over 100 years and has a very strong and stable financial track record as well as a large, stable customer base. The current owners have maintained and updated the clinic and equipment with continuous capital investments, and the beautiful clinic is turn-key and ready for anyone stepping in.

Serious inquiries only please to Jason Zhao, CPA, CA, CBV Virtus Group Chartered Accountants and Business Advisors Tel: (306) 337-3046 Email: jzhao@virtusgroup.ca.



**MOVING?  
CHANGING EMPLOYERS?  
CLOSING A PRACTICE?  
CHANGING YOUR  
CONTACT INFORMATION?**

**You must let the  
SVMA office know.  
Call (306) 955-7862,  
fax (306) 975-0623 or  
email svma@svma.sk.ca.**





# MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

## VETERINARIANS

### GENERAL

BERTAMINI, Chavonne	Aug 26
KUTRYK, Natasha	Aug 22
TONN, Vanessa	Aug 29

### SHORT TERM TO GENERAL

GREENWOOD, Sarah	Oct 1
MCINTYRE, Katelyn M.	Jul 15

### EDUCATIONAL TO GENERAL

OSINCHUK, Stephanie	Sep 1
WOOD, Sarah	Oct 1

### T-GENERAL

COURTICE, Rachel	Aug 12
FINKBEINER WATT, Kirby	Oct 1
MYCOCK, Rebecca	Aug 1
RISSLING, Kirstie	Jul 29
WADE, Emily	Oct 1

### T-LIMITED GENERAL TO T-GENERAL

WINTER, Vinicius	Aug 19
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### GENERAL TO LIFE-PRACTISING

DEROW, Darlene S.	Sep 6
SOPATYK, Janice	Sep 6
WAGNER, Karen M.	Sep 6

### SHORT TERM TO LIFE PRACTISING SHORT TERM

GRIEBEL, Elizabeth A.	Sep 6
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### T-LIMITED SHORT TERM TO T-LIMITED GENERAL

MYK, Marcin	Aug 29
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### EDUCATIONAL TO T-LIMITED GENERAL

RAGNO, Valentina	Aug 1
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### T-SHORT TERM

SAGE, Adrianna	30 day, Oct 28
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### T-LIMITED SHORT TERM

KERRISH, Kristen	30 day, Sep 23
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### EDUCATIONAL

MORRISON, Beverly	Jul 22
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### T-EDUCATIONAL

BARRERA ZARATE, Javier	Sep 24
GOBIKRUSHANTH, Mohanathas	Sep 3
GUPTA, Ashish	Aug 20
NABETA, Rina	Jul 23
SEK, Jun-Yan	Jul 15
SHPYRKA, Vasyl	Aug 26
WILCOX, Parker	Jul 15
ZABRODSKI, Michael	Aug 26
ZVIONOW, Pini	Aug 19

### GENERAL TO SABBATICAL

LIGHTFOOT WAGNER, Sarah A.	Jul 1
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### LIFE PRACTISING TO LIFE NON-PRACTISING

NITSCHHELM, Wendy A.	Aug 10
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### SOCIAL TO LIFE NON-PRACTISING

GILBERT, Alan G.	Sep 6
PATTERSON, Marshall L.	Sep 6

### RESIGNED

BARNES, Ian	Jul 17
BERTAMINI, Chavonne	Jul 1
CAMPBELL, Olivier	Jul 31
CIWKO, Erin	Jul 1
GRUEN, Shannon	Jun 28
HAYES, Margot	Aug 13
HUNT, Kevin	Jul 15
LAVALLEE, Genevieve	Jun 28
MCDERMOTT, Fergal	Sep 20
MCKENZIE, Joscelyn	Jul 5
NG, Jiaying	Jul 15
ROTH, Keliesha	Dec 31
RYBICKA, Joanna	Sep 1
SPARKES, Heather V.	Jul 28
ZWUESTE, Danielle	Jul 15

### DECEASED

FAINTUCK, Richard M.	Aug 8
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## VETERINARY TECHNOLOGISTS

### T-ACTIVE

Forsgren, Jenna	Jul 29
Crowe, Kolina	Aug 14
den Dunnen, Celine	Sept 20
Nelson, Christina	Oct 3

### PROVISIONAL TO T-ACTIVE

Beaulieu, Desiree	Aug 6
Cleavey, Emily	Aug 6
Corey, Kabrina	Aug 6
Custer, Kyla	Aug 6
Friesen, Chantel	Aug 6
LeCuyer, Jesse	Aug 6
Maine, Emily	Aug 6
Moore, Sarah	Aug 6
Morgan, Marlayna	Aug 6
Ng, Mabel	Aug 6
Penner, Courtney	Aug 6
Szautner, Brittany	Aug 6
Wiley, Tasha	Aug 6
Zimmer, Kirby	Aug 6
Elmy, Haley	Aug 6
Thimm, Shelby	Aug 6
Antonenko, Meisha	Aug 12
Reimer, Cherise	Aug 12
Campbell, Julie	Aug 12
Jenkins, Alyssa	Aug 12
Grimes, Sarah	Aug 14
Anderson, Ashley	Aug 19
Fagnou, Sabrina	Aug 19
Matheson, Paige	Aug 19
Skotheim, Morgan	Aug 19
Wall, Kaylee	Aug 19
Woodland, Taylor	Aug 19

### PROVISIONAL

Lubovicki, Lacey	Jul 10
Wyld, Brittany	Sept 3

### STUDENT

Ager, Emily	Sept 9
Blenkinsopp, Keesha	Sept 9
Bueckert, Alexi	Sept 9
Cogmill-Morrow, Tristen	Sept 9
Holubowicz-Chiwona, Simone	Sept 9
Leffler, Hayley	Sept 11
McCallum-Andries, Kylie	Sept 11
Poirier, Danika	Sept 10
Rempel, Ginger	Sept 9
Senko-Loose, Brandi	Sept 10
Sieben, Madison	Sept 10
Silbernagel, Kayla	Sept 11
Thomas-Read, Cheyenne	Sept 9
Weeks, Katie	Sept 10
Wrench, Mekayla	Sept 9
Arrojado, Brittney	Sept 9
Bzdel, Kelleanne	Sept 9
Champagne, Brenna	Sept 9
Drake, Amanda	Sept 9
Miller, Chastin	Sept 9
Verkshtein, Milena	Sept 9
Snell, Christina	Sept 9
Sonsteli, Jillian	Sept 9
Perih, Megan	Sept 9
O'Hara, Daniel	Sept 9
Neufeld, Lexi	Jan 6, 2020

### NAME CHANGES

Shropp, Tammy to	
Popadynetz, Tammy	Jul 22

### STRIKE

(students did not return to program)

Piriot, Katherine	Oct 10
Vaagen, Sarah	Oct 10
Kautzman, Jacy	Oct 10

# AdVantage™

## Client education made easy

Over 800 pre-made educational slides and videos ready for you to put into your clinic's play list.

Why should you bring your pet in for a checkup?

DID YOU KNOW? PROQUESTS CAN TRANSMIT WEST NILE VIRUS TO YOUR HORSE

Quiz: What common flower is poisonous to cats?

The BUN has much more nitrogen than the beef regardless of whether the beef was raised using hormone's or not!



Communicating a message to your clients about your practice, the staff or what services and programs you offer has never been easier. Simply upload a video created in any movie format directly to the site and play it within minutes.



Ask us how you can educate your clients while they wait in your reception area or exam room.

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"Your success is our business"



## MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT WHEN YOU NEED IT.

- ✓ Open to all members
- ✓ No cost, no waiting period for eligibility
- ✓ Covers 4 treatment hours per member annually
- ✓ Personal counseling when you need it

Professional Psychologists & Counselors (PPC) will provide intake, sourcing, vetting, referral and payment to one of their 40+ therapists province wide. You only need to provide your SVMA license number.

At no time will SVMA know the identity or geographic area of persons using the service. PPC bills SVMA for all services anonymously, ensuring complete privacy.

**For more information** or to make an appointment, contact:  
Professional Psychologists and Counselors (PPC)  
**306.664.0000**  
**[www.peopleproblems.ca](http://www.peopleproblems.ca)**

**THE SVMA  
MEMBER WELLNESS  
SUPPORT PROGRAM**



**YOUR  
MEMBERSHIP  
MATTERS**



**IT'S A FACT.**

**VETERINARY MEDICINE IS  
ONE OF THE HIGHEST RISK PROFESSIONS  
FOR WORKPLACE INJURIES.**

# **WHAT'S YOUR PLAN?**



— **SVMA** —

## **GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE & BENEFITS PLAN**

The SVMA Group Health Plan (GHP) was designed to meet the needs of Saskatchewan's veterinary professionals, clinic staff and families. Plus, our 1200 member buying power gets us premium coverage and benefits at much lower rates.