

# SVMA NEWS



AUGUST 2020  
VOLUME 55, ISSUE 3



IFC

SVMA WEBINAR  
SCHEDULE

6

THIS STUFF FREAKS  
ME OUT, TOO

17

SAYING  
GOODBYE

# Webinar Schedule

*All times are listed in Saskatchewan time*

## SEPT 10

5pm - 8pm

3 hour, [RACE # 1004-41676](#)

All Practice Types

How to drive change in your practice

**DR ANDY ROARK**

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PHARMACY

## SEPT 13

1pm - 5pm

Annual General Meeting – Virtual

Members and invited guests will receive an email with the Annual General Meeting information.

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## SEPT 17

7pm - 9pm

2 hour, [RACE # 1004-41676](#)

Large Animal

Bovine Respiratory & Antimicrobial Resistance

**DR TRENT WENNEKAMP &  
DR ANATOLIY TROKYMCHUK**

SPONSORED BY  
BOEHRINGER INGELHEIM

## SEPT 24

7pm - 9pm

2 hour, [SVMA Approved CE](#)

Clinical Pathology

Hematology

**BRIANNE BELLWOOD, RVT,  
VTS (Clinical Pathology), CCRVN**

## OCT 1

10am - 2pm

4 hour, [RACE # 1004-41676](#)

Companion Animal

Practical Techniques in Soft Tissue Surgery

- Intestinal Anastomosis
- Surgical management of GDV
- Anal saccullectomy;  
4 ligature splenectomy
- Surgical management of  
Brachycephalic Syndrome

**DR HOWARD SEIM**

## OCT 8

7pm - 10pm

3 hour, [RACE # 1004-41676](#)

Companion Animal

Creating the best flap

Extraction techniques/  
luxators

Difficult extractions

**LOIC LEGENDRE**

## OCT 15

7pm - 9pm

2 hour, [RACE # 1004-41676](#)

Companion Animal

Critical Care

**JENNIFER LOEWEN**

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PHARMACY

## OCT 22

6pm - 9pm

3 hour, [RACE # 1004-41676](#)

Large Animal

Top 10 Small

Ruminant Diseases

**DR MICHAEL PESATO**

## OCT 29

10am - 1pm

3 hour, [RACE # 1004-41676](#)

Companion Animal

Practical Techniques in Soft Tissue Surgery

- Canine Cystic &  
Urethral Calculi
- Feline Pineal Urethrostomy
- Wound Management Secrets

**DR HOWARD SEIM**

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## NOV 5

7pm - 8pm

1 hour, [SVMA Approved CE](#)

Poultry

Poultry Vaccination

**DR TYRA DICKSON**

SPONSORED BY SVMA

## NOV 12

7pm - 8pm

1 hour, [RACE # 1004-41676](#)

All Practice Types

Diffusing the angry client

**DR ANDY ROARK**

SPONSORED BY WDDC

## NOV 19

7pm - 8pm

1 hour, [SVMA Approved CE](#)

Equine

An in-depth look at an equine rescue

**DR KATE ROBINSON**

SPONSORED BY WESTERN  
FINANCIAL GROUP

## NOV 26

7pm - 9:30pm

2.5 hour, [SVMA Approved CE](#),  
[Reduced Fee](#)

All Practice Types

The decision to report abuse

**DON FERGUSON  
STEPHANIE SMITH  
DENNIS WILL**

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ANIMAL PROTECTIVE  
SERVICES

## DEC 3

7pm - 9pm

2 hour, [RACE # 1004-41676](#)

Large Animal

Zebras of Pathology

What's new in pathology?

**DR BRUCE WOBESER**

SPONSORED BY TD BANK

## DEC 10

7pm - 8pm

1 hour, [RACE # 1004-41676](#)

All Practice Types

Working with the cash-strapped client

**DR ANDY ROARK**

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## THIS STUFF FREAKS ME OUT, TOO



## SAYING GOODBYE

- 02 Online Classroom
- 03 President's Perspective
- 04 Registrar's Desk
- 05 SVMA AGM
- 05 Council Nominations

- 08 SAVT Update
- 10 Member News
- CS Animal Health Perspectives
- 12 CVMA Report
- 14 WCVM Update

- 15 On Campus at WCVM
- 26 VT Student update
- 22 Report from Sask Polytech
- 23 WCVM update
- 25 Classifieds

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### An Association with Two Key Roles

The Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association (SVMA) is an organization which brings together the two main functions of regulator and advocate for the veterinary profession in Saskatchewan.

As the regulator of the veterinary profession in Saskatchewan, SVMA is dedicated to the protection of the public by ensuring the proficiency, competency and ethical behavior of its members in the practice of veterinary medicine.

We regulate our own profession through the licensing of veterinarians, registration of veterinary technologists, inspection of practices and disciplining of members as required.

As the advocate for the veterinary profession in Saskatchewan, the Association promotes veterinary professionals and veterinary medicine.

We support the physical, personal, financial and professional well-being of our members through continuing education, public outreach and education and member programs and services.

### We believe in:

- The personal responsibility of veterinary

professionals to develop and maintain competency in their chosen area of veterinary medicine

- Fostering our profession by involvement in education of future and present veterinarians and veterinary technologists
- 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
- Members treating each other professionally
- Supporting members by providing guidance and information
- Supporting a dedication toward improvement in health and welfare of animals

### COMMERCIAL FOUR-COLOUR AD RATES:

	Single	4 issues
Outside back cover	\$1200	\$4400
Inside front/back cover	\$1100	\$4000
Standard full page	\$1000	\$3600
Half page	\$525	\$2000
Quarter page	\$275	\$1000
Business card	\$150	\$500
Insertions	\$300	\$1100

### ALL ADVERTISING RATES ARE SUBJECT TO GST

ISSUE	DEADLINE
February	Jan 6
May	April 6
August	July 6
November	Oct 5

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CE on your schedule.  
Welcome to SVMA'S



# ONLINE CLASSROOM

SVMA's Online Classroom is available to veterinary professionals from any jurisdiction.

The secure platform offers a variety of online continuing education courses created just for veterinary professionals. SVMA members have access to the courses on the online CE platform and non-members can request access.

## Accessing online courses is easy!

1. Go to: <https://classroom.svma.sk.ca> to view enrolment details and course descriptions.
2. Log-in (non-members request access first)
3. Self-enrol in the courses of your choice. The payment is through PayPal, however you do not need to have a PayPal account, credit cards are accepted as well.
4. Once you have completed a course, the certificate of completion will be unlocked for download.



## CURRENTLY OFFERED

### 23 HOURS OF CONTINUING EDUCATION AS OF JUNE 2020

**Antimicrobial Resistance 2016**  
(one hour, \$25)

**Antimicrobial Stewardship 2017**  
– A Practitioner's Perspective  
(one hour, \$25)

**Antimicrobial Stewardship 2018**  
- Ethical and Legal Prescribing  
(one hour, \$25)

**A Conversation About Animal  
Welfare in Saskatchewan 2018**  
(four hours, \$100)

**Social Media in  
Veterinary Practice 2018**  
(three hours, FREE)

**Poultry for Veterinary  
Professionals 2019**  
(five hours, \$125)

**Suicide Awareness &  
Prevention in the Canadian  
Veterinary Profession 2020**  
(one hour, FREE)

**Veterinary Forensics 2019**  
(two hours, \$50)

**Narcotics Storage and  
Record Keeping 2020**  
(one hour, \$25)

**SVMA Licensing Course 2020**  
(four hours, \$75)



## PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

**A**s I sit down to write this after another insanely busy COVID-19 day I am shocked at where we are at. After talking with many veterinarians around the province and in other provinces it seems we are all in the same boat. INSANELY BUSY. To think that 10 weeks ago I was telling staff that we might have to let some of them go because of decreased business during the pandemic seems crazy right now. As a mixed animal practitioner we usually say that calving season is the busiest time of year, but I can honestly say this has been significantly busier than calving season for our practice. I think it brings the reality of burnout to a whole new light. I see the receptionists, VMAs, technicians and veterinarians all working at an elevated level for longer than normal hours and it concerns me as I wonder how long we can keep this rate up.

Last night I watched a video of a classmate who was physically abused by a client for admitting she wasn't able to provide proper exotic care for the client's ill guinea pig. She told the client that she wasn't an exotics specialist and that she was able to offer supportive care but that would be all. The clients called her an uncompassionate idiot and proceeded to punch her in the face. This astounds me, that someone would value their guinea pig's health more than another human being's. But we see it day in and day out, time and time again. People losing their cool as they're being pushed to their limits emotionally and physically. This takes its toll on us who are working longer and harder than ever. We're all at our wits end and at the breaking point on a day to day basis. I find myself being a little shorter with clients because I've run out to their vehicle for the 4th time in the last 15 minutes and answered 5 phone calls while I'm inside with a dog hanging off a leash. Lots of veterinarians are mentioning how much they love not having clients in the clinic but it definitely comes with tradeoffs. How long can we keep this up? For ourselves and for our clients.

We're constantly needing to re-evaluate how we run our practices and I think that COVID-19 has really forced us to review the way we operate and function in a vet clinic. I've found myself ruminating on standard operating procedures, use of trained and layperson help, and our ability to



Kent Weir, DVM

actually say no. The busyness and absence of clients in the clinic has forced us to improve our communication skills with one another as well as with clients. It's amazing how much more communication is required when these things are taken away from us. I hope these new communication skills and tools will continue past COVID-19. I've also recognized so many opportunities where the use of VMAs and Customer Service staff is more appropriate than the use of a veterinarian or a RVT. I think this is especially important in a time where we keep saying we have a veterinary and RVT shortage. Maybe it's time to evaluate who else can do these jobs. Where I am learning most about myself as a people pleaser is how to actually say "No". I am the guiltiest for squeezing in that last-minute vaccine, just running out and preg checking a couple cows at 5 pm or agreeing to book a few more appointments on Saturday morning. I've found there is power in saying that we're unable to fit that in or

telling someone that if it's waited three days, one more day isn't going to make a difference. I am hoping that what I've learned about the practice of veterinary medicine and myself will carry forward past COVID-19. I hate to say it as an extreme extrovert but I've actually kind of enjoyed staying at home for nights and weekends on end.

The final thing I think that COVID-19 has really highlighted is how important feeling like part of something is for mental health. Many of my friends have been isolated for so long that I think their mental health is really starting to be affected. I have to remind myself on a regular basis that we are actually very fortunate to still be coming into work on a regular basis, interacting with one another and clients. We could be sitting at home alone everyday wearing a spot in the sofa or using up all of our bandwidth bingeing something on Netflix. Being part of a veterinary team, as exhausting as it has been, gives us purpose. In addition to that, we're part of a small tight knit community of veterinary professionals here in Saskatchewan. That being said, I know that there are people who are burnt out and genuinely need help I would encourage you to reach out to the Professional Psychologists & Counsellors – PPC (306-664-0000; [www.peopleproblems.ca](http://www.peopleproblems.ca)). It's free to you as members and offers a wide range of support for yourself and family. They're located all over the province and you can contact them directly if you're in need of support. Our community is one that I continue to marvel at on a regular basis. I genuinely do think we are the perfect balance of innovative and practical and I hope we continue that way for years to come. As one of my good friends says everyday "We're one day closer!" . 🐾

## 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.

## REGISTRAR'S DESK

**T**he timing of this report coincides with the annual summer meeting of the Canadian Council of Veterinary Registrars (CCVR), an event that typically takes place in conjunction with the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association's (CVMA) Annual Convention but, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, is occurring this year as a virtual meeting. These meetings provide a forum for the registrars of Canada's ten provincial veterinary regulatory bodies to exchange information on issues at provincial and national levels that affect protection of the public interest. One of the items on the meeting agenda that I thought may be of interest to readers was how regulatory bodies, and more generally the veterinary profession, across the country have been affected by COVID-19 over the past four months.

In all provinces, communications between office staff and registrants were greatly increased, especially during the first few months of the pandemic. Office staff sourced COVID-19 information provided by reliable sources, including the CVMA's COVID-19 Landing Page ([canadianveterinarians.net/coronavirus-covid-19](http://canadianveterinarians.net/coronavirus-covid-19)), and shared this through various electronic means. The Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association (SVMA) office was fortunate to learn of Mailchimp, a marketing automation platform, that allowed us to quickly communicate new information to registrants through eBlasts and eNews.

Communications in the other direction, from registrants and the public to office staff, often in the form of questions, were a greater challenge. This was in part because of how quickly the situation was changing (i.e., an appropriate response today might not be appropriate tomorrow) but also because of the increased amount of email and phone calls that overwhelmed the capacity of offices with fewer number of staff. In the extreme, Nova Scotia's registrar was forced to second council members for several weeks to assist him and his associate registrar in responding to queries.



**Marc Cattet, DVM**  
[mcattet@svma.sk.ca](mailto:mcattet@svma.sk.ca)

Except for the Manitoba Veterinary Medical Association, most regulatory bodies needed to lobby their provincial governments to varying degrees to recognize veterinary services as being essential. In Manitoba, the government identified veterinary services as essential from the get-go. Nonetheless, the fact that lobbying was necessary in most provinces suggests more effort is needed by the veterinary profession across the country to raise its profile in the public eye.

In many provinces, the delivery of veterinary services changed profoundly for companion-animal clinics, but less so for other types of practice. Veterinary staff in companion animal clinics were hit most intensely by public health measures because they typically work with clients and patients in relatively small enclosed areas. However, clinics across the country quickly adapted to providing "curbside" services where clients remained in their vehicle and patients were transferred from vehicle to clinic, or vice versa, by face-masked staff.

The value of telemedicine as a complementary means for all types of practices to deliver veterinary services was strongly reinforced under the restrictive conditions imposed by the pandemic.

Several regulatory bodies were well prepared, already having telemedicine policies in place, but most, including the SVMA, were not. However, we were fortunate to be able to quickly adopt the telemedicine policy developed by the Alberta Veterinary Medical Association. We were also fortunate to have the CVMA take a lead role in quickly educating veterinarians across the country on the application of telemedicine through a recorded webinar and several informative documents posted on their COVID-19 Landing Page.

The SVMA recently prepared a draft telemedicine policy that should be finalized in August. The timing of this will be coincidental with a national policy statement to be released by the CCVR; its aim to promote consistency, transparency, and fairness in the development of guidelines on telemedicine across Canada. This fall, I anticipate the SVMA will follow the new policy by providing registrants with practical information on how to use telemedicine efficiently and cost-effectively.

The COVID-19 pandemic impeded the registration of new and foreign-trained veterinarians and veterinary technologists in many provinces, primarily because of requirements to attend an in-person jurisprudence (or licensing) seminar within a fixed time following application for registration. Some regulatory bodies responded by developing new categories of provisional registration whereas others revised conditions on existing registration categories. The registration of new and foreign-trained veterinary professionals with the SVMA has continued without hindrance due to the on-line licensing seminar and exam that we initiated last November. The only adjustment made by the SVMA was to extend the duration on veterinary technology student registrations to facilitate the delays faced by some final-year students in their practicum training.

The COVID-19 pandemic also impeded practice inspections in most provinces. Some regulatory bodies decided to

postpone scheduled inspections until later in the year. A few regulatory bodies proceeded with scheduled inspections but carried them out by having practice personnel provide inspectors with a virtual tour of their facilities. The SVMA was fortunate not to have any inspections scheduled during the peak months of the pandemic. However, since resuming inspections in June, our practice inspectors have modified their inspection procedures to fully comply with public health measures.

The frequency of complaints against registrants appears to have increased over the past four months in several provinces, including Saskatchewan, but the types of complaints are not unusual. That is to say, the complaints do not seem to be connected specifically to the adjustments veterinary professionals have made in response to the pandemic. Several registrars proposed the increased frequency of complaints could be due to clients whose sensitivities have been heightened, or whose patience has been worn thin, after months of societal restrictions imposed by public health authorities. Alberta's registrar drew attention to a recent incident at a clinic in Calgary that may be an example of this <https://tinyurl.com/y5jly35q>

Lastly, across the country, the COVID-19 pandemic has changed the way we socialize. The word 'zoom' has rapidly risen to the top of our daily vocabulary as Zoom, the videoconferencing platform, has led the way in providing a means for millions of people to stay social while being forced to stay home to help reduce the spread of COVID-19. It is also being used extensively by veterinary regulatory bodies and associations to exchange information and discuss issues. The SVMA Council and committees have been meeting by Zoom since the start of the pandemic. And these virtual meetings are likely to continue into the foreseeable future, including our first-ever virtual Annual General Meeting scheduled for September 13th.

As always, if you have any comments or questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at [mcattet@svma.sk.ca](mailto:mcattet@svma.sk.ca).



## **SVMA** **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

# **September 13, 2020**

## **1pm-5pm**

**Virtual Meeting –  
details coming soon  
to your email inbox**

**Annual Report will  
be available online  
August 13, 2020**



## **COUNCIL NOMINATIONS**

**SVMA Council will have positions available for election and re-election. Veterinarians and Registered Veterinary Technologists are invited to nominate themselves or a colleague.**

**The council nomination form is at the bottom of this page: <https://www.svma.sk.ca/about/council-and-committees/2018-2019-council-members/>**






# THIS STUFF FREAKS ME OUT, TOO

ANDY ROARK, DVM MS

Last year, I started a veterinary conference for butt-kicking, positive-vibe-creating, happiness-in-vet-practice-finding veterinary business nerds. So far, we've had two of these conferences and the third is coming up fast. Before each one of these events, I have gotten similar messages from people who are about to attend. Essentially, they say: "Don't tell anyone, but I'm worried I'm not impressive or successful enough to be here. I'm afraid everyone at the conference will see that." I hear similar statements from veterinarians who are staring down a surgery they haven't done before, new managers who feel unprepared for the drama they are about to face, technicians who are about to try a procedure they have been trained for but haven't mastered yet, and pretty much everyone else who feels comfortable confiding in me. I'd like to take a moment here to address this ridiculously common feeling.



**M**odesty aside, I have found great success in my chosen profession. I have won awards for writing and speaking, received consistently great feedback on my work, and been invited to present all over the world. People have made T-shirts with my face on them and worn them to events. At this point, my resume should be irrefutable proof that I am extremely qualified to do the things that I do for a living.

But you know what? Sometimes I lay awake in bed and worry about my next trip. When I get ready to speak, I imagine some genius from the vet school faculty will show up and point out how wrong I am. Or some specialist will ask who I am to talk to them about veterinary medicine. Or someone with an MBA or a massively successful hospital will question why I should talk to anyone about running a business.

I was nervous last week before I spoke at a veterinary school because I worried my experiences as a young vet would appear outdated, and now I'm worried that the muckety-mucks I'm on my way to meet in Portland will perceive me as some flaky internet vet with no real knowledge or value.

I don't want you to get the impression that I live without confidence or suffer from anxiety. It's not that. In the day-to-day, I'd say I'm quite confident in my abilities. It's just that I, like everyone else, get imposter syndrome.

I don't think anyone but raging narcissists truly believe they live up to their billings. We all know intimately what fires and flaws exist behind the scenes in our own lives. At the same time, we aren't fully convinced that everyone else has an equally messy "backstage" because we have never and will never see it.

I think a bit of imposter syndrome is a good thing. I don't ever want to be the person who believes his own hype, or becomes so confident that his views are unquestionably correct. I don't want to stop checking and double-checking sources, updating statistics, practicing my skills, and preparing myself to be challenged. I never want to take the time that people give to me for granted. Fear of falling short is a handy tool for preventing that from happening.

On the other hand, imposter syndrome

holds too many of us back. The idea that someone would be introspective enough to critically consider their own strengths and weaknesses, but then decide not to come to Uncharted (where that introspection would unlock true opportunities for growth), try new things in practice, or generally stretch themselves is heartbreaking.

So, what do we do when we feel like we aren't good enough? There are a few things I've found that seem to help.

I think the most important step is to recognize imposter syndrome for what it is. If you name it, you rob it of most of its power. You realize that what you're feeling is natural, and that your fear of being inadequate is not based in fact, but in common negative self-talk that we all experience.

If you're still feeling uncertain, tell someone you trust. Clearly explain to a friend why you think you will fail. In my experience, two things will happen: (1) you will hear the words coming out of your own mouth and realize that they don't sound rational, and (2) your friend will roll her eyes and dismiss or counter your concerns with an ease that is almost maddening.

Finally, teach someone. If you are struggling with confidence in an area, engage with people on that topic. Try to mentor someone. Do some training. I'm not saying you should name yourself an expert if/when you aren't, but teaching with humility grows both the pupil and the instructor. Sometimes we don't know how much we know until we unpack it all for someone else.

So, if you're reading this and feeling like a fraud, please know two things. First, there's a name for that feeling because it is so common, and second, the fact that you are self-aware enough to question your abilities is a good sign that you have the potential to grow and develop.

Imposter syndrome is a plague for successful people. Could you imagine having a job so mundane or so few opportunities that you NEVER questioned whether or not you can measure up? That, my friend, would be worse by far.

*Reprinted with permission from  
drandyroark.com*

## SAVT UPDATE

### Hello from the Saskatchewan Association of Veterinary Technologists!

Summer days are here at last! Even though due to COVID-19 we are limited to what can be done outside with friends and family. I think we are all starting to understand that this may be the new normal and that we are going to have to adjust to the changes for the health and safety of everyone.

The SAVT still continues to function remotely from our Executive Director's home with the hopes of having everything sorted out and back to the office by September.

As we all must make tough decisions during this time of COVID-19 the SAVT has decided to postpone the annual conference that was scheduled for November until 2021. This was a decision that did not come easily because we have no idea what restrictions there may be in November but with weighing the risks it was unanimously decided that we postpone to 2021.

With the postponement of so many CE events the SAVT has gotten creative in ways to offer CE to our members. With the help of the Student Network Committee we have hosted many interactive sessions. These sessions included at home tutorials where a "grocery" list was included with

items that could be purchased to practice skills at home and a session featuring Dr. Andy Roark and Jolene Watson, RVT. We have more events and sessions planned for the future so make sure to follow our Facebook page for updates!

We have launched a couple new programs through our social media pages. We have a Kudos program which allows any veterinary team member or member of the public to send Kudos to an RVT that they believe is deserving of a special mention. The Kudos program has been a way to highlight anyone that may be in the "unknown" part of the veterinary industry. We all have special talents, hobbies and ambitions in life so it is great to see the support from other RVTs. The other program we have is called "Engage with an RVT with a Specialty", this allows RVTs to ask questions and engage with the speaker on their road to a specialty or just ask specific questions in regards to the specialty that could help them with patients/clients in their clinic.

We have been very active in the past couple months highlighting our graduating Veterinary Technology students. It was unclear if they would have a graduation in June so we wanted



**Breanne Barber**  
President Elect

to highlight each one of them individually as this is a huge accomplishment in their lives and their chosen career path. Congratulations to you all!

Nominations are now open for SAVT annual awards! The SAVT presents the following awards each year: Appreciation Award, Conference Appreciation Award, Emerging Leader Award, Graduating Year Veterinary Technologist Award, Merck Mentorship Award, RVT of the Year, Veterinarian of the Year, and Volunteer Award. To read more information about these awards and nominate an individual, group, place of business, organization, or other please visit [www.savt.ca](http://www.savt.ca).

If you would like to have up to date information in regards to our CE/session offering please follow us on Facebook and Instagram! #ProudlyRVT #StaySafe

Breanne Barber, RVT  
SAVT President Elect 2019-2020  
RVTTC Director 2020-2023



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- ✓ Personal counseling when you need it



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**For more information** or to make an appointment, contact:

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and Counselors (PPC)  
**306.664.0000**  
[www.peopleproblems.ca](http://www.peopleproblems.ca)

# In Memoriam

### Thizbe Balzer

With great sorrow, the family of Thizbe Balzer announces her passing on Wednesday, April 21, 2020 at the Regina General Hospital, Regina, SK.

**A** private family service for Thizbe Balzer will take place on Friday, May 15, 2020 with lay minister Jill Cavanagh officiating. The video of the service will go live on Friday, May 15 at 7:00 pm (CST) from Thizbe's page on Swift Current Funeral Home's website. Scroll down to the page and click the "Click here to access the video" button to view the live stream.

For donations in Thizbe's memory please visit <https://thizbebalzer.blogspot.com/2020/05/donations-in-honour-of-thizbe.html>.

*Notice was reprinted from obituary*

### JUST, Dr. Harvey Henry

November 15, 1925 - May 1, 2020

It is with both sadness and thanksgiving that we announce the passing of Dr. Harvey Henry Just in his 95th year.

**H**arvey was born on the family farm north of Orcadia, Saskatchewan to Martin and Hulda Just. He attended the old Orkney Stone School and Church and graduated from the Yorkton Collegiate Institute. His ambition had always been to be a Veterinarian and was accepted into the Ontario Veterinary College at Guelph, Ontario. He opened the South Hill Animal Clinic in Prince Albert and practiced for 39 years. Harvey met Madeline McAulay, "the lady with the smile", in Yorkton. They were married at Knox United Church in Saskatoon on November 22, 1952. They lived and raised their family in Prince Albert where they resided for 45 years. Harvey and Madeline had six children: Arlene Just, Martin Just, Valerie Preston, Heather Hanson, Christine (Robert) Hopkins and Jon (Roxana) Just; grandchildren, Alicia Finch (Kevin Kirkup), Michael (Kelsey) Finch, Mitchell Preston, Mark Zbaraschuk (Meghan Taylor), Justine Zbaraschuk (Kashus Bieber), Rory, Andrew and Annalise Hanson, Shelby Hopkins, Meaghan Hopkins (Reilly Doidge), Danielle Hopkins (Louis Carter); and great-grandchildren, Remy and River Finch. He is also survived by one brother, David (Lyn) Just; sisters-in-law, June Just, Darline McAulay and Anne (Bob) Hearn; as well as many nieces and nephews. Harvey served on many boards and committees including professional Veterinary Associations, PA City Council, PA School Boards, church, hospital and service clubs. His work ethic was instilled by his parents who provided him with the gift of love, parental care and guidance. He loved his family deeply and worked hard for his community and is remembered as a good man. After retirement, Harvey and Madeline lived in Victoria for 10 years and continued to return to "paradise" to visit for many years after they had moved back to Saskatchewan. They travelled to many parts of the world during their marriage. Harvey was predeceased by his wife Madeline; brothers, Herbert, Georgie, Alvin, Lyle, Kenneth; sister, Agnes Husulak; sisters-in-law, Jacqueline Miller, Edna Williams, Eldine Just; brothers-in-law, Wilfred McAulay, Granville Williams and Peter Husulak. As a family we would like to extend a special thanks to Vergie Ventura and the staff and elders of the 4th Neighborhood at Sherbrooke Community Centre for their loving care and friendship. A private family graveside celebration of Harvey's life will be held at Orkney Cemetery. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Donations in Harvey's memory may be directed to Orkney Historical Society or Sherbrooke Community Centre. Condolences may be sent to the family by visiting [www.hillcrestmemorial.ca](http://www.hillcrestmemorial.ca) Arrangements entrusted to Hillcrest Funeral Home.



# Animal Health Perspectives

## Business as usual (as possible) during COVID-19

By: Dr. Yanyun Huang, CEO and Anatomic Pathologist, PDS

"This will be the last travel of the year", half-jokingly remarked Dr. Betty Althouse, Saskatchewan's Chief Veterinary Officer, during an in-person meeting in Saskatoon in mid-March. During this meeting, Saskatchewan confirmed its first COVID-19 case and Dr. Althouse's prophesy came true as non-essential travel was strongly advised against.

All businesses, including Prairie Diagnostic Services (PDS) Inc., faced unprecedented uncertainties. As the new, inexperienced, anatomic pathologist-turned CEO of PDS, I seriously doubted why I signed up for the job. I had to comfort myself in thinking: "well, at least no one else has had experience or training for this".

PDS was deemed an 'essential service', as were all veterinary practices, and remained open. PDS continued to assist veterinarians and provided high quality diagnostic services during this time, while also protecting the PDS staff from possible COVID-19 exposure. For several weeks, a split shift policy was implemented to reduce the number of employees working at the same time. I am extremely proud that the PDS team were still largely able to

meet the turn-around-times we promise our clients.

With the effective measures the government took to control the spread of COVID-19, and the great efforts by our fellow citizens, our curve is heading in the right direction. Now, **I am pleased to say that PDS has resumed regular operation hours and staffing levels. With things getting back to "normal", PDS is still here to be an extension of your practice.**

**Although the response to pandemic planning took up a lot of energy, PDS was not, and will not be completely taken by the pandemic and distracted from our vision to be a leader in veterinary diagnostics.** We have been actively reaching out to clients and other stakeholders to gather ideas to enrich our testing platform to meet changing needs. More than a handful of test development activities are happening behind the scenes. We are committed to conduct applied research that will directly give back to the industries. We are applying to, conducting and participating in more than 10 applied research projects in areas such as rapid *Salmonella* typing by sequencing, antimicrobial resistance, detection of emerging

pathogens, bovine respiratory diseases and bovine diarrhea, just to name a few. Further, PDS, in collaboration with the four western provinces, is leading the development of the Western Canadian Animal Health Network (WeCAHN), which aims to turn individual diagnostic results to surveillance data. The data, in turn, will provide a context to connect laboratories, diagnostic experts, practicing veterinarians, industries, epidemiologists and policy makers for conversations and generation of meaningful intelligence. We believe all these efforts will greatly benefit animal health and One Health.

I wish I could provide more details about all the exciting developments in PDS. I'll

### WHAT'S INSIDE

- 1 Business as usual (as possible) during COVID-19
- 1 Clinical Pathology Testing Update
- 2 Neonatal calf diarrhea diagnostics at Prairie Diagnostic Services
- 3 Infectious Laryngotracheitis (ILT) in Small Farm Flocks
- 4 Western Canadian Animal Health Network (WeCAHN) launch
- 4 New Face at PDS

save that topic for a future commentary. I am grateful that, at this time, that it is 'business as usual' at PDS. That is because of you...veterinarians, farmers, animal caretakers, who are also working hard during this unprecedented time. We truly are in this together – this, too, shall pass. More than that, we will all come out of this stronger because of our resiliency!

## Clinical Pathology Testing Update:

The PDS Clinical Pathology Laboratory will no longer be performing Osmolality testing. This testing will now be done by Royal University Hospital (RUH) Laboratory.

Sample requirements:  
Lithium-heparin plasma

(preferred sample), serum, miscellaneous fluid and urine; 1 ml minimum requirement.

The cost of osmolality testing is \$30.00 plus \$12.95 for shipping and handling. The turn-around-time is 3 days.

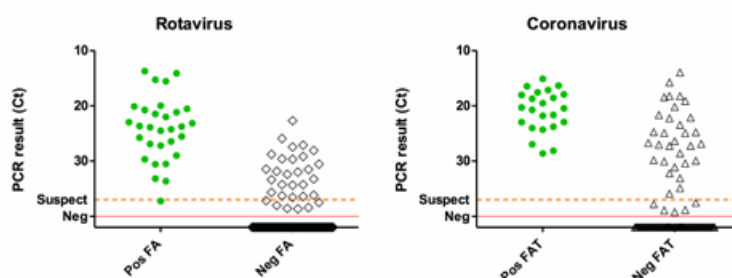


# Neonatal calf diarrhea diagnostics at Prairie Diagnostic Services: lessons learned over the last two decades

By: Musangu Ngeleka (Veterinary Microbiologist) and Dale Godson (Veterinary Immunologist/Virologist), PDS

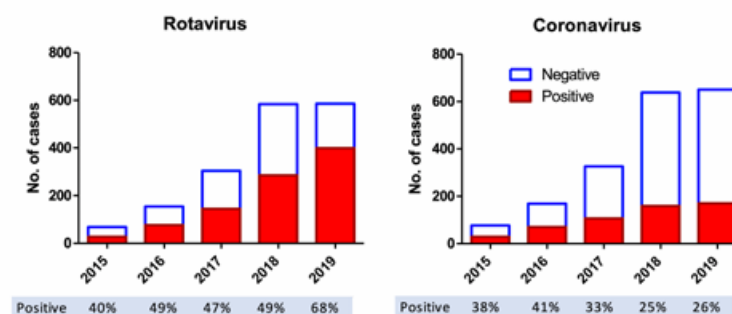
Neonatal calf diarrhea (NCD) is one of the most common causes of pre-weaning calf morbidity and mortality in both beef and dairy operations. *E. coli*, *C. perfringens*, *Salmonella* spp., rotavirus (RV), bovine coronavirus (BCoV) and *Cryptosporidium* spp. are the common pathogens of NCD. Conventional methods for NCD diagnostics rely on: (i) bacterial culture for *E. coli*, *C. perfringens* and *Salmonella* spp.; (ii) RV and BCoV antigen detection using immunoassays such as fluorescence antibody test (FAT) or immunochromatography; (iii) detection of parasites using fecal flotation. In addition, *E. coli* typing for F5 fimbriae is performed using the slide agglutination test. These procedures were conducted at Prairie Diagnostic Services (PDS) until 2013. A retrospective analysis on approximately 1,500 NCD cases, submitted to the lab from 2000 to 2013, showed a diagnostic success rate (DSR) of approximately 32.7%, as defined by the detection of one of the pathogens mentioned above. Among these, *E. coli* F5 was detected in 4.4% of cases, *Salmonella* spp. (1%); RV and BCoV (22%); *Cryptosporidium* sp. (5.3%). In 2014, we introduced additional diagnostic approaches, which included: (i) PCR for *E. coli* genes encoding virulence factors detection (virotyping) for STa, STx1, STx2, F5 and Eae, and for RV and BCoV (ii) FAT for detection of *Cryptosporidium* spp. and *Giardia* spp. Subsequently, the DSR for potential NCD etiologic agents in 250 cases tested in 2014 and 2015 increased to approximately 60%. *E. coli* STa:F5 was detected in 1.8% of cases, *Salmonella* spp. (1.2%), RV and BCoV (28.2%), *Cryptosporidium* spp. (26.2%). In a concurrent pilot study conducted from 2013 to 2016, we tested for the different diarrhea-causing pathogens on fresh intestinal tissues collected from 105 calves with diarrhea and 100 without diarrhea. In addition, histologic examination on related fixed tissues was performed to assess potential pathogen-induced intestinal morphological changes in calves with diarrhea. The intestinal lesions were all observed in calves with diarrhea and were mainly associated with *C. perfringens* (11.4% of cases), *Salmonella* spp. (6.6%), *E. coli* STa:F5 (1%), RV and BCoV (52.4%), *Cryptosporidium* spp. (19.0%) and *Eimeria* spp. (1.9%). This study showed a DSR of approximately 77.5%. *E. coli* was not the major pathogen as commonly suggested; however, RV and BCoV were the most prevalent diarrhea-causing pathogens in calves, but detection of these viruses in some control calves indicates that NCD diagnostics should include advanced microbiology techniques as well as histologic examination for confirmation of infection in some cases.

Figures 1 and 2 show comparison between FAT and PCR testing for, and detection



**Fig 1** Comparing test methods for viral diarrhea in calves.

Approximately 135 intestinal and fecal samples were tested using both FAT and PCR for the presence of rotavirus and coronavirus in 2014 and 2015. All samples that were positive by FAT were also detected by PCR. All samples that were negative by PCR were also negative by FAT. However, there were some samples that were negative by FAT but were detected by PCR. The additional samples that were detected by PCR tend to have higher Ct values (lower concentration of virus), indicating the PCR test is more sensitive. Since these viruses can sometimes be detected in calves without diarrhea, testing multiple calves improves diagnostic evaluation by providing information on the prevalence of infection and the range of viral shedding in the herd.



**Fig. 2** Trends in calf diarrhea virus testing over the past 5 years.

The PCR tests for rotavirus and coronavirus were developed and validated in 2014/2015 and then offered as a diagnostic test in place of, or complementary to the FAT. In 2017, PDS developed a Bovine Diarrhea Panel, a suite of diagnostic tests for simple and comprehensive assessment of diarrhea cases. The PCR tests were included in the panel, becoming the primary tests for coronavirus and rotavirus. Thus, the number of PCR tests increased in 2018 and was similar in 2019. The frequency of detection of rotavirus tended to be in the 40% to 50% range over most years, but was higher in 2019, while the coronavirus detection rate was a bit lower (25%) over the past two years compared to 30–40% in previous years.

rate of RV and BCoV.

For additional reading materials, please see M. Ngeleka at al. PDS Animal

Perspective August 2019, vol 15(3), or Journal of Veterinary Diagnostic Investigation 2019, vol. 31(4) 611-615.

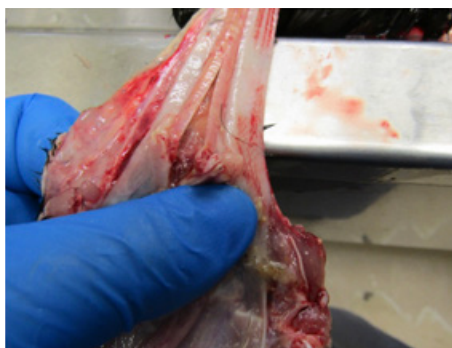
# Infectious Laryngotracheitis (ILT) in Small Farm Flocks; Uptick in Saskatchewan Cases in 2020

By: Shelagh Copeland, Veterinary Pathologist, PDS

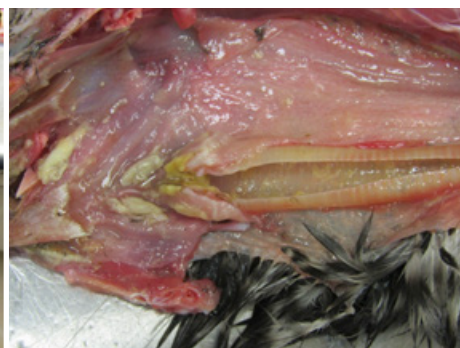
Images courtesy of Dr. Erin Zachar, Veterinary Pathologist, PDS



**Figure 1:** Dried discharge around eyes, nose and mouth



**Figure 2:** Acute form with hemorrhagic larynx and upper trachea



**Figure 3:** Subacute form with caseous material in mouth, larynx and upper trachea with wasting

In the first 6 months of 2020, four small farm flocks were found with ILT. From 2014 -2019, the average was one case/year (0-3/year). This is a significant concern as the disease can cause considerable losses from death and decreased egg production. It is a hardy virus and flocks may be infected by contaminated material including shoes, clothing, egg boxes, and used equipment. It is a herpes virus causing latently infected birds, which are also a common source of infection. **If the virus gets into Saskatchewan commercial flocks the infection can be devastating as they do not vaccinate against ILT.**

Chickens, pheasants, and peafowl are susceptible to ILT. At PDS, cases are usually seen in the spring, fall, and early winter. Birds are often 6 months or older though one case involved ~ 3-week-old chicks, which is the youngest usually affected. The virus attacks the upper respiratory tract and conjunctiva. Signs described by owners include sneezing,

wheezing, discharge from nose and eyes, mouth breathing, panting, coughing, swollen eyelids (one or both) to swollen heads, bubbly sore eyes, gummed up eyelids, decreased egg production, depression, and death (see Figure 1). Some flocks experienced disease within a week of new birds being introduced while others did not develop the disease until a few to eight months after the introduction of new birds. The source in these cases may be from reactivation in latent carriers or introduction by contaminated material. In one case, the flock had a recurring problem for 4 years. Signs caused by ILT are similar to those caused by Avian Influenza, Newcastle Disease, Infectious Bronchitis, and Wet Pox; necropsy and additional testing are required to confirm the cause.

References describe hemorrhage as a sign in the coughed up exudate but PDS submissions did not describe this. On post mortems at PDS tracheal changes ranged from

hemorrhagic membranes (see Figure 2), caseous yellow exudate to mucopurulent material (see Figure 3). In chronic cases, only roughened slightly congested trachea were seen. A few birds with more subtle changes were also tested and found positive for *Mycoplasma synoviae* and *Gallisepticum*. In chronic cases, the viral inclusions may also not be seen. PDS is nearing validation of a PCR for the virus (*Gallid herpesvirus type 1*; GaHV-1) which is very helpful to confirm the cause, especially in these chronic cases.

To understand where the disease is in the province, **ILT was made an immediately notifiable disease**. When detected in Saskatchewan, one must inform the province's Ministry of Agriculture within 24 hours; this is done by PDS if the birds are submitted to us. The veterinarian is contacted by the Ministry and provided recommendations. The current recommendation is to depopulate the flock by humane euthanasia and

to dispose of the birds in a biosecure manner that will not spread the disease. This will help prevent the spread of disease to other flocks. It will also prevent further suffering of affected birds. Slaughter or euthanasia of the birds can be difficult for owners who have them more for pleasure than as a business. The Humane Slaughter Association has a very good article on how to handle and humanely kill animals for consumption (<https://www.hsa.org.uk/downloads/publications/hsa-practical-slaughter-of-poultry.pdf>). **ILT is not a zoonotic disease and healthy birds can be eaten.** For sick animals or birds not going to be eaten, they can be heavily sedated first by an injection into the breast muscle followed by a lethal drug such as a barbiturate overdose into the heart. For some owners, this may be an option to consider. The premises can be cleaned as described at <https://thepoultrysite.com/articles/technical-update-infectious-laryngotracheitis-ilt>.

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# Western Canadian Animal Health Network (WeCAHN) launch: Joint announcement of the Chief Veterinary Officers for Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia and Prairie Diagnostic Services Inc.

*By: Yanyun Huang, Chief Executive Officer and Veterinary Pathologist, PDS (on behalf of the WeCAHN partners)*

We are pleased to announce the launch of Phase 1 of the development of the Western Canadian Animal Health Network (WeCAHN). This project is a collaboration of the four Western Canadian provinces, in partnership with the Regional Collaborative Partnerships Program, and funding support under the federal Canadian Agricultural Program Framework

Agreement. WeCAHN Phase 1 will be facilitated by Prairie Diagnostic Services, which will serve as the project home base and provide administrative and technical oversight of the project.

WeCAHN will coordinate and strengthen sectoral networks to enhance animal health and welfare outcomes, policy, and programs in Western Canada, and will

coordinate the efforts and the communication of the existing regional surveillance efforts that are in place. Acting as a counterpart to the Ontario Animal Health Network, Quebec RAIZO, and the proposed Atlantic Animal Health Network, WeCAHN will be an active contributor to the Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System (CAHSS) under the leadership of the

National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Council.

Dr. Barbara Wilhelm has been appointed as a WeCAHN coordinator and will be reaching out to all Western Canadian stakeholders to initiate the network activities. Dr. Wilhelm can be contacted for any questions, suggestions, and additional information at [barb.wilhelm@pds.usask.ca](mailto:barb.wilhelm@pds.usask.ca).

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## New Face at PDS

PDS is excited to welcome Mengying Liu to PDS. Mengying finished her veterinary program at the China Agricultural University (BAgr, Vet Med) in 2016. In the summer 2015, Mengying came to WCVI for an internship sponsored by Mitacs in a poultry lab and worked with Dr. Susantha Gomis (Head, Dept of Veterinary Pathology, WCVI). Welcomed by this warm and snowy city, Mengying returned to Dr. Gomis' laboratory right after completing her veterinary studies and started her MSc program on vaccine development against variant Infectious Bursal Disease Virus. Mengying has broad interests from painting to computer programming. In January 2020, Mengying worked part time for PDS as an automation research associate and started working full time after the successful completion of her MSc defence. Mengying is currently working on automation of various workflows in PDS.



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### READERS' FEEDBACK

The **Animal Health Perspectives** editorial team (Dr. Moira Kerr 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](mailto:moira.kerr@pds.usask.ca)) and they will be forwarded appropriately.



## WISHING YOU A SWIFT RECOVERY



**Baytril® 100 starts treating BRD\* in under 1 hour, so cattle get well soon.**

Bovine Respiratory Disease (BRD) threatens the health and earning-potential of your cattle. With proven BRD bacteria-killing activity<sup>1</sup>, Baytril® 100 concentrates in the lungs where it is needed most, getting cattle back on feed fast.

- In less than 2 hours, Baytril® 100 reaches therapeutic levels for common BRD pathogens
- After treatment, cattle feel better and return to feed
- Cattle are less likely to relapse, relative to most other treatments, when treated with Baytril® 100<sup>1</sup>

**Learn more at [Baytril100.ca](http://Baytril100.ca)**

\* via BRD pathogens: *M. haemolyticus*, *P. multocida*

<sup>1</sup> O'Connor et al. A mixed treatment meta-analysis of antibiotic options for bovine respiratory disease – An update. *Prev Vet Med* 132 (2016) 130-139.







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

## canadian veterinary medical association (CVMA)

### WE'RE WITH YOU EVERY STEP OF YOUR WAY

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

This information updates you on the CVMA's recent activities and resources benefiting our Saskatchewan members and across Canada.

#### WE HELP SHAPE NATIONAL POLICY AND LEGISLATION THAT AFFECT YOU

##### Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-2019)

We are in an unprecedented time in our country's history due to various threats posed by COVID-19. The CVMA wants to reassure members that their national association, in coordination with provincial veterinary medical associations and regulatory bodies, is in continuous contact with federal agencies to bring veterinarians the most current information to protect their clients, teams, and families. Please visit the CVMA's dedicated COVID-19 web page for up-to-date information, resources, and recorded webinars.

##### The CVMA Understands the Concerns You Have About Your Animals During This Challenging Time (video)

Please share CVMA President Dr. Melanie Hicks' public service announcement on your clinic web page and social media accounts.

##### CVMA's Veterinary Townhall Series – Navigating through COVID-19

CVMA has initiated a weekly "Townhall" webinar series aimed at all members of the Canadian veterinary community, offering guidance, answering questions, and addressing concerns regarding COVID-19. Visit the CVMA's dedicated COVID-19 web page for recorded webinars.

##### NEWS RELEASE: Canadian Veterinary Medical Association Reaffirms Stance on Stricter Dog Importation Rules after Dead Puppies Arrive on International Flight

The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) is once again calling on the federal government to implement stricter canine importation regulations after a flight from the Ukraine arrived in Canada carrying more than 500 animals, 38 of which were deceased puppies.

##### Have Your Say: Extension of Consultation on Changes to the Regulations for Hatcheries

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency

(CFIA) is extending the comment period for draft amendments to the Health of Animals Regulations relating to hatcheries. Industry members and the public are encouraged to review the proposed amendments and submit comments by September 30, 2020.

##### The CVMA will Host a Virtual Annual General Meeting

The CVMA will host its Annual General Meeting virtually through Zoom on July 17, 2020 at 2 p.m. EDT. Please check your emails for further instructions on how to join.

##### Canadian Veterinary Workforce Study

Summary of Key Findings. Read more.

##### CVMA Supports Diversity and Inclusion

The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) commits to diversity and inclusion and rejects discrimination or harassment based on grounds such as race, colour, ancestry, ethnic origin, place of origin, age, creed, religion, sex, gender identity, family status, marital status, or disability. We affirm that each human being is valuable and deserves to be treated with dignity and respect.

#### WE RECOGNIZE OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO VETERINARY MEDICINE

##### "It's Time to Applaud this Country's Volunteers"

Every April, National Volunteer Week honours the veterinary professionals who donate their time and expertise to various CVMA projects supporting Canada's veterinary profession. View this article that was featured in the CVMA website's News and Events section, the CVMA's eNewsletter, and the April issue of The CVJ highlighting volunteers' contributions, and ways to get involved. The CVMA would also like to thank the various volunteers who have stepped up during the current pandemic, providing invaluable contributions to our profession during this challenging time.

We extend a big, heartfelt thank-you to the CVMA's COVID-19 Working Group:

**Dr. Marc Catett**, Registrar and CEO of the Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association

**Dr. Christiane Armstrong**, CVMA National Issues Committee Council Liaison

**Dr. Serge Chalhoub**, CVMA National Issues Committee Member

**Mr. Doug Jack**, Partner at Borden Ladner Gervais

**Dr. Frank Richardson**, Nova Scotia Veterinary Medical Association Registrar

**Dr. Ian Sandler**, CVMA National Issues Committee Member

##### Animal Health Week – Zoonotic Diseases

The CVMA is proud to have celebrated Animal Health Week (AHW) across the country for 35 years! From October 4 – 10, 2020, the CVMA will raise awareness of Zoonotic Diseases. This year's theme, Understanding Zoonotic Diseases: Community Health – Animals and You, will showcase how Canada's veterinary professionals occupy unique positions within the national One Health community to support the fight against these diseases and how protecting animal health, protects everyone's health. Learn more about AHW and order merchandise online at [canadianveterinarians.net/practice-economics/animal-health-week](http://canadianveterinarians.net/practice-economics/animal-health-week). Take advantage of the Early Bird deadline, July 19, 2020! Ordering closes August 3, 2020.

##### Recorded Webinar: Navigating the Financial Implications of the COVID-19 Crisis on Veterinary Medicine in Canada

Dr. Ian Sandler moderated a webinar on Navigating the Financial Implications of the COVID-19 Crisis on Veterinary Medicine in Canada with presentations from Dr. John Tait and Dave Legault. This webinar was designed to aid veterinarians with various issues relating to the COVID-19 pandemic including tax and human resources concerns, personal portfolio management, new norms for business valuation and

transactions, nature of supply-based recessions and operational tips on value of discounts now and approaching recovery. Please find the recorded webinar additional tools in the CVMA COVID-19 web page.

#### **Recorded Webinar: COVID-19 Legal Perspectives: Workplace Issue**

Mr. Doug Jack, the CVMA VetLaw provider, facilitated a question and answer session after a webinar titled COVID-19 Legal Perspectives: Workplace Issues, presented by his law firm, BLG. The webinar explored topics such as temporary layoffs, constructive dismissal claims, work refusals for unsafe work, changes to Employment Insurance, and new statutory leave for quarantine.

#### **Recorded Webinar: Veterinary Telemedicine**

Dr. Serge Chalhoub led a webinar on Veterinary Telemedicine including a question and answer session on what it is and what you can do to get started. View the recorded webinar here.

#### **Recorded Webinar: Staying Psychologically Safe in the Face of COVID-19**

Dr. Kathy Keil, member of the ABVMA and CVMA Member Wellness Committees and a technical services veterinarian with Merck Animal Health, led a mental health webinar, Staying Psychologically Safe in the Face of COVID-19, informing veterinarians about community and social resources for their psych safety, practicing evidence-based mindfulness techniques, and how to be together with kindness for ourselves and each other. View the recorded webinar here.

#### **New WVA Council to Lead the Global Veterinary Profession Tackling Global Veterinary Concerns**

On April 7, 2020, the new-elected WVA Council began its two-year mandate under the leadership of the new WVA President, Dr. Patricia Turner, to bring the global veterinary profession together to promote the role of the veterinary profession, to tackle ongoing and emerging veterinary and public health concerns, to foster improvements and

harmonization in veterinary education around the world, and to raise awareness about key animal welfare issues. The new WVA Council was elected by the WVA Constituent Members to represent over 500,000 veterinarians through the WVA member associations across six continents.

#### **WE ADVOCATE ON YOUR BEHALF FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO ANIMAL WELFARE**

##### **Updated Transport of Animals Regulations and Humane Transport and Animal Welfare Resources**

The updated Health of Animals Regulations Part XII (Transport of Animals) came into force in February. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency has a dedicated web section with resources to help.

##### **Joint AVMA-FVE-CVMA Statement on the Roles of Veterinarians in Promoting Animal Welfare**

The AVMA, the FVE, and the CVMA recognize that sentient animals are capable of experiencing positive physical and emotional states (or feelings), including but not limited to comfort and pleasure, as well as negative states, such as pain, fear, and frustration. Accordingly, animals deserve appropriate care, consideration, and respect; that is, animals should experience both a good life and a humane death. The AVMA, FVE, and CVMA recognize that veterinarians—as knowledgeable and accountable professionals—have a duty to take advantage of multiple opportunities to advocate for animal welfare at the individual and community levels, as well as through membership in their professional associations.

##### **The CVMA updated its Free-Roaming Owned, Abandoned, and Feral Cats position statement**

- The CVMA endorses a One Health approach to the free-roaming cat issue that includes the acknowledgement of the ecological and environmental impacts, and public health risks associated with free-roaming owned, abandoned and

feral cats.

- The CVMA recognizes that adopting a One Health approach involves interdisciplinary collaboration with non-veterinary experts in the fields of ecology, public health, and human medicine to ensure the adoption of scientifically rigorous management approaches.
- The CVMA recommends that veterinarians discourage the unsupervised roaming of owned cats due to the health and welfare risks to individual cats, their potential contribution to the stray and feral populations, impacts on wildlife populations, and increased zoonotic public health risk.
- The CVMA supports evidence-based feral cat population management strategies that can effectively achieve declines at a population-level and over timeframes appropriate for the specific population. Managed feral cat colonies should not be located near wildlife areas, nor in areas where they can pose a public health risk. The CVMA prefers and encourages non-lethal alternatives, however it also supports euthanasia by qualified personnel who are trained and have shown competence in the use of veterinary approved euthanasia methods where non-lethal options are ineffective at population attrition or are justifiably impracticable.
- The CVMA supports further research to broaden and strengthen our evidence base on the most effective means to decrease and potentially eliminate the feral cat population.

Access all CVMA position statements on the Policy & Advocacy section of our website.

#### **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).

## **CLASSIFIEDS**

Check out the up-to-date Classifieds page on the SVMA website, where members can post ads of up to 200 words for three months, free. Submit an ad by using the link for the ad submission form on the SVMA website.

## **CHANGING YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION?**

### **MOVING?**

### **CHANGING EMPLOYERS?**

### **CLOSING A PRACTICE?**

**You must let the SVMA office know.**



## WCVM UPDATE



Dr. Gillian Muir

Western College of  
Veterinary Medicine

**F**irst, I want to share news about the WCVM's leadership team. On June 30, Dr. Doug Freeman stepped down from his role as dean of the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM) and went on administrative leave from the University of Saskatchewan (USask). After serving as the college's leader for two terms, Doug decided not to pursue a third term due to personal reasons.

We will miss Doug's enthusiasm for the WCVM. During his decade as dean, he expanded the college's international reputation for high-quality veterinary education, clinical services and research. In the past few years, he also played a key role in developing a new Interprovincial Agreement (IPA) in collaboration with USask and the WCVM's provincial partners — Sas-

katchewan, British Columbia and Manitoba. This longstanding agreement is now in the final stages of approval.

On July 1, I began a one-year term as the college's acting dean. If we haven't met at the WCVM or in other circles, here's an overview: I grew up in Alberta, graduated from the WCVM in 1988 and completed a PhD degree in neuroscience at the University of British Columbia before joining the WCVM faculty in 1996. I thoroughly enjoy teaching, and I plan to continue working with our veterinary students. I'm also a scientist whose work focuses on recovery after spinal cord injury. Besides serving as head for the WCVM's Department of Veterinary Biomedical Sciences for the past six years, I've been involved in renewing the WCVM's curriculum for its DVM program and in developing the college's strategic plan as part of the University Plan 2025.

While I expect this job to be challenging, I'm also looking forward to meeting many of the college's stakeholders across Western Canada, developing new opportunities for the WCVM, and working to build and sustain the college's many partnerships. If you have questions or concerns about the WCVM, please feel free to contact me ([gillian.muir@usask.ca](mailto:gillian.muir@usask.ca); 306-966-7448).

Here's a roundup of recent activities at the WCVM:

**ACADEMIC UPDATE:** Members of the Class of 2020 successfully finished their veterinary program and are now working in the profession. Students in Years 1 to 3 also finished their classes and final exams on time using remote services. Each class year will have a few hands-on clinical training exercises, labs or objective structured clinical examinations (OSCEs) to complete when they return on August 17. Year 4 students are also expected to begin clinical

rotations later this summer.

USask will use a variable approach to deliver fall 2020 courses; any classes that can be taught remotely will be delivered online. The university also recognizes that health science programs rely on a certain degree of in-person and hands-on teaching. Dr. Chris Clark, associate dean (academic), is working with committees of faculty members to define what course delivery will look like for each class year. In late June, the WCVM admissions team selected 85 students for the Class of 2024. In addition to seats supported by the WCVM's Interprovincial Agreement (IPA), the college also filled 25 open seats (not funded by the IPA) with western Canadian applicants.

**CLINICAL UPDATE:** During the first few months of the COVID-19 pandemic, the WCVM Veterinary Medical Centre remained open 24/7 for emergencies and urgent cases. The WCVM Field Service also continued providing essential care for large animals. On June 15, the VMC began increasing its clinical services to about 25 per cent of its regular capacity. In some areas, that percentage is higher where clinical services aren't reliant on other high-demand services. The VMC's reopening process will continue over the summer.

**RESEARCH UPDATE:** Dr. Liz Snead, associate dean (research and graduate studies), is supporting WCVM research teams whose members are approved to conduct certain aspects of their research on campus. Meanwhile, researchers at the Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization-International Vaccine Centre (VIDO-InterVac) continue to make good progress in developing a SARS-CoV-2 vaccine.

FOR MORE NEWS, VISIT [WCVMTODAY.USASK.CA](http://WCVMTODAY.USASK.CA) OR  
FOLLOW @WCVMTODAY ON TWITTER, FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM.

## ON CAMPUS AT THE WCVM

**T**his summer is sure turning out differently than any of us could have imagined. I hope you have all been able to make the most of it and stay safe.

Fourth-year students were able to breathe a collective sigh of relief when we found out that our clinical rotations will be held face-to-face in the fall. Life on-campus will still be very different than usual, with health precautions in place and limitations on who is allowed on campus. There are still many plans being made before we know exactly what the school year will look like for all years of the DVM program. Fall at the WCVM will be a learning experience all-around!

I am spending my summer gaining experience at the Lloydminster Animal Hospital. It's a mixed practice, but I have focused most of my time on small animal cases. Being on call regularly has been quite the experience! It has been really fun putting my clinical skills to the test – performing tons of physical exams, recalling information from the previous three years, communicating with clients, completing elective surgeries, converting classroom and lab learning into real-life skills, and so much more. I am absorbing as much information from the techs and vets as I possibly can! Interesting cases have included a cat with uveitis, a lamb with a hip luxation, a dog toe amputation, a cat with a uterine prolapse, and a dog with an aural hematoma. One of my favourite things this summer has been the cases where experienced vets say, "I haven't seen this before!" It's so cool that our profession is one where life-long learning happens regularly. I'm getting more and more excited for fourth year clinical rotations and life beyond school to continue learning daily as I build a career helping companion animals feel their best.

Due to the pandemic, there aren't summer rotations or the usual projects and overseas trips this year. Fourth-year students found alternative ways to get experience before starting our clinical rotations in the fall. It's a good thing mentorship is such an important part of our profession, as there are so many amazing clinics that open their doors to

students. I checked in with my classmates to see what they're up to this summer, and I also got a really cool case submission!

**Cassandra Brassard:** We had a 16-week-old puppy present for final set of vaccines, and I was helping with the physical exam and palpated something odd in the abdomen. The owner said everything had been going great but noticed she dribbles urine a lot. She didn't think much of it because it was a puppy and they pee! So we took her back for a quick FAST scan ultrasound and her left kidney was MASSIVE! Like massive. So we took an x-ray and it basically pushes the rest of the abdominal organs, so we ended up doing blood and everything was within normal limits. We referred to Saskatoon for contrast CT and surgery! We just haven't heard back yet about what they ended up conclusively finding.

**Courtney Orsen:** I'm working at a rural mixed animal clinic in Watrous, SK. It has been incredibly busy, and I am learning so much. The veterinarians and staff there are amazing and have been so helpful as I continue to develop new skills. **Jordan Shapera:** I'm working in an emergency clinic again and volunteering with a rescue to do spay/neuter days in my spare time!

**Cheryl Iliencko:** I'm working at the university's LAC this year. A super change for this small animal-oriented girl but third year made me love horses – I don't even recognize myself! Loving every minute though, especially when miniature horses and donkeys come in!

**Miranda MacDonald:** I'm working at a small animal clinic in Burnaby, BC and getting experience in both the appointment and surgery aspects. Both the techs and vets are really good about taking time to teach and answer questions!

**Rhiannon Beatty:** I'm currently working at Border Vet Clinic in Provost, Alberta, getting a truly mixed animal experience – lots of cow-calf and equine work. I've also been getting surgical experience helping with a feline spay neuter program for KC Rescue out of Unity, Saskatchewan. **Maddy Knodel:** I'm working in Swift



**Rayna Anderson, 2021**

Current in a mixed animal practice. I have mostly been on the large animal side of things. Calving has almost officially ended, and we are still busy with semen tests. Horse floats and castrations are starting to pick up! Also, the cacti are blooming here and they're gorgeous.

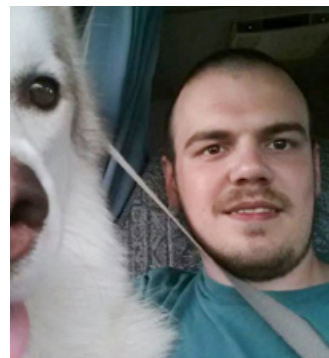
**Emily Smith:** Working as a summer student at the Veterinary Medical Centre in Saskatoon has proven to be a very different (albeit rewarding) experience than most years. With emergency and critical care services being prioritized, staff from various departments are doing a tremendous job collaborating to maintain the excellent standard of care our teaching hospital is known for. With a high caseload still maintained, there is no shortage of learning opportunities for students. The current unique situation has reminded me of the importance that teamwork, adaptability and maintaining compassion serve within the essential service that is veterinary medicine. I have been grateful to play my part during this trying time, all the while being equipped to deal with whatever challenges our amazing profession may experience in the future.

I couldn't say it better than Emily just did, so I'll leave it at that! This is my final update here, so you'll be hearing from a member of the Class of 2022 in the next issue. Once again, I am so proud of our profession for pushing through these difficult times and getting the job done. I am paws-itive we will get through this together!

## VT STUDENT UPDATE

It's definitely been a unique and somewhat chaotic finish to the year as a veterinary technologist student. Luckily, thanks to a great deal of work by our instructors and an outpouring of support from the SVMA, SAVT, and clinics around the province, things are more or less sorted out for the first and second years. The second year students are currently finishing up the very last pieces of their education and graduating, while the first years have finished out the remainder of our classes and the majority of our labs. Many of us that just recently finished up our first year of classes are happy for the break the summer offers, it's nice to be able to get away from our computers for a while! Some of us have taken the opportunity to go home for the summer, while others have stayed in Saskatoon to work at various clinics in and around the city. It's been great to see so many clinics being willing to support and hire not only second year students, but first year students as well. It's

a wonderful opportunity for us to get more experience and enhance our education. Moving forward to the fall, it feels that the structure of classes has been fairly sorted out throughout these trying months. While we'll still be taking all of our theory in an online format, Sask Polytech has received approval to have us do our labs on campus throughout the semester. As long as nothing changes between now and then, it will be nice to do labs while they are current and the material is fresh in our minds! I feel for the first years just starting their journey towards becoming RVTs in the fall however. Having the face to face time with fellow students and instructors before having to transition to online classes was a massive boon for those of us who have just completed our first year. With the upcoming first years missing out on that, any extra support and encouragement that can be sent their way will go a long way to making the beginning of their education less overwhelming! The support shown for



**Daniel O'Hara**  
Saskatchewan Polytechnic  
Veterinary Technology Student

students to date has been incredible, and has been uplifting and encouraging for us, and I know it will continue to be there for us. I couldn't be prouder of the choice I've made to work towards joining the ranks of the veterinary medicine industry in Saskatchewan in the future as a RVT.

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## REPORT FROM SASK POLYTECH

Dear Colleagues,

What a tumultuous and unprecedented 4 months in the Veterinary Technology Program at Saskatchewan Polytech. COVID arrived on Mar 17, 2020, when students still had a semester and a half to complete in the academic year. Through the amazing efforts of our versatile and dedicated faculty, we were able to convert the majority of our remaining first year Winter and Spring term classes to an on-line format, and received Ministry of Advanced Education and Ministry of Health approval to run limited in-person laboratories in the final weeks of June. Through a combination of virtual, at-home and in-person labs held at the Saskatoon Main Campus and Saskatoon SPCA, we were able to offer our first year students 86 hours of laboratory training per student during COVID in a manner that ensured social distancing, COVID-precautions and quality instruction.

Congratulations to our graduating Class of 2020! This class has shown amazing positivity, resilience and adaptability in the face of unprecedented change. These students were in the midst of practicums when the pandemic was declared. With

a lot of hard work and the support of clinic owners, veterinarians and RVTs, we were able to move forward with the final semester using a distance-learning format. A new curriculum was written based on the distance learning model that met all accreditation standards and curricular outcomes. Twenty-four students were hosted by 22 clinics located throughout the province, and under the mentorship of 63 RVTs and veterinarians who volunteered as Clinical Mentors, were able to complete their essential skills learning in anesthesia, surgical nursing and case management. In the background, we had a core group of faculty from Sask Polytech, along with Carolyn Cartwright, RVT, VTS (Anesthesia/ Analgesia), Michelle Ollenberger, RVT, and Jamie Webb, RVT, who spent many hours providing one-in-one and small group instruction in these essential skills. A heartfelt "thank you" goes to the many of you who contacted us in response to our reach-out in May for clinical placements – you opened up your clinics, your time and even your homes to our students. Your actions truly embody the proverb, it

takes a village to raise a child, and speaks to the amazing and supportive veterinary community in this province. Thanks to this community effort, the majority of the class will complete within one month of their original convocation date and be eligible for the summer Veterinary Technology National Exam (VTNE).

Looking to the fall, our program will welcome 24 new students to a blended teaching model that includes on-line, in-person and clinical components. We will be reaching out to clinics during the summer to discuss COVID-related changes to our first year clinical rotations and to discuss strategies to increase the number of rural practicums. As always, your feedback to our program is welcome.

To all our students, faculty and clinical mentors, have a wonderful summer and congratulations to the Class of 2020 as you embark on the next stage of your professional journey.

**Cemaine Tsang, DVM**  
Program Head  
Veterinary Technology Program  
Saskatchewan Polytechnic



## SASKATCHEWAN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

**T**his will be my last report as CVO, as I am transitioning to retirement by the end of September.

I figure if I tell enough people I am retiring, I will have to do so!

I certainly have mixed feelings, but I do know it is time to move on to something else.

I joined the Ministry of Agriculture in the Livestock Branch, as CVO, in July 2012, with an Animal Health Unit (AHU) staff of six. Over the ensuing years we have added another six, with transfer of the Food Policy and Food Safety Specialist and the game farm program into the Unit. I have worked with four different Executive Directors, five Assistant Deputy Ministers, two Deputies and two Ministers.

I must acknowledge the incredible staff of the AHU. They are innovative, dedicated and show great leadership and collaboration. The next CVO, and stay tuned for that announcement, is fortunate to work with such an incredible team. I also want to acknowledge the Ministry of Agriculture. They have been extremely supportive of animal health and welfare initiatives including establishment of animal disease surveillance and response programs; working with partners on an animal welfare strategy and an improved interagency response to animal welfare. They have promoted the importance of public trust in agriculture and the strong

role that improved animal welfare, disease prevention and emergency planning and a strong regulatory framework can play. The Ministry truly does live up to its values of client service, teamwork, accountability, innovation, and leadership at all levels, and I felt very at home there.

Developing new legislation is detailed and time consuming, so I was fortunate to work with those detail-oriented people to look after the finer points while I looked at the big picture.

The Animal Protection Act 2018 not only added mandatory reporting, it expanded the definition of "distress", added accountability for training and oversight of animal protection agencies and animal protection officers and added additional enforcement tools, such as Corrective Action Orders, and ways to ensure easier follow up of court orders.

The new Animal Health Act, 2019 replaced decades-old legislation and clearly established provincial reportable and notifiable disease lists, allows the CVO to issue animal health orders, such as biosecurity requirements or stop movement orders, allows for zoning for disease control and lays out inspection powers and their limitations.

New Regulations were written in 2014 for the domestic meat inspection program and the Domestic Game Farm Animal Regulations had numerous updates including



**Betty Althouse, DVM**  
Chief Veterinary Officer

a significant one in 2019 adding enforcement tools such as licence conditions and cancellation, and adding some flexibility to allow options for management of Chronic Wasting Disease on farm.

In disease surveillance and response, we developed anthrax and rabies control programs as CFIA transitioned out. A disease surveillance program was developed and then expanded. When PED emerged in 2014, the PED response and surveillance plan put in place, with industry and swine veterinarians,

remains effective in protecting the Saskatchewan swine sector from this devastating disease. The draft CWD plan is sufficient to respond to and manage CWD cases on game farms, while we continue to develop a finalized provincial CWD strategy, working with other Ministries in a One Health approach. We continue working with the federal government and with the swine industry to develop an African swine fever preparedness and response plan. It will be sad to leave these in an incomplete state, but I know that plans always continue to evolve and develop and others will ably continue the work.

It has been gratifying to work on national and provincial level animal health initiatives, with producers and veterinarians, experiencing the on-going challenges and seeing the gains.

It has been an honour and a privilege to serve this province and the veterinary profession in this capacity for the last 8 years or so. And I will always be a veterinarian, whatever else I may do!

*S McCarthy & Sons Service*

**ROB SYMCHYCK**, B.S.P.E, B.ED., C.C.P.E  
TERRITORY MANAGER, SASKATCHEWAN & MANITOBA

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# CLASSIFIED ADS

## VETERINARIAN WANTED

Fun and friendly veterinary practice is looking for an upbeat, outgoing and all-around-fun person to join our ever-evolving team. We are looking for our next Dr. Rockstar. Having started from a small mixed animal practice of 1 doctor and 1 technician and growing to where we are now (2.2 doctors, 2.5 techs and 2 CSR's), **Animal Health Centre of Melville** strives to provide optimal patient and client care and we can't keep up. We have chosen to work by the principles of work-life balance and teamwork. Everyone on the team has an important role to fill and, fortunately, we have a great support network here to make your life more efficient. While we know that experience makes you more knowledgeable, we also know that you can't get more knowledgeable without experience. We have been involved in the mentorship and preceptorship programs and have had 6 students in the past 10 years and loved every minute of teaching. If you're a hard working individual that is looking to have some laughs and enjoy your passion for veterinary medicine then you should send your resume and cover letter to Dr. Deana Schenher [ahcmelville@gmail.com](mailto:ahcmelville@gmail.com)

Looking for a new opportunity in the COVID 19 world? **The Owen Sound Veterinary Clinic** is searching for a small animal veterinarian. You will join an experienced team of two veterinarians and six RVT's. Our practice has all the little extras that make veterinary medicine more interesting and enjoyable- digital DR Xray, ultrasound, digital dental Xray, in-house lab. If this sounds like an opportunity for you, please send your resume to Dr. Marie McKibbin [mariemckibbin@gmail.com](mailto:mariemckibbin@gmail.com)

Qualifications: Steady character, with a good heart and a sense of humour. Interest in surgery and dentistry. Excellent patient care practices. Experience is preferred, but we are open to mentoring a new graduate

Benefits: Competitive salary. Generous personal pet care, VIN and CVO membership, Bonus potential, Health plan. Opportunity to buy in to the practice, for the right individual. Signing bonus to assist with moving expenses. Excellent work/life balance. Living on the doorstep of Georgian Bay, the Niagara Escarpment, Sauble Beach and Beaver Valley Ski Resort.

Explore our website for more information. <https://owensoundveterinary-clinic.com/>

Like to learn more about Owen Sound? <https://www.visitgrey.ca/>

**Corman Park Vet Services** is looking for a full-time mixed animal vet to join our mixed practice. We are located 10km west of Saskatoon and service clientele in and around Saskatoon.

We are seeking individual who is willing to expand their knowledge base and grow in their career. Ideal candidate would take on all cases regardless of species with passion and drive. Large and small animal cases as well as call are shared between all veterinarians. Experience is an asset but not a necessity and new grads are welcome. Wages are based on experience and benefit and CE packages given.

If you feel you are the candidate to join our team please send resume and cover letter to Dorrie at: [dorrie.cpv@gmail.com](mailto:dorrie.cpv@gmail.com).

We would love to invite you to become part of our team! **The Lloydminster Animal Hospital** is a well-established mixed animal practice located on the Alberta – Saskatchewan border in Lloydminster, half way between Edmonton and Saskatoon. Lloydminster has all the amenities expected in a city yet we are situated very close to some of the best recreational country in both provinces for outdoor activities. We strive to provide high quality service to all of our companion animal clients as well as our livestock producers in a busy and yet fun atmosphere. We pride ourselves on our ability to provide solid mentorship to our young veterinarians and allow our associates to explore avenues of the profession that excite them, as well as allowing for a strong work life balance. We strongly believe that a team atmosphere and collaborative working conditions benefit all. Our team of 7 veterinarians and full slate of support staff are here to aid in your success and hopefully make every day enjoyable. We are searching for an enthusiastic veterinarian with an interest in mixed or small animal practice and are willing to provide excellent mentorship in all disciplines. We have a full service main hospital facility with all of the usual toys and a smaller companion animal satellite clinic on the south end of Lloydminster. We have a very loyal

clientele of progressive livestock and equine clients and newly renovated facilities to be able to do most large animal calls in clinic. We offer a competitive wage, paid CE, group health insurance, coverage of ABVMA and SVMA dues, along with compensation for mileage and emergency call duties. For more information or to apply, please contact Joanne Freeman, Practice Manager, at 780.875.5733 or email [jfreeman@lah.ca](mailto:jfreeman@lah.ca).

**Lawson Heights Animal Hospital** is a busy, progressive 2-3 veterinarian small animal hospital in Saskatoon, SK. We are seeking to find 1-2 personable and confident veterinarians for permanent positions at our hospital. We focus on the client-pet bond and exceptional care. The candidates will enjoy a progressive environment combined with a balanced lifestyle. We offer competitive wages, medical benefits, paid dues and continuing education. Please forward resume to [LHAH\\_pcinc@yahoo.ca](mailto:LHAH_pcinc@yahoo.ca) and we can discuss the details of the positions offered.

**Erindale Animal Hospital (EAH)** is a locally-owned, independent, progressive practice in Saskatoon with a newly designed clinic that is devoted to the "Fear-Free" movement.

Our clinic culture has been carefully cultivated through cooperative working relationships, team building retreats, a collaborative approach to challenges and a "can do/will do" attitude. EAH offers unique partnership and future ownership possibilities for those veterinarians interested in being part of EAH's succession planning. The successful applicant will have a valid DVM from an accredited university and provincial licensing or ability to be licensed in SK.

We offer: mentorship, team medicine, paid CE allowance and association fees, group health benefits, insurance, competitive wages, employee pet discounts etc.

Testimonials...

*"I always look forward to coming to work and seeing all the smiling faces. Thank you for being so patient and understanding of me and always being so positive"*

*"I love everyone I work with, the clients and their pets"*

*"High quality medicine, up to date equipment, awesome staff"*

*"Working with you gives me confidence that I can diagnose and treat anything!"*

Please submit your resume with 3 references to [eahemployment@gmail.com](mailto:eahemployment@gmail.com). Only suitable applicants will be contacted. Thank you for your interest in EAH.

**Watrous Animal Hospital** is looking for a full-time associate to join our mixed animal practice. Our practice works with 50% small animal, 40% bovine (mostly cow/calf, little feedlot) and 10% equine as well as an occasional sheep, goat, pig or exotic. Opportunity exists to develop other specialties or individual interests. The clinic is well equipped with an in-house VetScan and HM5 analyzer, digital x-ray, powerfloat and fully equipped truck for farm calls. This job offers a competitive salary, medical/dental insurance, paid license dues (CVMA and SVMA), Group RSPs, staff discounts, and CE allowance. Watrous is located 1 hour east of Saskatoon. It is a growing community of 2000 with access to many surrounding parks and lakes. It is a great community for everyone, with many recreational activities and employment opportunities for significant others. Please direct inquiries or applications to Holly Couture 306.946.3657 or email [watrousanimalhospital@gmail.com](mailto:watrousanimalhospital@gmail.com)

**Full Time DVM for Newell Veterinary Services Brooks, AB**

We are looking for a mixed animal practitioner to provide exceptional patient care and client service in rural community practice. Diverse caseload with all species, current diagnostic equipment, mentoring within the practice and access to an experienced partner group. The practice team is strength based, highly competent and includes an outstanding support staff (RVT's, VMR, VTA) and experienced practice manager. Signing incentives, competitive wages, benefits, fair call rotations, continuing education and professional dues benefits are all part of the package. Ideally, this veterinarian will be well versed in working with all species in a brand new, spacious hospital.

NVS is owned by Mosaic Veterinary Partners who provides management and leadership support, mentoring, sharing of best ideas amongst a larger community and an opportunity to col-

laborate with like minded professionals committed to the special nature of mixed animal practice.

The area in and around Brooks is ideal for any outdoor enthusiasts with a large lake community close as well as being surrounded by a large ranching community. Brooks is a large town with many amenities and activities and is only an hour drive from the city of Calgary.

**The Livestock Branch in the Ministry of Agriculture** is seeking a self-motivated and dedicated professional to be part of the Animal Health Unit team to improve the health, quality and marketability of Saskatchewan's livestock and livestock products.

Eligible applicants will:

- have a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree and will be eligible to be licensed to practice in Saskatchewan; and
- have graduated from a recognized University program within the last three years or have less than three years' employment as a veterinarian or you are returning to practice as a veterinarian.

If you have a sound understanding of the livestock industry and issues related to animal health and welfare, and want to work with a highly skilled and well-informed team, this career opportunity may be of interest to you.

As the Animal Health Veterinarian Intern, you will participate in developing and implementing animal health surveillance and monitoring programs, assist with the delivery of regulatory programming for game farms, meat inspection and food safety and contribute to the development and delivery of animal welfare programming and activities in Saskatchewan.

Duties will include contract development; as well as contact and delivery of technical advice for communications, industry consultation, progress reporting, and receiving/generating reports. Other duties will include knowledge, interpretation and application of animal health and welfare legislation, conducting scientific literature reviews and preparation of correspondence related to animal health and welfare for senior management, producers and the general public.

Our candidate of choice will have

strong analytical, public relations and communication skills in order to resolve complex issues involving several competing interests. You must also possess strong organizational skills and the ability to manage a broad scope of issues under limited time-frames.

The successful candidate must be a team player, able to both lead and collaborate and demonstrate innovation in their work.

We are committed to workplace diversity. <https://govskpsc.taleo.net/careersection/10461/jobdetail.ftl?lang=en&job=CON001869>

### REGISTERED VETERINARY TECHNOLOGIST

We are seeking a full-time RVT's to join our team!

Our clinic is located in **Tisdale, Saskatchewan**. Our thriving community has a lot offer with all the amenities of a larger center including a great recreational facility, shopping, health care and schooling. Tisdale is close to many lakes and provincial parks. Larger centers that are close to Tisdale include, Melfort, Prince Albert, and Nipawin. For more information please visit [www.townoftisdale.com](http://www.townoftisdale.com) We are a busy, progressive, multi-vet/tech mixed practice. Our hospital is well equipped, and emphasizes client education, and exceptional patient care. A successful applicant will be compassionate, a team player, energetic and efficient. Experience with both large and small animals is an asset. New graduates are encouraged to apply.

Technicians have the opportunity to use their training to their full potential. Some of the different areas include using the complete in house Idexx lab equipment as well as CBC differentials, cytology and skin scrapings ; anesthesia (iv catheter placement, induction, monitoring with surgivet monitor, post-op care); digital radiography (portable unit as well as dental); assisting with endoscopies, as well as care and treatment for hospitalized patients, reception duties, and client education.

Please submit your resumes to Dr. Mike Evenson at [drskmsme@hotmail.com](mailto:drskmsme@hotmail.com). Resumes will be accepted until the position is filled.

**Watrous Animal Hospital** is looking

for a qualified Veterinary Technologist to fill a part time or full-time position available immediately.

Watrous Animal Hospital performs 60% small animal and 40 % large animal veterinary medicine. We have 3 Veterinarians, 3 RVT's, 2 Receptionists and an Office and Practice Manager

We are looking for a technician who is looking to further their career in rural practice. We encourage our employees to pursue their interests and develop specialties. The successful candidate will be an enthusiastic team player with a strong work ethic and excellent client communication skills.

We offer competitive salary (based on experience), CE allowance, clothing allowance, paid licensing dues, staff discounts, health & dental plan, group RSPs and most importantly... an enjoyable and supportive work atmosphere.

Please send resumes or direct inquiries to: Holly Couture, [watrousanimalhospital@gmail.com](mailto:watrousanimalhospital@gmail.com) 306.946.3657

We are looking to fill a position for a Registered Veterinary Technician, Veterinary Medical Assistant or Veterinary Office Assistant. We currently need a new team member with an outstanding personality and work ethic that loves being in the veterinary industry. Previous experience is preferred but not necessary. Wage will be dependent on education level. We have a full benefits package that we can offer our full time employees. Please send your resume, complete with references and a cover letter explaining why you want to work for our team. Applicants are encouraged to view our website at [www.melvillevet.com](http://www.melvillevet.com) or our Facebook page for more information on what we do and how we have fun at the **Animal Health Centre of Melville**. Position will commence sometime in August or when the right applicant is found.

### OFFICE STAFF WANTED

Animal Health Care Assistant **Near Regina, SK**. Salary \$14.00 to \$16.50 / hour (To be negotiated)

Vacancies: 1 Vacancy

Terms of employment Term or contract, Full time 40 to 55 hours / week

Employment conditions: On call, Overtime, Morning, Day, Evening,

Weekend, Flexible hours Working hours from 08:00 to 18:00

Job requirements: Languages English

Education: College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma from a program of 3 months to less than 1 year. Security and Safety. Criminal record check

Work Conditions and Physical Capabilities: Attention to detail, Handling heavy loads, Fast-paced environment, Bending, crouching, kneeling

Personal Suitability: Team player, Excellent written communication, Flexibility, Reliability, Excellent oral communication, Effective interpersonal skills, Dependability

Additional Skills: Keep records of animals treated, Maintain and order supplies. Animal Specializations. Domestic animals/pets (cats, kittens, puppies, dogs, etc.), Horses.

Pet Grooming Specific Skills: Bathing/ shampooing

Animal Care Specific Skills: Prepare food and feed animals, Clean and disinfect cages, pens, aquariums, kennels, runs, stall and enclosures, assist with inoculation and treatment of animals, Monitor and document animal behaviour

Apply by email: [jlt491@mail.usask.ca](mailto:jlt491@mail.usask.ca)

We are looking for a responsible, hard-working, and dependable Veterinary Office Assistant/Receptionist to start full-time in August/September 2020. We are a small animal practice located near the growing neighborhood of **Rosewood in Saskatoon**. We are getting busier and need someone to help take care of our clients at reception as well as other office/ clinic duties. We view our clients and their pets as part of the family, and are looking for someone who can offer empathy and kindness to our clients every day. Experience in a veterinary setting is an asset, but not required if candidate is a quick learner! Please email or drop-off resume and cover letter to Anique at [info@woodridgevet.ca](mailto:info@woodridgevet.ca).

### PRACTICE FOR SALE

Clinic for sale in picturesque rural Saskatchewan. Ideal for individuals interested in outdoors activities. Serious inquiries. Please phone 306.862.8526



# CANWEST VETERINARY CONFERENCE

2020

OCTOBER 17–20

## PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

This program is tentative and is subject to change.

### COMPANION ANIMAL

Gastroenterology, Dr. Katie Tolbert  
Nephrology and Urinary Tract Disease,  
Dr. Catherine Langston  
Neurology, Dr. Leah Cohn

### EQUINE

Respiratory Medicine, Dr. Julia Montgomery  
Lameness, Dr. Sherry Johnson

### FOOD ANIMAL

This year's topics will include:  
Emerging Diseases, Pathology,  
Pharmacology, Practice Management,  
Antimicrobial Resistance, Breeding  
Soundness and Ruminants.

Speakers: online at  
[www.canwestconference.ca](http://www.canwestconference.ca)

### VETERINARY TEAM

Team Wellness, Josh Vaisman  
Inventory and Pricing, Dr. Karen Felsted  
Animal Welfare – Considerations for Mandatory  
Reporting, speakers: Dr. Duane Landals, Dr. Phil  
Buote, Dr. Margaret Doyle, Dr. Nick Nation

### VETERINARY TECHNOLOGIST

Emergency and Critical Care, Andrea Steele, MSc,  
RVT, VTC (ECC)  
Livestock Animal Welfare, Dr. Eric Behlke  
Reptile/Amphibian Welfare, Michele Hamers  
Shelter Medicine, Dr. Alex Ellis

### OTHER EVENTS

- Pre-conference wet labs
- ABVTA pre-conference CE: Caring for Others, Dr. Kathleen Keil
- ABVTA Annual General Meeting
- CanWest Yoga
- New this year – Meditation Lounge



Clinical Education, Communication and Practice Management Skills...  
**FROM THE COMFORT OF YOUR HOME!**  
CANWEST WILL BE HOSTED VIRTUALLY THIS YEAR.  
FULL PROGRAM DETAILS & REGISTRATION COMING THIS AUGUST  
[CANWESTCONFERENCE.CA](http://CANWESTCONFERENCE.CA)

# ClientVantage™

Brought to you by WDDC

eCommerce solution  
for your clinic

Convenient  
anywhere  
ordering

MOBILE PHONE  
AND TABLET  
FRIENDLY

For more information about:  
ClientVantage visit [clientvantage.ca](http://clientvantage.ca)  
or any Vantage suite program, contact us at  
**877-746-9332 780-413-2163** [mservice@wddc.com](mailto:mservice@wddc.com)

## Revenue building technologies for your practice

- Complimentary to participating WDDC members.
- Hosting provided by WDDC.
- Fully customizable; offering various themes to set your site apart.
- You have full control of what is presented to your clients. Three options for client delivery.
- Utilize as your clinic website or use strictly for eCommerce orders.



"Your success is our business"



## MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

### VETERINARIAN

#### GENERAL

Becker, Nicole ..... 07/13/20

#### SABBATICAL TO GENERAL

Leis, Marina ..... 07/01/20

#### T-LIMITED GENERAL TO GENERAL

Clooney, Breanna C.L. .... 06/24/20

#### T-GENERAL

Anderson, Tanya F. .... 06/09/20  
Bos, Olivia ..... 06/01/20  
Bushell, Evelyn ..... 07/20/20  
Davis, Brittany ..... 07/13/20  
Frazer, David ..... 02/04/20  
Harvey, Genevieve ..... 05/19/20  
Hautcoeur, Brigitte ..... 05/04/20  
Hay, Allison ..... 06/01/20  
Hodgson, Justin ..... 05/04/20  
Ioannou, Kathleen A.C. .... 04/29/20  
Meschkat, Christina ..... 05/04/20  
Pederzoli, Rae-Leigh ..... 05/18/20  
Pokraka, Michal ..... 06/29/20  
Ross, Kayla A. .... 07/01/20  
Ross, Grayson B. .... 05/04/20

Schaefer, Nicola K. .... 05/21/20  
Scherer, Corben ..... 06/10/20  
Tenkink, Jasmine ..... 05/28/20  
Westendorf, (Augusta) Jane ..... 07/01/20

#### SHORT TERM

Hanak, Eryn ..... 30 day,  
07/01/20

#### T-LIMITED GENERAL

Dhakal, Subash ..... 07/13/20  
Gacioch, Amanda ..... 06/15/20  
Gillis, Ives H.R. .... 04/27/20  
Johnson, Paige ..... 06/01/20

#### T-LIMITED SHORT TERM

Watson, Elizabeth ..... 30 day,  
08/17/20

#### T-EDUCATIONAL

De Paula Freitas, Fernando ..... 06/24/20  
Focken, Alexandra P. .... 06/24/20  
Frey Belotta, Alexandra ..... 06/24/20  
Guardado, Fernando ..... 06/24/20  
Hech Pereira de Souza, Bruna ..... 06/24/20  
Lucyshyn, Danica ..... 07/15/20

Nadbrzezna, Cheyenne ..... 06/24/20  
Paulin, Mathieu V. .... 06/24/20  
Preiswerk, Andrea ..... 08/01/20  
Saunders, Olivia M. .... 06/24/20  
Schlag, Ariel ..... 07/15/20  
Scifo, Ashley E. .... 06/24/20  
Togawa, Go ..... 06/24/20  
Viviani, Paula ..... 06/24/20  
Vogt, Debora ..... 02/10/20

#### GENERAL TO SABBATICAL

Schutz, Amanda ..... 07/01/20

#### RESIGNED

Henderson, Kirsten ..... 05/13/20  
Hung, Wan-Chu ..... 07/01/20  
Lu, Ming ..... 07/01/20  
Shin, Pei-Tzu ..... 07/02/20  
Siddle, Matthew ..... 07/01/20  
van den Heuvel, Connie ..... 06/26/20  
Wilcox, Parker ..... 06/30/20

#### DECEASED

Balzer, Thizbe ..... 04/21/20  
Just, Harvey H. .... 05/01/20  
Pawlyshyn, Vladimir P. .... 06/30/20

### VETERINARY TECHNOLOGIST

#### T-ACTIVE TO ACTIVE

Addley, Paytan ..... 06/02/20

#### PROVISIONAL TO ACTIVE

Johnson, Steffanie ..... 06/17/20

#### PROVISIONAL

Zaleschuk, Emily ..... 05/25/20  
Plett, Makyla ..... 05/27/20  
Baldwin, Chelsey ..... 05/27/20  
Noll, Jaclyn ..... 05/27/20  
Henheffer, Carlie ..... 06/04/20  
Sperling, Brittney ..... 06/05/20  
Stewart, McKenna ..... 06/10/20  
Lavallee, Lauren ..... 06/22/20

#### STUDENT

Nargang, Mallory ..... 04/22/20

#### RESIGNATION

Janzen, Vanessa ..... 05/27/20  
Laing, Levi ..... 06/30/20  
(student membership expired)  
Gooding, Caitlin ..... 06/30/20  
(student membership expired)



# The SVMA website has a new look!

**CHECK IT OUT!**  
**[www.svma.sk.ca](http://www.svma.sk.ca)**

The SVMA website has gotten a facelift. All the same features are there, with many great improvements coming in 2020.

SVMA is updating its communication with you. Along with our 'fresh face', there will be online renewals coming for 2021 and other improvements to make the web experience more user-friendly for members.

In addition, the new website will be part of a coming campaign to showcase the Saskatchewan veterinary profession to the public.