



THE COLLEGE OF
VETERINARIANS
OF ONTARIO

UPDATE

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President's Message

by *Michele Dutnall, DVM*

Most of the public believe that veterinarians are people who care for their animals—be they pets or livestock—without realizing that veterinarians play important roles in human public health, as well. Many practitioners, including myself, occasionally lose track of the importance of public health protection through the work of government and institutional veterinarians around the world.

Recently the World Veterinary Congress was hosted in Vancouver by the CVMA. Their logo was “Celebrating Our Diversity,” and at the keynote address, the importance of veterinarians in public health around the world was highlighted.

We in North America have had several recent reminders of where veterinary medicine intersects with public health protection as a result of BSE, avian influenza, and West Nile Virus. In many other parts of the world, veterinarians are still dealing with the very real problem of rabies causing 55,000 human deaths per year because prevention through inexpensive animal vaccination is simply not done.

In our routine companion animal practices in Ontario, we protect the public every day through education on a number of public health issues; we discuss matters such as the zoonotic risk of internal and external parasites to pet owners, help prevent dog bites through behaviour consults, as well as reminding people of the importance of keeping rabies vaccination current.

In food animal practice, we protect the public by assisting in the production of quality milk, meat and other food products, and through prudent use of antibiotics. Veterinarians who work in various levels of government, deal directly with public protection at slaughterhouses, regulation of import/export food animal pathways, licencing of pharmaceuticals, and so on.

Attending meetings such as the World Veterinary Congress helps to remind me of the importance of what my profession contributes to society and the responsibility that we take on with our licence, be it something as “simple” as signing a government form or as “routine” as explaining worms to that new pet owner with children.

As the profession is faced with new issues, so is the CVO. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Registrar and staff for their outstanding work staying on top of issues as they arise. This allows the Council to be well informed when setting policies that will govern the profession today and as the profession evolves. I have enjoyed my one-year tenure as President and encourage other veterinarians around the province to get involved with the CVO. It is not only an opportunity to give back to your profession, but an excellent avenue for education and awareness of the veterinary profession beyond our own practices or offices.

REGISTRAR'S MESSAGE



by Susan J. Carlyle
Registrar

For most of us, the beginning of a new year really has very little connection with January 1st. September is the real beginning, and we habitually spend the last half of each summer getting ready for it.

The CVO is no exception. Since the last issue of *Update*, we have been working hard to move our ongoing projects forward and begin numerous others, so that we are prepared for a busy fall.

■ Our database redesign is on track; we experienced the first active demonstration in July and were very pleased with the flexibility of the new system. Members should be seeing results as soon as next spring in terms of on-line services.

■ Ontario's Fairness Commissioner has issued the first-ever comprehensive study of registration and licensing in Ontario's regulated professions. The summary report was released June 26, 2008. The report and all studies about individual professions, including veterinarians, can be reviewed at www.fairnesscommissioner.ca.

■ In accordance with the Commissioner's requirements, CVO has volunteered to be among the first of Ontario's regulated professions to undergo an audit of our registration process under the Fair Access to Regulated Professions Act (FARPA). The auditor is in place and the work has begun. From now on, all regulated professions in this province (and eventually all provinces across Canada) will be subject to such an audit every few years.

■ We are also engaged in talks with various Ministries and government agencies regarding the concept and practical realities of self-regulation. Topics include labour mobility, access to the professions, advertising, and animal welfare. We will keep you informed as we go along, and we will be looking for your input.

■ Plans for a communications-themed Members' Forum for November 2008 are proceeding. This event will be held in conjunction with the Annual General Meeting. Watch for details on our website.

■ Staff is working with a group of volunteer members to review the annual renewal and CE form for this year's package. The group is also working, at the request of the Quality Assurance Committee, on recommendations for the development of a "Professional Development Portfolio" for members, which will help you track and evaluate your own continuing professional development.

■ At Council's direction, staff is:

- (a) continuing work on the Dentistry Position Statement;
- (b) starting work on a draft Guideline on Informed Consent;
- (c) incorporating input from stakeholders on the Euthanasia Guideline; and
- (d) beginning a policy analysis on naming issues for facilities that accept referrals only.

■ The CVMA/World Congress meeting in July was a welcome opportunity to meet with many of our members, as well as with the National Examining Board and the Registrars of all the other veterinary regulators in Canada. There are numerous common issues for us, and it is wonderful to be able to discuss them face to face.

■ If you ever have a question or need advice, the staff is available to provide help on a wide range of topics and issues, as well as assistance in interpreting College position statements and guidelines. See the staff directory on the opposite page.

The CVO hopes everyone had a great summer and that you greet the real "New Year" with renewed energy.

As always, we welcome your comments and opinions on anything you believe is relevant to the practice of veterinary medicine.

Staff Directory

Susan J. Carlyle, Registrarext. 2226
Martin Fischer, Investigator/Practice Resource Officerext. 2238
Karen Gamble, Administrator, Registration and Incorporationext. 2228
Louise Hamilton, Accreditation Coordinatorext. 2230
Don Huston, Accreditation Inspectorext. 2230
Chris Lana-Sarrate, Assistant to Complaints and Disciplineext. 2233
Beth Ready, Communications & Executive Committee Coordinatorext. 2224
Brian Redpath, Accreditation Inspectorext. 2230
Rose Robinson, Manager, Complaints and Disciplineext. 2227
Christine Simpson, Assistant Registrarext. 2225
Karen Smythe, Policy and Quality Assurance Program Managerext. 2237
Donna-Jean (DJ) Vandongen, General Coordinatorext. 2221
Mary Wyness, General Coordinatorext. 2240

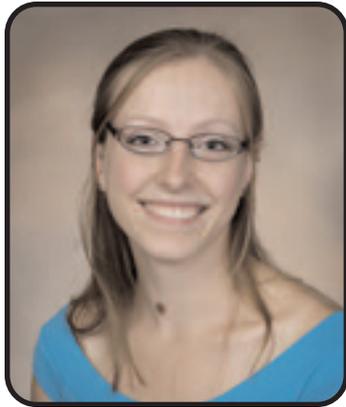
College of Veterinarians of Ontario Award



Susan Carlyle, CVO Registrar, presented Katharine Woods, OVC 2008, with the College of Veterinarians of Ontario Award on June 12, 2008.

The CVO Award is given to a final-year student who has been active and shown leadership in college or university affairs. The recipient is selected by a vote of the class.

Congratulations Katharine!



My Summer at CVO

by Elizabeth Goodale

Looking for a good summer job can be a stressful and often disappointing experience. Aside from the usual job-hunting woes of unanswered résumés and nerve-racking interviews, it can be difficult to find a job that consists of more than sweeping and photocopying. After thinking that I was never going to find the perfect summer job, I struck gold when I read the CVO job posting and was subsequently hired by the CVO.

The summer student position at the CVO provided me with a great opportunity to learn more about the policies and regulations that will eventually govern my practice of veterinary medicine when I graduate in 2011. By sitting in on many meetings for committees, council, working groups and even discipline hearings, I've seen the many different facets of the CVO operation. In Accreditation Committee meetings, I learned how important the wording of documents can be, how clear the standards must be, and how each person may interpret them differently if they are not worded clearly. Being a part of working groups and sitting in on Council meetings has given me insight into how much work goes into developing policies and

even simple forms. Complaints Committee meetings and Discipline hearings have taught me the importance of good communication and how essential it is to understand the many regulations governing veterinary practice. I've also learned more about the process of becoming licensed in Ontario.

Not only have I learned a lot this summer, but the CVO staff has been great. They have been extremely friendly, helpful and an amazing source of information. They happily answered any questions I had and they made the CVO a great work environment. (They even managed to make my interview a less than scary experience). After this summer, I am certainly eager to pursue a continued involvement with the CVO. I also intend to share what I've learned with my classmates and perhaps I can spark their interest in the CVO.

Overall this has been a great experience and I hope that the CVO continues to offer this position to students for many years to come.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

In order to keep members and the public fully apprised of the business of the College, *Update* provides summaries of key items considered or heard by Council at its meetings. The following highlights are from the Council Meeting held on **June 11, 2008**.

June 11, 2008

Policy Reviews

The following documents/by-law amendments were reviewed, approved, or amended and approved by Council:

- The draft document Guidelines “**Euthanasia**” was approved for circulation to stakeholders for comment.
- The Position Statement “**Veterinary Dentistry**” was reviewed in conjunction with comments received from stakeholders and staff was directed to amend the document and return it to Council.
- Discussion of the Position Statement “**Practice of Complementary and Alternative Veterinary Medicine**” was deferred to the September meeting of Council.
- A **Policy Issue Review Form** was drafted and staff was directed to develop Guidelines for “**Informed Consent**.”
- The Council Handbook Policy “**Expert Witness/Witness Remuneration**” was passed.

The following addition to the By-Laws was passed and enacted:

- Clause 41.(1)(k) to Part 8 of the By-Laws (Fees and Collecting Information - Professional Development Activities)

A current copy of the By-Laws can be found on the College website under “CVO Legislation.”

Presentation

Dr. Avery Gillick, accompanied by legal counsel, Mr. Doug Jack, presented a proposal for regulating veterinary referral hospitals in Ontario with a view to creating a new 'facilities designation' for animal referral hospitals and to permit the use of the word “referral” in the hospital name. Staff was directed to develop a policy analysis regarding amending accreditation facility designations for Council’s consideration.

Reports

- Reports were provided by the President and Registrar.
- A Budget Variation Report for 7 months ending April 2008 was presented for information.

MEMBERS' FORUM / ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The College of Veterinarians of Ontario invites all members to attend the Members' Forum titled

“WE CAN WORK IT OUT”: *case studies in communication*

Come and join the open discussion and contribute to the development of a workshop on communication issues by attending this forum with your peers.

To be held on **Thursday, November 20, 2008** at
Springfield Golf and Country Club
2054 Gordon Street, Guelph
(beside the CVO building)

Registration and coffee	9:30 a.m.
Annual General Meeting	10:00 a.m.
Members' Forum	10:45 a.m.
Working Lunch	12:00 p.m.
Members' Forum Wrap-up	1:15 p.m.

Please register for the Members' Forum by **November 5, 2008** with Beth Ready at 1-800-424-2856 x2224 or email bready@cvo.org.
(There is no charge for this presentation)

Don't forget to include your attendance on your Annual Renewal as part of your ongoing Continuing Professional Development (CPD)!

Restricted Titles

The College of Nurses of Ontario (CNO) recently advised that a member of the College of Veterinarians of Ontario (CVO) had inquired about the use of the title “nurse” as a designation of an auxiliary in a veterinary setting.

Please note that the titles of Nurse, Registered Nurse, and Registered Practical Nurse, and any variation or abbreviation thereof, can only be used by members of the College of Nurses of Ontario.

From the Nursing Act, 1991:

Restricted titles

11. (1) No person other than a member shall use the title “nurse”, “nurse practitioner”, “registered nurse” or “registered practical nurse”, a variation or abbreviation or an equivalent in another language. 2007, c. 10, Sched. B, s. 14 (1).

Exception

(2) Despite subsection (1), a person may use the title “Christian Science nurse” or “graduate nurse”, a variation or abbreviation or an equivalent in another language. 1991, c. 32, s. 11 (2).

Restricted title

(3) No person shall use the title “nursing assistant” or a variation or abbreviation of it. 1991, c. 32, s. 11 (3).

Offence

13. Every person who contravenes subsection 11 (1), (3) or (5) is guilty of an offence and on conviction is liable to a fine of not more than \$25,000 for a first offence and not more than \$50,000 for a second or subsequent offence. 2007, c. 10, Sched. B, s. 14 (3).

Individuals who refer to themselves as nurses in Ontario without being registered with the College of Nurses of Ontario are called “illegal practitioners” and can be prosecuted under the *Nursing Act* and the *Regulated Health Professions Act*.

Please contact the CVO if you have any questions.

“Inbox Issues” is a feature of *Update* that answers questions the CVO receives from members or the public. The College welcomes suggestions for issues to explore in future editions of “Inbox Issues,” so please submit your ideas to bready@cvo.org for consideration.

Brokering Veterinary Services is Unlawful

In a previous issue of *Update*, the College alerted members that some business corporations that sell pet funeral and cremation services were also “brokering” euthanasia services, by engaging veterinarians to provide the service as part of funeral packages sold to pet owners. As we indicated, veterinarians providing these services are at risk of prosecution for professional misconduct for assisting a non-veterinarian or corporation in offering veterinary services unlawfully. Veterinarians must remain in charge of any and all veterinary services performed directly by them (or under their supervision).

Veterinarians cannot offer any services to animal owners through a lay-person as an intermediary, and non-veterinary organizations cannot offer any veterinary services to the public. This is considered the “Corporate Practice of veterinary medicine” and is prohibited under the *Veterinarians Act*.

The College has recently learned that some animal rescue groups may be “brokering” spay/neuter services, offering them to the general public through an arrangement whereby a member of the group (1) picks up a privately owned animal, then (2) takes it to

the veterinarian who routinely offers services to the rescue group, to perform the surgery (under the assumption that the animal belongs to the group), and (3) returns the pet to the owner. The group pays the veterinarian, and the owner pays the group for the service; the owner and the veterinarian do not have a VCPR.

Members are urged to confirm that animals brought in by rescue groups are indeed owned by the group, and not privately. Make clear that the practice of offering spay/neuter services through them to the general public is illegal, and could lead to the prosecution of both the veterinarian and the animal rescue group. If you don’t know or aren’t sure who owns any animal being presented to you for treatment, ask. It is your responsibility to uphold the law and protect the public (and yourself) from becoming involved in unlawful enterprises.

Internet Pharmacies

The College regularly receives calls from both members and the public regarding the legality of dealing with Internet pharmacies. Members want to know if they should be responding to Internet pharmacy requests to confirm that a prescription was issued, and the public wants to know if they can fill their veterinary prescriptions on-line.

CVO regulates its members' practice of veterinary medicine in Ontario, including the issuance of prescriptions and the dispensing of drugs, but the regulation of pharmacies—in Ontario or elsewhere—is not within the jurisdiction of the CVO or its members. If a pharmacist fills an out-of-province, out-of-state, or out-of-country prescription through the Internet, and in doing so contravenes the rules of his own professional regulations for his/her jurisdiction, then it is up to the pharmacy regulator in that jurisdiction to take the appropriate action.

Section 26 of Ontario Regulation 1093 states:

26. *If a member decides to treat an animal with a drug and either does not dispense it or is asked by the owner for a prescription, the member shall give a written prescription to the owner or offer to give an oral prescription acceptable to the owner to a pharmacist or to another veterinarian in accordance with subsection 33 (1.1).*

From the College's perspective, if a veterinarian gives a written prescription to an owner who then contacts an Internet pharmacy to fill it, and if the Internet pharmacy contacts the veterinarian to confirm the validity of the prescription, the veterinarian is obligated to provide the information as per the owner's wishes. In this case the client is essentially making a request under Section 26. That said, veterinarians providing prescriptions should always counsel their clients that they should, for the sake of their animal, ensure they obtain the drug from a reputable and regulated pharmacist. At that point it is the client's choice, however, where they will have the prescription filled.

Non-veterinary Ownership of Facilities and Veterinary Management Services

The College has recently received inquiries from a number of sources regarding the non-veterinary ownership of veterinary facilities, as well as the structuring of “veterinary management services.” An emerging trend involves a non-veterinary company purchasing the real property assets (building, equipment) of a veterinary facility, and then leasing those assets back to the veterinarian, and entering into an agreement whereby the company provides managerial assistance in operating the non-veterinary portion of the practice (staffing, accounting, inventory, advertising, maintenance, utilities, etc.) for a fee.

The *Veterinarians Act* does not prohibit a non-veterinarian from owning the real property of a veterinary facility, and leasing that property to a licensed veterinarian, subject to the provisions contained in ss. 42(2)(a) of the regulations:

- (2) *A member has a conflict of interest where the member, or a related person, or an employee or employer of the member, directly or indirectly,*
 - (a) *enters into any agreement, including a lease of premises, under which any amount payable by or to a member or a related person is related to the amount of fees charged by the member;*

This means that the veterinarian is free to enter into a lease agreement with a landlord, for a building and/or equipment—so long as the lease agreement is for a set amount, and as long as that amount is not based on revenues generated by the veterinarian.

The non-veterinary company cannot own or control the clientele, client list or “goodwill” of the business.

These assets must remain owned by, and in the control of, a licensed veterinarian. In addition, other assets related directly to the veterinarian’s professional services, such as client records and drug inventory, must remain the responsibility of and under the control of the veterinarian.

In Ontario, it is unlawful for a non-veterinarian to offer veterinary services to the public. This includes businesses where a corporation employs a veterinarian to provide those services on behalf of the corporation. The regulations contain specific exemptions to this, which include the Crown, limited institutional and corporate entities related to education, livestock feed and medications, municipal corporations, in the case of spay/neuter clinics, the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, which was grandfathered under the *Veterinarians Act, 1989*, and Gencor, for ova and embryo transfer purposes. Any other provision of veterinary services on behalf of a corporate entity would be considered professional misconduct on the part of the veterinarian, as well as the unlawful practice of veterinary medicine on the part of the corporation, which is an offence under the *Veterinarians Act*.

The College strongly cautions veterinarians who wish to become involved in such financial arrangements to consult with a lawyer and/or accountant who is familiar with the *Veterinarians Act* and its Regulations, and reminds veterinarians that they are 100% responsible for their conduct, and for any financial arrangements they may enter into.

For more information on Veterinary Management Services, see the Info Sheet at www.cvo.org under the “Practice Guidance” tab.

Volunteers Sought

In Ontario, animal welfare is the responsibility of the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services (MCSCS). The Provincial Working Group on Animals in Emergencies (PWGAE) within the Ministry is currently developing a comprehensive and strategic approach to caring for animals in emergencies as part of the province's overall emergency management plan.

The Working Group currently includes representation from several provincial government ministries as well as the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA); the College of Veterinarians of Ontario (CVO); the Ontario Veterinary Medical Association (OVMA); and the Ontario Association of Veterinary Technicians (OAVT).

Goals of the PWGAE include:

- Recruiting volunteers to the Animals in Emergencies (AIE) program and assembling an inventory of volunteer skills;
- Providing volunteers with information about emergency management in Ontario;
- Developing specialized training for AIE volunteers; and
- Involving volunteers in local emergency-simulation exercises and planning.

Veterinarians interested in becoming involved in the AIE program are encouraged to contact the OVMA, which will compile a list that will be managed by the OSPCA. To volunteer, call Angela Cerovic at the OVMA, at 1-800-670-1702 or email at: acerovic@ovma.org.

Annual Renewal Forms for 2009

Due on November 30, 2008

Licence fees and renewals are due no later than November 30, 2008. Please notify the CVO office if you do not receive a renewal form/invoice prior to the end of October, 2008.

Please contact Ms. Karen Gamble, Administrator, Registration and Incorporation, if you have any questions, at extension 2228 or email kgamble@cvo.org.



LEARNING TO PLAN, PLANNING TO LEARN

by Dr. David Kerr, Chair of the
Quality Assurance Committee

Continuing education is a hot topic in veterinary medicine and not only in Ontario. There are a number of provinces which have a mandatory continuing education (CE) requirement for their member veterinarians. Under the *Regulated Health Professions Act* (RHPA), which governs all of Ontario health professionals, continuing education is a mandatory component of the individual college Quality Assurance programs.

The CVO, partly in answer to survey data obtained from members, has been looking closely at CE—its various formats, its impact on practice, its role in the protection of the public, and its effect on the public's perception of the profession—for a number of years. Readers of *Update* know that the Quality Assurance Program of the CVO is evolving and that new program components are being developed to support members in their learning activities. CE is just one part of continuing professional development (CPD).

Most veterinarians currently engage in CPD on a regular basis. The purpose of CPD is to improve one's knowledge and skill as a veterinarian. In my case, I usually undertake CE activities with a definite goal in mind. The process I follow right now is informal. For instance, a few years ago I felt minimally invasive surgery was

something I wished to learn more about and to add to my practice. Although there was never a written plan, I did undertake to accomplish my learning using texts, an online course, videos and educational trips to Colorado and Atlanta—all with the goal of improving my skills and knowledge in that area.

Once the courses had been taken, the books read and some instrumentation purchased, I practiced: first on a homemade 'animal' of Tupperware construction; then on cadavers; and finally progressing to client-owned animals. Once I had done a number of these procedures, I sat back and evaluated my progress, determined how it was adding to my enjoyment of veterinary medicine, and the patient's well-being (as well as the financial health of the practice). In other words, I assessed—something veterinarians are very good at doing. In the end, I decided not to pursue laparoscopy in my practice; and so since then, I have focused my CE on other areas.

Now, in all cases, before I engage in CE I have a purpose, a plan of CE courses to take, books to read and colleagues to talk to. I obtain the skill and knowledge I need, and then practice to the point of confidence. And then I evaluate my progress. All this sounds familiar, doesn't it? It was at OVC

that I subconsciously learned this pattern of behaviour. This is how we were taught and, since I did graduate (although long ago), the method worked well; it works just as well now.

CE is important. A plan for CE is also important, and sometimes it might be more important than the CE itself. If CE is undertaken in a haphazard manner, the courses will be taken, the credits given, but the fulfillment will not be there and the reward will be less than it could be. CE rejuvenates me. By learning new things in management, internal medicine, pain control, or whatever else I choose to pursue, I practice better medicine. I am able to offer more services to my clients and hence offer better care to my patients.

I once had a plan to get into OVC, I now have a plan to exit from veterinary medicine, and I have many plans for the things in between. Writing my CE plans and evaluations down will be something new to learn yet again, but the profession is moving in this direction and I believe it is for the good of us all. I encourage all colleagues to begin planning their CE and to reflect on what they learn in the process. It's a matter of professional development, satisfaction, and commitment. It's a matter of quality assurance.

MEDICAL RECORDS WORKSHOPS

Upcoming Medical Records Workshops for 2008-2009

Medical Records Workshops, with a focus on Companion Animal practice, are scheduled to be held on the dates below at specified locations. The entire practice-care team is invited to attend and participate. We will notify practices in the geographical area of an upcoming workshop, but they are all open to practices from anywhere in the province.

Space is limited, so sign up today!

Fall 2008

Date	Location
Wednesday, October 8	North Bay
Wednesday, October 22	Belleville
Thursday, October 23	Kanata
Wednesday, October 29	Toronto
Thursday, November 6	Oshawa
Monday, November 10	Barrie
Thursday, November 13	Cambridge

Spring 2009

Date	Location
Monday, March 9	Niagara Falls
Monday, March 16	Brampton
Thursday, March 19	Windsor
Wednesday, April 1	Toronto (South)
Monday, April 6	Vaughan
Thursday, April 16	Brantford
Monday, April 21	Peterborough

FEE: None! These workshops are offered free of charge as a member service under the College's Quality Assurance Program.

TO REGISTER: Please call Ms. Beth Ready, at extension 2224 or send an email to bready@cvo.org to pre-register for a workshop.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

Changes to the Annual Licence Renewal Form

This year the annual renewal process, which leads to the re-issuance of licence certificates, became linked more strongly to the Quality Assurance Program of the CVO. The change is the result of the now-approved CVO By-Law amendment, summarized below.

Background of the By-Law Change

In March 2008, members were asked to submit comments to the CVO on proposed changes to the By-Laws that would allow the College to collect additional information from members on the Annual Licence Renewal form provided by the Registrar. This information pertains to members' professional development activities, including participation in formal CE.

By-Law 41.(1) under Section 8 of CVO By-Laws:

Every member, other than a member who holds a short-term licence, shall submit to the college by the 30th day of November in each year, an information return in the form available from the Registrar setting out,

(k) "a record of professional reflection and development activities completed by the member during the 12-month period ending on the 31st day of October using the form or forms (paper or electronic) provided by the Registrar."

Member Response to By-Law Amendment

The College, which has 3570 members with general licences, received 25 submissions from members during the 60-day consultation period, 21 of which were supportive of Council's move to gather information about members' professional development activities and of the Quality Assurance Program initiatives in this area.

Council passed the amendment to the By-Laws, which went into effect immediately.

Impact on Annual Licence Renewal Form

In the past the CVO had asked members to submit their total CE hours on the Annual Renewal form, but providing this information to the College was not mandatory. In 2008, 2500 members voluntarily complied with the request. With the By-Law change (passed at Council on June 11, 2008, and incorporated into CVO's official By-Laws), members must submit the requested information. In the fall of 2008, renewal packages for 2009 will be sent to members as usual; these packages will contain a revised and shorter version of what used to be called the "CE Working Sheet," which must be returned to the College by all members.

continued on next page...

Impact on Members

This year the impact on members of the new By-Law will be minimal. All members of the CVO must comply with the Act, its Regulations, and CVO By-Laws, and failure to do so could result in a charge of professional misconduct. The CVO's authority to request information from members relating to CPD is now entrenched in its By-Laws, and members are therefore required to submit the form(s) requested by the Registrar in the annual licence renewal packages.

Members who do not submit the information as requested will be contacted by the College and reminded of their obligation. Repeated requests by the College may incur charges as stipulated in the Schedule to the By-Laws. The need to take further action (such as a referral to the Executive Committee for investigation of professional misconduct, or application to a Court for an order directing the member to comply) is not anticipated, since the CVO expects its members will meet their professional obligations under the By-Laws.

The CVO plans to develop its QA Program in a cooperative, consultative manner and the overall impact on members is intended to be positive, constructive, and supportive of members' CPD activities. Check the Quality Assurance page of the website frequently for news and developments.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TOOLS in the WORKS

The Quality Assurance (QA) Committee is pleased to report to members that a working group of 7 volunteer veterinarians (including representatives from small animal, large animal, government, and academic sectors) has met three times over the summer to draft revisions to the so-called "CE Working Sheet," as well as to draft recommendations to the QA Committee regarding documentation of continuing professional development (CPD) activities by members.

The QA Committee makes recommendations to Council on matters relating to QA programs including CE, professional development, practice review, and peer-review programs for members. The working group recommendations will be considered by the QA Committee and brought forward to Council as appropriate over the course of the fall and winter months.

Recommendations are expected to include a set of forms that would be available to members for their own use in tracking their CPD (including CE), as well as tools that will assist members with assessing their learning needs, setting CPD goals, and reflecting upon the outcomes of their self-directed activities. The CVO plans to make the tools available in both paper and electronic formats.

As the CVO's Quality Assurance Program components are developed, members will be invited to participate in focus groups, surveys, and pilot studies that will ensure the College is moving in the right direction for its members.

In “Case Studies,” we summarize complaints outcomes, Mutual Acknowledgement and Undertakings, and reported matters investigated by the College that are now considered public knowledge. A new regular feature in *Update*, “Case Studies” is an educational tool that members should find of interest regarding both (a) their responsibility to uphold professional standards, and (b) the College’s responsibility to respond to issues that come to its attention.

Complaints Case

Transferring Medical Records

Mr. and Mrs. L brought their eleven-year-old Dalmation dog to Dr. A of the ABC Animal Hospital for a second opinion examination for a skin problem. Dr. A wished to review the dog’s medical records from the previous veterinarian, Dr. X, of the XYZ Animal Hospital. Dr. A received consent from Mr. L to have the records transferred to him. Dr. A and his staff made several telephone calls to the XYZ Animal Hospital to request the transfer of the dog’s medical records.

In the letter of complaint received by the College, Dr. A alleged that:

Dr. X deliberately and under false pretense of his policy refused a legitimate request from a colleague to have pertinent medical information transferred in a timely manner in order to be able to provide much needed medical care to a patient that was suffering and in a lot of discomfort.

Reasons for Decision

The Complaints Committee reviewed the medical records of the XYZ Animal Hospital, as well as written submissions from Dr. A and Dr. X.

“Dr. X could not release information about the dog without receiving consent from his client.”

It was the Committee’s opinion, after examining the submissions from the parties, that Dr. A had an opportunity to receive a verbal report from Dr. X on the relevant information in the dog’s medical record so that he could begin his work-up on this case. However,

Dr. A was insistent that he receive the dog’s entire medical record by facsimile. The Committee took into consideration that, when the request was made, it was a Saturday at noon time and Dr. X was quite busy with appointments. As well, the Committee noted that the Mr. and Mrs. L who presented the dog to Dr. A were not the same Mr. and Mrs. L, who were Dr. X’s clients. Dr. X discovered that the dog was given, by his clients, Mr. and Mrs. L, to their grandson and his wife, another Mr. and Mrs. L, who presented the dog to Dr. A. Therefore, in accordance with Ontario Regulation 1093, 17. (1) 6. i., Dr. X could not release information about the dog without receiving consent from his client. Dr. X subsequently did contact his client, Mrs. L, and received consent to release the dog’s medical record information.

After much discussion on the telephone, Dr. X did send the

relevant information contained in the dog's medical record to Dr. A, which arrived via facsimile. The Committee agreed with Dr. X that, given that the dog's condition, it was not an emergency, the request came during a busy appointment day, Dr. X needed to receive consent from his client to release the records, and because Dr. X offered to provide information verbally, the dog's medical record was transferred to Dr. A within a reasonable period of time. This decision was also supported by the College's Position Statement on the Release of Medical Information, which states, "the information from the medical record must be provided within a reasonable time, based on the medical status of the patient, but not to exceed two business days."

Decision

The Committee weighed all of the information before it and the options available to it.

It was the decision of the Committee that the actions and conduct of Dr. X did not warrant a referral to the Discipline Committee or require any further action.

Further, the CVO refers all members to the Position Statement "Release of Medical Information" posted on the College website under the "Practice Guidance" tab and Ontario Regulation 1093 section 17.(1) 6.i., which states:

For the purposes of the Act, professional misconduct includes the following:

6. *Revealing information concerning a client, an animal or any professional service performed for an animal, to any person other than the client or another member treating the animal except,
 - i. with the consent of the client*

CASE STUDIES

Discipline Hearings

The *Veterinarians Act*, section 31.-(1) “Where the Discipline Committee finds a member or former member of the College guilty of professional misconduct or serious neglect, the registrar shall publish the finding....” The name of the member who is subject of the hearing may, or may not, be included depending on the decision of the Discipline Committee panel. Information revealing the names of the witnesses and clients has been removed.

Decisions may be obtained, in full, by contacting Ms. Rose Robinson, Manager, Complaints and Discipline, at extension 2227 or email robinson@cvo.org.

Discipline Hearing

Dr. Terry Fried (Bright, Ontario)

On April 29, 2008 the Discipline Committee met to hear and consider allegations of professional misconduct against Dr. Terry Fried.

Dr. Fried pleaded guilty to the following allegations. Dr. Fried engaged in professional misconduct when he violated sub-section 17.(1) of Ontario Regulation 1093 paragraphs 2 (*failing to maintain the standard of practice of the profession*); 27 (*failing to make or retain records required by this regulation*); 40 (*treating an animal receiving veterinary services from another member without notifying the other member and obtaining the relevant historical information as soon as practicable*); and 41 (*treating an animal receiving veterinary services from another member who did not refer the animal without advising the client that such uncoordinated veterinary services may place the animal at risk*).

The particulars of the allegations involved the following:

- Accepting a patient without performing an examination
- Providing advice before reviewing any records or radiographs
- Providing inappropriate advice given a patient’s history and status

- Providing treatment advice without having assessed the patient
- Failure to obtain, make or retain the required medical records

Decision

The Discipline Committee accepted Dr. Fried’s guilty plea and the following joint submission as to penalty.

1. (a) Dr. Fried be reprimanded by the Discipline Committee.
 - (b) Dr. Fried’s licence to practice veterinary medicine will be suspended for a period of three months, subject to paragraph 2. The suspension shall commence on a date to be fixed by the Registrar but such date shall not be before July 1, 2008 or after August 1, 2008.
 - (c) Dr. Fried will pay to the College \$2,000.00 in costs within six (6) months of the date of the hearing in this matter.
2. Six (6) weeks of the suspension shall itself be suspended provided that before the end of the first six (6) weeks of the initial part of the suspension, Dr. Fried successfully completes a paper, to be a minimum of 2,000 words, providing at least five separate references, addressing the proper management of a case similar to “the patient” in this matter, including but not limited to the proper management of fractures in companion animals, intra-articular and otherwise, legal and practice

issues concerning the transfer of patient care from one veterinarian to another, appropriately providing second opinions and the information that should be obtained in order to do so, and the need to ensure that treatment recommendations are not made without a proper VCPR and sufficient clinical information. The paper must be acceptable to the Registrar or her designate and the member must pay all costs associated with successfully completing the paper, including the costs of an independent expert reviewing the paper to assist the Registrar.

3. Dr. Fried acknowledges that this matter will be publicized in the usual manner through, among other things, *CVO Update* which publication will include, among other things, Dr. Fried's name.

OVMA Conference January 29 - 31, 2009

The Ontario Veterinary Medical Association is holding its annual conference and trade show at the Westin Harbour Castle Hotel in Toronto, Ontario. The conference program will feature concurrent sessions on bovine, equine, small animals and public health, practice management, and hospital personnel for a total of over 100 hours of available continuing education. Special registration fees for out-of-province delegates.

For registration information please contact:
Christine Neziol, Delegate Coordinator, OVMA
420 Bronte St. S., Suite 205
Milton, Ontario, L9T 0H9
Telephone (905) 875-0756, fax (905) 875-0958
e-mail cneziol@ovma.org.

Please note: OVMA is now a RACE-approved provider. A complete Program approval application will be made prior to the conference.

NOTICE



Enhanced Avian Influenza Surveillance System for Commercial Poultry in Canada

The Canadian Notifiable Avian Influenza Surveillance System (CanNAISS), is being developed by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) in collaboration with provincial and territorial governments and poultry industry representatives. It is an enhanced surveillance system to detect notifiable avian influenza (NAI) in commercial poultry flocks in Canada. When fully implemented, CanNAISS will include a number of components, including on-farm, pre-slaughter surveillance.

The CanNAISS has been designed to meet the current NAI guidelines from the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) and new trade requirements from the European Union (EU) that take effect in January 2009. NAI is defined by the OIE as all avian influenza type A viruses with high pathogenicity and all H5 and H7 subtypes with high or low pathogenicity. CanNAISS will enhance Canada's on-going surveillance program and provide information about NAI viruses in Canada's domestic poultry flocks that will be required for Canadian poultry producers and processors to continue doing business internationally.

The CanNAISS is one of a number of domestic and international initiatives that have already been implemented by the Government of Canada, provincial and territorial governments, as well as Canadian poultry producers, to prevent, detect, and eliminate H5 and H7 subtypes of NAI in Canada's domestic poultry flock.

National and provincial veterinary organizations and poultry health veterinarians in particular will have a role to play in this surveillance initiative. For the pre-slaughter component, commercial poultry flocks at the end of the production cycle and from selected producers

will need to be tested for the presence of NAI before they move to processing plants. Sample collection will begin to be taken in July 2008. The samples will be shipped to a CFIA laboratory for testing. The pre-slaughter surveillance component will be phased in across federally inspected processing plants and the various commercial poultry sectors.

It is expected that each producer will contact his or her usual private veterinarian (their flock veterinarian) to arrange for the collection of the samples. The CFIA will assume the costs for private veterinarians related to mileage to and from the farm, blood collection, and testing.

In order to establish a list of private veterinarians interested in participating in this project, the CFIA invites those veterinarians who are working within the poultry sector, on a regular basis or not, to contact us. This will also assist the CFIA in identifying other interested veterinarians who could perform sampling for poultry producers who do not have a regular veterinarian, or for those whose regular veterinarian is not available.

If you are interested in the project and are available to assist in sample collection, please contact the CFIA Area Coordinator for your region.

Information on CanNAISS also available on the CFIA website at:

<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/corpaffr/newcom/2008/20080606e.shtml>

and

<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/anima/heasan/dise/mala/avflu/surv/survqueste.shtml>



REGISTER UPDATES

The College welcomed the following new registrants between May 1, 2008 and July 31, 2008. The list also indicates licence type as follows:

*G = General GNR = General Non-Resident E = Educational R = Restricted A = Academic
PGR = Postgraduate and Resident Licence PS = Public Service*

Dr. Kristin Agius	G	Dr. Alyssa Goldstein	G	Dr. Swann Paradis	G
Dr. Rajesh Agroiya	G	Dr. Kendra Goulet	G	Dr. Fiona Park	PGR
Dr. Barbara Alexandre	G	Dr. Jessica Grandish	G	Dr. Aine Pattison	G
Dr. Kimberly Andrews	G	Dr. Jill Gray	G	Dr. Allison Peckham	G
Dr. Sukhmandar Bains	G	Dr. Adarsh Gupta	G	Dr. Kithsiri Perera	G
Dr. Lex Bardyeyev	G	Dr. Erin Harrison	PGR	Dr. Rhea Plesman	G
Dr. Melanie Barham	G	Dr. James Hethey	G	Dr. Florence Polle	PGR
Dr. Courtney Barnes	G	Dr. Jennifer Hodge	G	Dr. Lindsay Prior	G
Dr. John Bartlett	G	Dr. Helen Holowaty	G	Dr. Jennifer Rae	G
Dr. Melanie Bateson	G	Dr. Anne Marie Hunter	G	Dr. Sarah Rae	G
Dr. Hailey Bertrand	G	Dr. Matylda Janutka	G	Dr. Mary-Jordan Reed	G
Dr. Sylvain Bichot	PGR	Dr. Rajinder Jassal	G	Dr. Jennifer Rice	G
Dr. Amanda Bickerton	G	Dr. Amy Jewiss	G	Dr. Sonja Rosic-Banjanin	G
Dr. Belinda Black	PGR	Dr. Mark Johnston	G	Dr. Michael Rowland	G
Dr. Jessica Bolahood	G	Dr. Stephanie Johnston	G	Dr. Catherine Sabino	G
Dr. Erin Bond	G	Dr. Taruna Khanna	G	Dr. Janet Schnell	G
Dr. Claudia Boucher	G	Dr. Laura Kirkaldy	G	Dr. Harkesh Sharma	G
Dr. Ainsley Boudreau	G	Dr. Diana Knight	G	Dr. Elizabeth Shiland	G
Dr. Melissa Boyle	G	Dr. Colette Larocque	G	Dr. Daniel Shock	G
Dr. Charity Brookes	G	Dr. Tina Latour	G	Dr. Diana Sinclair	G
Dr. Jennifer Brown	G	Dr. Bryanne Leuenberger	G	Dr. Jennifer Sperry	G
Dr. Kristen Brown	G	Dr. Cameron Lindsay	G	Dr. Matthew Spiegle	G
Dr. Clara Bureau	G	Dr. Shannon Luckham	G	Dr. Iga Stasiak	G
Dr. Deanne Caines	PGR	Dr. Harbhajan Luthra	G	Dr. Dianna Stewart	G
Dr. Dana Caswell	G	Dr. Elva Ma	G	Dr. Janet Sunstrum	G
Dr. Jaime Chandler	G	Dr. Katie MacIntosh	G	Dr. Kathryn Surasky	G
Dr. Donald Clarke	G	Dr. Johanna MacNaughton	G	Dr. Christina Swainson	G
Dr. Stephanie Clarke	G	Dr. Cheryl MacPhee	G	Dr. Rebecca Sylvester	G
Dr. Lucie Decoeur	G	Dr. Laura Major	G	Dr. Karlee Thomas	G
Dr. Alice Defarges	A	Dr. Ugo Maninchedda	PGR	Dr. Sarah Thornton	G
Dr. Delaney Della Fortuna	G	Dr. Karl Mathis	PGR	Dr. Lori Toxopeus	G
Dr. Marc Dhumeaux	PGR	Dr. Lisa McCarthy	G	Dr. Lizete Valdmanis	G
Dr. Jose Diaz	G	Dr. Merryn McNinch	G	Dr. Drew Van Niekerk	G
Dr. Naomi Dicks	PGR	Dr. Carl McNicoll	G	Dr. Jennifer Vanderstarren	G
Dr. Steve Dorais	G	Dr. Ihab Messiha	G	Dr. Elizabeth Vaughn	G
Dr. Andrea Ebert	G	Dr. Emily Millson	G	Dr. Roseanna Vinti	PGR
Dr. Colette Elmas	PGR	Dr. John Murray	PGR	Dr. Julie Wallace	G
Dr. Amanda Estabrooks	G	Dr. Danika Neumann	G	Dr. Sara Wick	PGR
Dr. Catherine Filejski	G	Dr. Kerri Nielsen	G	Dr. Amy Wilson	G
Dr. Tanya Fournier	G	Dr. Michelle Oblak	G	Dr. Jennifer Wilstra	G
Dr. Ryan Franklin	G	Dr. Gregg Ogilvie	G	Dr. Charlotte Winder	G
Dr. Meredith Gauthier	G	Dr. Emma Osborn	G	Dr. Katharine Woods	G
Dr. Paul Gerry	G	Dr. Liv Ostevik	PGR	Dr. Elizabeth Xavier	G
Dr. Jennifer Girard	G	Dr. Jean-Sebastien Palerme	G	Dr. Lara Zahra	G

REGISTER UPDATES

The following is a list of new, closed and relocated veterinary facilities:

New Facilities

Aquitaine Animal Hospital, Mississauga
Blue Springs Equine Services, Acton
Centretown Veterinary Hospital, Ottawa
Clarke Animal Hospital, London
Dr. Aarabi Mobile Veterinary Services, Richmond Hill
Front Street Animal Hospital, Toronto
Green Lane Animal Hospital, Thornhill
Joshua Creek Animal Hospital, Oakville
Khahra Veterinary Housecall Services, Windsor
River Grove Animal Hospital, Mississauga
Rutherford Road and Highway 400 Animal Hospital, Vaughan

Westbridge Veterinary Hospital, Mississauga

Relocated Facilities

Barteaux Veterinary Services, Elmira
Bentley Veterinary Mobile Services, Ariss
Cedarbrae Veterinary Clinic, Scarborough
Dr. Greener's Mobile Veterinary Services, Pickering
McLean House Call Veterinary Services, Barrie
Metro Mobile Veterinary Services, Toronto
Nottawasaga Valley Veterinary Hospital, Alliston

Closed Facilities

Bazinet Veterinary Services, Steinbach, MB

The following veterinarians are no longer licensed in Ontario:

Dr. Marlis Blatter
Dr. Stephanie Desmarais
Dr. Kathryn Harding Smith
Dr. Agnieszka Kent

Dr. Chancie Knights
Dr. Yvette Vinton
Dr. Meghan Woodland

*If you note any errors in the preceding lists or believe someone may be practising without a licence, please contact Ms. **Karen Gamble** at extension 2228 or e-mail kgamble@cvo.org.*

In Memoriam

The council and staff of the CVO were saddened to learn of the following deaths and extend sincere sympathy to their families and friends. In memory of deceased members, the CVO contributes an annual grant to the Ontario Veterinary College Alumni Trust.

Gardiner, Graham (OVC 1959)

Welch, Katharine (Saskatchewan 1979)

REGISTER UPDATES

The following is a list of new and closed corporations:

New Corporations

Abernant Veterinary Services Professional Corporation
Animal Hospital of Cambridge Professional Corporation
Ben Mighton Veterinary Professional Corporation
Bramalea Animal Hospital Professional Corporation
Carolyn Lariviere Veterinary Professional Corporation
Cranberry Hill Animal Hospital Professional Corporation
D. Young Veterinary Professional Corporation
Dr. Glen F. Yates Professional Corporation
Dr. Gord Yates Professional Corporation
Dundas Animal Hospital Professional Corporation
Gregory Young Veterinary Professional Corporation
Hagersville Veterinary Professional Corporation
Hollybank Veterinary Professional Corporation
Jeffrey Latimer Veterinary Professional Corporation
Kennedy-Eglinton Animal Hospital Professional Corporation
Kingston Regional Pet Hospital Professional Corporation

Lafontaine Veterinary Clinic Professional Corporation
Llewellyn Equine Professional Corporation
Merali Veterinary Professional Corporation
North Park Veterinary Hospital Professional Corporation
Orchard Grove Veterinary Professional Corporation
O'Sullivan Veterinary Professional Corporation
River Grove Animal Hospital Professional Corporation
Rouge Valley Veterinary Hospital Professional Corporation
Scholl Animal Hospital Professional Corporation
Slate River Veterinary Professional Corporation
Taunton Road Animal Hospital Professional Corporation
Victoria Road Animal Hospital Professional Corporation
Windsor Pet Hospital Professional Corporation
Yates Veterinary Professional Corporation

Closed

Bancroft Veterinary Professional Corporation

Incorporation Reminders

- If you are planning to incorporate by December 31, 2008, please ensure that the new professional corporation name application is submitted to the CVO by December 1, 2008 to allow for processing time before the office closes on December 24, 2008.
- The certificate of accreditation expires when the facility is sold. The new owner must arrange beforehand to have the facility re-inspected immediately. Professional Incorporation by the buyer and seller does not replace the accreditation process.
- Please note that a certificate of authorization is valid for a period of three years from its date of issue.

As of July 31, 2008 the college has issued 635 certificates of authorization.

CVO e-news

Have you signed up for the CVO electronic newsletter? To sign up go to the CVO website

www.cvo.org.

Professionals Health Program

Confidential toll-free line:

1-800-851-6606

www.phpoma.org

Update, the official publication of the College of Veterinarians of Ontario, is the principle means of communication between the College and its members. It is the primary means of informing the membership on regulatory issues, with the expectation that members will govern themselves accordingly. *Update* is charged with the responsibility of providing comprehensive, accurate and defensible information.

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