



ABVMA

Alberta Veterinary Medical Association



2015 Annual Report

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President's Message



The ABVMA exists, under the Alberta *Veterinary Profession Act*, for the good of society with protection of the public as its mandate. The public looks to our veterinary profession for that and so much more. Protection of the public is achieved by ensuring the availability of high quality, accessible and reliable veterinary services provided in an amicable fashion. Our annual ABVMA strategic planning session in April 2015 identified priorities to help us be proactive in achieving our goals, including

development of veterinary medicine in Alberta and increased cooperation with other organizations having similar objectives to our own. Communication and relationship building were identified as key components, as were ongoing efforts to help ensure veterinary wellness.

This past year great strides were made in use of our new and improved practice standards, development of policies on complementary medical services, task lists for animal health technologists, implementation of mental health courses, and development of a veterinary forensic course. Our new website, albertaanimalhealthsource.ca, was launched, with a public education focus on animal health. An award-winning outreach campaign on antimicrobial resistance was produced (timeisrunningout.ca). Ongoing communication and cooperation with humane societies, educational institutions and governmental agencies were undertaken. Continuing education and other training opportunities were provided to our members through the annual Leadership Weekend, CVMA Convention in Calgary and CanWest Veterinary Conference in Banff. We have also been active on the national front,

working together with other provinces, the CVMA, and groups such as the Canadian Council of Veterinary Registrars and the Provincial Chief Veterinarians on topics of countrywide concern.

We live in times of provincial and national political flux, with increased societal awareness of animal welfare, antimicrobial use, zoonotic disease and the importance of trans-border disease control. Moving into the future, continued efforts are needed in all these areas, cooperating with others who share our concerns. The values of integrity, openness, transparency, rigor, and competent care that we cultivate as an organization for the protection of the public are what we expect from each of our members; they compose the bedrock of our reputation as a profession. Such values are as important in avoiding importation of zoonotic disease as they are in dealing with concerns of food animal production and relating to a child with their first pet. They guide us in our firm commitment to serve animals and the people who love and use them, with dignity and respect.

Louis Kwantes, DVM, MSc
President, Alberta Veterinary Medical Association



Registrar's Message



Each consecutive year the ABVMA office seems to become progressively busier. 2015 was no exception. Our membership continued to climb at an impressive rate, both for veterinarians and veterinary technologists, and this certainly affects the activity within the office. Along with our growing membership is the increasing desire for top-level continuing education opportunities, which we have accommodated. In addition, we have begun to fulfill the need to

provide more wellness resources for our membership. We continually strive to improve the communication streams from the ABVMA office to our members and our stakeholders. Our use of social media has enhanced our communication, and the success of the Alberta Animal Health Source website is certainly a testament to this. Our 2015 Leadership Weekend was another huge success, showing that interest in the health and governance of the association is strong.

There have also been challenges within the ABVMA this year. Most notable are the increasing intricacies of the discipline process and the associated costs. We can accurately budget for controllable items, but the cost of maintaining the discipline process is a wild card. You will note in the financials our struggles as well as Council's response to them in the upcoming budget year. We are not seeing a large increase in the number of complaints, only the complexity of dealing with them. See the Complaint Director's report for further details.

We carry on cultivating our relationships with other provincial and national groups. The ABVMA is a regular attendee at national and

provincial veterinary association meetings, livestock groups, regulatory organizations, animal welfare groups, educational institutions, the government of Alberta, and the list goes on.

Last year we changed the format of the Annual Report to make it more visually appealing, and easier to glean the information from without having to wade through seemingly endless reports. It was such a success that we have decided to follow the same format again. So read on and enjoy!

Darrell Dalton, DVM

Registrar, Alberta Veterinary Medical Association

2015 ABVMA Council



BACK ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT): Dr. Douglas Freeman, Mr. Alvin Kumlin, Dr. Gerald Hauer, Dr. Tye Perrett, Dr. Margitta Dziwenka, Dr. Gordon Strick, Dr. Cary Hashizume, Mr. Jim Dobie, Dr. Kevin MacAulay, Dr. Darrell Dalton

FRONT ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT): Ms. Andrea Edwards, Ms. Nichole Boutillier, Dr. Egan Brockhoff, Dr. Louis Kwantes, Ms. Megan Fleming, Dr. Jan Bystrom

Missing from photo: Dr. Troy Bourque, Dr. Christa Coetser, Dr. Alastair Cribb, Dr. Kim Romanufa



Public Members' Message

The ABVMA is pleased to welcome Mr. Jim Dobie, joining Mr. Alvin Kumlin as our second public member on Council. Jim officially began his term along with newly elected Councillors Dr. Tye Perrett and Dr. Kim Romanufa at the Council Meeting following the 2015 Leadership Weekend in February. Mr. Dobie joins Council with a wealth of past experience with the ABVMA, having served six years on the Complaints Review Committee ending in 2010. Jim and his wife Terri reside and work in Edmonton. Jim is an associate with Kasian Architecture Interior Design and Planning and does double duty with his commercial photography business, specializing in architectural, interiors and industrial photography.

The agendas in 2015 were no exception from previous years, as Council delved into numerous projects centered around strategic planning, complaint reviews, member wellness, policy reviews/updates, fee structures, two registration days, financing and budgeting, combined with the hosting of two major events, our Leadership Weekend and CanWest Conference. 2015 was a milestone year for WCVM, celebrating its 50th anniversary, and UCVM, celebrating its 10th anniversary. Congratulations and thank you to Dean Freeman and Dean Cribb for hosting the reunions that brought together alumni, faculty and staff. I know our Councillors enjoyed themselves and wished they could have stayed longer.

Catching the attention of Council, early in the New Year was the topic "Antimicrobial Stewardship in Canadian Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine." As consumers, producers and veterinarians, we are seeing increasing emphasis and promotion of food quality assurance driven by manufacturers and retailers, with calls for responsible use of antibiotics/growth stimulants in food animal

production. As public members, we believe this is a "milestone" opportunity for those in food animal production to form a strong alliance with the veterinary community, promoting the responsible use of antibiotics and growth hormones. Furthermore, it strengthens the inherent importance of a Veterinary Client Patient Relationship (VCPR) for food animal producers where the key word in VCPR is relationship. Herd health programs, jointly designed by livestock owners and their veterinarians, combined with the willingness to be transparent, is an important first step.

In closing, we would like to thank Dr. Louis Kwantes for his dedication to ABVMA this past year as president. Thanks to everyone at Park Veterinary Centre and to Janet Kwantes for the "Loan of Louis" for the past two years. The ABVMA and the veterinary community are grateful for your sacrifice.



Mr. Alvin Kumlin



Mr. Jim Dobie

Association Report

COMPLAINTS AND DISCIPLINE



The Alberta Veterinary Medical Association is the professional regulatory organization that is responsible for regulating the profession of veterinary medicine in the province of Alberta. Receiving and dealing with complaints from the public is a core regulatory activity that is visible and under scrutiny of the public.

The *Veterinary Profession Act* (VPA) requires reporting of the complaint cases to the minister; this is part of the ABVMA's accountability to the public.

Complaints

During the 2015 calendar year, the ABVMA received 30 written letters of complaint in accordance with section 27(1) of the VPA. Three of these letters were regarding more than one member. In two letters, the complainant complained about the veterinarian involved in the case as well as the permit holder. In another letter, the complainant complained about two veterinarians and the permit holder.

In addition, on two occasions the complaints director received information that was treated as a complaint under section 27.1 of the act.

This gave rise to 36 complaint cases in 2015.



36 complaint cases /
3,113 registered members =
1% OF REGISTERED MEMBERS WHO
HAD A COMPLAINT IN 2015.

Investigations

The complaints director will appoint an investigator to conduct an investigation in accordance with section 28(2)(e) of the act. The investigator undertakes an investigation in accordance with *Division 3 – Investigations* of the act. The investigator submits a report of the investigation to the Complaint Review Committee (CRC).

In 2015, an investigator was appointed to conduct an investigation into 32 complaint cases.

There are nine investigations ongoing as of this writing.

Resolving Complaints

The complaints director must take action upon receipt of a written complaint. The actions that may be taken are described in section 28(2) of the act and may include attempts to resolve the complaint with the consent of the complainant.

Acting on a complaint

28(1) *Within 30 days of being given a complaint, the complaints director must give notice to the complainant of the action taken with respect to it.*

(2) *The complaints director*

(a) May encourage the complainant and the investigated person to communicate with each other and resolve the complaint,

(b) May, with the consent of the complainant and investigated person, attempt to resolve the complaint,

(c) ...

In three complaints received in 2015, the complainant informed the appointed investigator that they were agreeable to discuss a resolution of the complaint. The veterinarian in each case consented to a resolution, which was conducted in accordance with section 28(2)(b) of the act.

In three other cases, the matter was resolved with the consent of the complainant and the investigated member prior to the initiation of the investigation in accordance with section 28(2)(b) of the act.

Complaint Review Committee (CRC)

The Complaint Review Committee (CRC) is established by Council in accordance with section 9.5(1) of the act and the ABVMA Bylaws. The CRC is composed of six registered veterinarians, two registered veterinary technologists and two members of the public. The CRC is established by Council on an annual basis and reviews all complaint cases in accordance with the act.

The CRC conducted 18 meetings by teleconference in 2015, in which they reviewed 35 cases. This included the report of the investigation into 34 complaints, 18 of these cases originated in 2014, and 16 in 2015.

In addition, the CRC reviewed one letter of complaint in accordance with section 28(2)(h).

The reports of the investigation into four cases are before the CRC for their consideration.

The CRC makes a preliminary, threshold decision based on the information provided in the investigator's report. They may decide to refer a matter for a hearing if in its opinion, there is information that if proven

Association Report

COMPLAINTS AND DISCIPLINE (CONTINUED)

to be true at a hearing may reasonably lead to a finding of unprofessional conduct. The CRC may decide to dismiss the case if in its opinion there is a lack of, or no evidence of unprofessional conduct or if in its opinion the complaint is trivial or vexatious.

Council

Council is the appeal body for the complaints process. A complainant may request a review of a CRC decision to dismiss a complaint. The review is undertaken by a Committee of Council (COC) in accordance with section 34 of the act.

In 2015, the COC completed the review of a CRC decision to dismiss the complaint in six cases. The COC confirmed that the complaint was dismissed in five cases and referred one case for a hearing after requesting further investigation.

Hearings

The Hearing Tribunal is the panel that acts as the decision maker on matters before it at a hearing. Members of the Hearing Tribunal are selected by the hearing director from the list of members that are

Disposition of 35 cases reviewed by the CRC in 2015 (includes cases originating in 2014)

Dismiss due to lack of or no evidence of unprofessional conduct: 26/35

Dismiss due to trivial or vexatious: 1/35

Referred to Hearings Director for a hearing: 8/35



appointed by Council in accordance with section 9.3 of the VPA. The Hearing Tribunal is normally composed of three registered veterinarians and one member of the public, in accordance with section 9.4(1)(b).

Seven hearings were commenced, continued or completed in 2015, including:

- One hearing, which was first scheduled to convene in 2013, was completed after several hearing dates. This hearing was regarding two separate letters of complaint and required eight days of hearings in total.

- One hearing was adjourned after eight days of hearing in 2014; this matter is ongoing.
- One hearing where the tribunal rendered an oral decision, which has been appealed. The orders have been stayed pending the appeal to Council.

Four hearings into matters originating in 2014 were concluded, two of these by way of a consent order.

Four hearings have been scheduled for 2016.

Hearings Open to the Public

ABVMA hearings are normally open to the public. Section 39.1 of the act, *Access to Hearing*, provides that under certain circumstances a hearing may be closed to the public. None of the ABVMA hearings held in 2015 were ordered “closed” to the public.

Consent Orders

Section 35.1 of the act provides that a member may submit a written admission of unprofessional conduct to the hearings director. An investigated member may enter into consent discussions with a group of peers, which is normally a subcommittee of the CRC. The without-prejudice discussions are held to determine the agreed statements of facts, agreed findings of unprofessional conduct and agreed sanctions that make up the consent order.

If the consent discussions are successful, the consent order is presented to the Hearing Tribunal as a joint submission by the ABVMA and the investigated member. The consent process is mutually beneficial in that the investigated member may take responsibility

for their actions and have the matter dealt with expeditiously and efficiently with reduced costs to both parties.

Appeals

In one of the matters before the Hearing Tribunal in 2015, the findings and orders of the Hearing Tribunal have been appealed by the investigated member to Council.

In 2014, the Practice Review Board (PRB) ordered one registered veterinarian to cease practice in accordance with section 65.1 (Incapacitation) of the act. The member appealed to Council, which upheld the decision and orders of the PRB. The member applied for and was granted a stay of the orders and the suspension by the Court of Appeal of Alberta. The suspended member returned to practice. The appeal of the orders of Council was heard by the Court of Appeal of Alberta on October 9, 2015. A decision has not been received as of this writing.

Members Suspended

In 2015, there was one registered veterinarian ordered to cease practice by the PRB in accordance with section 65.1

(Incapacitation) of the act. This member remains suspended.

In 2014, one registered veterinarian was suspended as a result of a disciplinary proceeding regarding a letter of complaint received from the public. The member did not comply with the orders of the Hearing Tribunal, remained suspended and has been cancelled effective December 31, 2014.

In 2014, one registered veterinary technologist ordered to cease practice by the PRB in accordance with section 65.1 (Incapacitation) of the act. The member did not comply with the orders of the PRB and remains suspended. The matter has moved to discipline as a result of the member’s failure to comply with the orders of the PRB.

Practice Review Board (PRB)

The PRB is the committee established by the VPA that may, with the approval of Council, undertake a review of the practice of a registered member or review the practice of veterinary medicine in general. The PRB is also the committee that is designated by Council to consider matters of incapacitation in accordance with section 65.1 of the VPA.

Association Report

COMPLAINTS AND DISCIPLINE (CONTINUED)

The PRB was engaged to review one matter regarding incapacitation in 2015.

In this case, information came to the attention of the complaints director that provided grounds to believe that a registered veterinarian was incapacitated. The registered veterinarian was ordered to cease practice and attend for an assessment by a physician. Information was provided to PRB that the member was suffering from addiction. The member has not complied with the orders of the PRB and remains suspended.

Section 65.1 of the act provides a means to direct members that are incapacitated by addictions to be assessed and access necessary treatment.

Cost of Disciplinary Proceedings

In all cases, the investigated member has the right to choose to defend themselves against allegations advanced against them. In cases where the member exercises this right, a hearing may last several days and the costs increase accordingly.

The courts have not supported the notion that full costs of disciplinary proceedings

should be paid by the investigated member, and as a result, the general membership of most professions are responsible for some of these costs.

The cost of the complaints and disciplinary process have increased substantially in recent years. These costs are unpredictable

and are unlikely to decrease substantially in the future.

Phil Buote, DVM

Complaints Director/Deputy Registrar

Discipline/Complaints | Revenue & Expenses





Association Report

LEADERSHIP AND LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Governance

Previously (2013) the ABVMA Council had redefined the roles of the advisory committees, and these are the guidelines that we continue to work within. This appears to be working well, and there is no desire to change this process. Strategic planning was conducted in April by Council with an outside facilitator, and adjustments were made to the plans for this past year as identified during this session. Once again, the chairs of the advisory committees were invited to attend, and provided valuable input into the plan.

A different procedure for conducting the Council meetings was introduced by our President, Dr. Louis Kwantes. Previously standing items, such as ex-officio reports, that had been entered into the minutes during every meeting are now entered through a consent agenda. Each member of Council is provided the agenda items two weeks prior to the Council meeting, and has the opportunity to highlight specific items out of the consent agenda to discuss during the meeting as required. This has increased the efficiency of Council meetings and has allowed for more detailed and in-

depth discussions of important topics. The meetings continue to take the same amount of time. Council continues to meet seven times per year, and we have continued interest by enthusiastic members willing to serve on Council.

As reported last year, we are continuing to move forward with amendments to the *Veterinary Profession Act* that would give registered veterinary technologist (RVT) members of the ABVMA full privileges

within the association governance. We had been informed last year that these amendments would be in front of the legislature in the spring of 2015, but with the change of government within Alberta, we are now told that this will occur in the fall of 2016.



Leadership Weekend

Leadership Weekend took place in Calgary from February 27 to March 1, 2015. The weekend was a huge success, and would not have been so without the level of dedication and professionalism that our legislated and advisory committees and members exhibit within the profession of veterinary medicine in Alberta.

Approximately 200 people attended the Member Recognition Banquet, and 133 attended the Annual General Meeting (AGM) (113 members, 20 invited guests and staff).

The topics covered during the weekend ranged from media training, with active participation and demonstration from the delegates, to assessment of competence within our profession and how we can more accurately deal with issues of competence. Fifty-year active ABVMA members were recognized with long-time service awards for the first time. We enjoyed participating in some light yoga and learned the importance of good health and good balance in our lives.

The weekend concluded with the AGM. The meeting began with opening remarks

from the Honourable Ric McIver, Minister of Jobs, Skills, Training and Labour of the Government of Alberta. Minister McIver spoke highly of the veterinary profession, and emphasized the importance of our profession in Alberta. It was the first time in many years that a minister has been able to attend our AGM, and he remained for a large portion of the morning. We truly appreciate his efforts to come out and speak to us and we hope to have similar positive interactions with our new minister.

A resolution was passed at the AGM to amend the ABVMA Bylaws to change the name from animal health technologist (AHT) to registered veterinary technologist (RVT). The AAAHT held a survey to their membership and requested this change. Amendments to the *Veterinary Profession Act (VPA)* that have been previously approved by the membership continue to move through the legislative process. This includes a change to our governance that will give registered veterinary technologist (RVT) members full privileges within the association.

Association Report

REGISTRATION

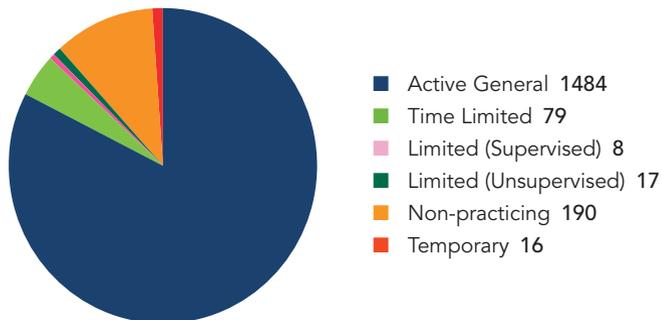
Two very successful Registration Days were held in 2015. The first was in June, and was the largest that the ABVMA has ever conducted, welcoming 84 new veterinarians and 107 veterinary technologists to the veterinary profession. The September day was somewhat smaller, welcoming 48 new veterinarians and 73 veterinary technologists to the profession.

The ABVMA continues with its two Registration Days as the alternative to a jurisprudence examination as is held in other provinces. New registrants are introduced to the staff and Council of the association, and are also given introductions to local groups, the ABVMA website and social media platforms. A large portion of the day is dedicated to informing new registrants of the governance of the ABVMA, as well as the complaints and discipline process. This section of the day garners great interest, and is usually very interactive with questions and comments.

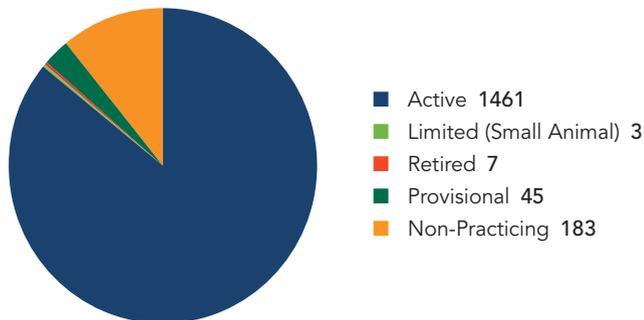
Our progressive licensing system for veterinarians continues to be a great success. A veterinarian from a non-accredited school "Internationally Trained" that has entered the CVMA National Examining Board examination sequence can become a "Limited-Supervised" veterinarian, and thus can work and gain experience and knowledge within a Canadian practice setting under supervision of an "Unrestricted veterinarian". Once the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination is completed successfully, these veterinarians are then transferred to the "Temporary" category, with a reduced supervision level. Their knowledge and experience in Canadian practice continues to grow until they are ready to challenge the Clinical Proficiency Exam towards "Active General Registration" with the ABVMA. See the infographics for further information regarding internationally trained veterinarians in Alberta.

ABVMA Members on October 31, 2015

VETERINARIANS

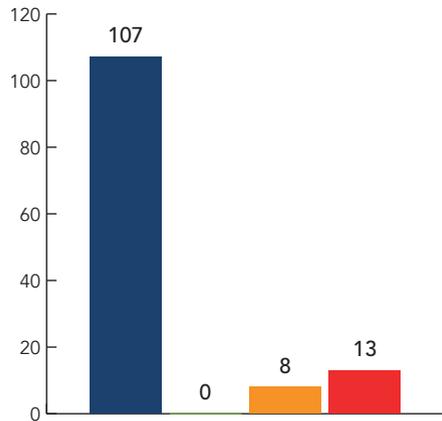


VETERINARY TECHNOLOGISTS



VETERINARY PRACTICES 525

Total Veterinary Applications

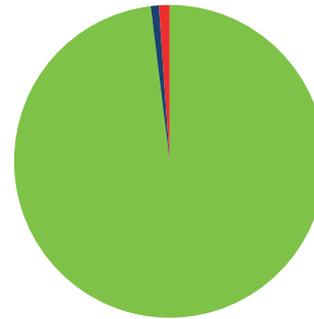


- General Practice License 107
- Limited Practice License - Unsupervised 0
- Limited Practice License - Supervised 8
- Temporary Registered Veterinarian 13

Total: 128

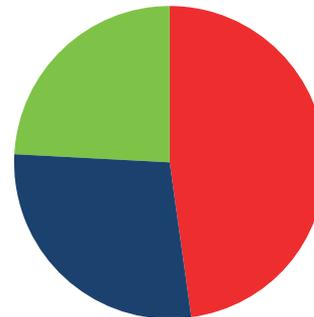
Veterinary Educational Background

ACCREDITED VETERINARY PROGRAM



- Limited Supervised 1
- General 101
- Limited Unsupervised 0
- Temporary 1

NON-ACCREDITED VETERINARY PROGRAM



- Limited Supervised 7
- General 6
- Limited Unsupervised 0
- Temporary 12

Association Report

REGISTRATION (CONTINUED)

Country of Origin for all new Veterinary Licensees

GENERAL LICENSE

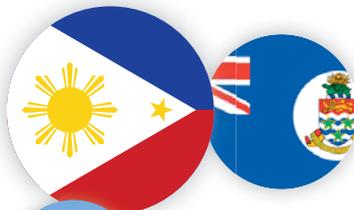
107

Australia	2
Canada	82
India	4
Iran	1
Ireland	2
Netherlands	1
New Zealand	2
Nigeria	1
Scotland	2
USA	6
West Indies	4



0

LIMITED UNSUPERVISED LICENSE



Argentina	1
Belgium	1
Canada	1
England	1
Grand Cayman Islands	1
India	1
Phillipnes	1
Spain	1

LIMITED SUPERVISED LICENSE

8

TEMPORARY LICENSE

13

Bulgaria	1
Canada	1
Chile	1
Egypt	3
India	5
Romania	1
Spain	1



17

**Veterinarian Transfers to Full Licensure
(Transfer Temporary Registered Veterinarian
to General Practice License)**

79

**Veterinary Technologist Transfers to Full Registration
(Transfer Provisional to General
Veterinary Technologist)**

Total Veterinary Technologist Applications

General Veterinary Technologist	79
Provisional Veterinary Technologist	85
Total	164

Association Report

PRACTICE INSPECTION AND PRACTICE STANDARDS (PIPS) COMMITTEE

The PIPS Committee is a legislated committee charged with certifying veterinary practice entities as being compliant with the minimum standards as established by the PIPS Bylaw. The major accomplishment for the year was introducing a new Quality Assurance Self Verification (QA) Guide to accompany the updated 2014 PIPS Bylaw. At the same time, a pilot electronic QA Guide was introduced.

All practices continue to be inspected every third year on a rotational basis. Effective with the new PIPS Bylaw, new practices have both a pre-opening and post-opening inspection. This provides assurance to the public that veterinary practices within Alberta meet acceptable standards. Between November 2014 and October 2015, 25 new veterinary practice entities were approved. All practices

must also complete a QA Guide annually indicating that they are maintaining PIPS standards.

The ABVMA also administers the *Radiation Protection Act* for veterinary facilities on behalf of Radiation Health, Occupational Health and Safety, of the Alberta Ministry of Alberta Jobs, Skills, Training and Labour.

Practice Statistics | Total 525



Association Report

MEMBER WELLNESS

The Member Wellness Program continues to provide two levels of wellness support to our members. The first level provides for up to three hour-long sessions with a licensed psychologist in the members' geographical area. These sessions are complimentary and totally anonymous, and are meant to provide guidance and direction for members experiencing personal or professional emotional or mental health problems. Not everyone's problems may be solved during these three sessions, but it affords a start and hopefully the development of a plan towards a healthy and happy life. This program is available to all members of the ABVMA.

The second level of support for members is to provide treatment to those members suffering from an addiction that has led to incapacitation and inability to perform in practice or in everyday life. Once a member has reached this level, they often lack the financial ability to seek treatment. At this point, the ABVMA will provide funds to facilitate residential treatment on an interest-free loan basis. When the member is well enough to return to work, a repayment plan is developed that is within their ability to pay.



In 2014, ABVMA Council established the Member Wellness Advisory Committee. The objective of this committee is to explore the issues of member wellness, and provide feedback and suggestions to Council regarding this important issue. This committee organized two offerings of the

Mental Health First Aid Course, which were well attended. Watch for further offerings of this course in 2016.

Association Report

ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Report of Professional Advisory Committees

The professional advisory committees serve as key sources of information for Council of the ABVMA. These groups maintain an environmental scan in their areas of interest so that Council may be aware of emerging issues and needs of all ABVMA stakeholders.

The ABVMA Leadership Team includes Council, legislated committees and professional advisory committees. Council and chairs of all the committees meet annually in April for strategic planning.

Here is a summary of the activities of the professional advisory committees for 2015. All committees:

- Provided ideas and feedback on articles for albertaanimalhealthsource.ca and social media.
- Provided feedback on ABVMA *Recommendations for Identification and Ownership of Companion Animals*; *ABVMA Social Media Guidelines*; *ABVMA White Paper on Prescribing and Dispensing/Antimicrobial Stewardship*; *revisions to the ABVMA Guidelines for the Role of RVTs, Auxiliaries and*

Students and several CVMA position statements.

1. Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

- A sub-committee worked with Midge Landals in organizing the Veterinary Forensics Workshop slated for April 1 – 3, 2016.
- Compiled dog importation criteria from other countries for discussion, background and consideration regarding dog importation standards. This information was forwarded to the Government of Alberta for a working group of the Council of Chief Veterinary Officers of Canada.
- In cooperation with the Wildlife & Ecosystem Committee, drafted a letter for Council's consideration regarding the use of strychnine in the wolf cull.
- Drafted a letter for Council's consideration regarding transport of dogs in truck beds.
- A representative of the committee attended the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies National Animal Welfare Conference on behalf of ABVMA.
- Provided feedback to Council

subsequent to the banning of ear cropping in British Columbia.

2. Companion Animal Advisory Committee

- Provided feedback to Council subsequent to the banning of ear cropping in British Columbia.
- Reviewed the Small Animal Fee Guide.

3. Equine Advisory Committee

- Reviewed EIA information available to members and the public at albertaanimalhealthsource.ca.
- Reviewed the Equine Fee Guide.

4. Food Animal Advisory Committee

- Provided suggestions for dissemination of information for the second Antimicrobial Stewardship Growing Forward 2 project.
- Reviewed the Large Animal Fee Guide.

5. Human Resource Development Advisory Committee

- Requested Council amend the ABVMA Committee Terms of Reference to allow for exchange of minutes with the Member Wellness Committee as well as one in-person joint meeting each year.

- Ongoing discussions on increasing mentorship and preceptorship in the profession, as well as best ways to support human resource needs for ABVMA members.

6. Member Wellness Advisory Committee

- Created *Balance 4 Health* section on the ABVMA member website.
- Created messaging:
 - i. Bullying Awareness Month: Webinar, E-news, Twitter
 - ii. Tips for dealing with Holiday Stress: Members' Magazine
 - iii. Bell Let's Talk: Webinar, E-news, Twitter
 - iv. Suicide Prevention: Webinar, E-news, Twitter
- Worked with Midge Landals in facilitating the Mental Health Commission of Canada's Mental Health First Aid course in Edmonton and Calgary. Pre and post surveys were taken to measure success and determine next steps in supporting ABVMA members.

7. Wildlife and Ecosystem Health Advisory Committee

- In cooperation with the Animal Welfare Committee, drafted a letter for Council's consideration regarding the use of strychnine in the wolf cull.
- Monitored animal welfare related issues and advised Council. Topics included baby wildlife, and protocol for the public finding wildlife carcasses.

Association Report

CONTINUING EDUCATION

2015 CanWest Veterinary Conference

The annual CanWest Veterinary Conference was held from Saturday, October 17 to Tuesday, October 20, 2015 at the historical Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel in Banff, AB, and it was an outstanding success! This year's conference marked the inaugural inclusion of the Registry of Approved Continuing Education (RACE) continuing education (CE) approval system, offering a maximum of 28 CE hours to veterinarians and 23 hours to veterinary technologists. The 2015 CanWest program offered an extensive roster of speakers from across

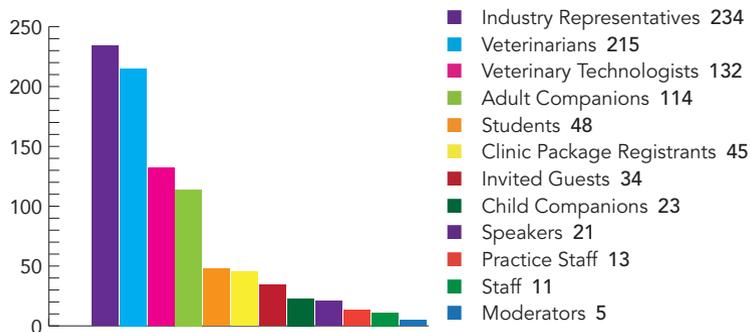
North America speaking on topics ranging from equine and companion animal dentistry, to food animal welfare, to communication skills for veterinary team members, and much more!

A total of 895 CanWest attendees—including veterinarians, veterinary technologists, students and industry sponsors—enjoyed a variety of CE offerings that spanned three days, as well as a two-day trade fair that featured 90 industry-sponsored booths, and several high-spirited social events. The AAAHT held its CE Event and Annual General Meeting at the Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel on Saturday, October 17.

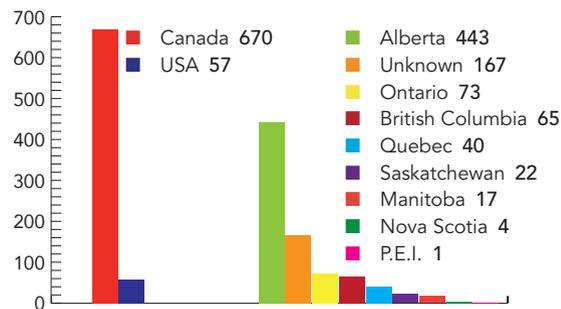
Three wet labs preceded the conference on Friday, October 16. Pre-conference wet labs are offered in partnership with the ABVMA and the University of Calgary, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (UCVM).

Next year's conference will take place on October 15 to 18, 2016 at the Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel. We hope to see you there!

Attendance by Registration Type



Attendance by Region



Livestock Care Conference

Once again the ABVMA partnered with Alberta Farm Animal Care to deliver the 2015 Livestock Care Conference held at the Calgary Stampede grounds. The conference was well attended, and included such diverse topics as “Animal Production Becoming a Profession,” “Bison Welfare,” and “Bees and Bee Welfare.” The ABVMA sponsored four students to attend the conference, and will continue to support the conference and students into the future.

John Waters Zoonotic Diseases Workshop

The workshop, hosted every second to third year, is presented by the Alberta Veterinary Medical Association, Alberta Health Services and several other agencies that deal with zoonotic diseases in Alberta. The workshop is intended for field workers, practitioners, laboratory staff and researchers in the fields of public health and veterinary medicine to discuss recent trends and research findings related to zoonotic diseases in Alberta.

The workshop took place in Edmonton on November 20. One hundred and fifteen participants attended the full day of lectures. Presentations were provided by speakers from Alberta Health, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, Alberta Veterinary Medical Association, Government of Saskatchewan, University of Calgary, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and the University of Guelph.

Topics covered:

- Changes in Alberta Rabies Control Program
- Case Report: Rabies in a Puppy from a Northern Community
- *Brucella Canis* in Alberta
- Lyme Disease/Tick Surveillance Project
- Trans-boundary Control of Animal Movement
- Guidelines for Handling Ebola Virus-exposed Animals
- Q Fever/Sheep Related Zoonoses in Alberta
- 2014 E. Coli O157: H7 Outbreak Associated with Pork
- *Echinococcus Multilocularis* in Alberta









Regular Methods of Communication

Magazine

2015 introduced members to a cleaner, more modern version of the Members' Magazine. Featuring a range of important news, the publication continues to serve as the official means of communicating with members. Advertising revenue in 2015 continued to offset production costs. The magazine is mailed out bi-monthly to nearly 4,000 recipients including members (veterinarians and technologists) as well as numerous other stakeholders and colleagues of the association.

Website

As of February 2015, the ABVMA maintains web presence at two locations:

www.abvma.ca

The ABVMA website continues to focus on information for ABVMA members and prospective members as well as housing some limited resources for the public. In the past year, there were 202,653 visits from 81,558 unique visitors. The most commonly viewed page was the classified ads.

www.albertaanimalhealthsource.ca

The ABVMA public facing website launched in February 2015 to provide veterinarian-approved information and advice for animal owners. The site has had over 42,000 visitors. Ten percent of those came from organic search traffic while almost 60% were referred from other sites.

Social Media

Social media activity has again seen large growth. The ABVMA Facebook community grew by 29%, Twitter by 41% and LinkedIn by 38% compared to 2014. The ABVMA also opened an Instagram account in 2015. Rabies, ear cropping/tail docking, vaccinations and antimicrobial resistance were the most visited and engaging topics.

Association Report

PROVINCIAL AND NATIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA)

The CVMA provides national and international leadership to advance the issues, concerns and professional interests of Canada's veterinarians.

Antimicrobial stewardship remains a top priority. To address the upcoming veterinary oversight federal regulations taking place by the end of 2016, the CVMA and the Canadian Council of Veterinary Registrars are developing a professional standard pan-Canadian framework for veterinarians to give a clear understanding of the changes required in their day-to-day lives.

The 2015 CVMA Convention in Calgary was held in partnership with the ABVMA and, for the first time, received Registry of Approved Continuing Education (RACE). CVMA hosted the Provincial Forum and President's Meeting, providing provinces an opportunity to share with peers. ABVMA was invited to select Alberta veterinarians to participate in CVMA's Emerging Leaders Program.

CVMA President Dr. Nicole Gallant, and

CEO Mr. Jost Am Rhyn participated in the 2015 CanWest Conference, speaking with the ABVMA Council about national issues such as the importation of rescue dogs, which the ABVMA brought to the CVMA's attention.

Since January 2015, CVMA has shared educational messages about veterinarians' roles and the value of veterinary healthcare on Twitter and Facebook using #VetCareEverywhere. ABVMA further shared these messages on its social media channels.

CVMA's business management program continued to deliver economic reports in partnership with the ABVMA.

CVMA updates were published in each issue of the ABVMA's Members' Magazine. CVMA provided ABVMA staff copies of mass email communication/position statement consultations.

CVMA looks forward to serving Alberta's veterinarians and continued collaboration with our colleagues at the ABVMA.

Dr. Troy Bourque

CVMA President-Elect
Alberta's representative on CVMA Council

Provincial and National Affiliations

The ABVMA continues to develop and maintain strong relationships with other veterinary associations, colleges and stakeholders that affect the delivery of animal health and welfare by our profession. We continue to advocate for the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, with their newly appointed president being our very own Dr. Troy Bourque. Our Registrar, Dr. Darrell Dalton, was the Chairperson for the Canadian Council of Veterinary Registrars (CCVR) in 2015, and that group continues to attack problems that affect all of us on a national level. The ABVMA holds membership in the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB), and routinely attends their annual conference. Dr. Duane Landals is the chairperson of the Registry of Approved Continuing Education (RACE) Committee, and Dr. Dalton is the Chair of the Nominating Committee for the AAVSB. The ABVMA also had representation in 2015 at the national level with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), the National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Committee, and Health Canada regarding antimicrobial use.

Provincially, we are closely aligned with many groups. Our closest partner is the Alberta Association of Animal Health Technologists (AAAHT). We have three registered veterinary technologists (RVT) on Council, one of them being an ex-officio delegate from the AAAHT. We also have ex-officio Council members from the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVI), the University of Calgary, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (UCVM), the CFIA, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry (AAF), and the CVMA.

The ABVMA maintains many close ties with Alberta animal production groups through Alberta Farm Animal Care (AFAC). Dr. Dalton was the vice-chair of this group in 2015, and the ABVMA continues to support AFAC through its meetings, membership and the Livestock Care Conference. The ABVMA also maintains strong ties with the Alberta SPCA, and has been closely involved in their Alberta Alliance for the Safety of Animals and People (AASAP). We also develop and maintain ties to the local humane societies around the province, Tails of Help, the Alberta Helping Animals Society, the four technical schools graduating veterinary technologists, the

Classroom Agricultural Program (CAP), and many of the programs through AAF.

Council has identified the value of being involved in all aspects of our profession. Representation of other groups is part of that involvement, and will continue to be developed.

Association Report

BUILDING THE PROFESSION



University of Calgary Faculty of Veterinary Medicine Report

The University of Calgary, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (UCVM) celebrated its 10th anniversary as a faculty in 2015, and along with marking this milestone, the past year saw many achievements by our students and faculty of which we are proud.

Here are a few:

- Our fourth graduating class received DVM degrees in May 2015, once again achieving a 100% first-time pass rate on the NAVLE. We now have 122 alumni pursuing careers – most of them right here in Alberta.
- Ed Pajor, PhD, Anderson-Chisholm Chair in Animal Care and Welfare, received the 2015 Metacam 20 Bovine Welfare Award.
- Dr. Jay Cross, one of our founding faculty members, was named a fellow to the Royal Society of Canada.

- We launched a successful new service learning program in partnership with the Calgary Urban Project Society (CUPS), with third-year students hosting veterinary clinics for pets of people living below the poverty line. The students, supervised by veterinarians, did preventative medicine, deworming, vaccines, nutrition education and wellness education, and put their communication skills into practice. In exchange for this experience, the CUPS clients were not charged for the service. The program, which is now part of our regular curriculum, provides benefits for both students and clients, creating a win-win situation.

These achievements, and others, would not be possible if it were not for our extended UCVM community, especially the ABVMA.

Alastair Cribb, DVM, PhD

Dean, UCVM



Message from the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM)

In 2015, the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM) celebrated its 50th anniversary with special events that attracted over 400 people to the University of Saskatchewan. It was wonderful to celebrate the college's success with alumni, donors and stakeholders.

WCVM research continues to improve the health of humans and animals, and to support Canada's agriculture industry. Our most recent partnership is the new Livestock and Forage Centre of Excellence that will enhance our collaboration with agricultural researchers and producers.

We're a leader in One Health – fostering inter-professional collaboration in human, animal and environmental health. This year we hosted the fourth annual One Health Leadership Experience, helping more than 150 U of S health science students

learn how to integrate One Health into professional practice.

Our service learning program gives veterinary students the chance to participate in remote spay-neuter clinics in Northern Saskatchewan. When wildfires threatened northern communities this summer, the college pitched in and provided treatment and temporary shelter for displaced pets.

As we develop new facilities and programs, we value our core commitments to Western Canada. Partnerships are as critical to the WCVM's future as they were in 1965, and these partnerships will see us through the next 50 years.

Douglas Freeman, DVM, PhD

Dean, Western College of Veterinary Medicine
University of Saskatchewan



Association Report

BUILDING THE PROFESSION (CONTINUED)

Technical Colleges

Training of Veterinary Technologists and Auxiliaries in Alberta

Veterinary technologists are an indispensable part of the veterinary team. The four technical colleges in Alberta that offer training in animal health technology take pride in the programs they provide. Besides increasing quota as is possible, they have added assistant-level programs to round out the technical side of veterinary medicine in Alberta.

All four colleges are accredited by the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association and the Canadian Council on Animal Care, and have PIPS-approved small animal practices. Moreover, Olds College and Grande Prairie College small animal clinics are American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) approved.

All graduates from animal health technology programs challenge the Veterinary Technician National Exam (VTNE). In order to practice in Alberta, veterinary technologists must submit to the ABVMA a diploma from an accredited AHT program and a passing score on the VTNE. After compliance with the registration process, including attendance at an ABVMA Registration Day, designation 'registered veterinary technologist' (RVT) is granted.

Here are the statistics for the 2014/2015 academic year:

PROGRAMS QUOTA/ GRADUATES	GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE	LAKELAND COLLEGE	NAIT	OLDS COLLEGE
AHT 2 year diploma	30Q	42Q	32Q	30 onsite 30 online Q
	23G	38G	28G	57G
VMA 1 year certificate		26Q	25Q	
		22G	23G	
VMR 1 year certificate				30Q
				25G
VTA 4 month certificate				30Q
				27G

KEY:

Q=quota, G=graduates, VOA=Veterinary Office Assistant, VMA=Veterinary Medical Assistant, VMR=Veterinary Medical Receptionist, VTA=Veterinary Technical Assistant

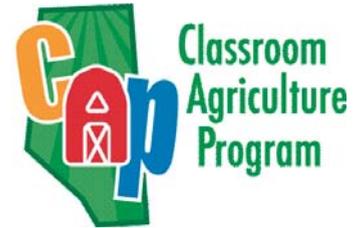
Classroom Agriculture Program (CAP)

The ABVMA is highly involved as a partner of the Classroom Agriculture Program (CAP), which is delivered to fourth-grade students in Alberta.

CAP was honoured to receive the Alberta School Boards Association 2015 Friends of Education Award on November 15. The award is presented annually to organizations that have demonstrated a commitment to the improvement of education for Alberta's students.

CAP filed an application to become a charitable organization in July 2014, and charitable status was granted on February 4, 2015.

In 2014/2015, CAP student registrations reached a total of 21,024 in 552 schools. Although the total is down slightly from 22,400 last year, more students actually received presentations this year. Last year we were unable to deliver the program to approximately 3,000 registered students due to a shortage of volunteers and that number has dropped to 1,089 this year. The Board is investigating new methods of recruiting volunteers and the next steps required to meet our outreach goal of 30,000 students.



In 2014/2015, CAP student registrations reached a total of 21,024 in 552 schools.

Association Report

PROJECTS

The ABVMA has been successful in applying for and securing funding for project work that aligns with the values and principles of the association. Over the last several years, the ABVMA has completed projects such as Biosecurity in Veterinary Practices, Foreign Qualification Recognition for Registration, and Euthanasia of Farm Animals.

In 2015, *Growing Forward 2 Food Safety Systems* funding allowed development of the 'Time is Running Out' campaign on antimicrobial resistance. The campaign at timeisrunningout.ca included a quiz and educational resources on antimicrobial stewardship. The campaign received 25,000 views. The quiz was started 8,400 times with a completion rate of 18%.

The campaign received an Outstanding Achievement Award from the Interactive Media Awards. The Outstanding Achievement award is the second highest honour bestowed by IMA and the ABVMA project won in the 'Advocacy' category over 62 other entries. The project scored 477/500 based on the criteria of design, content, feature functionality, usability and standards compliance.

A second project has recently been funded, also by *Growing Forward 2 Food Safety Systems*, and will be rolled out in 2016. This project will support livestock producers and veterinarians in adapting to imminent changes in new federal regulations being made by Health Canada's Veterinary Drugs Directorate. The project will support the change in veterinary oversight for the use of antimicrobials administered to food animals including those administered in feed or water.



Independent Auditor's Report

DECEMBER 10, 2015

To the Members of Alberta Veterinary Medical Association

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Alberta Veterinary Medical Association, which comprise the statement of financial position as at October 31, 2015 and the statements of operations, changes in member's equity and cash flow for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not for profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial

statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Alberta Veterinary Medical Association as at October 31, 2015 and the results of its operations and its cash flow for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not for profit organizations.

Kingston Ross Pasnak LLP

Kingston Ross Pasnak LLP
Chartered Professional Accountants

KRP | KINGSTON
ROSS
PASNAK LLP

Statement of Financial Position

YEAR ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2015

	2015	2014
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash	\$ 40,669	\$ -
Accounts receivable (Note 3)	287,896	253,873
Goods and Services Tax recoverable	7,222	17,221
Investment due within one year (Note 4)	120,937	345,643
Prepaid expenses	62,556	58,653
	519,280	675,390
INVESTMENTS (Note 4)	446,704	608,225
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT (Note 5)	76,750	85,048
	\$ 1,042,734	\$ 1,368,663
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
Bank indebtedness	\$ -	\$ 25,157
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	182,263	326,667
Deferred revenue (Note 6)	460,052	395,622
	\$ 642,315	\$ 747,446
COMMITMENTS (Note 7)		
MEMBERS' EQUITY		
Unappropriated members' deficit	(959,808)	(525,164)
Operating reserve	1,193,313	948,707
Program reserve	-	17,310
Professional wellness reserve	90,164	95,316
Investment in property and equipment	76,750	85,048
	400,419	621,217
	\$ 1,042,734	\$ 1,368,663

On behalf of the board



DIRECTOR



DIRECTOR

See notes to financial statements.

Statement of Changes in Member's Equity

YEAR ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2015

	Unappropriated Members	Operating Reserve	Program Reserve	Professional Wellness Reserve	Investment in Property and Equipment	2015	2014
BALANCE Beginning of year	\$ (525,164)	\$ 948,707	\$ 17,310	\$ 95,316	\$ 85,048	\$ 621,217	\$ 817,404
Deficiency of revenues over expenses	(180,150)	-	(16,545)	(5,152)	(18,951)	(220,798)	(196,187)
Investment in property and equipment	-	-	(10,653)	-	10,653	-	-
Transfer between reserves	(254,494)	244,606	9,888	-	-	-	-
BALANCE End of year	\$ (959,808)	\$ 1,193,313	-	\$ 90,164	\$ 70,750	\$ 400,419	\$ 621,217

See notes to financial statements.

Statement of Operations

YEAR ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2015

	2015 (Budget)	2015	2014
REVENUES			
Registration			
Veterinarian registration	\$ 2,006,100	\$ 1,881,497	\$ 1,545,227
Animal Health Technologists registration	222,100	205,843	166,696
Administrative fees	40,600	70,386	65,279
Permits to practice for a corporation	76,600	41,495	62,618
Professional wellness			
General	-	23,999	18,515
Recovery	5,000	4,880	156,049
Other revenue			
Restricted programs (Schedule 1)	-	605,725	521,797
Communications - newsletter/magazine/roster	150,000	161,271	143,854
Discipline/complaints program	135,000	149,464	121,511
Practice inspections	163,850	141,849	99,730
Investment interest	20,200	25,794	28,211
Database alignment	-	-	79,245
	\$ 2,819,450	\$ 3,312,203	\$ 3,008,732

See notes to financial statements.

Statement of Operations

YEAR ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2015 (CONTINUED)

	2015 (Budget)	2015	2014
EXPENSES			
Governance			
Leadership weekend	\$ 140,000	\$ 151,472	\$ 151,099
Council and other committee meetings	155,000	124,757	125,591
Representation/delegation	75,000	56,794	69,605
Communications			
Publication and website	213,800	208,653	223,291
Public relations and awards	45,000	22,608	66,215
Student programs	24,000	19,839	11,537
Administration			
Wages and benefits	878,562	940,550	795,563
Office operations	371,670	392,229	301,747
Office rent	157,320	157,320	220,525
Credit cards	69,200	73,941	67,554
Postage and courier	41,000	35,109	47,745
Professional services	30,000	28,000	10,139
General legal fees	65,000	20,362	47,229
Bad debt recovery	-	-	(2,011)
Other expenses			
Restricted programs (Schedule 1)	-	594,333	525,145
Discipline/complaints program	340,000	485,138	367,900
Practice inspection	148,000	169,849	108,082
Triple prescription program	30,000	30,000	30,058
Professional wellness	50,000	23,727	40,555
Changes in unrealized fair value	-	(1,680)	(2,650)
	2,833,552	3,533,001	3,204,919
DEFICIENCY OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	\$ (14,102)	\$ (220,798)	\$ (196,187)

See notes to financial statements.

Statement of Cash Flow

YEAR ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2015

	2015	2014
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Deficiency of revenues over expenses	\$ (220,798)	\$ (196,187)
Items not affectice cash:		
Changes in unrealized fair value	1,228	(2,650)
Depreciation and amortization	18,951	30,176
	(200,619)	(168,661)
Changes in non-cash working capital:		
Accounts receivable	(34,023)	46,139
Prepaid Expenses	(3,903)	(39,766)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(134,407)	(175,438)
Deferred revenue	64,429	(34,272)
	(107,904)	(203,337)
Cash flow used by operating activities	(308,523)	(371,998)
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of property and equipment	(10,651)	(46,714)
Redemption of investments	425,000	671,620
Purchase of investments	(40,000)	(320,063)
Cash flow from investing activities	374,349	304,843
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH	65,826	(67,155)
(BANK INDEBTEDNESS) CASH - BEGINNING OF YEAR	(25,157)	41,998
CASH (BANK INDEBTEDNESS) - END OF YEAR	\$ 40,669	\$ (25,157)
CASH (BANK INDEBTEDNESS) CONSISTS OF:		
Bank accounts	\$ 456,815	\$ 150,802
Outstanding cheques	(416,146)	(1,366)
Bank indebtedness	-	(174,593)
	\$ 40,669	\$ (25,157)

See notes to financial statements.

Notes to Financial Statements

YEAR ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2015

1. PURPOSE OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Alberta Veterinary Medical Association (the "Association") is the professional regulatory organization responsible for regulating the practice of veterinary medicine in the province of Alberta. All veterinarians and animal health technologists practicing veterinary medicine in Alberta must be registered with the Association. The Association serves the public through self governance in accordance with the Veterinary Professional Act. This includes registration, a complaints and discipline process, practice inspection and the setting and maintenance of high levels of practice standards. The Association is a not for profit medical organization under the Canadian Income Tax Act and, as such, is not subject to income tax.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not for profit organizations. Significant accounting policies observed in the preparation of the financial statements are summarized below.

Revenue recognition

Alberta Veterinary Medical Association follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions.

Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Registration dues are invoiced by the Association to its members on a calendar year basis and are recorded as income on a straight line basis over the 12 month period to which they relate.

Other income is unrestricted and is recognized in the period earned.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand and cash on deposit less cheques issued and outstanding. Included in cash is internally restricted funds of \$44,447 (2014 - \$31,652) related to the Radiation Protection Program.

Property and equipment

Property and equipment are stated at cost and are amortized over their estimated useful lives at the following rates and methods:

Furniture and fixtures	20%	declining balance method
Leasehold improvements	5 years	straight line method
Computer hardware	3 years	straight line method
Computer software	100%	declining balance method

Financial instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities, with the exception of investments, are initially measured at fair value less transaction costs when the Association becomes party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument, and subsequently measures its financial instruments at amortized cost.

Investments are measured at fair value with any changes recorded in the statement of operations. The fair value of investments is determined using market rates and prices.

Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements, in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not for profit organizations, requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Due to the inherent uncertainty involved in making such estimated, actual results could differ from these estimates. Significant areas that require the use of management's estimated included the collectible amounts of accounts receivable, the useful lives of property and equipment and the corresponding rates of amortization, the amount of accrued liabilities, and the amount of revenue to be deferred and recognized.

Members' equity

The Association relies mainly on the Members' registration dues to finance its operations. The funds available are allocated to the various programs based on the priorities identified by the Council. The objective is to set aside at least 45% of the gross revenue less non recurring programs.

The Member's equity of the Association consist of the unappropriated members' deficit, equity in property and equipment, and operating, program and professional wellness reserves.

Transfers to and from equity invested in property and equipment consist of additions funded through operations and depreciation. Additions of \$10,653 related to the purchases of property and equipment were transferred from the program reserve. During the year if a deficit arises in the Program Reserve a transfer is completed from the Unappropriated Members fund.

3. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

	2015	2014
Professional wellness	\$ 149,278	\$ 149,244
Discipline/complaints program	93,932	63,468
Other receivables, including dues	44,686	41,161
	\$287,896	\$253,873

4. INVESTMENTS

	2015	2014
\$100,000, 2.68% Tangerine Bank due December 9, 2016	\$ 102,386	\$ 102,394
\$100,000, 2.45% Natcan Trust Company due March 8, 2018	101,584	101,591
\$100,000, 2.45% National Bank of Canada due March 8, 2018	101,584	101,591
\$100,000, 2.15% Laurentian Bank due July 4, 2017	100,701	100,707
\$100,000, 2.05% Equitable Bank due July 4, 2016	100,668	100,673
\$40,000, 1.92% Pacific and Western Guaranteed Investment Certificates due March 31, 2019	40,449	-
Royal Bank of Canada High Interest Savings	20,269	20,062
\$25,000, 3.3% Alberta Capital Bonds, redeemed during the year	-	25,520
\$300,000, 2.5% Bank of Montreal Advisors Advantage Guaranteed Investment Certificate, redeemed during the year	-	300,061
\$100,000, 2.05% Home Trust Company, redeemed during the year	-	101,269
	567,641	953,868
Investments maturing within one year	(120,937)	(345,643)
	\$ 446,704	\$ 608,225

5. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

	Cost	Accumulated amortization	2015 Net book value	2014 Net book value
Furniture and fixtures	\$ 137,887	\$ 91,820	\$46,067	\$45,599
Leasehold improvements	44,812	14,129	30,683	39,449
Computer hardware	19,655	19,655	-	-
Computer software	12,757	12,757	-	-
	\$ 215,111	\$ 138,361	\$ 76,750	\$ 85,048

Amortization provided for in the current year totaled \$18,951; (2014 - \$17,035).

6. DEFERRED REVENUE

Deferred revenue consists of funds received that are restricted for specific purposes or related to future periods, as follows:

	2015	2014
Veterinarian registration	\$ 317,101	\$ 309,244
Permit to practice for a corporation	40,560	12,524
Animal Health Technologists registration	34,799	33,339
Practice inspection renewals	24,381	19,946
Radiation Protection Program	24,168	6,345
John Waters Workshop	12,373	6,340
Alberta Surveillance Program	6,670	-
Foreign qualification recognition	-	7,884
	\$ 460,052	\$ 395,622

7. COMMITMENTS

The Association leases premises under a long term lease that expires on July 31, 2024. Under the lease, the Association is required to pay a base rent of \$157,320 for the first five year term and \$165,186 for the second five year term. In addition to the above base rent, the Association must pay for its proportionate share of utilities, property taxes, maintenance and other related costs for the leased premises.

Future minimum lease payments as at year end are as follows:

2016	\$ 250,161
2017	250,161
2018	250,161
2019	250,161
2020	258,027
	<u>\$ 1,258,671</u>

The Association also has long term lease with respect to its equipment. The leases contain renewal options and provide for maintenance costs.

Future minimum lease payments as at year end are as follows:

2016	\$ 89,147
2017	89,147
2018	89,147
2019	89,147
2020	89,147
	<u>\$ 445,735</u>

The Association has an employee contract agreement. The agreement is between a contractor and the Association and will be effect for a one year, annually renewable term effective November 1, 2015 to October 31, 2016. The contractor may withdraw from this agreement by providing two weeks written notice. The Association may terminate this agreement by paying compensation in lieu of two weeks' notice. The reasons for the withdrawing from this contract by either party are to be held in confidence unless required by law. The Association agrees to pay the contractor \$75,000 plus GST per year to attend to specific duties, over the twelve month period.

The Association has committed to annually contribute \$3,000 to the Students of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association Symposium to support a student member of the Association.

8. BUDGET

The Council approved this budget on November 20, 2014.

9. CANWEST VETERINARY CONFERENCE

The CanWest Veterinary Conference (the "conference") is hosted by the Association.

	2015	2014
Revenue	\$ 222,029	\$ 238,646
CanWest Conference - Trade Fair Booths	184,624	205,690
Sponsorship	40,400	16,664
Expenses	(423,173)	(462,144)
	<u>\$ 14,881</u>	<u>\$ (1,144)</u>

10. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Association is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments. The following analysis provides information about the Association's risk exposure and concentration as of October 31, 2015. Unless otherwise noted, the Association's risk exposure has not changed from the prior year.

Credit risk

Credit risk arises from the potential that a counter party will fail to perform its obligations. The Association is exposed to credit risk from members, and the maximum exposure to this risk is the carrying value of accounts receivable on the balance sheet. The Association has four members that account for 75% of the Wellness and Discipline and three customers that account for 60% of the trade accounts receivable balance as October 31, 2015.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Association will encounter difficulty in meeting its financial obligations as they become due. Cash flow from operations provides a substantial portion of the Association's cash requirements, and additional requirements are met with the use of the available credit facilities.

Market risk

The Association is exposed to fluctuations in the market price of its investments. This risk is managed by the Association's investment policies which prescribe limitations regarding the type of investments. In addition, the Association is exposed to interest rate risk with respect to the amount of interest earned on term deposits.

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument might be adversely affected by a change in the market interest rates. The Association is exposed to interest rate risk primarily through its term deposits.

11. ALBERTA PET ESSENTIAL TREATMENT FOUNDATION

The Alberta Pet Essential Treatment Foundation was incorporated on March 25, 2013, as a charitable foundation aiming to provide funding for veterinary treatment and education to individuals for low income or with qualified financial need. The Association holds 100 of the 300 shares in issue issued for a nominal value.

12. COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Some of the comparative figures have been reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation.

Schedule of Restricted Program Activity

(Schedule 1)

YEAR ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2015

	CanWest	Foreign Qualification Recognition	Radiation Protection Program	John Waters Workshop	Antimicrobial Resistance Project	Alberta Veterinary Surveillance Network Program	Total 2015	Total 2015
Opening deferred revenue	\$ -	\$ 7,884	\$ 6,345	\$ 6,340	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,569	\$ 49,150
Add: Program funding received	447,054	-	41,430	6,100	90,000	43,782	628,366	493,216
Less: Revenue recognized	(447,054)	(7,884)	(23,608)	(67)	(90,000)	(37,112)	(605,725)	(521,797)
Ending deferred revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 24,167	\$ 12,373	\$ -	\$ 6,670	\$ 43,210	\$ 20,569
Expenses	\$432,173	\$ -	\$ 37,980	\$ 67	\$ 90,000	\$ 37,113	\$ 594,333	\$ 525,145

Schedule of Non-Restricted Revenues and Expenditures (Schedule 2)

YEAR ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2015

	2015 Performance	2015 Budget	Performance as % of Budget	2016 Budget
REVENUE				
Registration	2,199,221	2,342,400	93.89%	2,881,957
Communication	161,271	150,000	107.51%	165,000
Practice inspection	141,849	163,850	86.57%	161,032
Professional wellness	28,879	5,000	577.58%	5,000
Discipline/complaints program	149,464	135,000	110.71%	150,000
Investment interest	25,794	20,200	127.69%	20,000
Other	-	3,000	0.00%-	--
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 2,706,478	\$ 2,819,450	95.99%	\$ 3,382,989
EXPENDITURES				
Governance	333,022	370,000	90.01%	380,000
Communications	251,100	282,800	88.79%	282,000
Adminstration	1,647,511	1,609,152	102.38%	2,024,460
Practice inspection	169,849	148,000	114.76%	163,000
Professional wellness	23,727	50,000	47.45%	33,500
Discipline/complaints program	485,138	340,000	142.69%	430,000
Triple prescription program	30,000	30,000	100.00%	30,000
Other	(1,680)	2,600	0.00%	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 2,938,668	\$ 2,832,552	103.75%	\$ 3,342,960





Canadian Veterinary Oath

As a member of the veterinary medical profession, I solemnly swear that I will use my scientific knowledge and skills for the benefit of society.

I will strive to promote animal health and welfare, relieve animal suffering, protect the health of the public and environment, and advance comparative knowledge.

I will practice my profession conscientiously, with dignity, and in keeping with the principles of veterinary medical ethics.

I will strive continuously to improve my professional knowledge and competence and to maintain the highest professional and ethical standards for myself and the profession.



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