



## College of Veterinarians of British Columbia

### I have an animal related concern – Should I contact the CVBC?

The CVBC is responsible for the regulation of the veterinary profession and is able to respond to complaints or concerns related to:

- the conduct or competency of a veterinarian
- questions regarding the registration status of a veterinarian
- the conditions of a veterinary practice facility
- a non-veterinarian or an unlicensed veterinarian performing services that fall within the scope of veterinary medicine.

For more information on how to file a complaint with the CVBC [click here](#).

To determine if a veterinarian is registered to legally practice veterinary medicine in the province of BC please see our online registry by [clicking here](#).

#### **Mental Health Support:**

[Wellbeing.gov.bc.ca](http://Wellbeing.gov.bc.ca) is managed by the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions and can guide you to finding the right information and services to meet your needs.

#### **Emergency Contact Information:**

Call [9-1-1](#) if you are in an emergency.

For mental health support, call:

#### **Crisis Line**

[1-800-SUICIDE \(1-800-784-2433\)](tel:1-800-SUICIDE)

#### **Mental Health Support Line**

[310-6789](tel:310-6789) (no area code needed)

### **Animal Cruelty Concerns:**

Please contact the [British Columbia SPCA](#)

To report an animal in distress (farm animals, domestic animals and wildlife), please call the BC SPCA Animal Helpline: [1-855-622-7722](tel:1-855-622-7722), open 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., seven days per week. Closed on Statutory holidays *except for wildlife calls in the South Vancouver Island Region (Wild ARC) from 8 to 4:30 p.m.*

If this is an animal emergency outside of these hours, please contact your [local police department](#), [RCMP](#) or the [Conservation Officer Service \(RAPP\)](#).

### **Animal Health and Disease Control:**

For [animal health](#) related matters that may impact other animals or humans but do not involve concerns regarding the conduct or competency of your veterinarian:

#### **Reportable disease and foreign animal disease concerns or testing questions:**

Animal owners, veterinarians and laboratories are required to immediately report to the CFIA and [the Chief Veterinarian of BC \(CVO BC\)](#) when a reportable or foreign animal disease (FAD) is detected or suspected.

- Learn which diseases are federally reportable and who [your local CFIA Animal Health District Veterinarian](#) is at [CFIA's Reportable diseases: Terrestrial animals webpage](#).
- [Learn about provincially notifiable and reportable diseases](#)
- [Make a report to the CVO BC](#)

#### **Concerns regarding rabies transmission and you or your pet:**

In BC, the Rabies virus is transmitted by bats. If you have concerns regarding rabies and you or your pet, or have discovered a bat that appears sick:

<http://www.bccdc.ca/resource-gallery/Documents/Educational%20Materials/Epid/Zoonoses/rabiesbrochure.pdf>

#### **Concerns regarding wildlife that appear sick or injured:**

- Do not touch the animal
- Contact the BC Wildlife Veterinarian (250-953-4285)
- If you find an animal which is injured or orphaned (and not likely to be rabid), contact a wildlife rehabilitation centre (<http://www.wrnbc.org/contact/find-a-local-rehabilitator/>)
- [Click here](#) for sick or dead wild bird reporting.

**Criminal Conduct:**

If you have concerns regarding the conduct of a veterinarian that involve conduct issues that fall under the Criminal Code you may file a complaint with the CVBC, but are strongly encouraged to report the incident to your local police or RCMP.

**Advocacy for the Veterinary Profession:**

To learn more about the veterinary profession and to gain perspectives on issues, trends, advocacy on behalf of veterinarians, and animal health and welfare concerns of the profession, please contact the [Society of British Columbia Veterinarians](#). The SBCV serves the profession, promotes the profession, and supports the human-animal bond.