

2.5. Minutes of the July 28th, 2023 Open Council Meeting

MOTION: THAT the Minutes of the July 28th, 2023 Open Council meeting be approved as distributed.

MOVED/SECONDED

CARRIED

Direction: To post the approved July 28th, 2023 open meeting minutes.

3. ITEMS REQUIRING COUNCIL ACTION/DECISION/DISCUSSION

3.1. Update from the BCVTA

Ms. Barker provided Council with an update on BCVTA activities since the last meeting.

She reported that:

- the BCVTA has launched a board evaluation process with the assistance of Finlay & Associates and will review the findings with their board at the BCVTA's Strategic Planning meeting in November;
- through member vote at their recent AGM, annual CE requirements were increased to 15;
- work is proceeding with the CVBC and lawyers on developing the bylaws to include RVTs under the CVBC. Reflecting on CVBC registrant responses to a recent fee increase proposal, Dr. Martin wondered if there is an understanding amongst the BCVTA board and their members regarding what regulation under the CVBC might cost. Ms. Barker relayed that they did have an open forum discussion about regulation and were a lot of questions.

Council will extend an invitation to the BCVTA team to join the Leadership Day and details will be forwarded. Ms. Barker is sorry to hear of Dr. Bergman's departure given the positive relationship that has been forged between the CVBC and the BCVTA during her time here.

3.2. Council & Committee Fall Workshop

Dr. Bergman has been working with Dr. Klemmensen on shaping this day and Dr. Klemmensen is excited to engage with Council and Committee members as well as CVBC staff. Council reviewed the draft invitation and proposed agenda provided by Dr. Klemmensen. CVBC office staff who are available will also be included in the workshop.

As the workshop is scheduled to happen after Dr. Bergman's departure, it was decided that Dr. Thomas and Mr. Walsoff, as Acting Co-Registrars and as the primary CVBC contacts with the Committees, will provide a welcome to attendees and introduction for Dr. Klemmensen, then Dr. Pritchard will speak to the Vision and Mission of the CVBC after the lunch break.

As there is a gap between today's meeting and the AGM, it may be wise to take the opportunity to have a short Council meeting after the workshop.

Direction: To book a Council meeting at 5:00pm and arrange for dinner. Finalize IT set up for the workshop and send the invitations out.

3.3. PFAC Policy – Accreditation of Non-Typical Facilities

Dr. Rusticus joined the meeting at 10:33 a.m.

The Practice Facilities Accreditation Committee recently approved a draft policy to provide a framework for accreditation decisions regarding non-typical facilities. The policy is being

referred to Council for approval and Dr. Rusticus attended to provide context for the need for the policy and to ask any questions Council might have.

She explained that, at an increasing frequency over the past year, the department is receiving requests and inquiries from registrants regarding “non-typical” facility plans. In the absence of any policy document for staff to refer to, most often these inquiries require significant staff time and must be presented to the Committee for input regarding whether there is a pathway to accreditation for the proposed practice facility and what might be required. Often, registrants need this information early in their planning, before they can start to invest the time and money to develop it (ie. long before the registrant would be in a position to make an application for accreditation).

Having a formal policy and guide in place will assist staff in answering questions for registrants. It will ensure consistency by staff, in their feedback to registrants, and by the Committee, in their decisions; will reduce the volume of email communications required to provide guidance to registrants; and should substantially reduce the frequency with which these proposals need to be presented to the Committee for feedback.

Council members identified spelling and grammatical errors in the documents, but otherwise did not offer any concerns or criticisms of the information set out within them. Dr. Rusticus is requesting Council’s approval of this Policy and accompanying Guide and will correct the noted errors prior to it being published on the website.

Dr. Rusticus left the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

MOTION: TO approve the Policy and Guidelines re. Accreditation of Non-Typical Facilities, with the noted corrections.

MOVED/SECONDED

CARRIED

Direction: for Dr. Rusticus to make the changes the documents and then for them both to be posted on the website and put into use.

3.4. Council Election

The College will hold an election this year to fill one vacant seat on Council, and will be following the bylaw-prescribed steps that are taken in all election cycles. The candidate bio document that was developed by Dr. Martin last year was valuable for gathering relevant candidate information in a structured and consistent form for all nominees. Dr. Bergman has secured three volunteers to sit on the Nomination Committee: Dr. Doris Leung, Dr. Jane Mancell and Dr. Dalwinder Toor.

MOTION: TO appoint Dr. Doris Leung, Dr. Jane Mancell and Dr. Dalwinder Toor to the Nomination Committee in order to proceed with the election process.

MOVED/SECONDED

CARRIED

Direction: Make an announcement of the NC members and look to setting a meeting and opening Nominations.

3.5. PSA Extension Request Policy

This Policy has been referred by the Registration Committee to Council for approval. PSA registration enables veterinarians who don’t yet have a Certificate of Qualification from the NEB to practice under supervision of another CVBC registrant while preparing for and

completing their practical qualifying examinations. Committee approval for PSA registration is valid for two years, though the bylaws establish that a PSA registrant can request an extension for up to a further two years. Getting a policy in place for the Committee to rely upon and for staff to refer to is time sensitive, as the PSA form of registration has been in effect for almost two years, and the office anticipates that it will soon begin receive extension requests from PSA registrants nearing the end of their two-year approval.

Dr. Martin inquired whether there is any accommodation given (regarding the strict time limits for approvals and extensions) to registrants who must step away from practice for illness or family leave. Dr. Thomas relayed that, last year, the office considered what would happen to the terms and conditions imposed on a PSA registrant's registration if they were to transfer to inactive registration (Non-Practicing or Retired) and it was established (in policy) that the timeframe of Committee approval for PSA registration would not be suspended during a voluntary move to inactive registration. However, this assessment was focused on registrants who apply to transfer to inactive status because they have relocated to another province, and did not contemplate leaves from practice related to illness or family reasons. The two-year approval and potential for a maximum two-years extension to the approval for PSA registration is specifically established in the bylaws. The Deputy Registrar advises that she will need to consult with Mr. Cavouras as to whether it is possible to build in a mechanism for suspending this timeline for the circumstances mentioned through policy or if it would require a bylaw change. She notes that this issue is not immediately relevant, as even the longest-standing PSA registrants are just now approaching the end of their first two-year approval. Given the time sensitive nature of the policy, the Deputy Registrar asks Council to consider the policy as written, with a commitment from her to explore this with legal counsel to find a timely resolution consistent with regulatory fairness.

Council questioned whether the Registration Committee will be able to handle these requests in addition to its existing regular workload. The Deputy Registrar noted that not every PSA registrant will require an extension (many are completing their exams and receiving their CQ and full registration during their original two-year period of approval) and those that do will be staggered across the year, therefore she does not anticipate it will be a significant burden.

MOTION: TO approve the PSA Extension Request Policy as presented today on an interim basis, and with commitment from staff to explore and address the issue related to maternity, family or medical leaves in some manner following consultation with legal counsel.

MOVED/SECONDED

CARRIED

Direction: To post on the website and put into use; separately, to consult with Greg Cavouras regarding potential solutions to address concerns regarding PSA registrants who must take leaves from practice (and their preparation for their exams) for personal reasons, and to update Council regarding options.

4. REPORTS RECEIVED FOR INFORMATION

- 4.1. Report on New Registrants** – Accepted and not discussed as per the Consent Agenda.
- 4.2. Report on Change of Registration Class** – Accepted and not discussed as per the Consent Agenda.
- 4.3. Name Approvals** – Accepted and not discussed as per the Consent Agenda.
- 4.4. Report on Facilities, Closed, New & Reaccredited** – Accepted and not discussed as per the

Consent Agenda.

4.5. Task List – Accepted and not discussed as per the Consent Agenda.

5. ADJOURNMENT

5.1. Next Meeting Date

As agreed earlier in the meeting, a Council meeting will be held the evening of Friday, October 20th, 2023 following the workshop.

The Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, November 26th, 2023

Friday, December 15th, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. is held as a tentative date for a meeting (if needed).

MOTION: THAT the Open meeting be closed at 11:04 a.m.

MOVED/SECONDED

CARRIED

Council took a 10 minute break.