



College of Veterinarians of British Columbia

COUNCIL MEETING

Via Zoom

Friday, May 3rd, 2024

Minutes of the Open Meeting

Council Members: Dr. Jane Pritchard (President), Dr. Michele Martin, Mr. Gian Sihota (Treasurer), Dr. Justin McLash, Mr. Harinder Mahil, Ms. Kari Michaels, Dr. Gigi Lin and Dr. Kirsten Riphagen

Staff: Ms. Christine Arnold (Registrar & CEO), Dr. Stacey Thomas (Deputy Registrar) & Ms. Rosalee Magcalas (Executive Assistant)

Guests: Ms. Amanda Barker, BCVTA Liaison and Ms. Larke Miller (observation only)

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Pritchard at 10:05 a.m.

2. ROUTINE PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

2.1. Territorial Acknowledgement

Council would like to respectfully acknowledge that we work and live on the traditional ancestral and unceded lands of the Coast Salish, Squamish, Sechelt, Musqueam and Tsleil-Waututh nations and we acknowledge all other first nations in British Columbia.

2.2 Approval of the Open Agenda

MOTION: THAT the Agenda be approved with the power to add.

MOVED/SECONDED

CARRIED

2.3 President's Remarks

Dr. Pritchard wanted to acknowledge that this is Ms. Michael's last meeting on Council but will be staying with the CVBC family and taking a position on PFAC. It was wonderful having her fresh perspective and input on Council.

Many PSA registrants are now beginning to move forward with full registration which shows that this licensure is working and is encouraging more veterinarians to get into practice in BC.

Dr. Patrick Burrage, former AB registrant, has now become licensed in BC and Dr. Pritchard feels that he might be a good person to assist with telemedicine.

2.4. Approval of Consent Agenda

MOTION: THAT the Open Consent Agenda be approved as presented with items 2.5, 4.1, 4.2,

4.3, 4.4 and 4.5.

MOVED/SECONDED

CARRIED

2.5. Minutes of the March 22nd, 2024 Open Council Meeting

MOTION: THAT the Minutes of the March 22nd, 2024 Open Council meeting be approved as distributed.

MOVED/SECONDED

CARRIED

Direction: To post the approved March 22nd, 2024 open meeting minutes.

3. ITEMS REQUIRING COUNCIL ACTION/DECISION/DISCUSSION

3.1. Update from the BCVTA

Ms. Barker shared the wage survey conducted by the BCVTA, which has a tremendous turnout among its membership. Although called a wage survey, it captured a lot more than just pay and as a result, two more reports will be produced, one for the RVTs and one for employers. This report saw 44% of facilities have non-RVTs performing work that should be done by an RVT, which is down from the last report, but still not acceptable. Another survey will be conducted in the spring of 2026 and will include more questions around the structure of the CE allowance to more tailored experiences, maternity leave, sick leave and sing more specific wage, rather than just ranges. The budget was approved and planning for the spring conference is going well, with fewer registrants registered than anticipated, but all of the labs are full, with more variety. The next executive meeting will be held on May 9th and will prepare for the AGM.

Ms. Barker advised that some provinces (AB, MB, ON) are discontinuing the memberships in the Registered Veterinary Technologists & Technicians of Canda (RVTTC) which will impact the BCVTA's budget and may result in increased the fees in order for BC to remain a member and she is unsure why they have chosen to leave.

Dr. Martin asked about the 44% of non-RVT's and is asking about when they join the CVBC, there will have to be discussions regarding being in alignment with the CVBC and there will also have to be some grandfather time in order to get the education to become RVTs and if they do not, they will have to cease. Things like nail clipping or ear checks are duties of an RVT, but with training, a non-RVT could do these simple procedures.

While RTV has been and continues to be a female dominated industry, the BCVTA is looking into EDI, and they will continue to look into this issue and hope that second generation immigrants will look into this industry for possible jobs going forward. Ms. Barker has seen a movement from non-registered to registered techs and with the shortage has been able to make it work even though retention is the number one area that needs to be addressed as it is currently not good.

3.2. Report: Governing in the Public Interest

Both Mr. Mahil and Sihota attended this session last week at the Vancouver Convention Centre. Mr. Mahil was surprised to see how many boards, etc., were in attendance to listen to various speakers throughout the day. There was an understanding of what the board members do which provided an appreciation for them and also a realization that some boards do not

have proper resources, but still make do.

The afternoon session was about reconciliation and had three noteworthy speakers and participants were provided the opportunity to join a number of break-out sessions to participate in. The conference also had Premier Eby in attendance which showed the seriousness of this conference and that the work of the commissions and boards was being taken seriously.

Mr. Sihota found it to be very educational and a good chance to share ideas with other participants. One of the break-out sessions was especially interesting and dealt with DEAI which he felt connected with the CVBC EDI Policy, and although the College is still working on this, we could possibly pivot and include 'accessibility' into the Policy.

The Council President asked Mr. Mahil and Mr. Sihota to review the speakers, possibly at a later time to see if there could be someone who would be a good speaker to attend another CVBC Leadership Day, like was held last October and they will compile a list.

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.

Council took a 15-minute break to return at 11:00 a.m.

5. ADJOURNMENT

5.1. Next Meeting Date

Friday, June 21, 2024 at 10:00 a.m., via Zoom.

MOTION: THAT the Open meeting be closed at 11:01 a.m.

MOVED/SECONDED

CARRIED