



College of Veterinarians of British Columbia

COUNCIL MEETING

Friday, June 20th, 2025

By videoconference

Minutes of the Open Meeting

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

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

Guests: Ms. Amanda Barker, BCVTA Liaison

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Pritchard at 10:02 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

The College continues to attract and register significant numbers of new registrants from all corners of the world - remarkable.

2.4. Approval of Consent Agenda

MOTION: THAT the Open Consent Agenda be approved as presented with items 2.5, 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3.

MOVED/SECONDED

CARRIED

2.5. Minutes of May 2nd, 2025 Open Council Meeting

MOTION: THAT the Minutes of the May 2nd, 2025 Open Council meeting be approved as distributed.

MOVED/SECONDED

CARRIED

Direction: To post the approved May 2nd, 2025 open meeting minutes.

3. ITEMS REQUIRING COUNCIL ACTION/DECISION/DISCUSSION

3.1. Update from the BCVTA (verbal)

The CVBC Liaison provided an update to Council, which included that the incoming President of the BCVTA has resigned from the position and Ms. Barker has taken on the role in addition to her CVBC Liaison role.

3.2. Certified Technicians Regulation & Veterinarians Act (verbal)

Presented by the Registrar for discussion.

The Council was provided with background information on this matter, including barriers to the recognition of RVTs under the Act.

3.3. Investigation Committee Reappointment

Presented by the Registrar for discussion and decision.

Dr. John Bratty has been the chair of the Investigation Committee and is eligible for and interested in serving another term. Dr. Bratty has proven himself to be a capable, committed, and effective member and chair of the IC. The College recommends his reappointment.

MOTION: TO reappoint Dr. John Bratty to the Investigation Committee for a third term effective July 1, 2025.

MOVED/SECONDED

Council discussed Dr. Bratty's qualifications.

CARRIED (Mr. Sihota abstaining from the vote)

Direction: To advise the member of his reappointment.

3.4. Registration Committee Reappointments

Presented by the Registrar for discussion and decision.

Three members of the Registration Committee are eligible for and have expressed interest in serving another term. They are: Dr. Simrat Kaur; Dr. Margaret Henderson; and Dr. Anil Sharma. All three members have proven to be capable, committed, and effective members. The College recommends their reappointments.

MOTION: TO reappoint Dr. Simrat Kaur to the Registration Committee for a second term effective April 30, 2025.

MOVED/SECONDED

Council discussed Dr. Kaur's qualifications.

CARRIED

MOTION: TO reappoint Dr. Margaret Henderson to the Registration Committee for a second term effective July 1, 2025.

MOVED/SECONDED

Council discussed Dr. Henderson's qualifications.

CARRIED

MOTION: TO reappoint Dr. Anil Sharma to the Registration Committee for a second term effective August 17, 2025.

MOVED/SECONDED

Council discussed Dr. Sharma's qualifications.

CARRIED

Direction: To advise the members of their reappointment.

3.5. Continuing Competence Committee Reappointments

Presented by the Registrar for discussion and decision.

Two members of the Continuing Competence Committee are eligible for and have expressed interest in serving another term. They are: Dr. Jane Pritchard and Dr. Po-Yan Cheng. Both members have proven to be capable, committed, and effective members. The College recommends their reappointments.

Dr. Carsten Bandt has expressed interest in being appointed to the Continuing Competence Committee. Dr. Bandt has served on another committee of the College, in which capacity he has proven to be a capable, committed, and effective member.

MOTION: TO reappoint Dr. Jane Pritchard to the Continuing Competence Committee for a second term effective August 17, 2025.

MOVED/SECONDED

Council discussed Dr. Pritchard's qualifications.

CARRIED (Dr. Pritchard abstained from the vote)

MOTION: TO reappoint Dr. Po-Yan Cheng to the Continuing Competence Committee for a second term effective April 30, 2025.

MOVED/SECONDED

Council discussed Dr. Cheng's qualifications.

CARRIED

MOTION: TO appoint Dr. Carsten Bandt to the Continuing Competence Committee effective July 1, 2025.

MOVED/SECONDED

Council discussed Dr. Bandt's qualifications.

CARRIED

Direction: To advise the members of their respective reappointment or appointment.

3.6. National Examining Board Representative Nomination
Presented by the Registrar for discussion and decision.

The College recommends Dr. Stacey Thomas for the position. Dr. Thomas possesses the professional and institutional knowledge and experience required to effectively serve as the College's representative to the NEB, particularly during a time of change in the dynamic between the veterinary regulators and the NEB.

Council discussed Dr. Thomas' qualifications and fit for the role.

MOTION: TO nominate Dr. Stacey Thomas to the CVMA as the College's representative to the National Examining Board.

MOVED/SECONDED

CARRIED

3.7. CABRO Update
Presented by the Registrar for information and discussion.

Public members of the College's Council are appointed by the Minister of Agriculture and Food. Three out of the four public member seats have been vacant for 17, 13, and 5 months, respectively. Three public members were appointed effective June 12, 2025. The College was notified on June 19, 2025.

Council is pleased to have a full contingent of public members and look forward to welcoming the new members at the next Council meeting.

3.8. CNAR Annual National Conference (verbal)
Presented by the Registrar for information.

CNAR is the Canadian equivalent of CLEAR. The College has been invited to speak at their upcoming conference in October 2025. The panel will consist of Ms. Arnold, Dr. Thomas, and Mr. Greg Cavouras. The title of the session is *When a Regulator Gets Left Behind: The Problem with Decentralized Provincial Oversight of Professional Regulation*.

- 3.9. CLEAR Board of Directors Nomination – Christine Arnold (verbal)
Presented by the Registrar for information.

Ms. Arnold has been nominated to stand for election to the board of CLEAR. The voting period ends on September 8, 2025. The results will be announced in mid-September.

In addition, Dr. Christine Smetschka, the College’s Senior Inspector, has been nominated for CLEAR’s Investigative Excellence Award.

- 3.10. Great Places to Work – 2025 Best Workplaces in Government & Social Services (June 2025).
The College was awarded the Great Place to Work certification in March 2025 and became eligible for a variety of sub-awards, which include the Globe and Mails’ Best Workplace Award. Unfortunately, the College is not eligible for that award as it requires 25 full-time employees, but the College was awarded the Best Workplaces in Government & Social Services Award, effective June 2025.

Council is very pleased with this and the other previously mentioned awards and speaking engagements.

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. Report on Facilities, Closed, New & Reaccredited - Accepted and not discussed as per the Consent Agenda.

5. **ADJOURNMENT**

- 5.1. Next Meeting Date

Friday, September 12, 2025.

MOTION: THAT the Open meeting be closed at 11:17 a.m.

MOVED/SECONDED

CARRIED