

July 2025 BCVTA Board Meeting Highlights

- July 14, 2025
- Board of Director Positions:
 - Current Secretary Emily Carefoot was appointed to the Vice-President position
 - Current Director at Large Ashley Bourdeau was then appointed to the Secretary Position
 - BCVTA and Continuing Education Committee member Anne Pauluzzi was appointed as a Board member in the Director at Large Position
 - Discussed the activities and meetings from CVMA convention. Focused on the meeting with the Ministry of Agriculture and discussed next steps. See below for a more in-depth review.
 - Student engagement - discussed possible methods for engaging students in distance or open learning programs.
 - Reviewed and approved Governance Committee recommendations for updates to policy section 6: Social Media Policies
 - Scheduled fall Board of Director strategic planning retreat and Board meetings.

Next meeting September 8, 2025

A Message from the BCVTA President

Dear BCVTA Membership,

I am honoured to introduce myself as your new President of the British Columbia Veterinary Technologists Association. My name is Amanda Barker, and I have proudly worked as an RVT for 12 years across general practice, emergency, wildlife rehabilitation, and specialty medicine. From starting as a kennel attendant to becoming a Registered Veterinary Technologist in 2012, my career has been driven by a passion for patient care, education, and advocating for our profession.

Throughout my time in veterinary medicine, I've gained extensive leadership experience managing teams in busy hospitals and serving on multiple industry boards and committees. These experiences have given me a deep understanding of both the strengths and the challenges facing RVTs in BC today.

As your President over the next two years, my goals are to advance regulation of RVTs in British Columbia, prioritize initiatives that support RVT well-being and sustainability, and advocate for recognition of the vital role we play in veterinary healthcare. I am committed to enhancing opportunities for mentorship and continuing education while fostering a stronger, more connected RVT community.

I believe in transparent, approachable leadership and will work tirelessly to ensure that your voices are heard and your contributions recognized. Together, we can build a future where RVTs are supported, respected, and empowered to thrive.

Thank you for your trust and dedication to animal health and welfare. I look forward to what we will achieve together as a community.

Warm regards,

Amanda Barker, RVT, CVPP
BCVTA President, 2025-2027



President and CVBC Liaison Amanda Barker, seen here with her very photogenic feline Hitch!

Through the eyes of the Executive Director: 2025 CVMA Conference Highlights

The 2025 CVMA Convention was held in beautiful Victoria, BC, from June 25–29. With the event so close to home, many members of the BCVTA Board were able to attend and represent the Association throughout the week. While the CVMA Convention is well known for its excellent educational program, I've learned since first attending in 2023 that the networking opportunities make this event a must attend. This year, the Board and I made the most of the home turf advantage.

One of the highlights was an introductory meeting with the Ministry of Agriculture, which currently holds responsibility for oversight of the Veterinarians Act. The meeting was attended by Assistant Deputy Minister Eric Kristianson, Executive Director Arlene Anderson, Director of Policy Tina Bodnar, as well as BCVTA President Amanda Barker, Past President Gabrielle Beer, Secretary Emily Carefoot, and myself. It was a productive and positive first step in our ongoing efforts toward RVT regulation and we look forward to sharing more information with members soon.

During Trade Show hours, we connected with a wide range of exhibitors and sparked interest in our upcoming 2026 BCVTA Conference in Richmond, BC. It was wonderful to catch up with long-time BCVTA supporters and explore new products and services that may be of interest to RVTs.

I also spent a full day with Executive Directors and representatives from other provincial veterinary technologist associations in a strategic planning session facilitated by Finley and Associates. By the end of the session, we had identified several shared priorities and agreed on action steps for the year ahead. We'll be sharing more details as that work progresses.

We were also honoured to attend the Society of BC Veterinarians' Welcome Reception, sponsored by our own Platinum Sponsor, AVP. The event provided a great opportunity to meet members of the Society's Board and learn more about how their organization supports veterinarians, just as the BCVTA supports RVTs.

Between all these scheduled events, we also took time to attend lectures to scout potential speakers for future CE opportunities and held valuable informal conversations with partners and supporters. All in all, this was another successful convention!



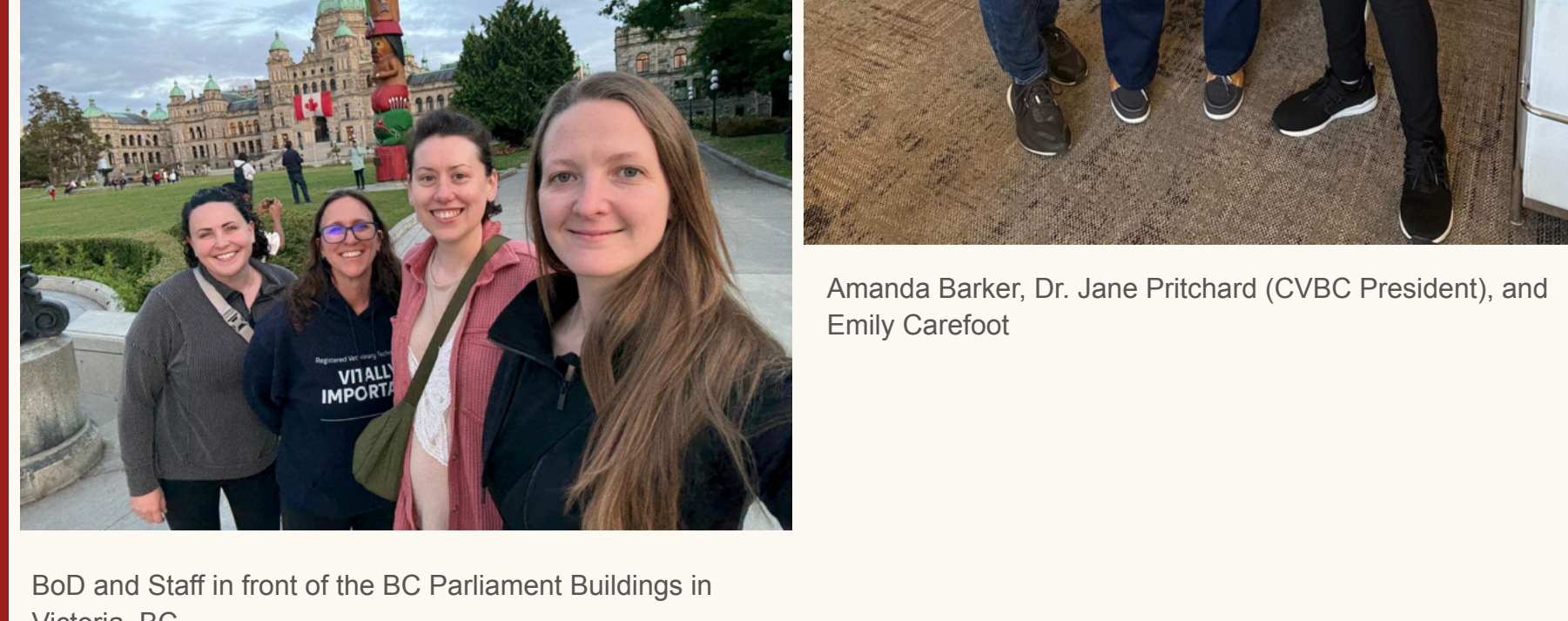
Meeting of the Provincial RVT association Executive Directors.

Back Row (L to R): Emily Carefoot, Amanda Barker, and Ministry of Agriculture Executive Director Arlene Anderson



Front Row (L to R): Ministry of Agriculture, Assistant Deputy Minister Eric Kristianson, Amber Gregg, Gabrielle Beer, and Ministry of Agriculture Director, Policy Tina Bodnar

Amanda Barker, Dr. Jane Pritchard (CVBC President), and Emily Carefoot



BoD and Staff in front of the BC Parliament Buildings in Victoria, BC



Regulating RVTs and What This Means for the BCVTA

The definition of regulation is "a rule or directive made and maintained by an authority". BCVTA's goal is to advocate to the Government of British Columbia to formally recognize registered veterinary technologists (RVTs) as a regulated profession under an updated Veterinarians Act, bringing BC in line with national standards and ensuring safe, accountable animal care.

The BCVTA board of directors and Executive Director has met consulting group Hills and Knowlton on more than one occasion to discuss steps necessary to advance regulation within our profession. You can view presentations from the H&K team from the following recordings:

- 2024 BCVTA Town Hall
- 2025 Annual General Meeting

We will provide more information as soon as it is available, to keep you up to date. If you have any questions surrounding regulation for BCVTA members, please email executivedirector@bcvta.com

Continuing Education Audits

Every year a dedicated team of volunteers, alongside the Executive Director, will perform audits of membership continuing education credits that have been submitted throughout the year.

What does an audit mean exactly?

The CE Committee will review a random selection of 5–10% of RVT and Non-Resident members annually to ensure CE records are accurate and up to date. Proper documentation is required to verify that members are meeting their annual membership requirements, including completion of the required number of credits, submission of appropriate supporting documents, and alignment with CE eligibility criteria.

For more information regarding the assessment of continuing education credits, click [here](#).

There will be an additional email outlining CE audits with more details and information coming soon.

JUST A FEW EXAMPLES OF CONTINUING EDUCATION

In-person/online courses, seminars, or webinars

Professional ethics, development, or mental health workshops

Committee service-member (BCVTA/NAVTA/CAAT/etc)

WHMIS, CPR, or related work safety courses

BCVTA AGM and town hall sessions

Participate with recognized animal related groups

RVTs in Action

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

We are looking to update our website and social media with images of our own RVTs!

Photos or short videos acceptable

Can be of your pet/patient!

Clear, high quality image

Consent for online use

On the job or at school

Cool cases or procedures

Please send your photos to:
communications@bcvta.com



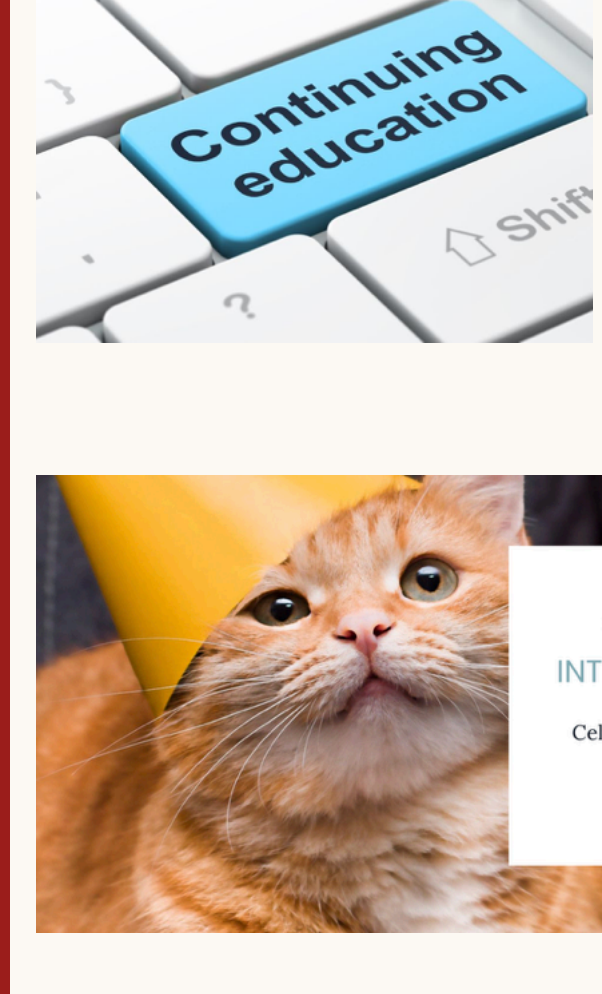
Congrats!

VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY STUDENTS OF 2025

Congratulations to all graduates of the TRU and Douglas College Veterinary Technology programs! We look forward to working with you as you begin your careers as RVTs.

Pictured below: 2025 BCVTA Student Liaisons and Award of Distinction recipients Annika Vandergugten (TRU) and Jayden Smith (Douglas College). Thank you for your contributions to the BCVTA Board of Directors.

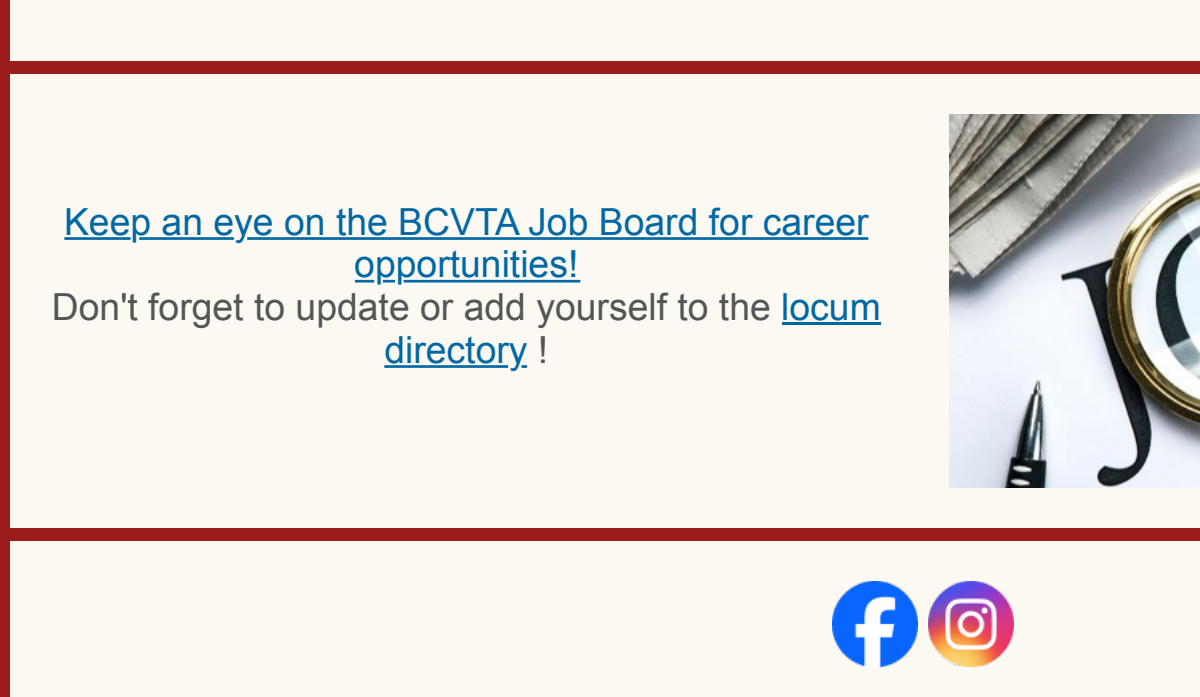




Upcoming In Person CE Events

- Sept 4-8 - IVECCS
- September 27-29 - guided 2025
- Oct 18-21 - CanWest Veterinary Conference
- Oct 31-Nov 1 - VET 2025 Veterinary Education Today Conference and Medical Exposition
- Dec 7-10 AAETV 21st Annual Convention

Updates regarding BCVTA Fall CE will be available in August.
[Check out the website for more continuing education opportunities!](#)



LIVE WEBINAR: CHEERS TO SEVEN YEARS!

INTROVET'S 4TH ANNUAL FREE CE DAY

Celebrate with IntroVet™ with a full day of Free CE for veterinary technologists

[when, how & don't miss out!](#)


INTROVET'S 4TH ANNUAL FREE CE DAY - ONLINE


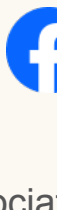
Date: Sunday July 27, 2025
Time: 9:00am - 5:50pm CDT
Price: FREE
CE: 6.5 hours RACE-approved CE covering multiple topics including Behaviour, Dermatology, Technology, Pain Management, Pharmacy, and Nutrition.

[Sign up here!](#)

[Keep an eye on the BCVTA Job Board for career opportunities!](#)

Don't forget to update or add yourself to the [locum directory](#)!





British Columbia Veterinary Technologists Association PO Box 4573 Williams Lake, British Columbia V2G 2V6