

April 2025 BCVTA Board Meeting Highlights

April 14, 2025

- Reviewed and approved the final budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.
- Reviewed and discussed the draft plan for the acceleration of regulation project.
- Discussed the 2026 Wage & Compensation Survey.
- Reviewed recommendations to update Section 3, 4, 7, and 8 of the policy manual. An updated version of the Policy manual will be added to the website in the coming weeks.
- Discussed the 2025 AGM procedure and reviewed voting options.

May 12, 2025

- Prepared for the upcoming AGM by running through procedures and testing voting methods.
- Discussed expectations and roles at the Conference.
- Reviewed upcoming term renewals for investments.
- Conducted a review of the Appendices and Section 10 of the policy manual.

June 9, 2025

- Acknowledged the resignation of Vice President Marina John.
- Elected a new Vice President and President, and discussed the shared responsibilities of these roles to distribute the workload more evenly.
- Appointed Past President Gabrielle Beer as Director At Large



Changes to the Board

Stay tuned as we continue to update information on changes to the Board of Directors next month!

Term expired/Changed to Staff: Carly Chaput, RVT

Resigned: Marina John, RVT. We wish Marina well on her next adventure

If you have any interest in joining the board, please email Amber at executivedirector@bcvta.com



BCVTA Spring Conference Highlights

- There were 190 attendees, including ~30 student attendees, 27 exhibitors, 14 speakers
- Thursday night kicked off with RVT Olympics and RVT Trade Show.
- Friday we kicked off with our keynote speaker, Jolene Watson, and progressed into a full day of learning and sharing knowledge. Members and the Board of Directors celebrated the 2025 AVP RVT Appreciation and Awards dinner on Friday evening.
- The last day of the conference held the AGM, with over 100 members attending between virtual and in person. After the AGM, the afternoon held hands on labs and additional
- The board would like to thank all our sponsors and speakers for the 2025 Spring Conference, as well as thank each and every attendee who joined us!

Annual General Meeting

- Gabrielle Beer finished her term as president of BCVTA, and will continue to stay a part of the BCVTA board to transition the new president into their role once it has been established.
- Director resignation - Carly Chaput has stepped down as a director on the BCVTA Board. The Board is thankful for her time spent as a member and RVTTC Representative during her term.
- Special Presentation - Hill and Knowlton presented to members again, with their first presentation taking place at a Town Hall in December 2024. Their presentation outlined pathways to a new future of BCVTA regarding regulation of the profession within BC, and what it may take for the BCVTA to accomplish these plans. Hill and Knowlton recently helped the Ontario Association of Veterinary Technicians accomplish regulation through government advocacy.

Meeting minutes will be emailed to members and posted on the BCVTA website soon.

SAVE THE DATE for 2026 BCVTA Conference - **May 21-23, 2025 in Richmond, BC**



2025 AVP RVT Appreciation and Awards Dinner



It is an honour to celebrate and recognize the amazing achievements and skillset of the recipients of the 2025 RVT Awards!

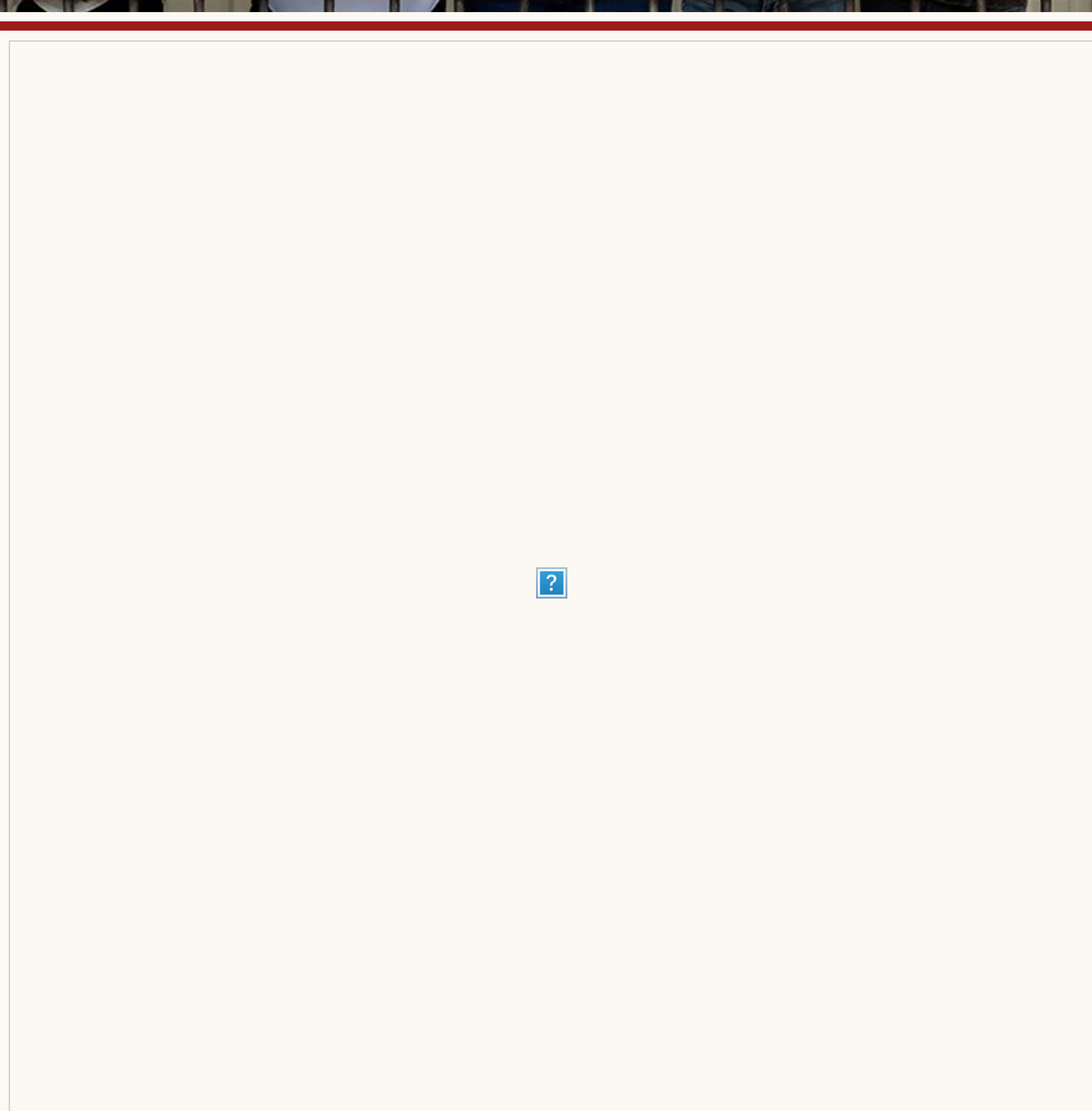
This year's winners are an unwavering example of hard work, determination and excellence. We are so proud to highlight their significant contributed to the success of the BCVTA and the veterinary technology profession.

Clockwise from top left:

- RVT of the Year: Lena Richter, RVT
- Mentorship Award: Amanda Klim, RVT
- Appreciation Award: Gabrielle Beer, RVT
- Practice of the Year: Tanglefoot Veterinary Services
- Volunteer of the Year Award: Veronica McGovern, RVT

The 2025 Platinum Sponsor and title sponsor of the Appreciation Dinner, AVP, was represented by their very own RVT, Brynne Hagerman, who joined us to present the awards to the recipients!

Congratulations to the recipients of the 2025 BCVTA RVT Awards!



The University of Victoria is seeking to add a volunteer community representative for its Animal Care Committee (ACC).

The purpose of the committee is to provide ethical review for research and teaching proposals by researchers and instructors at the University of Victoria (UVic), in fulfillment of UVic's commitment to the policies, standards and guidelines of the Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC; ccac.ca).

The committee meets monthly, from September – June. Typically, these meetings take place the second Friday of the month, starting at 9:30am. The meetings are typically in-person and scheduled for 3 hours, but do not always last that long.

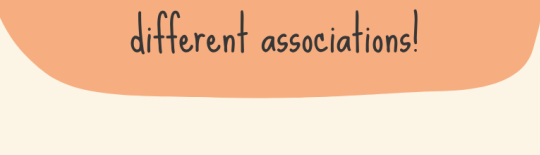
The CCAC provides an excellent background summary of the roles of the committee members, including the community member. It can be found here: [The Animal Care Committee and the Role of Its Members](#). Ideally, we are looking for someone local to UVic, and as per CCAC, community members can have any background as long as they have never worked with animals for scientific purposes.

UVic's policy on research or teaching with animals can be found here: [Research or Teaching Involving Animals \(RH8110\)](#)

If you would like more information, please contact me at animaletics@uvic.ca.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

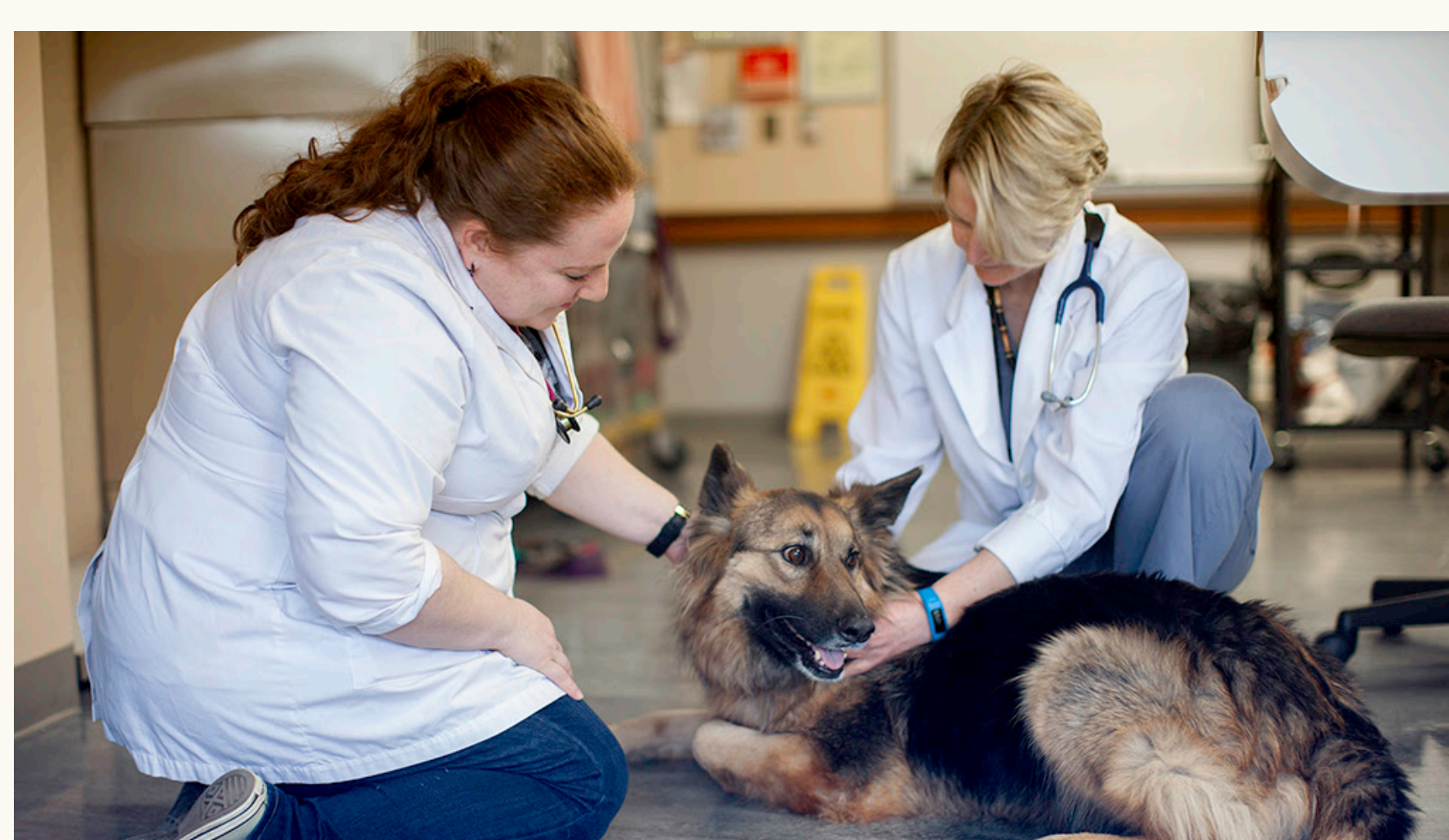
Don't forget, you can get CE Credits for being a volunteer or a board member with different associations!



CALAS Symposium

The Canadian Association of Laboratory Animal Science (CALAS) holds an annual symposium for those working with research animals to receive education and network with others in the field all over the country. This year, the symposium was held in Richmond, BC so we were able to have a BCVTA booth there to support our members who work in research.

Our booth was staffed by Emily Carefoot, RVT who is the Board's Secretary and works at a biomedical research facility. She was happy to meet many other RVTs working in different areas of lab animal science and discuss how the knowledge and qualifications of an RVT can improve the veterinary care and welfare of the animals, which in turn improves the research.



NEW CHANGES to the Anesthesia Refresher Certification Program - Douglas College!!

Anesthesia is one of the most challenging skills in our industry - it requires exceptionally high standards of care from theoretical knowledge to practical skills, equipment maintenance and trouble shooting and problem solving and treatment of complications during anesthesia. Keep your anesthesia skills up to date with the Veterinary Anesthesia Refresher Certificate at Douglas College.

Designed for registered veterinary technologists (RVTs) and veterinarians (DVM) with an interest in small animal anesthesia and analgesia, the courses in the certificate are taught by AVTAA-credentialed faculty who have years of practical lived experience in specialty hospital settings.

No prerequisites for the Anesthesia Wet Labs: the online courses are no longer required prior to registration.

Certificate Details:

You may register for courses individually, but it is recommended that each course be taken in consecutive order. This program consists of four courses options:

- VTAN 1000: Anesthetic Protocols (online; asynchronous)
- VTAN 1100: Safe Anesthetic Administration (online; asynchronous)
- VTAN 1200: Anesthetic Emergencies (online; asynchronous)
- VTAN 1300: Practical Anesthesia (in-person wet lab)

Certificate Highlights:

This program is RACE approved for **70 hours** of continuing education (CE) credit in jurisdictions that recognize RACE approval. CE credits are awarded individually for each course

Endorsed by the Academy of Veterinary Technicians in Anesthesia & Analgesia

CE hours can be used towards RVT's AVTAA application

Get Started: Contact the Program Administrator: CEHAdmin@douglascollege.ca or go to douglascollege.ca/vtan.



Upcoming CE Events

- June 25-29 - 2025 CVMA Convention
- 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

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

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

