

September 9, 2024 BCVTA Board Meeting Highlights

- Director resignation - Leanne Hillis-Schmidt has stepped down as a director on the BCVTA Board. The Board has been thankful for the value she brought to the association and for her mentorship of the incoming Treasurer, Kayla Anglos
- Fall CE series is confirmed and registration will open by the end of the week
- Member Town Hall - planning for Feb/March - will send out a review package to members by email prior to the meeting
- Special Presentation - Ministry of Agriculture and Food presented an engagement session regarding Veterinarian Workforce
  - This session included a guided discussion session regarding the veterinary technology profession, access to veterinary care, food animal production, and more.
- Quarterly financial report was presented
- Spring Conference preparations are in progress
  - Executive Director is working with Finley and Associates to review planning practices and budget for the event
  - Conference Planning Working Group meets later in the month

Next meeting October 7, 2024

2024-2025 BCVTA  
Fall/Winter CE SERIES

Oct 2,9,16,22,  
2024  
7:00 PM to 8:30  
PM

Unleash Your Inner Wolf: Self-  
discovery Towards Empowerment as  
an RUT  
**Lucie Langevin-Neil, RUT, UTS (ECC), CUPM**

This four part series helps participants discover their personal and professional identities, enhance self-awareness and communication, understand what they can control, and build resilience through tailored self-care practices.

Nov 20, 2024  
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

No More Cat Wrangling:  
Techniques for feline friendly handling.  
**Tabitha Kucera, RUT, UTS (Behaviour)**

This session will delve into identifying signs of fear, anxiety, and stress in cats and equip participants with effective handling techniques to create a less stressful and happier environment for cats in shelters, veterinary clinics, and homes, ultimately increasing their adoptability and chance of finding loving homes.

Dec 4, 2024  
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Animal Welfare Considerations in  
Biomedical Research  
**Gayle Paquette, BSc., RUT, RMLAT, CMAR**

This session will define biomedical research and animal advocacy vs. animal activism. It will describe the ethical considerations involved in establishing an animal care program; governing and supportive organizations; housing, husbandry, and facility requirements; procedural approval and training required; post approval monitoring; scientific integrity and transparency; as well as ensuring welfare and job satisfaction of personnel.

Dec 11, 2024  
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Mastering Controlled Drug Logs  
**Leanne Hillis-Schmidt, RUT**

This session will include log requirements, audit requirements, current CVBC bylaw requirements, and different examples of how to audit controlled drugs. Will have a brief review of what is considered a controlled drug and why, as well as what the requirements are for security of the drugs.

Jan 8, 2025  
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Pain Management in the Field  
**Erica Gray-Gouans, RUT, CERP  
Leanne Hillis-Schmidt, RUT**

This session will review how to recognize signs of pain in animals such as sheep, goats, cows, and horses. We will discuss how to recognize pain, and what options we have to treat it in the field. Erica will discuss some alternative therapies for pain management of equine, but can be transferred to different species when appropriate.

Jan 22, 2025  
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Gut Instincts: Navigating  
Gastrointestinal Nutrition for Cats and  
Dogs  
**Robin Saar, RUT, UTS (Nutrition)**

When a pet has a gastrointestinal illness the owners are looking for relief for their pet and relief from the cleanup duty. The question is, which diet do you choose? This session will review how core nutrients can benefit pets with gastrointestinal conditions to improve confidence when making a nutrition recommendation.

Feb 5, 2025  
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Because I'm Worth It  
**Senani Ratnayake, RUT, BSc.**

"More money" isn't always the solution to your challenges - and it may not actually impact your wellbeing the way that you hope it will. This session will help you to assess your current situation so that you can best navigate compensation negotiations in a strategic and meaningful way.

Feb 19, 2025  
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Managing Medical Mistakes  
**Kara M Burns, RUT,**

Details Coming Soon!

More Info  
executivedirector@bcvta.com

Register here!



Show Your RVT Pride - Order Your "Vitality Important" Swag Now!

We're excited to announce that you can now order these cozy "Vitality Important" sweatshirts and other RVT swag, designed specifically to celebrate the essential role of Registered Veterinary Technologists!

Order these and other items such as hats, t-shirts, and tote bags by visiting the BCVTA UR Store today!

Shop Now!

RVTTTC is calling for nominations for a Western Representative on the AAVSB – VTNE Committee

RVTTTC appoints representatives from Eastern and Western Canada to sit on the American Association of Veterinary State Board (AAVSB) Veterinary Technician National Examination Committee. The VTNE Committee is responsible for the development and administration of the Veterinary Technician National Examination (VTNE) and other related tasks as assigned by the Board of Directors. This is considered a medium commitment level with U.S. travel required – a valid passport is required. The annual time commitment is approximately 80 hours. In your nomination selection process, consider the following requirements:

- The term of office is three years and appointees are encouraged to serve two consecutive terms;
- The nominee will be expected to attend scheduled VTNE Committee meetings; Exam development consists of 2 in-person meetings (June and September) as well as individual online review of exam materials prior to the in-person meetings. There are also 4 quarterly on-line meetings of approx. 1 hour each
- The Association must provide a short 'resume' of your nominee, including address, contact phone number and relevant history with your association;
- This is a volunteer role. The AAVSB pays for VTNE committee members' travel and lodging; and reimburses reasonable expenses. A per diem is not available.
- The primary responsibility of the committee is to develop and maintain the content of the VTNE.
- In addition, VTNE committee members will also be required to assist with VTNE Item Writing Workshops. The VTNE item writing workshop is now a virtual, one-hour long meeting, followed by independent item writing over two months from mid-January to mid-March.
- Each committee member is currently required to be actively practicing or in education
- A detailed AAVSB roles and responsibilities document is available.

To complement the current committee needs, the following qualities would be considered an asset for 2024 nominations:

- currently a large animal practitioner, and/or
- expertise or advanced training in anesthesia

To Apply:

Submit your nomination to [cyoungson@rvttcanada.ca](mailto:cyoungson@rvttcanada.ca).

October 26,  
2024

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Submission deadline: October 4, 2024

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RVTPWR 2024 - Know your power... And own it!

This is the third edition of RVT PWR and we promise you, it's one you don't want to miss!

This half-day virtual event supports RVTs and AHTs in creating a rewarding, lifelong career that aligns with their personal and professional aspirations.

You won't want to miss it because it will feature:

- An A-list group of speakers to **empower** and **inspire** you!
- A program enabling you to **earn up to 4 CE credits**.
- A chance to **win some fun prizes** if you attend the **LIVE event**.
- **FREE registration** (*but you do need to register!*)
- An opportunity to stream sessions on-demand if you can't attend live.

Don't wait, register today and invite your RVT/AHT colleagues to attend too!

Register Here!

Participate in the third CommuniVET™ PowerUp fund contest and you could win a prize value of up to \$1,500 to pursue your career aspirations!

PowerUp is a special fund created by CommuniVET™ — in conjunction with the [RVT PWR virtual event](#) (October 26, 2024) to help cover the costs associated with the professional development of Canadian RVTs.

To be considered for the PowerUp fund, RVTs must describe how the financial support will be used to help enhance their skills and/or advance their career. The catch? Unleash your creativity! Sing, dance, write a poem, perform a skit, write a letter (250 words or less).

- **Creative submissions must be received by 11:55 p.m. (EDT) on October 4, 2024**, to be considered in the running for the **PowerUp fund**.
- A judging panel comprised of fellow RVTs will select the **top three submissions**.
- Final submissions will be shared during the **RVT PWR event on October 26, 2024**, and the winner will be selected by attendees through live polling.
- CommuniVET™ will directly pay for the winner's professional development activity (or activities) of choice, up to a **maximum of \$1,500**.

Send your creative submission to [info@communiwet.com](mailto:info@communiwet.com).

- September 20 - RECOVER BLS & ALS CPR Rescuer Certification
- Sept 21-23 - guided
- October 2,9,16,23 - OAVT RVT Month CE Series
- October 18-20 - MVTA Advanced Training Conference
- October 19-22 - CanWest Veterinary Conference
- October 26 - RVT PWR
- November 4-5 - Delta Equine Seminar
- January 25-29, 2025 - Veterinary Meeting and Expo (VMX) 2025

[Check out the website for more continuing education opportunities!](#)

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

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