



British Columbia
Veterinary
Technologists
Association

BCVTA NEWSLETTER

September 2026

September 2026 BCVTA Board Meeting

Key Highlights:

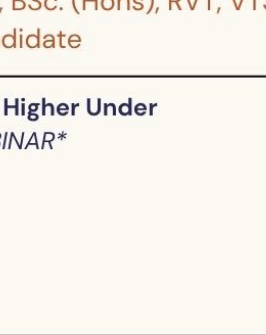
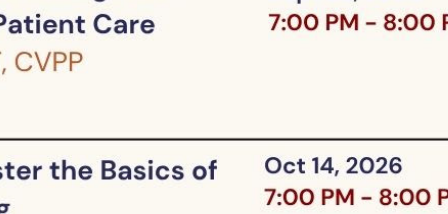
- Guests Finley and Associates facilitated Board discussion on current status of the "Road to Regulation" project and upcoming priorities.
- Discussed agenda for Strategic Planning retreat in November
- Received first quarter Treasurer Report and recommendations
- Tabled review of recommendations from Governance Committee to next meeting

Next Board meeting is TBD October 2026



BCVTA RVT LEARNING SERIES

2026 –
2027



RVT LEARNING SERIES

Sept 9, 2026
7:00 PM – 8:00 PM



More Than a Number: Using Pain Scales to Improve Patient Care
Amanda Barker, RVT, CVPP

Sept 23, 2026
7:00 PM – 8:00 PM



Golden Oldies: Meeting the changing behavioural needs of senior pets
Lindsay Johnston, BSc (Hons), RVT, VTS (Behaviour) – Candidate

Oct 7, 2026
7:00 PM – 8:00 PM



Bandaging 102: Master the Basics of Effective Bandaging
Brian Goleman, CVT and Founder of Brian's Bandages

Oct 14, 2026
7:00 PM – 8:00 PM



Learn How to Score Higher Under Pressure *FREE WEBINAR*
CleverOrcaVT

Oct 21, 2026
7:00 PM – 8:00 PM



TRANSFUSIONS: From collection to administration, and everything in between.
Melissa Hill, RVT, VTS (ECC)

Oct 28, 2026
7:00 PM – 8:00 PM



Raising the Bar(n) – Elevating the Role of RVTs in Bovine Medicine
Lauren Stefaniuk, RVT, VTS-CP (Production Medicine)

Nov 4, 2026
7:00 PM – 8:00 PM



Every Step Matters: Modern Outpatient Management for Veterinary Teams
Amanda Barker, RVT, CVPP

Nov 21, 2026
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM



Royal Canin presents Royal Chat for RVTs – The Science of Nutrition
Full-day virtual nutrition conference.

Dec 2, 2026
7:00 PM – 8:00 PM



Finding the Right Support: A Veterinary Professional's Guide to Counselling and Mental Wellness
Julie Morse Elliott, RVT, VTS (ECC), MPCG Provisional

Dec 9, 2026
7:00 PM – 8:00 PM



Lab Foundations Refresher: Getting Reliable Results in Hematology, UA & Cytology
Brienne Bellwood, MSc, RVT, VTS (Clinical Pathology)

Jan 23, 2027
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM



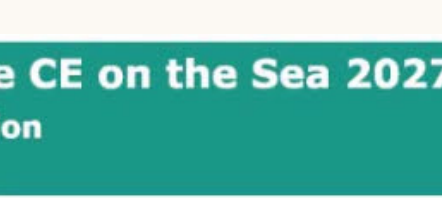
Anesthesia Essentials: From Pharmacology to Patient Recovery
Full-day virtual anesthesia conference.

Feb 17, 2027
7:00 PM – 8:00 PM



Thriving in Veterinary Practice: Evidence-Based Mental Health Strategies for RVTs
Dr. Marie Holowaychuk, DVM, Dipl. ACVECC

Cost:
BCVTA RVT: \$20/1 hour session or \$300/series
BCVTA Student, Non-Practicing, Retired: \$15/1 hour session or \$250/series
Non-Members: \$25/1 hour session or \$350/series
For more info contact executivedirector@bcvta.com



CE at Sea with Vet Tech Life BINGO your way into free registration !

Join the Alaska 2027 cruise from June 6-13, 2027.
There are 10 registrations left!

How to participate, BINGO card, and additional information [here](#).

More about CE at Sea can be found on the Vet Tech Life [website](#).

VetTechLife CE on the Sea 2027 ALASKA			
June 6th June 7th	Times	Registration Speaker	Lecture
Room 1			
Track: IM/ Exotics/Emergency			
Session 1	8-8:50	Robin Saar	Establishing RVT Appointments Triaging and Nutritional Management Biotic Use in Companion Animals Managing Chronic Conditions Ins and Outs of Feeding Sick Pets
Session 2	9:05-9:55	Robin Saar	
Session 3	10:10-11	Robin Saar	
Session 4	11:15-12:05	Robin Saar	
Session 5	12:05-1	Robin Saar	
Session 6	1-2	Lunch Break	Common Toxicities U/O Cat ICU Nursing Care
Session 7	2-2:50	Renee' Lacorte	
Session 8	3:05-3:55	Renee' Lacorte	
TBD	TBD		Bonus Activity
Bonus Activity		Robin Saar	Behind the Bowl: Virtual Royal Canin Tour
June 12th	Times	Speaker	Lecture
Room 1			
Track: Anesthesia/ Surgery			
Session 1	8-8:50	Kristen Cooley	Anesthesia without Monitors Anesthesia Machine Mindful Drug Selection Anesthetic Induction
Session 2	9:05-9:55	Kristen Cooley	
Session 3	10:10-11	Kristen Cooley	
Session 4	11:15-12:05	Kristen Cooley	
Session 5	12:05-2	Lunch Break	Perioperative ECG CPR Recover Guidelines Common Zoonotic Disease
Session 6	2-2:50	Kristen Cooley	
Session 7	3:05-3:55	Renee' Lacorte	
Session 8	4:05-4:55	Renee' Lacorte	

September 28, 2026 - CoVet For RVTs Webinar



Join Alana Pay, RVT and CoVet Account Executive, for a practical, no-fluff look at using AI responsibly in the veterinary clinic. Together, we'll explore common AI myths, practical guardrails, how to navigate AI in client conversations, and what responsible use can actually look like in practice. The session will also include a walkthrough of a real AI tool, giving you a chance to see how it can be used thoughtfully and effectively in a veterinary setting.

[Register here!](#)



Who Can Become a Member of the BC Veterinary Technologists Association (BCVTA)?

Whether you're a student just beginning your career, a practicing Registered Veterinary Technologist (RVT), or an experienced RVT entering retirement, there are differences in each level of membership! Keep reading for more details!

Veterinary Technology Students

Students enrolled in an accredited veterinary technology program can become BCVTA student members while completing their education. Student members must:

Student membership provides an opportunity to connect with the profession, access BCVTA resources and benefits, and become familiar with the association before transitioning to RVT membership.

Registered Veterinary Technologist (RVT)

To become an RVT member of the British Columbia Veterinary Technologists Association (BCVTA), an individual must:

- Graduate from an accredited veterinary technology program, and
- Successfully pass the Veterinary Technician National Examination (VTNE).

Once accepted as a BCVTA member, RVTs must complete the required continuing education each year to maintain their membership and RVT title. The BCVTA British Columbia, the title Registered Veterinary Technologist (RVT) is protected. Membership with the BCVTA, along with meeting the education and examination requirements, allows eligible individuals to use the RVT title.

Non-Practicing RVT

The BCVTA aims to support members who are not actively working as RVTs, including those taking parental leave, managing long-term illnesses or family emergencies, or otherwise taking a temporary break from practice. Members can remain in this category for up to five years without submitting CE during their non-practicing period. There is no requirement to rewrite the VTNE on return. To be reinstated, the member must submit the annual required amount of continuing education activities per year of non-practicing status, up to a maximum of 75 credits.

Retired RVTs

Retired RVT membership is available to eligible members who are fully retired from professional practice and the animal health/veterinary field. Retired members remain connected to the BCVTA and are exempt from continuing education requirements.

RVTs Moving to British Columbia

RVTs who are currently registered or licensed in another North American jurisdiction may also be eligible for BCVTA membership. Individuals moving to BC should be active members in good standing with their current licensing body and meet BCVTA's membership requirements. A Letter of Good Standing from the individual's current licensing body must be provided to the BCVTA.

Internationally Educated Veterinary Technologists

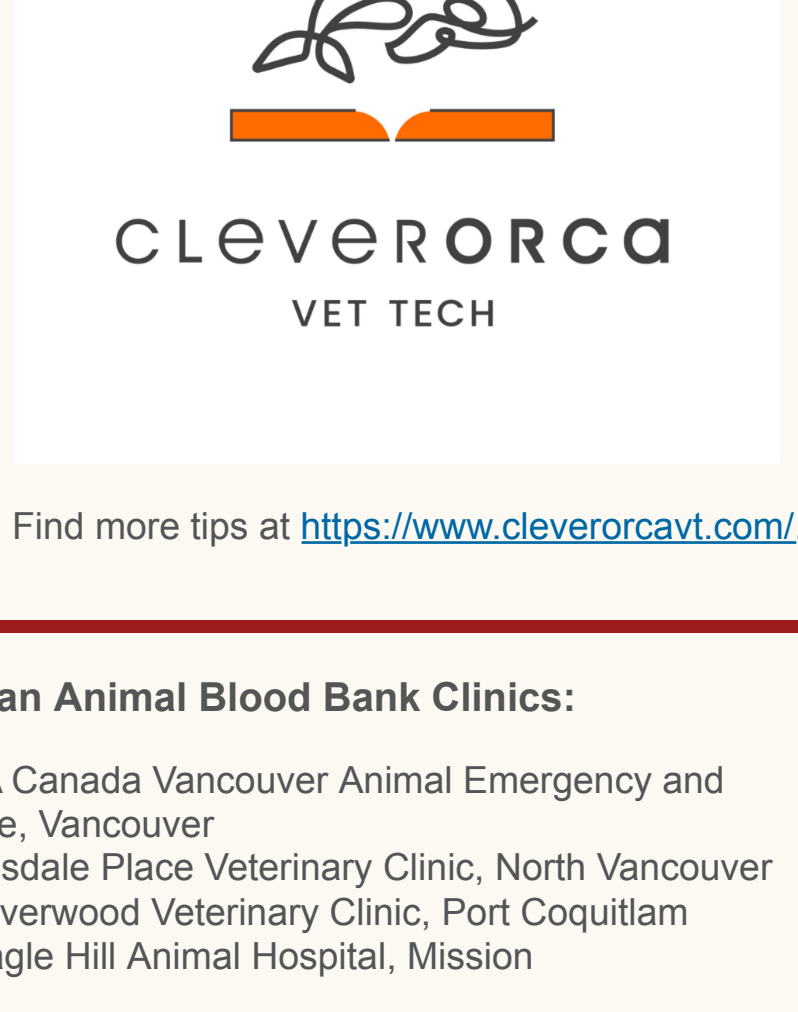
Individuals who completed their veterinary technology education outside of North America may also have a pathway to BCVTA membership. The International Credential Assessment Service of Canada (ICAS) assesses international education. Following the assessment, the BCVTA Board reviews the applicant's qualifications and may require additional education or training before approving eligibility to write the VTNE. Successful completion of the VTNE allows the individual to proceed with BCVTA registration.

Tips from CleverOrcaVT Do a Practice Run Before VTNE Day

One of the easiest ways to reduce exam-day stress? Know exactly where you're going before the big day. If possible, write your VTNE in person. It helps you avoid unexpected tech issues, and there will be staff available if you need assistance. A week before your exam, do a "practice run" to your test centre.

- Find the building and entrance
- Check parking (and whether you need to pay)
- Test your driving or transit route
- See how long it actually takes to get there.
- Identify alternate routes just in case.

The less you have to think about logistics on exam day, the more brainpower you'll have for the questions that matter.



Find more tips at <https://www.cleverorcavet.com/>.

Upcoming Canadian Animal Blood Bank Clinics:

- Fri Oct 2: VCA Canada Vancouver Animal Emergency and Referral Centre, Vancouver
- Sat Oct 3: Lonsdale Place Veterinary Clinic, North Vancouver
- Tues Oct 6: Riverwood Veterinary Clinic, Port Coquitlam
- Wed Oct 7: Eagle Hill Animal Hospital, Mission

To get involved or if you have questions, email BC@canadiananimalbloodbank.ca

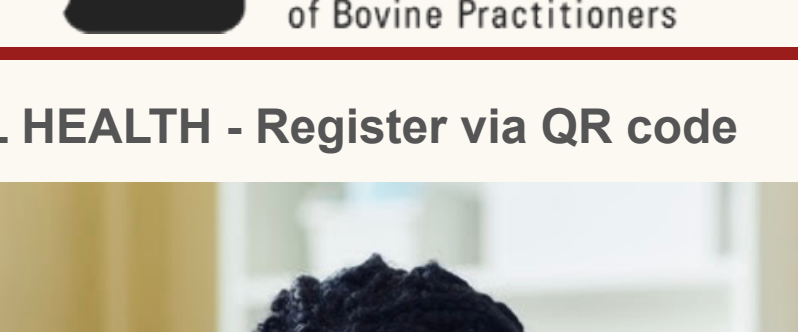
As a reminder, they are always looking for donor doggies and volunteers; if a clinic is full, not to worry! They usually return to partnering clinics every three-four months.



Calling all Bovine RVTs!!

In preparation for RVT Month, the Western Canadian Association of Bovine Practitioners (WCABP) is looking to collect photos of RVTs rockin' it in practice to feature in their newsletter.

Want to be featured? Send your photos along to WCABP's RVT Ex-Officio Board Member, Lauren Stefaniuk at laurens@vahs.net.



FREE CE FROM GREYWOLF ANIMAL HEALTH - Register via QR code

WEBINAR:
THE ART OF APPROACHING HOSPICE AND END-OF-LIFE CARE AS A TEAM

Presented by
EMILY PICHÉ
RVT, CHPT, CPÉP
Founder and CEO –
The Art of Goodbye
www.theartofgoodbye.ca

Join us for a compassionate and practical discussion on approaching hospice and end-of-life care as a team.

“The Art of Approaching Hospice and End-of-Life Care as a Team” explores the value of a dedicated hospice program and the collaborative approach needed to provide exceptional end-of-life care. We will discuss the needs of families during the hospice phase, review best practices and guidelines for all team members, and highlight the role of standard operating procedures (SOPs) in delivering consistent, high-quality care.

We'll also examine individual roles and responsibilities, how to implement hospice reservations and modalities, the benefits of RVT-led care, and identify when a dedicated hospice team can have the greatest impact.

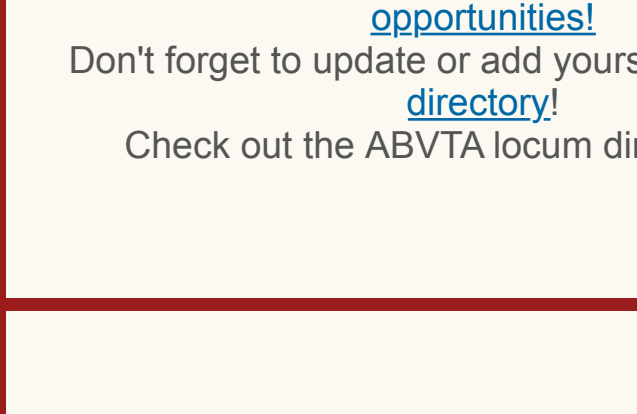
SEPTEMBER 22, 2026
7:00 – 8:30 PM EST

Please register in advance by scanning the QR code or clicking below.

REGISTER

SPONSORED BY

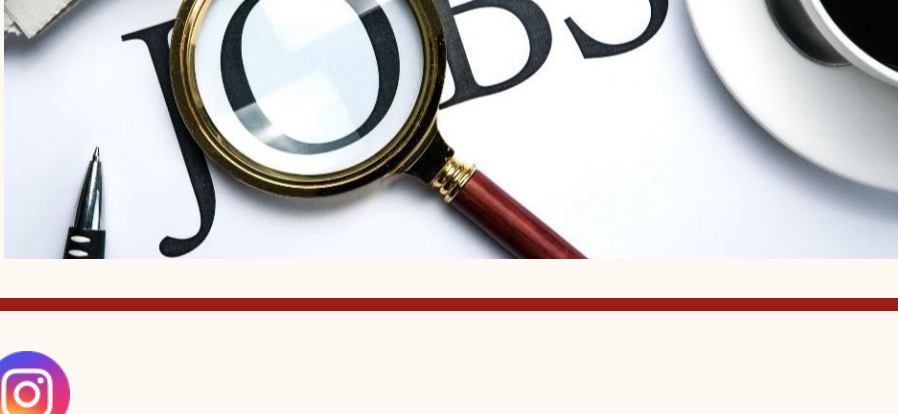
QUESTIONS?
We've got answers! Contact your local Grey Wolf Territory Manager or call 1-844-400-GWAH (4924). To learn more, visit greywolfah.com



Keep an eye on the BCVTA Job Board for career opportunities!

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

Check out the ABVTA locum directory [here](#).



Upcoming CE Events

- September 14-17, 2026 - IVECCS
- September 22-23, 2026 - Animal Health Canada Forum
- September 24-17, 2026 - FelineVMA Conference
- September 25-27, 2026 - Pacific Northwest Veterinary Conference
- September 26-28, 2026 - guidED
- October 13-15, 2026 - WSAVA 2026 Congress - Warsaw, Poland
- October 17-20, 2026 - CanWest Veterinary Conference

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

