Veterinarian’s Oath

As a member of the veterinary medical profession,
I solemnly swear that I will use my scientific
knowledge and skills for the benefit of society.

I will strive to promote animal health and welfare,
relieve animal suffering, protect the health of the
public and environment, and advance comparative
medical knowledge.

I will practise my profession conscientiously, with
dignity, and in keeping with the principles of
veterinary medical ethics.

I will strive continuously to improve my
professional knowledge and competence and
to maintain the highest professional and ethical
standards for myself and the profession.
For decades, western Canadian students with a passion for veterinary medicine had to leave their region to pursue their dreams. The situation changed in 1963 when Canada’s western provinces agreed to establish a regional veterinary college at the University of Saskatchewan. In 1969 the first class of veterinarians graduated from the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, and the new building was officially dedicated.

Nearly 50 years later, the co-operative spirit that created the WCVM is alive and well. The College’s regional responsibilities for providing veterinary education, expertise and research are officially recognized in the Interprovincial Agreement — a unique document that is updated and renewed by the western provinces and the WCVM every five years.

As a regional college, the WCVM provides veterinary education to undergraduate students who are residents of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and the northern territories. Since the College’s first class graduated 44 years ago, nearly 3,000 western Canadians have gained a high-quality, comprehensive veterinary education at the WCVM. While most graduates practise in Western Canada, the College’s alumni also live in other provinces and countries and work in all areas of veterinary medicine.

WCVM alumni have a lifelong relationship with their alma mater, and throughout each student’s education, the College provides experiences and opportunities that forge the connection. One of the first experiences occurs during the WCVM’s annual fall awards program when the first-year class participates in the traditional White Coat Ceremony — the students’ official welcome to the veterinary profession and to the College.

During the ceremony, a representative from the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association presents a personalized white lab coat to each student. As well, every member of the first-year class receives a stethoscope from the provincial veterinary medical association in the student’s home province.

When veterinary students slip into their crisp, white coats and sling their stethoscopes around their necks for the first time, it’s a special moment — a significant step in their veterinary education and in their careers.
As dean of the WCVM, I always look forward to the White Coat Ceremony that has become a cherished tradition at this veterinary college. I realize that you are already immersed in numerous assignments and deadlines, but just remember to take a breath and celebrate your entrance into the veterinary profession with your classmates, families and friends.

During the next four years, members of the WCVM community will work hard to help you achieve your goal of obtaining a DVM degree. We will also do our best to assist you in gaining a wide range of skills and experiences that you can add to your “veterinary toolkit.” In return, we will routinely ask for your feedback about how we can enhance our curriculum and offer more opportunities that will help to prepare you for a future in health care.

Congratulations on your achievements so far, and I look forward to seeing how all of you will shape your careers in this exciting, innovative profession.

Welcome, Class of 2017! As student veterinarians, you are full members of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA), Canada’s national professional association for veterinarians. The CVMA has veterinarians volunteering on over 30 different boards, associations, legislative and policy-making groups in Canada and abroad, helping the CVMA achieve its work on behalf of Canadian veterinarians. The CVMA is interested in what student veterinarians have to say, which is why a seat on the CVMA Council is reserved for a student veterinarian to have a national voice.

As a Student of the CVMA (SCVMA), you will become familiar with the SCVMA Committee, a committee of student veterinarians from Canada’s five veterinary colleges that annually organizes activities and events with the financial support of the CVMA.

Through the CVMA you have a voice to help direct your profession’s future. Over the next four years I hope that you will learn just how valuable the inclusion of your voice will be to your future career. I wish each of you a successful year ahead!
Congratulations. Your decision to embark on this incredible journey from student to veterinarian is likely one of the most important (and, I would add, most fulfilling) decisions you will ever make.

The practice of veterinary medicine is quickly and always changing, allowing for many opportunities for practitioners to learn and excel. Technology allows us to provide medical interventions that were not possible a few decades ago. Veterinary medicine opens doors into all areas of animal health care: companion and small animal, large animal, food safety, research, industry and government.

Despite all these changes, one thing remains constant: the trust between animal owner and veterinarian. You have decided to become part of this honourable profession. Welcome to the fold.

Greetings to the Class of 2017. We welcome you to the challenging profession of veterinary medicine, a profession that is diverse, exciting and ever evolving.

When you graduate 45 months from now, you will have the basic training to allow you to consider fields as diverse as research; private practice; teaching; epidemiological, regulatory, wildlife, international or humanitarian work; or internships and residencies leading to specialization.

I clearly remember the excitement of beginning veterinary studies. The following four years passed in a blur of classes, friendships, pre-exam jitters and post-exam celebrations, summer jobs and winter studies – until suddenly I was spat out, diploma in hand and with my first job ahead.

Veterinary medicine can launch you into an array of occupations. I encourage all of you to take every opportunity you have during the next four years to gain as wide a variety of experience as possible. This is a profession that is changing rapidly, and where it goes will be influenced by you.

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Welcome to the veterinary profession — a profession that is highly respected by society. Every one of you has an exciting story to tell as to how you came to be here today. Trust me, by the end of your first year you will feel right at home.

Your next four years will be one of the most challenging and interesting times of your career. I guarantee you will make some good friends (classmates, professors and colleagues), some of whom may cross your path decades from now.

The Alberta Veterinary Medical Association is the governing body responsible for regulating the profession in Alberta since 1906. Our mission is: “Serving the public by regulating, enhancing and providing leadership in the practice of the profession of veterinary medicine in Alberta.” You are our future leaders. As you go through your career, I encourage you all to reflect on the Canadian Veterinary Oath and what it means to you, the people you serve, and ultimately the animal lives affected by your decisions and actions.

We wish you all great success in the years ahead.

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Excited. Scared. Proud. Each of these and a host of other adjectives could describe the beginnings of first year at the WCVM. Your challenge is to learn and absorb mountains of information, assimilate it and become not just a great veterinary student but also a clinician, an expert, a researcher.

The time of taking that tree-planting summer job (because it was good money) is now behind you. Your profession does demand a fair degree of dedication during your university semesters as well as during your summers spent in the wide variety of mentorship situations that are open to you.

The great thing about your (yes, your) profession is the incredible people you will get to share your career with. Dig in, have fun, and remember that occasionally you have to take down your pants and slide on the ice.
Congratulations! On behalf of the Manitoba Veterinary Medical Association, I would like to applaud your acceptance to the Western College of Veterinary Medicine. Earning entrance into this highly respected program is a great achievement.

The years ahead will bring experiences, knowledge and skills that will prepare you for the challenges of the veterinary profession. You will have the opportunity to learn from some of the best veterinarians in the field. You’ll also have the opportunity to forge strong bonds with your fellow students.

Work hard and enjoy your studies. A rewarding career as a veterinarian is only four years away.

WELCOME FROM THE MVMA
Katrina Barth
ST. ALBERT, ALBERTA

A graduate of Brookwood Secondary School, Maia completed three years of a Bachelor of Science (applied biology) degree at the University of British Columbia (UBC). She earned a President’s Entrance Scholarship and a Trek Excellence Scholarship.

Maia enjoys all aspects of horsemanship including showing, training and caring for horses. Other interests include outdoor activities and adventures such as trekking in the Amazon. She volunteered at the UBC’s Beaty Biodiversity Museum and at a local dairy farm where she gained an understanding of the factors involved in providing veterinary service to the dairy industry.

While employed at Kleider Veterinary Services, she assisted with ambulatory and hospital cases and became proficient at performing basic clinical procedures, interacting with clients and systematically approaching cases. Dr. Nick Kleider taught her a great deal about equine anatomy, lameness diagnostics and surgery and inspired her to pursue equine veterinary medicine.

Katrina's interests include working out and volunteering. She was founder and first president of the MacEwan University Pre-Vet Club. Katrina also belonged to the MacEwan University Golden Key International Honours Society Chapter and co-chaired its social events and new members committees.

She gained a variety of experience as a volunteer at the Terwillegar Veterinary Clinic and the Edmonton Veterinarian's Emergency Clinic. Katrina was also a therapeutic riding volunteer with the Edmonton Humane Society and acquired additional equine experience by volunteering at Delaney Veterinary Services and West Wind Veterinary Hospital.

2013 White Coat Ceremony

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2013 WHITE COAT CEREMONY
CLASS OF 2017

MAIA ASPE
OLIVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA

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BROOKSWOOD SECONDARY SCHOOL

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Lauren enjoys being active and adventurous in the great outdoors. She especially enjoys backpacking. She was active in the St. Paul 4-H Light Horse Club and belonged to several high school clubs and teams. She belonged to both MacEwan University and UVic running teams and competed at provincial and national levels. She was also an active student-athlete representative.

Lauren gained valuable clinical experience while volunteering at several veterinary clinics. She also volunteered at the Edmonton Humane Society and the Wildlife Rehabilitation Society of Edmonton, and she was an environmental educator with World Fisheries Trust.
A graduate of Archbishop M.C. O’Neill High School, Simone went on to complete a Bachelor of Science (biology) degree at the University of Regina. She was twice named to the Dean’s List, and she earned a Harold J. Leibel Family Entrance Scholarship through Campion College as well as a Henry Baker Scholarship from the City of Regina.

Simone enjoys dancing, cheerleading, snowboarding and reading. She was a student at Martin School of Dancing for over 17 years and trained in tap, jazz and ballet. She is also a foster family volunteer with the Regina Humane Society.

Simone spent a summer working as a kennel attendant for Regina’s Expressway Kennels. She also worked as a receptionist and assistant at Victoria Veterinary Clinic. The experience provided her with insight into veterinary medicine as a career and confirmed her dream of becoming a veterinarian.

A graduate of Terry Fox Secondary School, Paul completed five years of a Bachelor of Science (biology) degree at the University of the Fraser Valley (UFV). He received the Terry Fox Spirit Award and earned a place on the UFV Dean’s List.

Paul enjoys spending time with his wife and baby boy as well as playing and watching sports. He competed in wrestling at both provincial and national levels and coached high school wrestling. An active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Paul was a missionary in Chile. He also volunteered with Scouts Canada and was co-founder and president of the Pre-Vet Division of the UFV Biology and Chemistry Student Association.

Paul volunteered as an assistant at Pacific Equine Dentistry. He also volunteered and then worked as an assistant to the clinical staff at Port Coquitlam Animal Hospital.
Rochelle graduated from a home schooling program and then attended the Canadian Mennonite University, Mount Allison University and the University of Manitoba. She completed a Bachelor of Science degree.

Rochelle's interests include riding horses and singing. She loves breeding and showing dogs, mainly Chihuahuas but also labrador and golden retrievers, collies and boxers. She organized and competed in obedience and conformation classes, and in 2010 her rough collie was ranked number two in Canada. Rochelle belonged to InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, and as a volunteer with Greater Europe Mission, she taught English as a Second Language in Croatia. She also acquired valuable clinical experience and interacted with clients while volunteering at several veterinary clinics.

Having grown up on a dairy farm, Rochelle had a variety of duties that including medicating cows and delivering calves. She also worked as a farrowing manager and had many responsibilities related to breeding and caring for the animals.

After graduating from Campbell Collegiate, Emily completed a Bachelor of Science (Honours, biology) degree at the University of Regina (U of R). Her awards included an Academic Silver Scholarship, an Academic Silver Prize and a Wildlife Awareness Prize in Biology.

Emily’s interests include spending time with family and friends, knitting, Pilates and dancing — she's been dancing since she was three. She was active in the U of R’s Women in Science and Engineering Club and Amnesty International Club. She volunteered with the Regina Humane Society, an experience that helped her to become comfortable with stressed animals. She also volunteered at a mixed animal practice where she observed and assisted with routine large animal appointments.

While employed as a receptionist and assistant at a small animal practice, Emily worked with animals and their owners — experiences that helped her confirm that veterinary medicine is the right career for her.

Emily Boutilier
Regina, Saskatchewan

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Rochelle Braun
Landmark, Manitoba

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A graduate of Grande Prairie Composite High School, Karinn completed a Bachelor of Science (cellular, molecular and microbial biology) degree at the University of Calgary (U of C).

Karinn’s interests include running, recreational sports and horseback riding. She belonged to the Grande Prairie Softball League and Prairie Ladies Volleyball League. At the U of C, she belonged to the Pre-Veterinary Students’ Association and was on the Relay for Life Committee. She also belonged to Crossfit Calgary and trained with Running Room Ltd.

By volunteering and then working at Grande Prairie’s Bear Creek Animal Clinic, Karinn gained insight into the operations of a mixed animal practice. While assisting in the clinic and on field calls, she acquired valuable clinical experience as well as valuable client communication skills. She also worked at West County Animal Clinic and volunteered at Moore Equine Veterinary Centre where she observed some really cool surgeries and procedures.

Steven graduated from North Peace Secondary School in 2009 and attended the University of British Columbia (UBC) Okanagan Campus where he earned a place on the Dean’s List in 2012 and 2013. He will receive his Bachelor of Science (biology) degree from UBC this fall.

Steven’s interests include hiking, camping, fishing, stone carving and long distance running. He volunteered for the SPCA and the B.C. Interior Horse Rescue Society as well as Kelowna’s Gospel Mission. Steven was also co-president of the UBC Okanagan’s Pre-Vet Club and belonged to Toastmasters International.

He became interested in large animal medicine through observing and assisting veterinarians as they treated dairy cattle and horses. Steven also gained small animal experience by working at Rivers Animal Hospital in Fort St. John for several years. He had a wide range of clinic duties and learned about interacting with clients and managing a veterinary clinic.
After graduating from Hatzic Secondary School, Beverly completed two years of a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture (animal science) degree at the University of Saskatchewan (U of S). Her awards included a Nola Brown Continuous Achievement Award, a Westgen Education Award and an NSERC* Award supporting her crop science research.

Beverly enjoys working with dairy cattle on the farm and at competitive shows. For 10 years, she belonged to the Agassiz 4-H Club and served as club president and vice president. She likes playing sports and hiking and has built houses in Guatemala and El Salvador through Habitat for Humanity.

Beverly developed a love for working with animals through her years of helping out on the family farm. She also cared for the tie-stall cows and fed the calves while employed at the U of S Dairy Research Barn, and she works part-time as a milker for Alley Holsteins in Dalmeny, Sask.

Lauren graduated from Mennonite Brethren Collegiate Institute and received a Canadian National Railway Safety Scholarship and a University of Winnipeg (U of W) Entrance Scholarship. She then completed two years of a Bachelor of Science (biochemistry) degree at the U of W.

Lauren's interests include travelling, playing soccer and going to the lake with family. She played soccer for Winnipeg's Phoenix Soccer Club for five years and was involved in the Manitoba Marathon for several years. During the past two springs, she helped with lambing at a Manitoba farm and enjoyed the opportunity to gain experience in animal husbandry while observing and assisting in deliveries and ear tagging.

She was also employed for three years as an exam room assistant and receptionist at the Oakbank Animal Hospital. Lauren acquired valuable experience with companion animals, and she learned about customer service and communicating with clients.
Zoe graduated from Gulf Islands Secondary School in 2009. She then completed three and a half years of a Bachelor of Science (biology) degree at the University of Victoria, earning a place on the Dean’s List. Zoe’s interests include running, kayaking, reading and hiking. She volunteered with Mayne Island Conservancy and was a volunteer side walker for the Victoria Therapeutic Riding Association.

Through a DAAD-RISE internship (German Academic Exchange Service-Research Internships in Science and Engineering), Zoe researched metabolism and flight behaviour of bats. In addition, she earned an NSERC* Undergraduate Student Research Award in support of her research with cow-calf bonding.

Zoe also interned with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and with the University of British Columbia (UBC). At the UBC Dairy Research Centre, she developed skills in reproductive ultrasonography and gained experience with the reproductive aspects of dairy cattle management.

Ché graduated from Stirling High School in East London, South Africa. She then completed a Bachelor of Science (psychology) degree at the University of Calgary (U of C) where she was named to the Dean’s List. Her awards included a Barnabas Bursary and three Jason Lang Scholarships.

Ché’s interests include reading, skiing, working out and scuba diving. She belonged to the U of C’s Psychology Undergraduate Students’ Association and Ski Club. Ché also participated in the Calgary Corporate Challenge, the Terry Fox Run and the Strathmore Stampede.

In addition to volunteering with the SPCA, the Animal Rescue Foundation of Alberta and the Alberta Spay Neuter Task Force, Ché helped out at a swine farrowing barn and at several veterinary clinics. While employed at the Strathmore Veterinary Clinic and the Langdon Veterinary Clinic, she had a wide range of responsibilities that included assisting with surgeries and attending farm calls.
After graduating from St. Mary’s Academy, Carly completed three years of a Bachelor of Science (Agriculture) in Animal Systems degree at the University of Manitoba (U of M). Her awards included the Hogg Centennial Entrance Scholarship and a U of M Merit Award. She was also named to the Dean’s Honour List for two years.

Carly enjoys travelling, spending time with family and friends, going to the cottage, and caring for her dog. She volunteered at the Maui Humane Society and at the Winnipeg Animal Emergency Clinic where she was later hired as a receptionist and kennel worker. She enjoyed the exposure to the fast-paced emergency aspects of veterinary medicine.

Carly also worked as receptionist and kennel helper at Rivers Animal Hospital. There she worked closely with the veterinarians and technicians and learned a great deal about small animal health as well as the importance of building and maintaining client relationships.

After graduating from Aden Bowman Collegiate, Sarah completed a Bachelor of Science (Honours, biochemistry) degree at the University of Saskatchewan where she was active in the Biochemistry Students’ Association and the Chemistry Students’ Society. A Junior Fellow at Massey College, she will receive her PhD (neuroscience) degree at the University of Toronto (U of T) in November 2013. Sarah received two U of T Open Fellowship Awards and an Ontario Student Opportunity Trust Fund (OSOTF) Unilever/Lipton Award for her neuroscience research.

Sarah’s interests include cycling, triathlon and cooking. She belonged to the U of T Mountain Biking Team and the Morning Glory Cycling Club, and she volunteered with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Toronto. She also belonged to Toronto Western Hospital’s Trainee Affairs Committee as well as the Institute of Medical Science Students’ Association.

Through her pre-clinical research, Sarah acquired valuable experience while conducting surgeries and providing pre- and post-operative care to the experimental animals.
Julie graduated from Prince Charles Secondary School and will receive her Bachelor of Science (microbiology and immunology) degree at the University of Saskatchewan (U of S) this fall. Her awards included a U of S Transfer Scholarship, a John S. Middleton and Jack Spencer Gordon Middleton Undergraduate Scholarship and an NSERC* Undergraduate Student Research Award supporting her research into hepatitis C.

Her special interests are microbiology, environmentalism and food security, but Julie also loves physical activities and cooking. She belonged to the Bridge City Bicycle Co-op, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, and the U of S Microbiology and Immunology Student Association.

Julie volunteered at a local veterinary clinic and fostered cats and kittens for the Saskatoon Street Cat Rescue Program. She worked two summers at a rural mixed practice – helping with a caesarean section on a dairy cow was a highlight! Her responsibilities included assisting with large and small animal surgeries and interacting with clients.

Maddy re-
ceived an entrance scholarship from the University of Winnipeg where she completed a Bachelor of Science (biology) degree in 2013.

Maddy’s interests include soccer, baseball, sponge hockey and Game of Thrones. She helped with plays and bingos at Assiniboine Elementary School and participated in Assiniboine Park Zoo’s “Boo at the Zoo” event. As a volunteer at the Winnipeg Humane Society and at Winnipeg’s Central Veterinary Clinic, Maddy’s duties included general care of the animals and surgery preparation. She acquired valuable clinical experience and gained awareness of the challenges involved in operating private and public service clinics.

Maddy also worked at Pets 101, a Winnipeg pet shop, for four years. She cared for the animals, provided information on animal care and helped clients deal with issues such as food allergies, underfeeding reptiles and destructive rabbits.
After graduating from Pilot Mound Collegiate in 2010, Kate entered the University of Manitoba and will complete a Bachelor of Science (biological sciences) degree in October 2013. Kate enjoys sports, particularly hockey, fastball and golf. She also enjoys music and hanging out with friends. In addition to volunteering at the ALS Society of Manitoba, she belonged to Clearwater’s Combined and Beef 4-H Clubs for 10 years and coached minor league softball. She also earned gold, silver and bronze Duke of Edinburgh’s Awards by participating in the award’s program which encourages personal growth through non-competitive voluntary activities.

As a volunteer at Central Veterinary Services, Kate assisted with diagnostic procedures, observed surgeries and treatments and helped the staff wherever she was needed. She enjoyed the opportunity to learn more about veterinary medicine and the veterinary profession as well as the challenges of operating a veterinary clinic.

After graduating from Webber Academy, Shauna completed a Bachelor of Science (biology) degree, graduating with distinction from Mount Allison University and earning a place on the Dean’s List. Her awards included an Alexander Rutherford Scholarship and a Mount Allison University Entrance Scholarship.

Shauna is an avid runner who enjoys writing poetry, reading and spending time with friends and family. She was active in the Mount Allison Semester Studies in English (MASSIE) program and was a teaching assistant for several classes at the university. She also belonged to Toastmasters International and performed in “The Vagina Monologues.”

As a volunteer at Westmorland Animal Hospital in Sackville, N.B., Shauna gained experience working with cats and dogs. She also worked four summers at Calgary’s Heritage Park where she looked after a wide variety of animals. Her responsibilities included monitoring animal health, educating park guests on animal husbandry plus harnessing and team driving horses.
A graduate of Grand Forks Secondary School, Jair completed two and a half years of a Bachelor of Science (biology) degree at Trinity Western University and earned a place on the Dean's List. Jair's interests include hiking, backpacking in the B.C. mountains and gardening — especially growing strawberries. He also enjoys the philosophical and theological readings of the Christian faith. He belonged to Crosspointe Fellowship, a church community, and to the Trinity Western Environmental Alliance which focuses on environmental issues. As a volunteer with Trinity Western's WORKCore, he participated in weekly service projects at the homes of needy families.

Jair learned a great deal about large animals by helping out on his grandfather's cattle ranch. He also volunteered at a local veterinary clinic and acquired a broad range of veterinary experience by assisting the veterinarians with everything from appointments to surgeries to farm calls.

A graduate of Deloraine School, Les received general proficiency and academic awards throughout high school. She completed a Bachelor of Science (biology) degree at Brandon University.

Les enjoys sports, particularly volleyball and curling. She also likes fishing, camping and spending time with friends and family. A 4-H member for six years, she also belonged to the Deloraine Junior Rifle Club and was an avid piano student who achieved Grade 7 through the Royal Conservatory of Music. Les also competed in piano and speech arts at the Deloraine Border Festival. At university she belonged to the Biology Club and the Student Leader Co-ordinator program.

As a volunteer at two mixed animal veterinary practices, Les gained valuable experience by shadowing and helping out wherever she was needed. She also volunteered at the Brandon Humane Society where she worked with the dogs and always looked forward to her furry friend break.
After graduating from Collège Lorette Collegiate, Samantha completed a Bachelor of Science (general) degree at Université de Saint-Boniface.

Samantha’s interests include playing soccer, swimming, baking and hanging out with friends and family. She played on teams in several community soccer leagues, including Ste. Anne Soccer, the Winnipeg Women’s League and the Winnipeg Recreational League. She was also a very active community volunteer.

Samantha observed and assisted wherever she was needed at the Anderson Animal Hospital, the Pet Vet Clinic and the Beausejour Animal Hospital. She also volunteered at the Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre where she gained experience working with wildlife, particularly birds. While observing and assisting at the Manitoba Dairy Research Farm, she acquired a better understanding of veterinarian-client relationships.

For several years, she worked at Waldenway Canine & Kitty Camp and learned a great deal about relating to clients and handling cats and dogs.

A graduate of John Maland High School, Danielle completed a Bachelor of Science (biological sciences) degree at the University of Alberta (U of A). Her awards included a U of A Undergraduate Academic Scholarship and three Jason Lang Scholarships.

Danielle enjoys all sports and loves to travel and spend time outdoors. She volunteered with Little Bits Therapeutic Riding Association, coached high school basketball and played in basketball and beach volleyball leagues for several years.

Danielle also volunteered at a number of local veterinary clinics and worked with both small and large animals. In South Africa, she volunteered with a wildlife veterinarian and helped at two wildlife rehabilitation centres. She also collected shark research data and assisted with cage diving and whale watching clients at the Dyer Island Conservation Trust.

Danielle gained experience with small animals while working at Edmonton’s Clareview Casselman Pet Clinic. She was also a labourer and milker at a local dairy farm.
Julie Hamilton  
Morden, Manitoba

After graduating from Morden Collegiate Institute, Julie completed two years of a Bachelor of Science (Agriculture) in Animal Systems degree at the University of Manitoba (U of M). She received a 4–H Gold Watch Award, was named athlete of the year for her school division and earned a place on the U of M Dean’s Honour List.

Julie enjoys a variety of sports including basketball, volleyball and curling. She also competes in the horse show circuit, both provincially and nationally. She belonged to the Winkler 4–H Trailblazers and to Big Brothers Big Sisters.

For many years, Julie volunteered at the Morden Veterinary Clinic where she walked dogs, assisted the veterinarians and technicians and helped out with flushing and implanting embryos. While employed at the Morden and Winkler veterinary clinics, she was the office gopher and had a variety of responsibilities that included assisting the veterinarians and working in reception.

Amanda Hauer  
Edmonton, Alberta

After graduating from Leduc Composite High School, Amanda completed two years of a Bachelor of Science in Animal Health (companion and performance animals) degree at the University of Alberta (U of A). Her awards included a T4K Academic Excellence Scholarship, two Louise McKinney Scholarships and the Edmonton Association of Small Animal Veterinarians (EASAV) Animal Health Prize.

Amanda’s interests include athletics of all kinds as well as reading and walking her furry creatures. She played intramural volleyball and basketball at U of A and belonged to a variety of recreational sports clubs. Amanda also belonged to the U of A’s Pre-Vet/Animal Health Club and Poultry Research Centre Student Club.

While working as a kennel assistant and receptionist at Calgary Trail Pet Hospital, Amanda’s wide range of responsibilities gave her a well-rounded view of clinic operations. She also volunteered at the Edmonton Humane Society and worked with the Alberta Spay and Neuter Task Force.
Kendra graduated from Father Mercredi High School and was awarded the Governor General’s Academic Medal. She then completed a Bachelor of Science in Animal Health (companion and performance animals) degree at the University of Alberta, earning a Douglas Farquhar Johnston Bursary in Agriculture and a Ralph E. Carlyle Bar None Leadership Scholarship.

Kendra’s interests include painting and spending time with friends and family. She belonged to the Fort McMurray Roughriders 4-H Club and especially enjoys equestrian riding. Kendra also participated in Relay for Life and Santa’s Anonymous, and she travelled to Ecuador and China with her school travel club.

While volunteering at Crestwood Veterinary Clinic, she obtained significant one-on-one experience and learned valuable animal handling skills by assisting the small animal veterinarians and animal health technicians with a variety of procedures. Kendra also volunteered as a horse camp counsellor and assistant riding instructor for Lakewood Equestrian Centre.

After graduating from Kelowna Secondary School, Anna completed a Bachelor of Science (environment) degree at McGill University. Her awards included a B.C. Provincial Scholarship, an Advanced Placement Scholar with Distinction Award and a McGill University Mobility Award for her field studies program researching water use in Barbados.

Anna is very interested in music, particularly jazz and classical music. She also enjoys theatre, opera and film and is always singing or playing piano with a band of some sort. She interned as an event planner with the Kelowna Museums Society.

While volunteering at a small animal clinic, Anna learned the basics of small animal veterinary care. She also volunteered at an organic beef and dairy farm and at an equine hospital where she gained broad exposure to equine medicine and surgery plus breeding and stable management. Anna acquired experience in working with exotic animals while volunteering at Kelowna’s CrocTalk Zoo.
A graduate of Kelvin High School, Alexandra completed two years of a Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Manitoba (U of M). She earned an International Baccalaureate Scholarship, a U of M President’s Scholarship and a place on the Dean’s Honour List.

Alexandra’s interests include art activities and playing piano. She has a special interest in cycling and completed a 1,400-kilometre bicycle tour of the Gulf of Mexico. She performs traditional Ukrainian dances, teaches Sunday school and was active in the U of M Pre-Vet Club.

Alexandra gained equine experience while volunteering with an equine veterinary service and with the Manitoba Riding for the Disabled Association. As a volunteer at South Africa’s Ann van Dyk Cheetah Centre, she became familiar with the area’s animal conservation and breeding programs. She also volunteered at an animal hospital and worked at her family’s rescue facility, D’Arcy’s Animal Rescue Centre in Winnipeg, Man.

Michelle graduated from Carihi Secondary School, earning a Rotary Club of Campbell River Scholarship for her academic achievement. She then completed two and a half years of a Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Victoria and received a President’s Scholarship.

Michelle’s interests include travelling, yoga and music. As a volunteer with Mountainaire Avian Rescue Society (MARS), she worked with native birds and wildlife such as deer and marine animals. She learned a great deal about working with wildlife, particularly how to properly handle and approach frightened animals.

In her position at the Coastland Veterinary Hospital, Michelle had a variety of responsibilities that included receiving clients, assisting with X-rays and helping to hold animals during examinations and procedures. She also learned about all aspects of operating a private clinic as she assisted the companion animal veterinarians.
Julia graduated from George Elliot Secondary School and completed three years of a Bachelor of Science (animal biology) degree at Thompson Rivers University where she was named to the Dean’s List five times.

Her interests reflect her love of the outdoors – Julia enjoys hiking, running, horseback riding, bird watching, skiing, canoeing and kayaking. While volunteering with Dr. Rob Mulligan (WCVM ’06) at the Kamloops Large Animal Veterinary Clinic, Julia helped with a wide variety of tasks that included pregnancy checks, equine dental work and routine veterinary procedures. She worked with sheep, cows and horses and became familiar with the daily life of a large animal veterinarian.

In her position as a barn hand at Blackwell Dairy Farm, Julia’s responsibilities included milking cows, delivering calves and helping with herd health veterinary visits. She learned a great deal about handling and caring for dairy cows and their calves.

Susanne graduated from École secondaire Kelvin High School with an International Baccalaureate diploma. She then completed a Bachelor of Science (Honours, genetics) degree at the University of Manitoba where she placed on the Dean’s Honour List and the University 1 Honour List.

In addition to an interest in reading, Susanne enjoys origami and has been playing the flute since she was very young. She also volunteered at the Winnipeg Humane Society for several years. While volunteering at two German universities, she acquired valuable large animal experience through observing surgical procedures with cows, postnatal care of foals, vaccinations and neutering of pigs and physical examinations of alpacas.

Susanne also volunteered and then worked as a kennel attendant and receptionist at the Pembina Veterinary Clinic/ Winnipeg Animal Emergency Hospital. She had a variety of responsibilities including client admission, animal restraint and basic animal care.
After graduating from Ryley High School, Melanie completed two years of a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture (animal science) degree at the University of Alberta (U of A). Her awards included the Agriculture Class of 1950 Bar None Second Year Leadership Award, the Ian Morrison Undergraduate Leadership Award and a Louise McKinney Post-Secondary Scholarship.

Melanie’s interests include basketball and fitting/showing cattle. She belonged to the Holden 4-H Beef Club for several years and was a member of the Lutheran Student Movement. Melanie also belonged to the U of A’s Poultry Research Centre Student Club, Multi-Species Judging Club and Pre-Vet/Animal Health Club.

By volunteering at the Viking Veterinary Clinic and the Camrose Veterinary Hospital, Melanie gained experience working with equine, beef and small animals within a rural mixed practice. She also had a wide range of responsibilities while working as a farm hand on her family’s cow-calf operation and grain farm.

After graduating from Elton Collegiate Institute, Justin completed two years of a Bachelor of Science (biology) degree at Brandon University and one year of a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture (animal science) degree at the University of Saskatchewan.

Justin grew up on a beef cattle farm and enjoys handling and exhibiting cattle. His interests include sports, particularly hockey and snowboarding. He was active in 4-H for 12 years and received the Grant Moffat Herdbuilder Award, the Grant Moffat Memorial Leadership Award and the Manitoba 4-H Gold Watch Award.

In addition to working with commercial, purebred and feeder animals on the family farm for 20 years, Justin inspected slaughtered hogs for the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and spent three years working for a poultry breeding operation. This year, Justin was a research summer student at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine and helped to investigate toe tip necrosis — a lameness disease in feedlot cattle.
A graduate of Dr. Martin LeBoldus High School, Emily completed a Bachelor of Arts (psychology) degree and a Bachelor of Business Administration (marketing) degree plus two years of a Bachelor of Science (pre-veterinary medicine) degree at the University of Regina (U of R). She earned a U of R Academic Silver Scholarship and a Saskatchewan Innovation and Opportunity Scholarship.

Emily’s interests include travelling and spending time outdoors with her husband and Appa, their Karelian bear dog. Their adopted pit bull, Angel, recently succumbed to cancer and has particularly inspired Emily to help mistreated animals and misunderstood breeds.

Emily volunteered at Regina’s Airport Animal Hospital and at Second Chance Animal Shelter in Nelson, B.C., where she worked with the animals and used her marketing skills to help with promotions. While volunteering at a rural Saskatchewan clinic, Emily especially enjoyed assisting on farm calls and discovered that she likes working with large animals.

A graduate of Prince George Secondary School, Carly went on to complete a Bachelor of Science (biology) degree at the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC). She earned membership in the Golden Key International Honour Society and received a UNBC Raven Scholarship.

Carly is a mezzo soprano and sings with the Borealis Chamber Choir. She also enjoys getting outdoors to snowboard and hike and has been playing soccer since she was a kid. In addition to playing university intramural soccer, she belonged to the UNBC Fish and Wildlife Society, the Canadian Wildlife Society and the Free the Children Club.

As a volunteer and then employee of the Ospika Animal Hospital, Carly obtained valuable experience in handling the animals and became experienced at communicating with clients. She also worked as a kennel attendant at Double Mac Farms, a boarding and day care facility for dogs.
After graduating from Harry Ainlay Composite High School, Crystalyn completed three years of a Bachelor of Science (biological sciences) degree at the University of Alberta (U of A). She earned First-Class Standing, was named to the Dean’s List and received a Bourse du prix d’honneur du Doyen from the U of A’s Faculté Saint-Jean.

Crystalyn has many diverse interests. She played classical and jazz clarinet and belonged to her high school and university concert bands. Crystalyn was also a dancer in the Edmonton Festival Ballet Company. She belonged to the U of A Pre-Vet/Animal Health Club and volunteered with an international conservation group in Cuba.

While volunteering at two small animal hospitals and a sheep farm, Crystalyn gained insight into the diversity of the veterinary profession. She also worked as a receptionist, assistant and volunteer co-ordinator at the Terwillegar Veterinary Clinic and acquired valuable experience in the medical and business aspects of the clinic.

After graduating from HKMA David Li Kwok Po College in Hong Kong, Gigi completed a Bachelor of Science in Agroecology (animal studies) degree at the University of British Columbia (UBC) where she earned a place on the Dean’s Honour Roll.

Gigi’s interests include skiing and public speaking. She belonged to Toastmasters International Speakeasy Club and to the UBC Cooking Club. Gigi also volunteered at the Vancouver Aquarium, the Fraser Valley Therapeutic Association and the B.C. SPCA. She worked with various animal species while volunteering at Maplewood Farm and Urban Digs Farm, and she volunteered at the Intercity Animal Emergency Clinic and the Orphan Kitten Rescue Association.

Gigi was employed as a research assistant with Canadian Poultry Consultants Ltd. in Abbotsford, B.C., and as a teaching assistant at UBC. She also worked in a stable, assisted a pet groomer and helped the clinical staff at a bird hospital and at a small animal clinic.
A graduate of Bowness High School, Kristine received the Alexander Rutherford Scholarship. She then completed a Bachelor of Science (Honours, zoology) degree at the University of Calgary (U of C), twice earning the Jason Lang Scholarship. She was also on the U of C Faculty of Science Dean’s List.

Kristine and her family lived in Saudi Arabia for 10 years. As they travelled extensively throughout Africa, Australia and Asia, Kristine developed a keen interest in learning more about the animals they saw. Her interests also include ice and floor hockey, running and the flute. She belonged to Calgary Toastmasters, played recreational floor hockey and volunteered for several community organizations.

Kristine volunteered at Outback Cattle Company and at the Calgary Zoo. She also volunteered and then worked at the Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society where one of her responsibilities was providing wildlife education to the public. As a volunteer and then employee at Varsity Veterinary Clinic, Kristine gained experience in the clinical and business aspects of veterinary medicine.

A graduate of Burnaby South Secondary School, Kathleen completed a Bachelor of Science in Applied Biology (Honours, applied animal biology) degree at the University of British Columbia (UBC). Her awards included a UBC Medal in Applied Biology, the H.M. King Prize in Animal Science and a UBC Trek Excellence Scholarship.

Kathleen’s love of all things Disney makes her an expert on Disney theme parks. Other interests include portrait photography and cooking. At UBC she belonged to several clubs including the Pre-Veterinary and Animal Welfare Club and the Tennis Club. She also belonged to the Vancouver Orphaned Kitten Rescue Association.

Kathleen received two NSERC* Undergraduate Summer Research Awards and lived on site at the UBC Dairy Education and Research Centre. There, she helped look after the cattle while conducting her research concerning dairy cattle and calves. She also gained valuable experience while volunteering at Point Grey Veterinary Clinic.

* Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC)
After graduating from St. Paul Regional High School, Daren completed three years of a Bachelor of Science in Animal Health (food animals) degree at the University of Alberta (U of A).

Daren enjoys hiking, hunting, two-stepping and back-country camping in the Rocky Mountains, but his favourite activity is fishing. As a founding member and vice president of the U of A Poultry Research Centre Student Club, Daren helped with a variety of tasks that included establishing the club’s constitution and organizing volunteers.

He volunteered and then worked for the Edmonton Humane Society as a dog daycare attendant, an opportunity to learn a great deal about dog behaviour. He also volunteered and then worked as a zookeeper assistant at the Edmonton Valley Zoo. As an elephant keeper and hoofstock keeper, he acquired an understanding of exotic animals and learned about the challenges and difficulties of operating a zoo and housing wild animals.

A graduate of Maidstone High School, Travis completed a Bachelor of Science (Honours, biochemistry, microbiology and immunology) degree at the University of Saskatchewan (U of S). He was awarded a U of S College of Medicine biomedical summer research project as well as a Graduate Teaching Fellowship.

Travis has many interests including hockey and outdoor sports. He especially enjoys hitting the dog park with his dog Pete – the most enjoyable activity known to mankind! He was involved in several groups and student clubs including Canadian Blood Services and the Saskatoon Regional Science Fair. He mentored with Drs. Rodney Webber (WCVM ’01) and Andrea Petrucka (WCVM ’08) at Warman Veterinary Clinic and enjoyed working with patients and clients in a mixed practice setting.

While working as a dairy herdsman on small and large production farms, Travis learned about herd health challenges and opportunities for modern dairy producers while experiencing all aspects of health and husbandry in the dairy industry.
After graduating from Strathcona Composite High School, Christina completed a Bachelor of Science (Honours, animal biology) degree at the University of Alberta (U of A). Her awards included a Dean’s Silver Medal in Science, a Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre Entrance Award and an NSERC* Undergraduate Student Research Award for research involving rockfish.

Christina’s interests include reading and baking, but her favourite activity is scuba diving — she’s dived in Australia, Bali, Victoria and Mexico. She belonged to the U of A’s Interdepartmental Science Students’ Society as well as Girl Guides of Canada, and she was a Sparks leader. As a volunteer at the U of A Swine Research and Technology Centre, she had a variety of responsibilities that included medicating and inseminating swine.

Christina also volunteered and then worked at the Terwillegar Veterinary Clinic as a receptionist and technician assistant. She gained valuable experience and an understanding of the dedication required of a veterinary professional.

* Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC)

After graduating from Claremont Secondary School, Whitney completed a Diploma in Arts and Science Studies at Camosun College.

Whitney enjoys rowing, playing soccer and riding her horse. For several years, she was involved with the Vancouver Island Arabian Horse Association (VIAHA), and she competed and volunteered at a number of horse shows. By volunteering with small animal veterinarians as well as with an equine veterinarian, Whitney observed the different ways in which veterinarians work with clients and patients. She also volunteered at a dog kennel and acquired experience in working with pet owners.

As an employee of Dr. Danielle Fritz (WCVM ’05), an equine veterinarian who does a great deal of reproduction work, Whitney’s responsibilities ranged from preparing horses for artificial insemination to setting them up for dental procedures. She enjoyed the opportunity to observe various routine and emergency procedures while gaining valuable hands-on experience.
A graduate of Pleasant Valley Secondary School, Rebecca completed four years of a Bachelor of Science (biochemistry) degree at the University of Calgary, University of British Columbia Okanagan and the University of Prince Edward Island. Her awards included the Canadian Pony Club (CPC) Governor General’s Award of Excellence, the CPC Sandra Silcox Memorial Award and the Governor General’s Academic Medal.

Rebecca’s many activities and interests include competing in equestrian and modern pentathlon events. She was active in the CPC’s Armstrong branch, belonged to several fencing clubs, coached and competed in swimming and soccer, and competed in cross-country, track and hockey. Rebecca also found time to volunteer at two local veterinary clinics and acquired experience working with large animals.

While employed at Deep Creek Veterinary Services, Rebecca worked primarily with equine services and had a variety of responsibilities that included assisting in surgeries, providing information to clients and rebuilding fences demolished by mischievous ponies!

After graduating from South Kamloops Secondary School, Aimee completed a Bachelor of Science (animal biology) degree at Thompson Rivers University (TRU).

Aimee’s main hobby is riding horses, and she’s been involved with them since she was six years old. She was active in 4-H, has been involved in competitive hunter jumper associations and is now enjoying a new challenge — agility competitions. Aimee spent a summer volunteering in Africa through an international volunteer group, and she belonged to the TRU Biology Undergraduate Society.

She gained a good variety of experience by volunteering at large animal and small animal veterinary clinics. When Aimee spent a summer working for Dr. Jennifer Jackson (WCVM ’94) of the Kamloops Large Animal Veterinary Clinic, she learned a great deal about in vitro fertilization breeding. She also worked in a swine barn, and she gained a huge amount of hands-on experience while employed at a small animal clinic.
A graduate of Elrose Composite School, Jessica completed a Bachelor of Science in Animal Health (food animals) degree with distinction at the University of Alberta (U of A). She received the Roy Herbert Ennismore Scholarship in Agriculture and a Saskatchewan Stock Growers Zone 7 Scholarship. Jessica also completed an animal health technology diploma with distinction at Lakeland College and earned the Alberta Veterinary Medical Association Award.

Jessica enjoys promoting agriculture and working with animals, particularly beef and dairy cattle. She played recreational hockey, and at the U of A, she participated in “There’s a Heifer in Your Tank” plus the Pre-Vet/Animal Club and the Poultry Research Centre Student Club.

As a registered animal health technologist at Granada Veterinary Clinic, Jessica acquired experience in general and emergency medicine and client management. Jessica also worked at the Edmonton Veterinary Emergency Clinic and was a research technician for the U of A’s poultry and dairy units.

A graduate of Stelly’s Secondary School, Beverly completed a Bachelor of Science (biology) degree at the University of Victoria where she earned a Sinclair Life Sciences Bursary.

Beverly’s interests include playing softball and volleyball, running, drawing and reading. As a volunteer at Victoria’s Vets for Pets, she assisted the veterinarians and technicians and had a variety of responsibilities while gaining experience working with a team.

She also volunteered and then worked as a kennel attendant and housekeeper at Central Saanich Animal Hospital. While employed as an assistant and receptionist at Village Veterinary Clinic, Beverly helped wherever she was needed in the clinic and communicated with the clients as she arranged appointments and filled prescriptions.

She also worked at Hillside Veterinary Hospital where she acquired in-depth experience at working with companion and exotic animals as she assisted with the patients and helped with the clinic’s daily operations.
EVELYN MUMA  
REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN

A graduate of Dr. Martin LeBoldus High School, Evelyn completed a Bachelor of Science (biology) degree at the University of Regina (U of R). She received two U of R Academic Silver Scholarships and a Saskatchewan Innovation and Opportunity Scholarship.

Evelyn enjoys being active – running, biking, hiking and walking her dog Finnegan. She was an executive member of the U of R Pre-Health Club, and her passion for travel prompted her to backpack through Ireland and volunteer with South African wildlife.

As a volunteer for the Regina Humane Society, Evelyn assisted in the kennel, took animals to visit seniors and rehabilitation centres and helped with summer camps. While in South Africa, she volunteered on the Phinda Wildlife Reserve where she worked with the researchers and veterinarians monitoring cheetahs, lions, rhinos and elephants. Evelyn was employed at the Animal Clinic of Regina and interacted with clients while helping with a variety of veterinary procedures.

ALEX NEUMANN  
REGINA BEACH, SASKATCHEWAN

A graduate of Lumsden High School, Alex completed a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture (animal science) degree at the University of Saskatchewan.

Her interests include recreational sports such as ultimate Frisbee and softball. Alex also enjoys arts and music. As a volunteer with Fast Genetics, a swine genetics provider, she gained a better understanding of swine operations in Saskatchewan. She also volunteered at the Prince Edward Island Humane Society and enjoyed the opportunity to meet like-minded people while helping animals in need. Through her volunteer time at Erindale Animal Hospital, Alex was able to experience the day-to-day operations of a veterinary clinic.

Alex worked at the Animal Clinic of Regina and was involved in all aspects of the clinic. She enjoyed the chance to learn about procedures, medications and surgeries as well as the other responsibilities involved in operating a small animal clinic.
After graduating from École Neelin High School, Cailey completed a Bachelor of Science (biology) degree at Brandon University (BU). She received a BU Board of Governors Entrance Scholarship and was recognized by the university’s Animal Care Committee for her contribution to research. She was also recognized by her professors during International Women’s Week.

Cailey enjoys equestrian riding – show jumping, cross-country and dressage. She was a member, instructor and examiner with the Baldur Pony Club. She is also a professional dog handler and instructed a conformation handling class with Focus Forward.

In her job at Brandon Hills Veterinary Clinic, Cailey had a variety of responsibilities that ranged from reception to surgery preparation. She also worked at the family business, The Paw Resort and Wellness Centre, where she developed an appreciation for the hard work, skill and dedication required of a successful veterinarian.

After graduating from the Mennonite Educational Institute, Luke completed three years of a Bachelor of Science in Animal Health degree at the University of Alberta (U of A). He received an American Association of Avian Pathologists (AAAP) Foundation Poultry Scholarship and an award from the Western Poultry Scholarship and Research Foundation. His name was also inscribed on the U of A’s Academic Wall of Recognition.

Luke is a fly-fishing enthusiast and enjoys being physically active. He was president of the U of A Poultry Research Centre Student Club and volunteered with Sherwood Park’s Heartland Alliance Church as well as with Victory Church in Poipet, Cambodia.

While touring and job shadowing poultry operations in California and Utah, Luke learned about the daily routines of a consulting poultry veterinarian. He also worked as a poultry farm manager for several summers and acquired valuable experience in operating a poultry farm.
A graduate of École Secondaire Lacombe Composite High School, Kayla completed a Bachelor of Science in Animal Health (food animals) degree at the University of Alberta (U of A). Her awards included a Northlands Undergraduate Scholarship, a Louise McKinney Scholarship and a Scholastic Achievement Award from the American Society of Animal Science.

Kayla enjoys outdoor activities and most sports, particularly volleyball and badminton. She belonged to the U of A Badminton Club and played recreational volleyball and beach volleyball. She also volunteered with the Lacombe dog shelter, helped raise funds for various charities and assisted special needs students at the U of A.

Kayla acquired experience in many aspects of veterinary medicine by volunteering at a mixed animal practice. As a summer student at the Lacombe Research Centre, she worked in the beef and swine facilities and assisted researchers studying the digestibility of various forage crops and the early detection of disease in pigs.

After graduating from All Saints Catholic Secondary School in Whitby, Ontario, Cara completed a Bachelor of Science (Honours, molecular biology and genetics) at McMaster University.

Cara’s interests include martial arts, belly dancing and cooking. She volunteered with AIDS Calgary Awareness Association and with the Association for the Rehabilitation of the Brain Injured. Cara worked with exotic zoo animals while volunteering at Ontario’s Bowmanville Zoo and Bowmanville Veterinary Clinic. She also assisted at the Wildlife Rehabilitation Society. Her volunteer work at a small animal clinic and a specialty medicine and emergency hospital provided exposure to many aspects of small animal medicine and emergency treatment.

Cara worked with small animals and some exotic animals at the Whitemud Creek Veterinary Clinic where she had a variety of clinical and administrative responsibilities. She also worked at Butterfield Acres Farm, an opportunity to gain experience with equine and food animals.
A graduate of Greenall High School, Erin completed a Bachelor of Science (chemistry) degree at the University of Regina. Erin’s interests include playing and listening to music as well as individual and team sports, especially soccer. She volunteered as an agility instructor for the Regina Kennel and Obedience Club and witnessed the boost in confidence that agility training provides for both animals and owners.

Erin worked at the Balgonie Veterinary Clinic and acquired experience working in a small town mixed practice. As a trainer at PetSmart, she instructed classes and recommended techniques and programs to the customers. Erin also worked at a dairy farm and gained insight into the lives of dairy farmers and large animal veterinarians.

Her employment at 24 HR Animal Care Centre in Regina provided the opportunity for involvement in emergency and critical care. She worked with numerous veterinarians and benefited from observing their different approaches and viewpoints.

After graduating from Carlton Comprehensive High School, Gabrielle completed three years of a Bachelor of Science (biology) degree at the University of Saskatchewan (U of S). Her awards included a U of S Chancellor’s Scholarship, a U of S Greystone Scholarship and the Herschel Davidner Award.

Gabrielle enjoys teaching and playing musical instruments. She has a special interest in piano, French horn and musical theatre and was involved in various high school music groups. She belonged to the U of S Greystone Scholars’ Society and was part of a high school pet therapy group.

While volunteering at a local mixed animal practice, Gabrielle had the opportunity to observe surgeries, help with daily procedures and provide basic care and treatment. The experience gave her an understanding of the skills and qualities required to operate a successful practice, and she learned a great deal about interacting with clients and their animals.
A graduate of Fraser Heights Secondary School, Karra completed four years of a Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Victoria (UVic). Karra enjoys playing piano and singing as well as spending time with family and friends. She was president of the UVic Pre-Vet Club. As a voluntary intern working with B.C.’s provincial veterinarian, Karra helped to compile and organize data regarding wildlife population health, and she participated in necropsies. Karra’s true passion is working with wildlife, and she belongs to the International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council and the Oiled Wildlife Society. Karra was a voluntary intern with the B.C. SPCA Wild Animal Rehabilitation Centre (ARC) and was eventually hired to work as a full-time wildlife rehabilitation responsible for raising orphaned wildlife and rehabilitating injured adult wildlife. She also worked part time at the Pacific Cat Clinic where she assisted the veterinarian wherever she was required.

After graduating from Barrhead Composite High School, Anna completed a Bachelor of Science (integrative biology/chemistry) degree at Concordia University College of Alberta. Her awards included a President’s Leadership Scholarship, a Louise McKinney Scholarship and a Keith Gilmore Scholarship. Anna’s interests include volleyball, playing classic and folk (violin) music and writing music with her sister. She played in the Concordia Symphony Orchestra, was a church youth leader and played recreational volleyball and floor hockey. She especially enjoys working with her horse Sonny and riding with her dog Kipper.

Anna acquired experience in small animal care by volunteering at Lakeside Veterinary Clinic. She also worked at Wilderness Ranch where her duties included teaching riding, packing horses for trips and caring for the horses. Last year she worked with Operation Wallacea and conducted research on elephant behavior in South Africa — an opportunity to gain field experience with large and potentially dangerous animals.
After graduating from Centennial Collegiate, Alexandra completed two years of a Bachelor of Science (physiology and pharmacology) degree at the University of Saskatchewan (U of S). She received a University of Calgary Entrance Scholarship, a U of S Competitive Entrance Award and a U of S Faculty Association Scholarship.

Alexandra’s interests include horseback riding, painting and live music. She belonged to the Borden Light Horse 4-H Club and the U of S Pre-Vet Club. As a volunteer at the Prairie Swine Centre, she had a variety of responsibilities that included administering treatments and vaccines. She gained valuable insight into the animal production field.

Alexandra worked at Erindale Animal Hospital and Central Animal Hospital and learned about the operation of a small animal clinic as she assisted the veterinarians and technicians during medical procedures and surgeries. She acquired valuable experience in handling small animals and learned the importance of clear communication.

After graduating from Lake Lenore School, Christian completed three years of a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture (animal science) degree at the University of Saskatchewan (U of S). He received several awards including a Saskatchewan General Proficiency Award, a U of S Greystone Scholarship and a scholarship from the Douglas Christie Ferguson Fund.

Christian has always been highly involved in sports such as basketball, soccer and hockey. While golf is his favourite pastime, he has a passion for all outdoor activities and enjoys running, biking and snowboarding.

For two summers, Christian worked as a herdsperson for Cudworth Pork Investors Group where he had a wide range of responsibilities that required him to work in every department within the farrow-to-finish barn. Christian also worked at a dairy barn and gained valuable experience handling cattle and working with heavy machinery while learning about milk production on a modern dairy farm.
A graduate of Bishop O'Byrne High School, Christine completed a Bachelor of Science (Honours, microbiology and immunology) degree at the University of Saskatchewan (U of S). Her awards included an Alexander Rutherford Scholarship, a University of Calgary Admission Scholarship and a membership in the Golden Key International Honour Society.

Christine’s interests include playing soccer, painting and reading. She belonged to the U of S Microbiology and Immunology Students’ Association and volunteered for Special Olympics Canada as a bowling coach. Christine also volunteered at Calgary’s C.A.R.E. Centre where she monitored animals in the intensive care unit and assisted with radiographs and ultrasound examinations. While volunteering at the Watrous Animal Hospital, she acquired experience working with large animals.

Christine volunteered and then worked at the Castleridge Veterinary Clinic as a receptionist and assistant. She had a variety of responsibilities that included performing examinations, administering vaccines and assisting in surgeries.
After graduating from Strathmore High School, Brittany completed three years of a Bachelor of Science (agricultural biotechnology) degree at the University of Lethbridge. She received the Governor General’s Academic Medal and earned a place on the Dean’s List.

Brittany enjoys spending time outdoors, and her interests include camping and horseback riding. She especially likes working with large animals and enjoys the ranch way of life. She played minor hockey, was active in the local 4-H beef clubs and belonged to Junior Canadian Rangers. Brittany volunteered at the Strathmore Veterinary Clinic working mainly with small animals, and she assisted with large animals at the Leader Veterinary Clinic.

While working at 1Y Quarter Horses, Brittany had a variety of responsibilities that included caring for sick colts, helping with insemination of mares and assisting with ultrasound exams. She also worked as a pen rider and processor at a cattle feedlot.

A graduate of Ross Sheppard High School, Dana completed a Bachelor of Science (biological sciences) degree at the University of Alberta (U of A). Her awards included a U of A Academic Excellence Scholarship, a U of A Undergraduate Academic Scholarship and a Jason Lang Scholarship. Dana also received an NSERC* Undergraduate Student Research Award supporting her research involving zebrafish.

Dana’s interests include cycling, reading English literature and playing recreational soccer. She’s particularly interested in zoo conservation of exotic animals. As a volunteer at Marketplace Animal Hospital, she had the chance to watch surgeries and assist with many aspects of clinic operation.

While employed at the Edmonton Valley Zoo, Dana was responsible for educating the public about zoo animals as well as cleaning and providing enrichment activities for the animals. She enjoyed the opportunity to gain experience in handling large animals and to learn more about large animal medicine.

* Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC)
A graduate of Evan Hardy Collegiate, Allison went on to complete a Bachelor of Science (biology) degree at the University of Saskatchewan (U of S) where she graduated with great distinction and received a Harvey Undergraduate Scholarship. Along with an NSERC* Discovery Grant, the U of S Summer Student Employment Program (USTEP) supported her research involving parasitology.

Allison enjoys being outdoors. Her interests include camping, fishing and playing soccer. She helped at the Student Wellness Initiative Toward Community Health (SWITCH) clinic, volunteered as a dog walker with SPCA for several years and assisted with the dog-sheep demonstrations of Jared Epp, the shepherd for Meewasin Valley conservation areas.

Allison also volunteered with the bird banding program at the Beaver Creek Conservation Area, and she had a variety of responsibilities while assisting at Acadia Veterinary Clinic and Woodridge Veterinary Clinic. These volunteer experiences provided valuable learning opportunities—Allison particularly enjoyed working with wild animals.

* Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC)

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After graduating from Campbell Collegiate, Samantha completed a Bachelor of Science degree (biology) at the University of Regina where she belonged to the Biology Undergraduate & Graduate Society (BUGS).

Samantha’s favourite activities are travelling, reading and playing rugby. She played rugby for seven years, including two years with the Regina Rogues Rugby Club, and she volunteered at the Regina Humane Society. Environmental protection, animal welfare and medicine are special interests for her.

Samantha’s work experience includes employment as an assistant and receptionist at Airport Animal Hospital and the Animal Clinic of Regina. Her duties, which included laboratory work, filling prescriptions and assisting with major procedures, gave her a chance to experience the day-to-day routines of a veterinary clinic. She appreciated the opportunity to work with the excellent veterinarians who provided insight into their profession and became good friends and role models for her.
After graduating from William Aberhart High School, Carly attended the University of Calgary for two years and then completed a Bachelor of Science (psychology) degree at Memorial University of Newfoundland. She earned a place on the Dean’s List and received a Summer Undergraduate Research Award for her research focusing on colorectal cancer genetics.

Carly enjoys trying new things and spending time with Titan, her miniature dachshund. She belonged to Calgary Lowriders Dachshund Club and the Dachshunds of Newfoundland and Labrador Club. She also volunteered at a colorectal cancer screening centre.

As a volunteer and then employee at the Terra Nova Veterinary Clinic, Carly helped with routine cleaning of the facilities and assisted the veterinary staff by monitoring animals under anesthesia, trimming nails, prepping for surgery and receiving clients. She acquired valuable experience and enjoyed working with the supportive staff who became like family to her.
A graduate of Fraser Valley Christian High School, Steve completed a Bachelor of Science (animal biology) degree and an animal welfare certificate at Thompson Rivers University (TRU). He was named to the Dean’s list and received an award from the TRU Alumni Association.

Steve’s interests include sports such as hockey, soccer and baseball as well as camping, gardening and travelling. He volunteered with St. John Ambulance’s Therapy Dog Services and belonged to the TRU Biology Undergraduate Society (BUGS). He also volunteered at Kramer’s Pet World where he helped care for a variety of pets.

Steve volunteered and then worked for the B.C. SPCA. He had a variety of responsibilities that included health checks and vaccinations, cruelty complaint investigations, helping special provincial constables and assisting veterinarians with surgeries and medical procedures. He attended several training courses and seminars and is a certified dog temperament assessor.

After graduating from Stonewall Collegiate Institute, Tara completed four years of a Bachelor of Kinesiology degree at the University of Manitoba. Her interests include reading and travelling. She’s been to New Zealand and Australia and has travelled across Canada. Tara also enjoys Muay Thai, a martial art that makes use of punches, kicks, elbows and knee strikes.

Tara volunteered with Dr. Ron Hamilton (WCVM ’80) at South-East Veterinary Clinic and observed both small and large animal surgeries and procedures. Having grown up on a hog farm, she enjoys pigs and worked with them for 15 years as a swine technician, a nursery technician and a farrowing technician.

Tara also spent a summer working for MoonShadow Holsteins where she milked, cleaned bunks and fed calves. She enjoyed the opportunity to interact with dairy cattle and learn more about their behaviour.
A graduate of Kitsilano Secondary School, Mary completed a Bachelor of Science (biology) degree with distinction at the University of Victoria and a Master of Resource and Environmental Management degree at Simon Fraser University (SFU). She received an NSERC* Alexander Graham Bell Graduate Student Scholarship, an SFU Graduate Fellowship and a public policy research grant from the B.C. government supporting her research on human-black bear conflict.

Mary’s favourite activities include sports and the outdoors. She competed as an equestrian show jumper for many years. Her interest in wildlife management and environmental research led to her volunteering for several non-profit organizations. She also volunteered at a veterinary clinic and at animal shelters and horse stables.

As a registered professional biologist, Mary has worked for private organizations and government conducting studies and surveys. She also worked at an animal hospital and worked as a groom at Spruce Meadows and Southlands Riding Club.

After graduating from St. Mary’s Academy, Celine completed three and a half years of a Bachelor of Science (Agriculture) in Animal Systems degree at the University of Manitoba (U of M). Celine’s interests include travelling and sports such as hockey, soccer, wakeboarding and surfing. She was captain of the Manitoba Blizzards for four years and earned the Spirit of the Game Award and Player’s Player Award from the Manitoba Women’s Junior Hockey League. Celine also belonged to the U of M Pre-Vet Club, coached several female hockey teams and played bandy (a game played on ice that has similarities to soccer) for Team Canada.

While volunteering at Central Veterinary Services, Celine shadowed Dr. Jen White (WCVM ’06) and assisted the clinical staff. She also volunteered at the Winnipeg Humane Society. As a volunteer in Madurai, India, Celine acquired valuable hands-on experience while assisting veterinarians in a variety of settings including government dispensaries and private clinics.
A graduate of Woodlands Secondary School, Taryn completed a Bachelor of Science (biology) degree at Vancouver Island University and a Master of Science (veterinary biomedical sciences) degree at the University of Saskatchewan (U of S). Her awards included a Frederick Wheeler & W.H.T. Spary Graduate Scholarship, a Diane Cailliet Memorial Award and a U of S Graduate Research Fellowship in support of her research studying the influenza virus.

Taryn’s interests include cycling, playing squash, reading and cooking. She volunteered for the Saskatoon Food Bank, helped with a fundraiser supporting the Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and organized a sports fundraiser through Opportunitas Aequa. She also volunteered with the SPCA and helped out at Island Veterinary Clinic.

While working on a dairy farm, Taryn had a variety of responsibilities that included mixing feed, administering medications, monitoring herd health and overseeing the afternoon milking. She learned a great deal about the dairy industry as well as animal behaviour.
Alison Williams
Calgary, Alberta

Katarina Weber
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Katarina graduated from the University of Winnipeg Collegiate and earned a University of Winnipeg (U of W) Entrance Scholarship. She then completed three years of a Bachelor of Science (biology) degree at the U of W.

She enjoys a variety of physical activities that include downhill skiing, running, yoga and Pilates. Katrina also likes to read, knit and experience nature and wildlife. Her latest interest is photography. She volunteered at the Winnipeg Folk Festival and taught knitting at Boys and Girls Clubs of Winnipeg.

While volunteering at the Winnipeg Humane Society, Katarina assisted in the clinic and had a variety of responsibilities that included preparing animals for surgery and helping with vaccinations. She also volunteered with Dr. Larry Adelman (WCVM ‘81) at Seven Oaks Veterinary Hospital. There she gained insight into the complex dynamics of running a busy veterinary clinic. She assisted with examinations and observed medical procedures including smaller surgeries, examinations, X-rays and blood work.

Alison graduated from St. Francis High School, completed five years of a Bachelor of Science (Honours, zoology) degree at the University of Calgary (U of C). Her awards included a scholarship from the Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council of Canada, a Jason Lang Scholarship and an Alexander Rutherford Scholarship.

Alison’s interests include snowboarding, scuba diving and hiking with her dogs. She played both competitive and recreational soccer and belonged to the U of C’s Ski Club and Pre-Veterinary Students’ Association. Alison helped with the care of rescued dogs and cats while volunteering for Pets for Life and Pawsitive Match Rescue Foundation. She also volunteered for Dare to Dream Horse Rescue.

Alison became familiar with the responsibilities of a small animal veterinarian while employed at Horizon Veterinary Group. She also worked at Petland, and as a summer research student at the U of C, she worked in a study involving swine and cattle.
Cordell graduated from Yorkton Regional High School (YRHS). He was vice-president and president of the student council, was active in several school clubs and teams and received the YRHS Staff Award and the Margaret Freiheit Medal of Excellence. Cordell then completed two years of a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture (animal science) degree at the University of Saskatchewan.

His many interests include snowboarding and working with trained stock dogs. Cordell also plays violin and piano and received the Lazecki Memorial Intermediate Piano Award. He belonged to Big Brothers Big Sisters and volunteered with Canadian Blood Services.

With funding from Agricultural Demonstration of Practices and Technologies (ADOPT), Cordell was part of a study investigating cover cropping. He volunteered with Prairie East Veterinary Clinic and the Saskatchewan Sheep Development Board. A sheep producer since 2001, Cordell has expertise in every aspect of the sheep production cycle and has custom shorn thousands of sheep.

A graduate of Lockview High School in Fall River, Nova Scotia, Sarah will complete a Bachelor of Science (biology) degree at the University of Saskatchewan (U of S) in the fall of 2013. Her academic achievements earned her a membership in the Golden Key International Honour Society.

Sarah’s interests include travelling, backpacking, camping and cooking. She also enjoys music—collecting records and going to shows. She was a volunteer at the USSU Women’s Centre, and she helped with chicken vaccinating and lambing events which were organized by the U of S Pre-Vet Club.

Sarah was first a volunteer and then an employee at Saskatoon’s Acadia Veterinary Clinic. She had a variety of responsibilities that included assisting the veterinarians and technicians, working as a receptionist and helping out with laboratory work. She acquired valuable experience while working with the staff and observing surgeries and procedures.
After graduating from Leduc Composite High School, Michelle completed two years of a Bachelor of Science in Animal Health degree at the University of Alberta (U of A). She received a Northlands Undergraduate Scholarship, a Louise McKinney Post-Secondary Scholarship and a scholarship from the Alberta Heritage Scholarship Fund.

Michelle enjoys staying active, especially through sports such as volleyball, yoga and snowboarding. Her interests also include oil and water colour painting and drawing. At the U of A, she volunteered as a peer helper and was active in the Pre-Vet/Animal Health Club and Poultry Research Centre Student Club.

While interning for the Wildlife Rehabilitation Society of Edmonton, Michelle interacted with the public and learned about animal husbandry and proper handling techniques for wildlife. She also worked at Mission Ridge Animal Hospital and learned a great deal about the veterinary profession while gaining confidence that veterinary medicine is the right career choice for her.

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