



ANNUAL REPORT TO MEMBERS

2009 IN REVIEW

*A summary of your professional association's
achievements and objectives*

PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE



Dr. Brad Chappell



Dr. Colleen Marion

One of the first questions we asked ourselves as we stepped into the roles of MVMA councilors and accepted the greater responsibilities of Council presidency was “Where will I find the time?”

In the MVMA boardroom, there is a plaque that is now completely filled with 120 names. This is the plaque that acknowledges past presidents. A name has been added to the plaque for the past 120 years. While we are both honoured that our names will be among those who have held the position of MVMA president, this piece of MVMA history impresses upon us the fact that time was likely just as precious 120 years ago as it is today. And yet, people continue to make the choice to invest time in their professional association.

This annual report is more than a summary of activities over the past year. It is a reflection of commitment to the profession. We offer nothing to our member volunteers except the personal satisfaction that they have had an opportunity to advance the profession to the best of their ability. And we also offer this occasion, once a year, to profile the contributions they have made on behalf of all MVMA members.

We ask you to take time to read about the activities of your colleagues. Read about the issues we have focused on in the past year with a combined effort to improve our profession. Plan to attend the AGM on February 5 and make informed decisions when we ask you for your vote on our proposed changes and amendments to how we function as an association.

Better yet, find a little more time and contact us to see how you can contribute to your association. We recognize that volunteer positions need to respect the fact that we are all pressed for time and pulled many different ways by other commitments. We can find a role for you in our association.

We assure you we have good evidence - 120 years worth in fact – plus our own experiences that speak to how rewarding participation in your provincial association can be.

We wish you all a very rewarding year.

Dr. Brad Chappell

MVMA President

Dr. Colleen Marion

MVMA Past president
(2 terms served)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|--|---------------|
| PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE | facing |
| COUNCIL PROFILES | 2 |
| DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATION AND ADVOCACY REPORT | 4 |
| REGISTRAR'S REPORT | 5 |
| ANNUAL COMMITTEE SUMMARIES | 6 |
| COLLEGE SUMMARY OF ADMITTANCE AND PRESENTATIONS | 12 |
| MVMA AWARD RECIPIENT PROFILES | |
| • Veterinarian of the Year | 13 |
| • Life members | 13 |
| • Award of Merit | 14 |
| VETERINARIANS OF DISTINCTION | 15 |
| IN REMEMBRANCE | 16 |
| NEW MEMBERS TO THE PROVINCE | 16 |
| MVMA MEMBERS IN THE NEWS | 17 |
| CORPORATE SPONSOR HIGHLIGHT | 18 |

A WHO'S WHO ON YOUR GOVERNING COUNCIL

The year end brings an end to Dr. Colleen Marion's second term as president. Replacing her as president for 2010 is Dr. Brad Chappell. Leaving Council are Dr. Carla Loewen and Dr. Susan McMillan who have completed two-year-terms. Joining Council for 2010 are Dr. Leeanne Bargen and Dr. Marc Philipott.

MVMA COUNCIL 2010



**DR. BRAD CHAPPELL –
PRESIDENT**
(TERM ENDS 2011)

Swine Health
Professionals, Steinbach

I have always had an interest in the history and future of the profession. I have gained personal satisfaction in working with the team towards improving our MVMA by-laws and provincial pharmaceutical regulations. I

have also enjoyed being a part of the changes in the office and I look forward to the other outcomes that will arise as we strive to improve our support to members and guidance of our profession.

I have met many good people in this province and beyond while volunteering with the MVMA. I have interacted with members of provincial veterinary medical associations in the Prairies and BC. It has certainly broadened my perspective on how associations function.

Being on Council has given me the opportunity to witness interactions among practicing veterinarians, government and commodity groups. It is rewarding to achieve consensus. I look forward to participating in more discussion that will continue to help us plot our future. And I look forward to hearing from MVMA members who wish to have their voices heard.



**DR. CHRIS
KRANENDONK –
PRESIDENT-ELECT**
(TERM ENDS 2012)

Diagnostic Coordinator,
Canadian Food Inspection
Agency, Winnipeg

I joined Council because I thought I could contribute something. I know we're not overwhelmed with volun-

teers. The whole process is quite different than what I'm used to. Working with the continuing education task force as well as Council has been a really good way to get different ideas and different slants on things. You may think you have all the answers and you get someone coming up with "have you thought of this?" Nobody has a monopoly on how it should be. Our decisions are a group consensus. It's my hope to work to see that kind of atmosphere continue.

I encourage all members to consider participating in the association. It's like not voting in an election . . . if you don't vote you shouldn't complain about the outcomes. The association is here for you and you're here for the association. It's only as strong as its weakest link. It's well worthwhile and it's your future that



DR. COLLEEN MARION – PAST PRESIDENT (TERM ENDS 2010)

Tuxedo Animal Hospital, Winnipeg

By acting as Chairperson for The Great Manitoba Dog Party I realized how valued veterinarians are by the clients and pets we serve, and felt challenged to learn more about the MVMA and how it serves its members.

The most rewarding part of being on Council so far has been the opportunity to collaborate with the veterinary community across Manitoba and Canada to address current issues impacting our profession.

In order to serve its membership effectively, the MVMA relies on the contribution of members willing and able to contribute their time and expertise to address the wide array of issues facing our profession. Volunteer support is essential in order to ensure that MVMA staff and its members successfully tackle the issues that will allow the future of the veterinary profession to evolve and thrive.



DR. ROSEMARY POSTEY – COUNCILOR (TERM ENDS 2010)

Veterinary Pathologist, Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives

I worked in Manitoba (Neepawa) for about 15 years, left the province then returned after five years to Winnipeg. While I was in rural Manitoba, I did a lot of volunteering for local groups but really didn't have time to travel into Winnipeg. Now that I am living in Winnipeg I thought it was a good time to get involved with our association as

a volunteer. I work for MAFRI and I thought it might be a good fit to have a provincial government representative on Council.

Participating in Council has been challenging these past couple of years, with many changes in the association. Some of the most rewarding parts of being a volunteer on Council are putting faces to names and really getting to know some of my colleagues who

are also serving on Council. I also feel privileged to be working with all the talented staff employed in the MVMA office and seeing their ideas successfully promote the veterinary profession.

I encourage my colleagues to get involved in the MVMA if they are not happy with the way things are happening. The best way to make change is join and get your ideas heard. Without volunteers nothing will get done. Even now there are wonderful ideas that could be implemented but the office staff doesn't have the time and we don't have the volunteer base to implement them. For rural veterinarians, I know it is a challenge to drive in for meetings but I would encourage you to get involved where possible so your voice is heard. There is always the concern that if we don't get volunteers we face the possibility of losing self governance and I think that is a privilege we should cherish. We have many awesome colleagues and this is a wonderful opportunity to connect.



DR. TREVOR BECHUK, COUNCILOR (TERM ENDS 2010)

Great Plains Veterinary Surgery, Winnipeg

I joined Council so I could have the opportunity to serve the MVMA and develop an understanding of the issues related to the practice of veterinary medicine in Manitoba. I believe that a person should be involved in the processes that govern their lives, both personal and professional and this has guided my desire to serve on the MVMA Council. I also have a firm belief that there is no right to complain about the decisions that are made by governing bodies unless you are willing to do your part. In essence you are either part of the problem or part of the solution. The most rewarding part of being a councillor is the opportunity to get to know other professionals involved in veterinary medicine in Manitoba whom I would otherwise not have met. I have found the people involved in the MVMA on staff, Council and in advisory roles to be an excellent group, one that I am proud to represent. I encourage colleagues to get involved in

the MVMA. There are many different opportunities to be involved, all of varying time commitments. The people you will interact with and the connection you will feel to the MVMA is certainly worth the hours invested.

TO OUR OUTGOING COUNCILLORS . . .

Your MVMA colleagues thank you for the time you have invested in advancing your profession during your respective terms.

DR. CARLA LOEWEN (TERM COMPLETED)

Virden Animal Hospital, Virden

DR. SUSAN MCMILLAN (TERM COMPLETED)

Morden/Pembina Valley Veterinary Clinics

I thought joining Council would be a good way to learn more about the MVMA. I think this year has been very challenging but also rewarding because we are starting to see progress and improvements within the MVMA that will benefit the association now and in years to come.

I encourage anyone who is wondering what the MVMA is about or what it does for its members to join a committee or Council. I have learned so much interesting and valuable information in the past three years. It has also been a great way to meet new colleagues who are in a different field of practice. The other benefit of serving on Council has been the opportunity to meet and work with the very talented and dedicated staff that works for the MVMA.

INCOMING COUNCILLORS



DR. LEEANNE BARGEN

Pet Vet, Steinbach

I have enjoyed learning about the inner workings of the MVMA as part of Professional Image and Strategic Planning committees. Taking part in Council is a natural progression for me. I appreciate the work of the volunteers who make our association run, and think it is only fair to take a turn.



DR. MARC PHILIPOTT

St. Claude Vet Clinic, St. Claude

After being nominated by my colleagues, I thought this would be an excellent opportunity to help out on Council. I have been involved with the pharmaceutical committee and have served over the last five years on the board of the Caisse Populaire Pembina. I believe that my past experiences may be helpful to the MVMA.

REPORT FROM YOUR DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATION AND ADVOCACY



SUBMITTED BY **ANDREA LEAR**

Usually when I write a report to membership, I detail the activities that occupied me during the year. Many members may already be aware of the activities I have been participating in, either through participation on committees or through my report in the News & Views. With this report, I'll summarize my role and what I'll be working on in 2010.

Since I joined the MVMA in 2006, the Director of Communications and Advocacy (DCA) role has evolved and has had greater involvement in all MVMA operations. I enjoy the challenge of this diversity. Over the past year, the "opposite sides" (regulatory and advocacy) of the office have come together; the association now has a total view of landscape allowing joint planning and greater efficiency. I would like to share some of the activities I am responsible for:

- 1) Advisor to MVMA Council –includes providing opinion as requested and investigation/clarification of matters before Council.
- 2) Committee and Advisory support – the MVMA currently has 10 operating committees/advisory roles
- 3) Office management – including staff supervision, project planning, lease negotiation, insurance renewal, building maintenance.
- 4) By-law, Policy and Resolution Development –in conjunction with MVMA registrar and other related committees.
- 5) Act as an MVMA representative at meetings with third parties including other VMAs, CVMA, government and other stakeholders.
- 6) Communications to membership –includes News & Views, The Post, MVMA website and other items (i.e. AGM information).
- 7) Financial management of the association – includes preparing the annual budget, supervision of financial matters, and raising revenues through sponsorship (corporate sponsorship, tradeshow and News & Views advertising).
- 8) Media Planning – in conjunction with the Professional Image committee.
- 9) Event Planning –includes CE held throughout the year as well as the AGM and Winter Conference weekend

With the increase in association activities, MVMA staffing requirements have realigned to ensure the association can meet its objective. Araina Dowd, MVMA secretary-treasurer, is currently working 25 hours per week, an increase of five hours. Judy Reynolds, who has worked on a casual basis with MVMA since March 2007, continues in this capacity with the primary responsibility of maintaining MVMA bookkeeping. Lauralou Cicierski rejoined the MVMA in May 2009 and has taken on much of the communication, media and event planning responsibilities. She is working under contract (30 hours per week) which will expire in mid-2010. Lauralou, with the recent resignation of Maureen Jay as Peer Review Committee Co-ordinator (PRCC), has also agreed to temporarily take over the PRCC role. Dr. Jon Seguire joined the MVMA staff in July of 2009 as MVMA Registrar and fulfils the responsibilities related to registration, practice inspections, and other items related to the regulation of the practice of veterinary medicine in Manitoba; working approximately 15 hours per week. I am currently contracted to work 35 hours per week. I am very fortunate to work with such a capable group of people. The MVMA employees work together as a team to ensure the completion of projects and tasks as assigned by the MVMA Council.

Looking ahead into 2010, I see the biggest challenge facing the MVMA is that of balance. Important questions that must be asked:

- How does Council, on behalf of the association, determine how to allocate resources - financial, staff, and volunteer - in order to meet the requirements of our members?
- What activities are deemed most important to our members?
- How does Council split resources between regulatory requirements and advocacy activities?

When considering projects and tasks assigned to committees and staff, these questions need to be reviewed to ensure the association is working towards its long-term objectives.

The 2009 member survey provides direction to Council in responding to these questions – but members will continue to provide feedback. This is the only way for Council to know what is important to membership. I encourage you to be a part of the association. It can be as simple as being in contact with Council members or me about matters that concern you, or attending the AGM. Or, take a larger role in the association as part of a task force or committee. Please contact me to discuss opportunities where you can participate!

Major activities in 2010 will include:

- 1) Reviewing staff structure and development of human resource policy; includes recruitment and hiring of Peer Review Coordinator
- 2) Continued pursuit of veterinary pharmaceutical regulation improvements
- 3) Determining level of capital and insurance required for protection against legal action and by-law or resolution development
- 4) Reviewing and updating MVMA office policy and procedures
- 5) Reorganizing PIPS by-laws
- 6) Developing procedural and operational by-laws
- 7) Working with provincial government, associated colleges and the CVMA to reduce AHT attrition (from college and the workforce)
- 8) Updating provincial veterinary incorporation rules

I do need to acknowledge the 2009 MVMA Council, and in particular Dr. Colleen Marion, MVMA President, who have all encountered some big challenges and issues this year. They met them head on and continue to work to ensure resolutions that are the best solutions for the association.

Thank you for letting me be part of your association. I often talk about the MVMA as a “we”; I believe this is because I feel so connected to the association and its goals. I want to achieve the association’s objectives and continue to evolve into a leading professional member association!

REPORT FROM YOUR REGISTRAR

SUBMITTED BY DR. JON SEGUIRE

With Maureen Jay’s resignation from the registrar’s position in May 2009, I assumed the duties of the registrar’s position in July 2009 while Maureen continued to handle the disciplinary functions by becoming the peer review committee coordinator. This position was created in recognition of her strong contribution to the functioning of the peer review process. Unfortunately, Maureen elected to resign from her position as peer review committee coordinator as of December 20, 2009. Your MVMA Council, along with input from the peer review and strategic planning committees, is working diligently to address the registration, PIPS and disciplinary functions of the registrar. Your MVMA staff continue to provide invaluable support as this position is being developed.

At the time of this report, the MVMA had 345 General Members, 12 Associate Members, 4 Public Members, 22 Life Members and 10 Honorary Members. In 2009 a total of 18 new licenses were issued with 2 of these being renewals.

There were 19 Practice Inspection and Practice Standards (PIPS) inspections scheduled in 2009. Four of these practices earned the privilege of performing a self inspection in 2012. The PIPS Committee has a strong group of veterinarians appointed as inspectors. They take pride in their roles of insuring our practices have the framework that gives the public confidence in our ability as veterinarians to maintain quality delivery of veterinary services.

Congratulations to all of our volunteers who contribute their time and talents to the functioning of the PIPS process and the Peer Review process. Along with MVMA Council and MVMA staff, they make a strong and effective team that makes all veterinarians thankful and appreciative.

ANNUAL COMMITTEE SUMMARIES

CANADIAN ANIMAL BLOOD BANK

SUBMITTED BY **DR. KEN L. MOULD**, CABB PRESIDENT

This was another successful year of operation for the Canadian Animal Blood Bank in its efforts to supply Canadian veterinarians with high quality canine blood products.

Considerable time was spent in revising donor screening in light of the spread of vector borne diseases. In the past, the CABB screened on the basis of geographic origin and life location of its donors. Now a vector screening panel has been established to help ensure the safety of all products.

The Canadian Animal Blood Bank had a presence at the combined meeting of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) and the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM) in Montreal to help raise awareness of its existence. The blood bank is cautious about extensive marketing as our donor base in Manitoba and our satellite collection centre in Edmonton limits the amount of product we can produce. This year, however, we noted a decrease in product sales from \$193,000 to \$155,000. A marketing thrust was considered appropriate.

By virtue of its presence at the joint meeting of CVMA and ACVIM, the Canadian Animal Blood Bank became the Canadian distributor of Alvedia Quick Tests for canine DEA 1.1 and feline A+B typing.

Blood Bank director, Dr. Heather McDonnell, attended an internal medicine conference in Chicago that had an emphasis on transfusion medicine. The sessions she attended and dialogue with presenters led her to make recommendations to the CABB board to ensure our mandate of supplying high quality blood products to Canadian veterinarians.

Lab director Beth Knight, MLT, and her AHT assistant, Sherry Haig, have done a remarkable job in having Winnipeg, Winnipeg district and Brandon veterinarians host collections at their own clinics. This has helped Manitoba veterinarians and animal health technologists feel more connected to their blood bank and ensure a donor base for product supply.

The MVMA, as a partner with Red River College in operating the CABB, continues to benefit from the generosity of Red River College in supplying a "home" for the blood bank. It is that contribution together with the volunteer efforts of Manitoba veterinarians and animal health technologists that allow the Blood Bank to assist veterinarians and their patients across Canada. Your suggestions and involvement with the blood bank are always welcome.

COMPANION ANIMAL COMMITTEE

SUBMITTED BY **DR. COREY BARTLEY**, COMMITTEE CHAIR

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

DR. PAT DORVAL, DR. MERV MADILL, DR. KEN MOULD, DR. PHILIPP SCHOTT, DR. RON WORB, DR. LYNN WEBSTER, DR. SHERRY WURTZ

The companion animal committee (CAC) met three times in 2009. Our spring meeting in April centered around proposed changes by Winnipeg Animal Services (WAS) to licensing and spay/neuter programs. WAS responded to the recommendation by the committee and other practitioners to increase license fees. The suggestion was made that the processing fee charged by clinics should be a percentage of the cost of the license to reflect any future increases as opposed to a flat fee. It was also discussed that acting as agents for the city, clinics can educate clients regarding penalties for unlicensed animals.

WAS also approached the CAC to enlist participation in a spay/neuter program for animals up for adoption. The CAC made recommendations for surgery pricing schedules and the program was to be open to all clinics on a volunteer basis. It was considered preferable that new dog owners bring their pets in on the day of surgery to initiate a client-clinic relationship. The CAC also discussed current provincial requirements for clinics with boarding kennels. Our general consensus was that the province will continue to inspect kennel facilities in addition to MVMA practice inspections.

The spring meeting also introduced the spring continuing education topic of workplace mental health in May which the CAC encouraged small animal clinics to attend. As well, fall and winter CE topics were suggested.

The CAC met with Tim Dack from WAS in June with its recommendations. He asked that clinics take a more proactive role in licensing and was willing to send information to clinics including tips on how to promote licenses. A letter has been sent to Mr. Dack formalizing the request to increase licensing fees. Mr. Dack has since left his position. We will follow up on the request in 2010. The surgery rates for the voluntary spay/neuter program were passed on to WAS and information was sent to all clinics requesting signup. The program is up and running as of November 2009 with 12 clinics participating. Clinics are being asked to evaluate administrative input as well as conversion of first time clients to repeat clients.

In October, the CAC met with Bill McDonald from the Winnipeg Humane Society (WHS). The WHS was asking for MVMA support and participation in a committee designed to discuss meth-

ods for reducing the existing cat population in Winnipeg and potential funding for this program. So far the primary option being considered by the WHS is a cat licensing program. MVMA president Dr. Colleen Marion and director of communication and advocacy, Andrea Lear, attended. The CAC encouraged the involvement of MVMA members in the discussion group. We believe other feasible options of funding should also be considered.

WHS also asked for MVMA support by way of a letter to the Minister of Finance encouraging a bylaw for renters with pets. The bylaw would prevent property owners/landlords from denying pet owners the ability to rent. As an alternative, higher deposits or higher rent could be charged to people with pets. CAC recommended the MVMA write such a letter.

Also discussed was the WHS subsidized spay/neuter program where clinics would sign up voluntarily to perform a specific amount of surgeries at low cost for pet owners with limited funds. The purpose of this program is to reduce some of the surgery load on the WHS. CAC was more in favor of returning to a 9 Lives-type program where newly adopted cats from the regular adoption program could be brought in by the owners to their local clinics. This type of program would allow clinics to establish a relationship with cat owners for future visits and ensure that the cat is entered into a reminder system. Mr. McDonald has indicated he will pursue this program with each clinic.

Finally, the CAC suggested current vaccination protocols at the WHS be reviewed. The CAC's current concern is that pets are currently having complete vaccination/testing schedules completed at the WHS. These pets are not entered into a reminder system at the humane society and with no incentive to contact their regular veterinarian these pets are not entered into the clinic's reminder systems either, thus increasing the risk that they will not receive one year boosters. The CAC is awaiting a response from the WHS at this time.

Unfortunately due to scheduling conflicts fall continuing education was not possible this year but the committee's recommendations were considered in the selection of the presenter for the annual winter conference.

FOOD ANIMAL COMMITTEE

SUBMITTED BY **DR. WAYNE TOMLINSON**, COMMITTEE CHAIR

The food animal committee was established in January 2006. The purpose of the committee is to provide MVMA's large animal practitioners with a unified voice when representing the profession on issues regarding food animal health and the practice of food animal veterinary medicine. The committee consists of any members of the MVMA that wish to participate. We typically meet annually at the winter conference.

At the 2009 February meeting, practitioners in attendance discussed a wide variety of issues including the importance of having MVMA (and practitioner) representation at government meetings involving emergency management planning. It was felt that practitioners have a lot to offer with respect to animal health and welfare. This discussion evolved into the need for better communication amongst all veterinarians and the recogni-

tion that CFIA, provincial veterinarians, and private practitioners all need to be kept informed on animal health issues.

Next on the agenda was the rural veterinary districts fee schedule. The fee schedule had not been changed since pre-BSE. District veterinarians submitted a proposed increase in November 2008 to the veterinary commission and the results were shared with the group.

The Rural Veterinary Services Task Force final report was received by the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Initiatives on January 6, 2009. It was distributed and recommendations in the report were discussed. Dr. Wayne Lees, Chief Veterinary Officer of Manitoba was part of the discussion. Some of the recommendations in the report refer to the important role private veterinarians play in food safety, diagnosis of zoonoses and other issues involving public health and public good. Dr. Lees shared his thoughts on the importance of having private practitioners in the field and on farms to deal with these public issues. The idea of someday having provincially accredited veterinarians was introduced. Other topics discussed were the sale of U.S. imported pharmaceuticals by lay outlets, NFACC dairy code and the inter-provincial Labour Mobility Agreement.

In June we held meetings in Selkirk and Brandon to again discuss matters important to practitioners in an informal setting. The meetings gave colleagues a chance to meet and talk. They were well attended and participants found them a useful forum. Meeting summaries were printed in the Aug – Oct issue of "News and Views".

I would like to thank all the people who participated in any of the three meetings as well as Andrea and Lauralou for their support.

ECONOMIC SURVEY REPORT

SUBMITTED BY **DR. BOB NEWFIELD**

The CVMA's 2009 business management economic forum was held in Montreal. The June meeting was very productive to the extent that survey and report delivery timelines were clarified and fine tuned for a more timely delivery to all CVMA members. As a result of the meeting, surveys will be mailed out to members at the end of August with the expectation that they will be returned no later than October 15th for a delivery date of January 4th to the members. In years past, the deadline was extended to accommodate procrastinators with a resultant long delivery time and a source of frustration for many members.

March 31 has been set as the delivery date for non-DVM wage reports and the end of March for delivery of the provincial economic reports to our members. The CVMA is also working closer with the VMAs to promote the program and Andrea Lear of our provincial office will coordinate economic program communications to our members.

With respect to the fee guide for 2009, increases were kept very modest in lieu of the economic recessionary slowdown as well as a very wide discrepancy in pricing from city practices to rural practices. In a sampling of 21 commonly performed procedures

ANNUAL COMMITTEE SUMMARIES (CONTINUED)

and services provided in city and rural practices, rural clinics were on average 21% cheaper than city practices and in all cases were well below fee guide; on average 34% below fee guide pricing. If we look at the office call examination as an example, the fee guide suggests a \$64.90 exam fee. The average small animal fee charged is \$54.51 and the average mixed is \$48.25. Those results are based on a small animal sample size of 23 and a mixed sample size of only 9. Clearly, we need a better response rate to get a more accurate comparison.

As of this writing, I don't have Darren Osborne's summary of Canada wide comparisons to report. I expect to see that Manitoba is still performing well given our more stable economy in comparison to many other provinces.

I encourage all of our members to return next year's survey so that we can get a very clear picture as to what is actually occurring economically in Manitoba. The fee guide is there to help in your pricing decisions so that your practices can perform well, attract talented employees and allow for clinic improvements and advancements.

If there are any questions regarding the survey feel free to ask Andrea at the MVMA office or me at McLeod Veterinary Hospital.

PEER REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT

SUBMITTED BY **DR. GUS WRUCK**, COMMITTEE CHAIR

In 2009, the Peer Review Committee received 26 verbal complaints and 20 written complaints regarding the conduct of members of the association. The committee considers each complaint to be important and gives them serious consideration. The ultimate goal is to resolve the outstanding issues of a complaint in a manner that is acceptable to the complainant and the veterinarian.

For verbal complaints, resolution is frequently possible when the complainant has the required and proper information regarding their situation and understands the procedure that will be followed. There may have been a misunderstanding of the treatment and diagnosis or the veterinarian did not communicate adequately to the complainant. It is very important that veterinarians make every effort to communicate clearly to their clients what their diagnosis and proposed treatment will be. About 98% of all complaints come from companion animal clients and it is thus important to realize that there is considerable emotional value attached to the animal.

While many of the verbal complaints can be resolved when there is adequate communication within the veterinarian /client /patient relationship; there are some that may result in a written complaint if the complainant feels there is a need to go further with their complaint.

Of the 20 complaints received this year, as of the end of October five of these complaints were unable to proceed because of a tardy veterinarian response to a request for information.

Of the others, two have been withdrawn, two have been resolved and 11 are in process by the Peer Review committee.

In 2009, the Manitoba Veterinary Medical Association received the resignation of Maureen Jay as the registrar for the Association. At her suggestion, Maureen continued as the coordinator for the Peer Review Committee, but in late November her resignation was received by the Association for this role as well. Council is now in the process of appointing a committee to determine how to best fill this position in the future.

PRACTICE INSPECTION, PRACTICE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

SUBMITTED BY **DR. FRED LINDENSCHMIDT**, COMMITTEE CHAIR

INSPECTORS:

DR. FRED K. LINDENSCHMIDT, DR. ERIKA M. ANSEEUW,
DR. REBECCA GERVIN, DR. RICHARD J. HODGES,
DR. PATRICIA J. ILOTT, DR. BRIAN MANNIS, DR. SALLY R. MCGILLIVRAY,
DR. MAX POPP, DR. BILL RICHARDS, DR. ANN JOHNER,
DR. JON M. SEQUIRE

I am happy to report that there are relatively few problems coming out of the PIPS inspections. There was one major case in the last year that required the closing of a clinic. Most clinics make a serious attempt to follow the PIPS bylaws.

While developing the proposed PIPS pharmacy by-laws and temporary certificate by-laws it has become increasingly evident the PIPS bylaws require a major overhaul. To this end it is planned to reorganize the PIPS by-laws in the next year. This will likely result in a changed format with less variation between different types of practice. It is not the intent to radically change the content of the by-laws but to reorganize and clear up discrepancies. Our intent is to reduce subjectivity by moving towards a more graded pass/fail system. With this in mind if any members have any recommendations or concerns regarding the current PIPS please feel free to contact me or Jon Sequire (registrar).

I would like to thank all the inspectors, the registrar, and the office staff for their help in organizing the process and for helping to keep it working.

ANNUAL COMMITTEE SUMMARIES (CONTINUED)

PROFESSIONAL IMAGE COMMITTEE

SUBMITTED BY **DR. LEEANNE BARGEN**, COMMITTEE CHAIR

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

DR. JAY THRUSH, DR. VALERIE SMID AND DR. ERIKA ANSEEUW

As chair of professional image, I would first like to thank the members who have remained part of our committee, and who continue to help promote the MVMA in the public eye – Jay Thrush, Valerie Smid and Erika Anseeuw. Jay has generously become co-chair this past spring. Any members interested in participating in the committee will be welcomed with open arms!

Our most time consuming task this year to date was the development of Animal Mythbusters, an initiative where committee members bust or prove commonly held assumptions about all things animal or veterinary. Shaw Cable came on board for our first round of ‘busting’ and filmed several segments which have subsequently aired on television. Jay in particular gave us a glimpse at his suave television presenting alter ego. Recently our Mythbusting efforts were added to the MVMA website. Check them out and please provide any feedback!

In other activities, the professional image committee hosted a well attended media awareness seminar that provided useful media relation strategies. We have strengthened our relationship with some repeat media contacts including monthly appearances on City TV’s Breakfast Television, interviews and consulting with Char Adams from the Free Press. We have also established ourselves as a reliable information source with CTV News. Some of the topics ‘du jour’ were Lyme disease, blue-green algae, and H1N1. In December, we launched a Christmas season campaign to collect pet food for needy families in conjunction with the Christmas Cheer Boards in Winnipeg and Brandon. Response will determine if we make this an annual event.

Professional image is also anticipating the provincial government’s response to the MVMA’s proposed changes to the veterinary pharmaceutical legislation. I for one am eagerly anticipating using the media to educate the public about the importance of this change in legislation.

RED RIVER COLLEGE

SUBMITTED BY **DR. BOB NEWFIELD**, RRC LIAISON

The advisory committee met in March and November of this year. The main thrust of our discussions was the accreditation report of the CVMA. As in years past, the primary concern of the advisory committee as well as the CVMA accreditation committee is the high attrition rate of first term students. The accreditation committee has stated that the college will have to change their acceptance policy from one of first come first serve to one of a more stringent selection process, as yet to be determined.

Dr. Ken Mould and I met with Louise Gordon (program dean) in the spring to discuss the paucity of AHT graduates available for employment. The quality of AHT grads was also called into question. The college has taken measures to mitigate the performance of students in academic jeopardy by offering tutoring and senior student mentoring. Pre-entrance testing has helped identify students likely to encounter difficulties with the program. Despite all of these measures we are still faced with an unacceptably small graduating class. The CVMA accreditation committee has suggested a target of 24 graduating students. This year we will likely reach 21.

Louise and I met with representatives from MVMA, MAHTA and MAFRI to discuss the issue of the lack of AHTs; including the low graduation rates as well as the numbers of individuals who leave the professions after graduation. There will be further meetings in 2010 to continue this discussion and to look for solutions to this problem.

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

SUBMITTED BY **DR. RANDY AITKEN**, COMMITTEE CHAIR

2009 MEMBERS:

DR. ERIKA ANSEEUW, DR. LEEANNE BARGEN, DR. JANE KRANENDONK, DR. FRED LINDENSCHMIDT, DR. COLLEEN MARION, DR. KEVIN MILLAR, DR. DALE MCKAGUE, DR. JON SEGUIRE, DR. JAY THRUSH, DR. TERRY WHITING, DR. GUS WRUCK

The Strategic planning committee has examined a number of issues throughout 2009. The major activities were:

- Veterinary Pharmaceuticals
- Complementary & Alternative Medicines
- Workplace Safety and Health

ANNUAL COMMITTEE SUMMARIES (CONTINUED)

Veterinary Pharmaceuticals

The Association's goal to have government improve regulations regarding the sale of veterinary pharmaceuticals progressed on a number of fronts. The committee corresponded with the provincial Minister of Agriculture Food and Rural Initiatives regarding the intent and the desire for a meeting, had ongoing discussions with Dr. Allan Preston, assistant deputy minister with Manitoba Agriculture Food and Rural Initiatives, Dr. Wayne Lees, chief veterinary officer and others. The committee has also participated in the initial development of a media campaign linking pharmaceutical controls to food safety to public health. We remain optimistic that it is not a question of "if" regulations will occur but "when". Furthermore, negotiations regarding the establishment of another exciting partnership with government in 2010 are ongoing.

Alternative and Complementary Medicines

At the request of Council, the committee discussed the profession's formal inclusion of the group of practices best described as veterinary alternative and/or complementary therapy. Discussion began with a presentation by Dr. Linda Hamilton who discussed the merits of a by-law. To move this debate forward, the committee developed a position on what it felt were six key areas. These key areas were summarized in a March/April News & Views article. Member feedback was requested and received. Responses to these key issues were published in May/June/July News & Views. The comments received suggest further work is required to build a consensus on the issues surrounding veterinary alternative and/or complementary therapy. It appears that any widely acceptable position will need to address a number of components that include:

- The feeling that the practice of veterinary medicine must consist of diagnosis and treatment modalities which can be backed up by evidence will need to be balance with the difficulties establishing the standards for evidence required to support any veterinary practice.
- Limiting risk to both the public and the profession should our members participate in any diagnostic or therapeutic modality which cannot be backed up by evidence.
- Continuing to convey the message that our membership should expect to see lay or medically trained personnel begin to offer alternative and complementary medical services to the public should these practices not be part of the common practice of veterinary medicine.
- Lastly, should the void be filled by lay practitioners, what role the association should play in the area of animal health care consumer protection.

In 2010, the committee will focus on reviewing information

from MVMA members and other VMAs with the goal to develop a position statement for acceptance by Manitoban veterinarians.

Workplace Safety & Health

In 2008, the committee solicited opinion from members regarding the changes to the Worker's Compensation Act (the inclusion of veterinary clinics). The committee received feedback from six members as well as feedback from the Manitoba Animal Health Technologists Association. These comments lead to the development of a position statement (Spring 2008) which was presented to and ultimately rejected by Workers Compensation Board (WCB). In early 2009, MVMA Council was approached by four veterinarians with a request to appeal the decision of WCB. Council requested a full membership discussion at the AGM before determining if an appeal would be pursued. Since some member comments reflected significant experience with WCB and the feeling that there was benefit in having worker's compensation, including safer workplaces and limited liability risk with low reports, and a low contribution rate (one clinic at 0.68), the committee suggested an invite be extended to WCB to review the introduction of worker's compensation to veterinary clinics at the AGM. After membership listened to the WCB presentation and discussed inclusion of veterinary clinics, it was decided by membership vote that the MVMA would take no further action on this item.

The committee is also exploring:

- The AHT shortage and wisdom of opening the AHA category
- MVMA collaborations with provincial government (MAFRI and Emergency Measures Organization) for a civil emergency in Manitoba
- An association planning format to review member priorities (hiring an outside strategic and organizational planning consultant)
- Development of a scholarship fund
- A review of proposed 2010 AGM by-laws
- A discussion regarding the Practice Inspection Practice Standards Process
 - Establishment of a formal PIPS Committee
 - Discussion of standards for pass/fail
 - Develop Standard Operating Procedure for inspectors
 - The impact of PIPS on improving patient care

ANNUAL COMMITTEE SUMMARIES (CONTINUED)

WINNIPEG HUMANE SOCIETY

SUBMITTED BY **DR. NANCY MCQUADE**, MVMA LIAISON

As with all not for profit organizations, the Winnipeg Humane Society has been challenged with raising funds to pay for the ongoing operating expenses of the shelter. As well, the number of animals coming in to the shelter, cats in particular, has risen this year. Unfortunately, adoption of cats has decreased which translates to more euthanasias.

On a more positive note, a committee has been struck to work towards decreasing the cat overpopulation in Winnipeg. This is a coalition of Manitoba and City of Winnipeg officials, the MVMA, no kill shelters, the Humane Society and other groups involved in cat care. The first meeting was held in November 2009 with the next meeting planned for January 2010.

WESTERN COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

SUBMITTED BY **DR. HUGH MILLAR**,
MVMA ADVISORY REPRESENTATIVE

The WCVM Advisory Council met on September 25. The important highlights from the meeting are as follows:

- The renovations to the WCVM continue with the large animal and diagnostic services construction coming to a close. The veterinary teaching hospital is getting ready to open the nuclear scintigraphy suite. It is estimated that so far the \$72 million project has led to renovations of approximately one third of the college buildings. The new construction has also increased the size of the college by approximately a third.
- This year's third year class continues to pioneer the college's curriculum revisions. The third year now consists of a large number of elective courses that cover a wide range of public and private veterinary disciplines.
- A successful candidate was not found in the first round of applicants for the deanship of the college. Dean Rhodes has agreed to stay on in his current position until December of 2009 while a new applicant search is underway.
- The Veterinary Teaching Hospital has recently become an AAHA accredited referral center and continues to improve its patient, client, and teaching services under the direction of Dr. Messier.
- I participated in the MVMA's WCVM student night held in August 2009. This evening unites Manitoba practitioners with newly accepted Manitoba students to WCVM as well as second and third year students. It is an excellent opportunity for interaction and to orient new students. In meetings with Manitoba's veterinary students, I find they remain very pleased with the MVMA's efforts to help with financial and informational support. They would also like to thank those clinics that took in summer students and they encourage more clinics to participate in these mentorship opportunities.

RECOGNIZING THE FUTURE OF THE PROFESSION

Dr. Hugh Millar, the MVMA's advisory representative to the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, attended the college's award ceremony so that he could personally congratulate MVMA scholarship recipients on behalf of Manitoba's veterinarians.



MVMA scholarship recipient Amanda Malbouef from the WCVM Class of 2010.

MVMA scholarship recipient Stephani Windsor from WCVM Class of 2011.



MVMA scholarship recipient Karen Choptain from the WCVM Class of 2012.



WCVM Class of 2013 (Manitoba residents). Left to right: Dr. Lloyd Keddie, vice president of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA); Heather Whitehead, Winnipeg; Saucha Feder, Winnipeg; Esther Hill, Winnipeg; Angela Le, Winnipeg; Caitlin Goeres, Winnipeg; Danielle Friesen, Winnipeg; Brettly Giesbrecht, Niverville; Vanessa Cooley, Winnipeg; Margaret Kranendonk, Dufresne; Heidi Pylypjuk, Grunthal; Chantale Duval, Starbuck; Ingrid Sproll, Winnipeg; Elizabeth Andree, Winnipeg; Patricia Johnson, Domain; Fiona Mulhern, Winnipeg; Joselyn Bongiorno, Winnipeg; and Dr. Hugh Millar, Manitoba Veterinary Medical Association.

IN RECOGNITION OF . . .

Please plan to attend the complimentary reception Saturday, February 6, 2010, 5:00 p.m. at the Victoria Inn to recognize the following colleagues for their outstanding contributions to the profession.

DR. PHILIPP SCHOTT – VETERINARIAN OF THE YEAR

In their nomination letter, Dr. Schott's colleagues and staff at the Birchwood Clinic emphasized his efforts as a unifying force within the clinic. Dr. Schott keeps things running smoothly during chaotic and stressful times. He makes staff feel special and keeps spirits high in the clinic, often with large doses of humour.

Being nominated by the people he works with is a wonderful feeling for Dr. Schott. He believes he simply goes to work and does his job to the best of his abilities, so to know he has made an impact is a bonus and a surprise. When asked how he manages to practice, care for coworkers' concerns, volunteer with the MVMA and fulfill his family commitments, Dr. Schott says his philosophy is to focus on people first, whether they are his coworkers or his clients. Before animals can be cared for, human concerns must be dealt with. Happy people make for a happy work environment and a happy community.

For a decade, Dr. Schott has served on the MVMA Peer Review Committee. A sense of duty, as well as the fulfillment of serving his community of veterinarians, keeps him continuing to volunteer. Assuming other people will do the job is a failure of empathy. One can never assume that others have more time to

volunteer. Everyone has other commitments so we all have to take our turn.

Many people know from an early age that they want to work in veterinary medicine, but Dr. Schott calls himself an "accidental vet." When he was in university in 1980s, his dream was to be a scientist. But because of a recession, universities weren't hiring. One of his professors advised him to get a profession. He chose veterinary medicine since he loved animals, and because the profession encompassed aspects of science and the natural world that he enjoyed. He has no regrets about his choice. In fact, he realized early on he had made the right career choice because when he arrived at work he felt excited about what the day would bring and what cases he would see. He remembers the thrill of receiving his first thank you card from a client. Receiving thanks from appreciative clients and knowing he has made a difference in their lives helps make it all worthwhile.

Dr. Schott wishes to thank and acknowledge his colleagues and co-workers. He believes that any success he has had is because of the people he works with. It's all about the team.



DR. BRUCE WHYARD – LIFE MEMBER

Dr. Whyard says that receiving this Life Membership Award is "like getting an Oscar". He is very humbled and says the award means so much to him because it comes from his peers. He believes the MVMA is an essential unifying force for veterinarians. The association provides

a meeting point for vets to talk about common interests.

Dr. Whyard has seen many changes in the practice of veterinary medicine during his career. He cites the treatment of cancers and the use of chemotherapy as one of the biggest transformation. Technology has advanced by leaps and bounds since he began practicing in 1966.

Veterinary medicine was not Dr. Whyard's first career choice. In fact he says he "fell backwards" into the profession. Growing up, he'd wanted to be a doctor, but always felt he just wasn't

smart enough. A science teacher encouraged him to apply to the Ontario Veterinary College, and to his amazement he was accepted. Dr. Whyard knew he was in the right career when a fellow at a party told him that his brother-in-law had always wanted to be a veterinarian but since he wasn't smart enough he became a doctor!

One of Dr. Whyard's favorite volunteer positions was "Vet-scope", held at the Red River Exhibition in the 1970s. A glass box housed a surgical suite inside the Winnipeg Arena and curious onlookers watched as Dr. Whyard and others performed simple surgeries. He remembers more than one spectator fainting against the glass!

To veterinarians just entering the profession, Dr. Whyard says they have become part of a respected profession they can be proud of. He assures them that every day will bring something new and they'll never be bored. Enjoy every day.

DR. TOM WALSHÉ – LIFE MEMBER

When notified that he will be awarded a lifetime membership, Dr. Walshe said it's nice to know that even though he is retired, he hasn't been forgotten. He thinks of the veterinary community as a family of which he is a proud member.

Dr. Walshe graduated from veterinary college in Ireland in 1972. He considers the continual introduction of new vaccines and better understanding of disease among the professions' great achievements. But he notes that the development of veterinary science is never stopping. The most important aspect is the continual drive for improvement and advancement.

He remembers always being interested in the sciences. He recalls the feeling of gratification as a newly trained vet working in the outdoors with animals and knowing what he needed to do and

wanted to do. With his practice in Killarney, Dr. Walshe developed a very good understanding of the veterinarian's significant societal role. As a mixed practitioner, he helped producers grow food safely and humanely. On the companion animal side, he helped to keep people happy by caring for cherished pets.

A veterinarian who also gives back to his community, Dr. Walshe established a community centre in Killarney by converting the town's old white school. It provided citizens a place to meet and play together for a number of years.

To veterinarians at the beginning of their careers and those full in, Dr. Walshe says it's important to realize your potential and to do things well but don't exhaust yourselves. Know your limits.



DR. MURRAY ESLER – AWARD OF MERIT

Dr. Esler was appointed to the Peer Review Committee in 1999 by the provincial government when responsibility for self-regulation was handed over to the MVMA. He continued to serve until his retirement from the committee in 2009. Dr. Esler also served the MVMA as President in 1968. Raising the profile of veterinarians and helping young people enter the profession have been his passion. He served on the Veterinary Services Commission in the early 1970s and participated on the interview panel choosing Manitoba students for the Western College of Veterinary Medicine. It has been especially rewarding for Dr. Esler to see students develop and grow in their careers.

He has always believed that veterinarians need a strong association. When veterinarians attained self-governance, they took a step forward in controlling their own profession. The reward of seeing the profession expand, both in numbers and in stature, has motivated Dr. Esler to invest his personal time in the association over the years. As well, he says that being part of the association and working with fellow vets has always been a pleasure.

A HISTORY OF VETERINARIANS OF DISTINCTION

VETERINARIAN OF THE YEAR

A veterinarian who has provided exemplary service to the MVMA and the profession.

| | |
|---------------------------------|------|
| Dr. Ross McKague | 1993 |
| Dr. Ken Mould | 1994 |
| Dr. Allan Preston | 1995 |
| Dr. Patricia Hunt | 1996 |
| Dr. Norm Elder | 1998 |
| Dr. Grant Spearman | 1999 |
| Dr. Ken Johnson | 2000 |
| Dr. Gordon Glover | 2000 |
| Dr. Ab Hague | 2001 |
| Dr. Keith Campbell | 2002 |
| Dr. Dick Van Middlesworth | 2002 |
| Dr. Dale McKague | 2004 |
| Dr. Chandra Hickling | 2008 |
| Dr. Philipp Schott | 2009 |

AWARD OF MERIT

Recognizing veterinarians and other individuals who have made significant contributions towards the achievement of the MVMA's vision.

| | |
|---|------|
| Dr. Jim Neufeld | 1993 |
| Dr. Norman Stanger | 1993 |
| Dr. Patricia Haugh | 1994 |
| Lt. Col. Jim Calvin | 1994 |
| Second Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry | 1994 |
| Dr. Otto Radostits | 1995 |
| Mr. Dennis Cote | 1998 |
| Mrs. Alice-Marie Dyck (Blood Bank) | 2002 |
| Dr. Jon Seguire | 2003 |
| Dr. Randy Aitken | 2004 |
| Dr. Allan Preston | 2005 |
| Dr. Murray Esler | 2009 |

LIFE MEMBERS

A person whose name is entered in the register, who has been in good standing in one of the categories of membership for 25 years or more, who has retired from active practice and who does not have a license to practice.

| | |
|--------------------------------|------|
| Dr. John Arbuthnott | 1981 |
| Dr. Ed Rigby | 1981 |
| Dr. A.R. Pickell | 1981 |
| Dr. Andy Hodge | 1984 |
| Dr. Norman H. Peter | 1985 |
| Dr. Jack Andrigh | 1986 |
| Dr. Ross Singleton | 1986 |
| Dr. Jay Isa | 1986 |
| Dr. William G.J. Brydges | 1991 |
| Dr. Norman Anderson | 1992 |
| Dr. Steve Sojna | 1993 |
| Dr. Irvin Goosen | 1993 |
| Dr. Herbert Wyman | 1993 |
| Dr. Jack McPhedran | 1993 |
| Dr. Jim Lawson | 1993 |
| Dr. Val Kjernisted | 1993 |
| Dr. George Schweisinger | 1993 |
| Dr. Jack Thomson | 1994 |
| Dr. Frank Kelleher | 1995 |
| Dr. Dennis Robitaille | 1996 |
| Dr. T.S. Bhatia | 1997 |

| | |
|---------------------------------|------|
| Dr. Roy Wilbee | 1997 |
| Dr. Walter Wolfe | 1998 |
| Dr. Laurence Friesen | 1999 |
| Dr. Albert van der Meulen | 2001 |
| Dr. James Neufeld | 2001 |
| Dr. Norman Stranger | 2001 |
| Dr. Lyle Henry | 2003 |
| Dr. Archie E. Miller | 2004 |
| Dr. Phil W. Smyth | 2004 |
| Dr. Gopi P.S. Nayar | 2005 |
| Dr. Gus Wruck | 2006 |
| Dr. Ross McKague | 2007 |
| Dr. John Spicer | 2007 |
| Dr. M.J. Willard | 2008 |
| Dr. Don Finley | 2008 |
| Dr. Mait Sundmark | 2008 |
| Dr. Elmer Clark | 2008 |
| Dr. Carlyle McDougall | 2008 |
| Dr. Bruce Whyard | 2009 |
| Dr. Tom Walshe | 2009 |

HONORARY MEMBERS

Individuals who are not veterinarians but who have made significant contributions to the profession.

| | |
|----------------------------|------|
| Dr. Bernard Boycott | 1988 |
| Dr. Oli Neilson | 1993 |
| Dr. Gavin Hamilton | 1993 |
| Dr. Otto Radostits | 1995 |
| Mrs. Jaunty Lowe | 1997 |
| Ms. Florence Mitani | 1997 |
| Mrs. Sandra McKinnon | 1999 |
| Dr. Norman Stranger | 2001 |

| | |
|----------------------------|------|
| Ms. Alice Marie Dyck | 2002 |
| Mr. Bruce Beaton | 2003 |
| Mr. Marcel Fraser | 2003 |
| Dr. Ron Austin | 2004 |
| Mrs. Araina Dowd | 2007 |
| Dr. Charles Rhodes | 2008 |

WE REMEMBER . . .



DR. REGINALD "REX" LEACH

JULY 14, 1940 – MARCH 20, 2009

Dr. Rex Leach died suddenly on March 20, 2009 during a family holiday in Mexico. Rex grew up in Saskatchewan. He obtained a B.A. (Honours Biochemistry) and his DVM from the University of Saskatchewan in 1970. Following graduation, Rex practiced in Shoal Lake. In 1971, he and his family moved to Swan River where he continued to practice until his death. Rex always had a great desire to give back to the community. He volunteered his veterinary services at the Pan American Games in Winnipeg, served as a Veterinary Reserve volunteer, and was an active participant in the Precious Pet Program, travelling to isolated, northern locations to neuter animals. He was a founding director of the Midwest Veterinary Purchasing (MVP) and a member of CVFAN (Canadian Veterinary Food Animal Network);

positions which he held until the time of his death.

Dr. Bruce Waddell, who currently practices in Shoal Lake, remembers that he was a student when he first met Rex. He was impressed with his genuine interest in people - who they were and what they were doing.

"As young vets my wife Janice and I purchased the Shoal Lake Vet Clinic in 1987. The first person to visit us and wish us well was Rex Leach. Many farmers still remember him here. I served with Rex on the MVP board for seven years until his death. Rex was passionate about the drug center and worked tirelessly for the benefit of all members. I used to drive to MVP meetings with Rex and always learned something about veterinary medicine or life in general. He was a man of simple pleasures who especially enjoyed a drink with colleagues. He was devoted to his wife Bev and their children. When we attended Rex's funeral the entire town of Swan River was closed. He touched everyone in that valley whether through his veterinary work or the many boards and charities he was involved with. After his funeral everyone in attendance was given a shot of scotch to toast him with and then we sat down to a roast beef meal. That's the way Rex would have wanted it. He was a true friend and mentor to me and many others."

NEWLY REGISTERED WITH THE MVMA IN 2009*

*Larry Adelman
Sanjiv Bhandari
Vicki Bishop
Matthew Flintoft
Alisha George*

*Leo Kenny
Karly Lanz
Valerie Millette
Allison Murray
Jennifer Sexsmith*

*Akshey Sharma
Barry Michael Sliworsky
Neil Versavel*

* This listing represents members who agreed to have their names shared with membership.
In total 18 individuals registered with the MVMA in 2009

VETS IN THE NEWS IN 2009

A Sure Bet – 40 years of Veterinary Care

Dr. Joe Meek is a veterinarian who enjoys avoiding the limelight. But in September, Joe himself was in the winner's circle at Assiniboia Downs where he has worked for 40 years with the Manitoba Horse Racing Commission (MHRC). His years of service were recognized by his family, friends and colleagues following the final live race of the season. In 40 years on the job, Joe has not missed a day of work.

Born in Cannington, Ont., Joe graduated from the Ontario Veterinary College in 1964. He began his career in mixed practice in Arborg. In 1969, he and his family moved to Charleswood, where Joe still resides. He joined the MHRC in 1970. His day starts at 6 a.m. so he can examine all the horses that are racing that day. He usually finishes mid-morning but returns in the afternoon to monitor the horses prior to race time.

When the racing season wraps up, Joe attends to his own cattle and livestock.

Touchdown for Shoal Lake Veterinarian

In November 2009, Dr. Bruce Waddell who practices in Shoal Lake and coaches the school's football team was recognized as *Coach of the Year* by The Home Depot. The team receives \$5,000 in new football equipment, plus a \$1,000 The Home Depot gift card for football-related renovation projects.

Bruce was quoted as saying: "This feels unbelievable. It's the greatest honour of my life."

More than 500 coaches were nominated for the award by players, volunteers, fans, administrators and fellow coaches. Seventeen essays were submitted in favour of Bruce's nomination for the award. One football parent, Elaine Masur had this to say about Bruce's commitment to coaching:

"Bruce Waddell . . . is unfailingly dedicated to it. Our team, farm boys, town boys and First Nations boys, have all learned about commitment and co-operation from a man who lives what he teaches."

Bruce visited Quebec City as a guest of the NFL for this year's Desjardins Vanier Cup celebrations and was honoured at the Canadian Interuniversity Sport coaches' breakfast in November.

2010 CORPORATE SPONSORS

The MVMA is pleased to announce the following corporate sponsors for 2010. These companies recognize the benefits of supporting the MVMA and we encourage you to acknowledge this support when you interact with local representatives. The funding acquired through corporate sponsorship helps to offset the costs of association expenses. This is a direct financial benefit to MVMA members.



HED INSURANCE AND RISK SERVICES

Justin Friesen
1-866-860-2862 (ext. 7211)
jfriesen@hedinc.com
www.hedinc.com



HILLS PET NUTRITION

Daria Laba
204-999-3177
daria_laba@hillspet.com
www.hillspet.com



INTERVET CANADA CORP.

Michelle Hutchison
204-997-9477
Michelle.Hutchison@sp.intervet.com
www.intervet.ca



MEDICAL/ROYAL CANIN VETERINARY DIET

Wanda Kopec
(204) 797-6780
wkopec@royalcanin.ca
www.medi-cal.ca



MERIAL

Darryll Dicks
(204) 981-4407
darryll.dicks@merial.com
ca.merial.com



MIDWEST VETERINARY PURCHASING

Richard Koster
(204) 233-8155
richard.koster@midwestvet.com
www.midwestvet.com



VETOQUINOL CANADA

Martin Thenhaus
1-800-565-0497
mthenhaus@vetoquinol.ca
www.vetoquinol.ca

MANITOBA VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION,
6014 ROBLIN BLVD., WINNIPEG, MB, R3R 0H4.

MANITOBA TOLL FREE: 1.866.338.MVMA (6862)
PHONE: 204.832.1276 FAX: 204.832.1382

WEB SITE: www.mvma.ca

