

Effective Date: May 1, 2024

Review Date: 2027

1. Background:

In January, 2025, MVMA membership voted to approve additions to Part 4- Division 7 that allow for Designated Vaccinators to administer rabies and other care under the supervision of a Sponsoring Veterinarian. Under the by-law addition, the Limited Access Vaccinator working group had recommended that sponsoring veterinarians be required to be competent in engaging with Indigenous persons and communities and truth and reconciliation.

2. Purpose:

This policy serves to set out educational requirements for the Sponsoring Veterinarian. Under Section 4-7-1:

“**Sponsoring Veterinarian**” means an individual who is a Practicing Veterinarian Member and who

(a) is in good standing with the MVMA

(b) has completed an application to be a Sponsoring Veterinarian

(c) has completed educational requirements that the council may, by resolution, set from time to time.

3. Policy Statement:

This policy establishes the requirements that a Sponsoring Veterinarian applicant must meet in order to demonstrate competence in engaging with Indigenous persons and communities and truth and reconciliation. In setting these requirements, the MVMA acknowledges that many potential applicants are already very engaged in Indigenous issues and have already undertaken training to improve competence in this area. This policy seeks to focus on ensuring competence as opposed to mandating additional education.

4. Procedure:

The MVMA Council, by resolution, sets the following education requirements for a Sponsoring Veterinarian as per section 4-7-1 of the MVMA General By-Law No 1:

- 1) The Sponsoring Veterinarian Applicant must demonstrate competence in engaging with Indigenous persons and communities. Competence can be demonstrated through:
 - a. Continuing Education- 3 or more hours of education delivered by a knowledgeable person or organization that includes teachings on engaging with Indigenous persons and communities. Certificate(s) of completion, or information about the education program, date completed, hours of learning, and contact information for the entity hosting the learning must be provided to demonstrate competence.

- b. Self-Study- 5 or more hours of self-study about engaging with Indigenous persons and communities. A 1-2 page self-reflection of learning, including materials used to self-study and learning about how to sensitively engage with Indigenous persons and communities must be provided and demonstrate general understanding. This item can be approved by the MVMA Registrar or referred to the MVMA Council if the submission is incomplete.
- 2) The Sponsoring Veterinarian Applicant must demonstrate competence in truth and reconciliation.
 - a. Continuing Education- 3 or more hours of education delivered by a knowledgeable person or organization that includes teachings on truth and reconciliation. Certificate(s) of completion, or information about the education program, date completed, hours of learning, and contact information for the entity hosting the learning must be provided to demonstrate competence.
 - b. Self-Study- 5 or more hours of self-study about engaging with Indigenous persons and communities. A 1-2 page self-reflection of learning, including materials used to self-study and learning about truth and reconciliation. This item can be approved by the MVMA Registrar or referred to the MVMA Council if the submission is incomplete.

Resources:

Engaging with Indigenous Persons and Communities

Continuing Education

- [Indigenous Canada- University of Alberta](#)
- [Engagement and Relationship Building with Indigenous Communities- RRCP](#)

Self-Study

- Book: Indigenous Relations: Insights, Tips & Suggestions to Make Reconciliation a Reality, Bob Joseph
- Book: 21 Things You May Not Know About the Indian Act: Helping Canadians Make Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples a Reality, Bob Joseph

Truth and Reconciliation

Continuing Education

- [4 Seasons of Reconciliation](#)
- [Truth and Reconciliation Awareness Program](#)
- [Indigenous Canada- University of Alberta](#)

Self-study

- [Truth and Reconciliation Commission Reports](#)
- Publications from the [National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation](#)
- Book: Indigenous Relations: Insights, Tips & Suggestions to Make Reconciliation a Reality, Bob Joseph
- Book: 21 Things You May Not Know About the Indian Act: Helping Canadians Make Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples a Reality, Bob Joseph
- Book: The Inconvenient Indian, Thomas King

If Members have any other resources that are helpful, please let the MVMA know.