



THE COLLEGE OF
VETERINARIANS
OF ONTARIO

Council Meeting
September 28 and 29, 2022
Hybrid Meeting

MINUTES

Presiding Officer: Dr. Lorie Gold

Members present: Dr. Patricia Alderson
Dr. Tyrrel de Langley
Dr. Harold Kloeze
Ms. Catherine Knipe
Ms. Joy Levison
Dr. Kerry Lissemore
Dr. Paula Menzies
Dr. Alana Parisi
Dr. Jessica Peatling
Dr. Sami Qureshi
Dr. Jessica Retterath
Ms. Rena Spevack
Dr. Wade Wright
Dr. Michael Zigler

Appointed Officer: Ms. Jan Robinson, Registrar and CEO

Staff attended: Ms. Kim Huson, Executive Partner, Communications
Ms. Sarah Kirby, Senior Policy and Project Specialist
Dr. Kim Lambert, Associate Registrar, Quality Practice
Ms. Beth Ready, Executive Partner, Corporate Services
Ms. Shilo Tooze, Associate Registrar, Licensure

Guests attended: Ms. Suzanne Conquer, OMAFRA Representative
Ms. Agnes Pawelek, OVMA Representative
Ms. Elise Wickett, OAVT

1. Call to order

The Council meeting was held as a hybrid meeting.

A Land Acknowledgement was read aloud by the President.

Dr. Gold called the meeting to order at 2:20 p.m. and welcomed Councillors, guests and observers.

It was noted that the Council meeting was live streamed. Guests and observers watched the meeting via streaming.

2. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION: It was moved and seconded,
“That the agenda be adopted as circulated.”

CARRIED

3. Conflict of Interest

No conflicts were declared.

4. Consent Agenda

Councillors reviewed the consent agenda and it was requested that

- 4.2 President’s Report
- 4.3 Registrar’s Report
- 4.4.1 Accreditation Report
- 4.4.6 Quality Assurance Report

be removed from the consent agenda to be discussed separately.

All of the following consent agenda items were approved as presented:

- 4.1 Minutes – June 22, 2022
- 4.4 Committee Reports
 - 4.4.2 Registration
 - 4.4.3 Complaints
 - 4.4.4 Discipline
 - 4.4.5 Executive
 - 4.4.7 Governance, Audit and Risk

MOTION: It was moved and seconded,

“That the Consent Agenda be approved with item 4.2, 4.3, 4.4.1, and 4.4.6 to be discussed separately.”

CARRIED

4.2 President's Report

The President reported that he was unable to attend the Ontario Veterinary College's Professional Welcome Ceremony. Dr. Kim Lambert attended as the College representative.

4.3 Registrar's Report

The Registrar provided an update on the future of the delivery of veterinary medicine in Ontario. The OVMA, OVC and College have been working together to consider how to best create conversation and strategic thinking within the profession and the related industry on what the delivery of veterinary medicine could and should look like for the future.

It was reported that further information will be brought forward to the December Council meeting.

The Registrar reported on the College's successful booth experience at the Ontario Veterinary Medical Association's conference in July.

The Registrar provided an update on the Legislative Reform initiatives.

4.4.1 Accreditation Report

The Chair of the Accreditation Committee responded to a member's question relating to companion animal emergency clinics.

4.4.6 Quality Assurance

Ms. Emily Ewles, Principal, Quality Assurance and Improvement, provided a presentation on the Peer Review of Medical Records 1st year Aggregate Report.

Ms. Ewles and Dr. Kim Lambert, Associate Registrar, Quality Practice, answered questions posed by Council.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded,

"That the Council of the College of Veterinarians of Ontario accept the President's Report, Registrar's Report, the Accreditation Committee Report, and the Quality Assurance Committee Report as presented."

CARRIED

5. Strategic Alignment

5.1 Evaluation

- June 2022

Ms. Catherine Knipe, Chair of the Governance, Audit and Risk Committee, introduced this agenda item.

Council reviewed the meeting evaluation from its meeting held on June 22, 2022.

5.2 Strategic Plan

5.2.1 Strategy 2023 – Year 3 Tactics Progress

Councillors were provided with the Year 3 Tactics related to Strategy 2023.

The Registrar answered questions posed by Council members. The document was provided to Council for information.

5.2.2 Next Steps Strategy 2026

The Registrar provided next steps related to the development of Strategy 2026.

It was reported that further information will be provided to Council at its meeting in December.

5.3 Policy Review and Project Priorities Update

The Policy and Project Tracking Chart was provided for information.

5.4 Performance Measurement

5.4.1 Key Performance Indicators

Ms. Catherine Knipe, Chair of the Governance, Audit and Risk Committee, introduced this agenda item and Ms. Shilo Tooze, Associate Registrar, Licensure, joined the table to answer any questions.

The performance indicators are intended to assist Council to focus on the risks to the organization and within the practice of veterinary medicine.

Council is provided with a Dashboard on a quarterly basis.

5.4.2 Strategic Risks

Ms. Shilo Tooze, Associate Registrar, Licensure, introduced this agenda item.

It was reported that the Governance, Audit and Risk Committee did not feel that there were any additional strategic risks in need of mitigation to bring forward to Council's attention.

Council was provided with an update on the status of the past strategic risks that have been provided to Council where additional work was directed.

Ms. Tooze answered questions posed by Council members.

5.5 Outcomes Focused Regulation

5.5.1 Update

The Registrar reported that the Impact Strategy Unit meets after every Council meeting. There were no new policies to consider for implementation.

Work continues relating to the management of drugs, the role of facility directors, and the evaluation of remedial undertakings.

6. Finance

6.1 Financial Statements ending August 31, 2022

Council reviewed the Variance Report, Balance Sheet, and Revenue and Expenses Statement ending August 31, 2022.

These documents are presented as information only.

6.2 Budget 2023

The Registrar provided an overview on the key areas of importance in formulating the proposed 2023 budget. The Registrar responded to questions of Councillors regarding a more detailed explanation of certain lines.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded,

“That the Council of the College of Veterinarians of Ontario approve the proposed Operating Budget for the year 2023 as presented.”

CARRIED

MOTION: It was moved and seconded,

“That the Council of the College of Veterinarians of Ontario approve the proposed Capital Budget for the year 2023 as presented.”

CARRIED

MOTION: It was moved and seconded,

“That the Council of the College of Veterinarians of Ontario approve the Special Projects Budget for the year 2023 as presented.”

CARRIED

7. Public Policy

7.1 Professional Practice Standard - VCPR

The Registrar introduced this agenda item and Ms. Sarah Kirby, Senior Policy & Project Specialist, and Ms. Kali Pieters, Associate, Project Research, joined the table to answer any questions.

In March 2022, consultation feedback was presented to Council for its review and consideration. Additional information was also presented to Council that had been received from relevant working groups. Following a robust discussion, Council directed that the draft standard be returned to College staff for further work and consideration.

A draft proposed standard was presented to the Executive Committee at its meeting in August. The Executive Committee supported the draft standard and provided suggestions for further revisions.

Council was provided with an updated draft Professional Practice Standard. Council robustly discussed and provided its feedback on the proposed updated draft standard.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded,

“That the Council of the College of Veterinarians of Ontario direct that the updated draft Professional Practice Standard – Establishing, Maintaining, and Discontinuing a VCPR be published as amended.”

CARRIED

7.2 Position Statement – Balancing Access to Care and Animal Health Care Options

The Registrar introduced this agenda item.

At its meeting in June 2022, Council considered and provided its feedback on the first draft position statement. Following an in-depth discussion, Council directed that the draft position statement be returned to College staff for further work and consideration.

The draft position statement was presented to the Executive Committee at its meeting in August. The Executive Committee expressed its support for the document and its presentation to Council.

Council considered and provided its feedback on a proposed draft Position Statement.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded,

“That the Council of the College of Veterinarians of Ontario direct that the proposed draft Position Statement – Balancing Access to Veterinary Care and Available Animal Care Options be returned to staff for further review and consideration.”

CARRIED

7.3 Policy – Specialty Recognition

Dr. Kerry Lissemore, Chair of the Registration Committee, introduced this agenda item and Ms. Lindsay Sproule, Principal, Licensure and Professional Corporations, and Ms. Shilo Tooze, Associate Registrar, Licensure joined the table to answer any questions.

On July 1, 2022, regulatory language related to the advertising and accreditation sections of Ontario Regulation 1093 took effect. Within the advertising section of the regulation, the language to specialists was changed.

The regulation no longer prescribes what specialty granting organizations will be recognized by the College resulting in a policy statement being developed to identify the College-approved specialty granting organizations. The Registration Committee was tasked with reviewing a draft policy.

Council considered and provided its feedback on a draft Policy Statement – Recognition of Specialties.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded,

“That the Council of the College of Veterinarians of Ontario approve the Policy Statement – Recognition of Specialties, as presented, for publication.”

CARRIED

7.4 Policy Update – Importance of Collaboration in Animal Care

Ms. Sarah Kirby, Policy and Project Specialist, provided a presentation – Policy Update – Importance of Collaboration in Animal Care. The presentation included background information, emerging questions, key terms, types of teams, areas of consideration and next steps.

The presentation was very informative.

8. Organizational Policy

8.1 Innovation Panel – Terms of Reference

At the direction of Council, in 2017 the College formed its first Innovation and Technology Advisory Group. This was in relation to changes that Council made to its then latest version of the Telemedicine Professional Practice Standard. This group was an international group in its configuration.

The advice and wisdom at the table assisted the College to stay in tune with discussions on telemedicine, artificial intelligence, etc. As discussions continued the group started to shift its thinking on how to be better able to respond to ideas at an international level. It did become clear that further innovation to solving problems would need to be, for now, at the local level, not global.

The Executive Committee reviewed the terms and supported a first review by Council.

Council considered and provided its feedback on a first draft of a terms of reference to form a new advisory panel that will assist the College to launch and mobilize interests staying front and center on thinking safely outside the box on promoting access to veterinary care through new pathways. The Panel has been linked to Council’s existing policy on regulatory sandboxing.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded,

“That the Council of the College of Veterinarians of Ontario approve the Terms of Reference – Ontario Veterinary Regulatory Innovation Panel and revisions to the Board Governance Policy 4.11 as presented.”

CARRIED

8.2 Exam Advisory Group – Terms of Reference

Dr. Kerry Lissemore, Chair of the Registration Committee, introduced this agenda item, and Ms. Lindsay Sproule, Principal, Licensure and Professional Corporations, and Ms. Shilo Tooze, Associate Registrar, Licensure joined the table to answer any questions.

The College's Jurisprudence Exam was reformatted as a computer-based test in 2015 and since that time the College has committed to keeping the exam up-to-date and has initiated a comprehensive exam refresh every 2.5 – 3 years. During the 2020/2021 exam refresh project, the College's professional measurement consultant provided recommendations. A recommendation was to establish a committee to oversee the integrity of the exam.

At its meeting in September, the Registration Committee reviewed a draft terms of reference for a CVO Jurisprudence Exam Advisory Group. The Committee was in agreement to forward this to Council for its consideration in September.

Council considered and provided its feedback on establishing a CVO Jurisprudence Exam Advisory Group.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded,

"That the Council of the College of Veterinarians of Ontario approve the request to establish a CVO Jurisprudence Exam Advisory Group and accept the terms of reference as presented."

CARRIED

9. Council Roundtable

Trends – Media, Regulatory, Legal, and Public

Councillors were provided by staff with the top trends relating to media, regulation, recent legal cases, and public.

Councillors reviewed the trends that were brought forward and provided additional feedback.

General Trends

Councillors were given the opportunity to raise any matter that they believe is relevant to the College and its activities. Comments included:

- article in Medscape Medical News – “the nurse practitioner will see you now: clinic staffed by nurses provides primary care” – staffed entirely by nurse practitioners
- recent announcement – Canada to close borders to dogs from more than 100 countries over rabies concerns
- article in New York Times – “physician burnout has reached distressing levels” – veterinarians are feeling this as well

10. Other Business

Councillors were reminded to submit their expense forms.

11. Notice of Motion

No notice of motion was brought forward.

12. Confidentiality

Councillors were reminded that Council meetings are public meetings.

Information discussed in in-camera sessions must be kept confidential by all in attendance. All budget/financial/strategic alignment documents are not to be shared outside of the meeting as these documents are working documents of Council and not public material. Any inquiries regarding the package can be directed to the website where the public package is posted.

Minutes of the Council meeting are not approved until its next meeting.

13. Evaluation Form

The Council meeting evaluation form will be forwarded for completion electronically via Survey Monkey. Councillors are encouraged to complete the evaluation which is helpful in continually improving future Council meetings.

14. Date of Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of Council will be held on December 7 and 8, 2022.

15. Adjourn

MOTION: It was moved,

“That the meeting of Council be adjourned.”

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 12:09 pm.

Dr. Lorie Gold
President

Jan Robinson
Registrar and CEO

Beth Ready
Recording Secretary