



Legacy Council Meeting Highlights

Legacy Council Meeting: December 4, 2024

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The Legacy Council met in-person on December 4, 2024. The public is welcome to attend meeting proceedings in-person or to watch via the livestream; please contact the College if you plan to attend in-person. Council highlights and replays from policy discussions are available on the College website at cvo.org/Council. Council considered the following items in December:

Executive Committee election: The Legacy Council elected its Executive Committee for the coming year. Joining President Dr. Jessica Retterath and Past President Dr. Wade Wright are first Vice-President Dr. Louise Kelly, second Vice-President Dr. Lena Levison and Member at Large Cathy Hecimovich. Committees were also established and can be found on the College website.

Annual Council Meeting: The Annual Council Meeting includes reports from committees on their activities through the year; a presentation on the audited financial statements; and the 2024 Annual Report. Dr. Wright provided an overview of the College's work and achievements in 2024, an exciting time as the College began its transition to the College of Veterinary Professionals of Ontario. Council extended its appreciation to Dr. Wright for his leadership.

Policy - Recommendations from the After-Hours Care Task Force: The Legacy Council welcomed the report and recommendations from its after-hours veterinary care task force. The recommendations will be shared with the Transition Council. The task force, which included veterinarians and veterinary technicians from a range of practice environments, analyzed the provision of after-hours veterinary care in Ontario. The task force recommended maintaining the current regulations concerning after hours care in the new regulatory framework, with increased clarity around referrals, and responsibilities upon discharge. It is also recommended that College policy clarifies "reasonably prompt" and "medically necessary". A replay of the Legacy Council's discussion is available on the College website.

Policy: Use of Medical Devices Enabled by Artificial Intelligence: The College's Ontario Veterinary Regulatory Innovation Panel continues to support work related to the use of technology and innovation, including the recently adopted Position Statement on "Embracing Innovation and the Digital Age in Veterinary Medicine" which provides advice to mitigate risk in the use of technology in veterinary medicine. The Panel assisted with developing a guidance document to support the use of tools enabled by artificial intelligence. The guidance document provides a framework on key considerations for veterinarians when selecting medical devices enabled by artificial intelligence to advance care options for patients. The publication is available on the College website.

Policy: By-Law amendments: The Legacy Council reviewed the input received during the recent consultation on draft by-law changes. As always, Council values the input from the public, licensed members, and stakeholders during consultations. The Legacy Council approved the changes which would permit extended terms for the non-Council committee members and sunset the Governance, Audit and Risk Committee. These changes enable the Legacy Council to be strategic in managing its resources during the transition period and do not impact the longer-term decisions of a future Council. A replay of this discussion is available on the College website.