

# Minutes

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## Council Meeting

September 25, 2023

2-71 Hanlon Creek Blvd.

Hybrid Meeting

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Presiding Officer: Dr. Alana Parisi

Members present: Dr. Patricia Alderson  
Dr. Claire Beauchamp  
Dr. Lorie Gold  
Ms. Cathy Hecimovich (attended virtually)  
Dr. Louise Kelly  
Dr. Harold Kloeze  
Ms. Catherine Knipe  
Dr. Lena Levison  
Dr. Clayton MacKay  
Dr. Jessica Peatling  
Dr. Sami Qureshi  
Dr. Jessica Retterath  
Mr. Douglas Reynolds  
Ms. Rena Spevack  
Dr. Wade Wright  
Dr. Michael Zigler (attended virtually)

Appointed Officer: Jan Robinson, Registrar and CEO

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

### 1. Call to Order

A Land Acknowledgement was read aloud by the President.

Dr. Parisi called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and welcomed Councillors.

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

## 2. Roll Call

A roll call was conducted.

## 3. Approval of Agenda

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded,

“That the agenda be adopted as circulated.”

CARRIED

## 4. Conflict of Interest

No conflicts were declared.

## 5. Consent Agenda

Councillors reviewed the consent agenda and it was requested that

- 5.3 Registrar’s Report
- 5.4.1 Accreditation Report

be removed from the consent agenda to be discussed separately.

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

- 5.1 Minutes – June 21, 2023
- Minutes – June 29, 2023
- 5.4 Committee Reports
  - 5.4.2 Registration
  - 5.4.3 Complaints
  - 5.4.4 Discipline
  - 5.4.5 Executive
  - 5.4.6 Quality Assurance
  - 5.4.7 Governance, Audit and Risk
- 5.5 Ratify Executive Committee Motions

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded,

“That the Consent Agenda be approved with item 5.3, and 5.4.1 to be discussed separately.”

CARRIED

### 5.3 Registrar’s Report

The Registrar provided an update on the current initiatives of the Ontario Fairness Commission.

The Registrar noted that the College provided comments on the CVMA’s draft policy on “Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Veterinary Medicine.

### **5.4.1 Accreditation Committee Report**

It was noted that a committee member's name was omitted from the committee list.

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded,

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

CARRIED

## **6. Strategic Alignment**

### **6.1 Evaluation**

Ms. Catherine Knipe introduced this agenda item.

Council reviewed the meeting evaluation from its meeting held in June 2023.

### **6.2 Strategic Plan**

#### **6.2.1 Strategy 2026 – Year 1 Tactics**

Councillors were provided with the Year 1 Tactics related to Strategy 2026.

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

### **6.3 Policy Review and Project Priorities**

The Policy and Project Tracking Chart was provided for information.

### **6.4 Performance Measurement**

#### **6.4.1 Key Performance Indicators**

Ms. Catherine Knipe introduced this agenda item.

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.

#### **6.4.2 Strategic Risks**

The Governance, Audit and Risk Committee (GAR), as part of its mandate, reviews leading risks and strategic risks at each of its meetings. Twice a year, in March and September, the Committee considers whether there are any strategic risks or emerging trends that should be brought to Council's attention.

The GAR Committee did not feel that there were any strategic risks in need of additional mitigation strategies at this time. Council was provided with an update relating to challenges on

how to manage dispensing of drugs and delegation to auxiliaries when providing veterinary services through telemedicine.

## **6.5 Outcomes Focused Regulation**

### **6.5.1 Update**

The Registrar reported that the Impact Strategy Unit meets after every Council meeting.

Work continues relating to the management of drugs, the role of facility directors, the evaluation of remedial undertakings, improving medical records, understanding the VCPR, and supporting anti-microbial stewardship.

## **7. Finance**

### **7.1 Financial Statement – July 31, 2023**

Council reviewed the Variance Report, Balance Sheet, and Revenue and Expenses Statement ending July 31, 2023.

The documents are presented as information only.

### **7.2 Budget 2024**

The Registrar provided an overview on the key areas of importance in formulating the proposed 2024 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 2024 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 2024 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 2024 as presented.”

CARRIED

## **Public Policy**

### **8.1 Position Statement – Acupuncture**

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

At its meeting held in June 2023, Council directed that College staff proceed with the development of a Position Statement based on the findings, inclusive of ongoing recognition of veterinary acupuncture as the practice of veterinary medicine.

A draft copy of the Position Statement – Veterinary Acupuncture was reviewed by the Executive Committee at its meeting in August 2023.

Council reviewed and provided its feedback on the draft Position Statement – Veterinary Acupuncture.

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded,

“That the Council of the College of Veterinarians of Ontario direct that the draft Position Statement – Veterinary Acupuncture be published as amended.”

CARRIED

## 8.2 Accreditation Standards

Dr. Jessica Retterath, Chair of the Accreditation Committee, introduced this agenda item. Dr. Kim Lambert, Associate Registrar, Quality Practice, and Ms. Aneeta Bharij, Principal, Accreditation, joined the table to answer any questions.

The draft standards for veterinary facilities in Ontario and the proposed amendments to the College’s fee by-law were out for public consultation, as directed by Council from February 8 – April 8, 2023.

At its meeting in June 2023, Council accepted the proposed draft standards for veterinary facilities in Ontario to be circulated for a second targeted consultation. Council also accepted the proposed By-law changes to accreditation fees for implementation as of October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

Council reviewed and provided its feedback relating to the second consultation on the draft standards for veterinary facilities.

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded,

“That the Council of the College of Veterinarians of Ontario accept the revised draft standards for veterinary facilities, as amended, as of October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, with the exception of additional scope of practice service – isolation facilities – requirement #2.”

CARRIED

## 9. Organizational Policy

### 9.1.1 Licence Application Fee, Jurisprudence Exam Fee and Outstanding Costs

Dr. Jessica Peatling, Chair of the Registration Committee, introduced this agenda item.

The College periodically reviews fees across the organization. Applicants to the College pay a licence application fee and the CVO Jurisprudence Exam fee. These fees have not been adjusted in many years.

Council was provided with proposed changes to the By-laws. This included licence application fee, CVO Jurisprudence Exam fee and outstanding costs.

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded,

“That the Council of the College of Veterinarians of Ontario approve the By-law changes for circulation as presented.”

CARRIED

### **9.1.2 Election of the Executive Committee and Annual General Meeting**

Dr. Wade Wright, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, introduced this agenda item.

At its meeting held in June 2023, Council approved the suggested wording to section 6 (Election of Officers) of the College By-laws as presented and to circulate to licensed members prior to final approval. Council also approved the suggested amendments to the College’s By-laws relating to the Annual General Meeting and to circulate to licensed members.

Council reviewed and provided its comments on the feedback report and submissions.

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded,

“That the Council of the College of Veterinarians of Ontario approve the By-law changes as presented.”

CARRIED

## **10. 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.

### **General Trends**

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

- comments on artificial intelligence (AI) development software that is available – it was noted that the Ontario Veterinary Regulatory Innovation Panel are in early conversations relating to AI – further information will be brought forward to Council in March
- article in VINNews – cat scratch-related pathogen continues to elude recognition
- crisis in Thunder Bay – difficulty scheduling appointments for vaccines

## **11. Other Business**

No other business was brought forward.

## **12. Notice of Motion**

A Notice of Motion is the way in which a Councillor can request Council take action on an issue, as per Robert's Rules.

At its meeting held September 25, 2023, Dr. Michael Zigler made the following statement of intent to make a motion at the next Council meeting:

That the Council of the College of Veterinarians of Ontario review the standards for facility accreditation, specifically the standards related to dentistry, on or before September 2026.

### 13. 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.

### 14. 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.

### 15. Date of Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of Council will be held on December 6 and 7, 2023.

### 17. Adjourn

**MOTION:** It was moved,

“That the meeting of Council be adjourned.”

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm.



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Dr. Alana Parisi  
President



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Jan Robinson  
Registrar and CEO

*Beth Ready*

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Beth Ready  
Recording Secretary