

College of Veterinarians of British Columbia

Annual Report 2022–2023



cvbc.ca

College of Veterinarians of British Columbia

The CVBC regulates the delivery of veterinary medicine in the province of British Columbia to ensure the public and animals are served by a competent and ethical profession.

OUR **Vision**

A community where veterinarians and the public work in harmony to advance the health and well-being of all animals.

OUR **Mission**

To instill trust and confidence in a competent and ethical veterinary profession by leading and supporting veterinarians through compassionate, transparent, fair, and effective regulatory oversight of the practice of veterinary medicine

What we **Do**

- We set and enforce the standards of practice for veterinary medicine in BC
- We ensure veterinarians meet the requirements to be registered to practice in BC
- We inspect and accredit veterinary practice facilities to ensure they meet the expected standards
- We respond to concerns regarding the conduct and competency of a veterinarian by investigating complaints and initiating regulatory actions where appropriate
- We address unauthorized practice of veterinary medicine



College of Veterinarians of British Columbia

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Leadership **Message**



2022/2023 has flown by, with much of our internal CVBC efforts focused on ensuring the College of Veterinarians of British Columbia has the appropriate resources invested in the right activities in order to effectively deliver on our mandate of public protection. We have moved forward with implementing most of the process changes that were recommended through the review of the Complaints and Investigations process and we expect to see continuous improvement in turnaround times for complaint investigation completion as all of these processes come to fruition.

CVBC Council President, Dr. Jane Pritchard

Our practice facility accreditation team has been extremely active in delivering a blended approach to inspection with both in person and virtual inspections and have made significant progress this year in catching up on our inspection requirements. We recognize that delays are stressful for veterinarians and their practice facilities, as well as for members of the public, and the entire CVBC team is committed to minimizing delays in our work as much as possible.

Despite the heavy work load we know veterinarians have been experiencing in practice, we have had great support from registrants willing to assist by providing their input on topics such as companion animal dentistry, after hours care, telemedicine, and equity, diversity and inclusion. We have also had great interest in our regulatory committees. We have worked to ensure our Committees reflect the diversity of veterinary practice in British Columbia, and also engage members of the public who provide such valuable perspectives. We are very thankful for all of the hard work and support.

We feel very fortunate to have the opportunity to collaborate with our stakeholders in the veterinary profession, including the Society of British Columbia Veterinarians, the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food, and the British Columbia Veterinary Technologists Association, on various important topics such as animal welfare, continuing education, the veterinary workforce, and the regulation of Registered Veterinary Technologists. The Canadian Council of Veterinary Registrars as well as the American Association of Veterinary State Boards are all working on common issues impacting the veterinary profession, and the CVBC is fortunate to have the ability to work with these partners to enhance consistency whenever possible across North America.

2023/2024 will bring a renewed effort on delivery on the pillars of the CVBC Strategic Plan, with assurance that the CVBC will continue to make policy and regulatory decisions in a fair and transparent way with a focus on equity, diversity and inclusion.

The role of the veterinary profession continues to be respected and valued by the public and essential to the health of animals, society, and the environment. We are proud to contribute to maintaining public trust through our responsibility in self-regulation.

REGISTRAR'S NOTE:
I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the opportunity to act as the CVBC registrar for the past 2 years. It has been a privilege to support the committees, working groups, inspectors, staff and Council, and through these efforts I have built working relationships that I will value long after I transition from the CVBC. I would like to recognize the team of incredibly committed and talented CVBC staff who worked so hard to keep driving the CVBC bus while we were in the process of an engine overhaul and tire changes along the way. Your hard work, empathy, and dedication has not gone unnoticed, and you will all truly be missed.



CVBC Registrar & CEO
Dr. Megan Berman



01 ■ Strong stakeholder relationships

02 ■ Development of standardized tools and training for inspection staff

03 ■ Consultation on Standards and Bylaws

04 ■ Roll out of EDI Advisory Group and survey

05 ■ Online Training Platform for free Regulatory CE

06 ■ Completion of the Review of the Complaints and Investigation process and implementation of 24 of 34 action plan items with 4 additional action items in progress.

07 ■ Follow-up in person inspections for over 60 virtually inspected new and relocating practices that were provisionally approved during Covid shutdown.

Year TWO OUR STRATEGIC PLAN



ACTIVITIES

- Formation of the CVBC EDI Advisory Working Group
- All staff and committee members are asked to complete EDI training while onboarding
- Complete an Equity Diversity and Inclusion survey to better understand the current perspective of registrants
- Consultations:
  - Devocalization
  - Duty to Report
  - Registration Fees
  - Payment Deadline
  - Naming
  - Equity Diversity and Inclusion



ACTIVITIES

- Continued to expand on the CVBC Blog, reformed the CVBC Annual Report and Newsletter format
- Developed an online training platform for the bylaw seminar and exam, as well as other regulatory topics. Trial ran a webinar with WorkSafe. Full roll out of the platform is expected in October 2023.

COLLABORATION WITH:

SBCV
Society of British Columbia Veterinarians (SBCV) – support in the delivery of regulatory training topics as requested, joined the SBCV in the fall of 2022 to meet with British Columbian Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM) students, attend board meeting to speak to CVBC matters, shared space at the SBCV Annual Conference.

BCVTA
British Columbian Veterinary Technologists Association(BCVTA) – Attend annual meeting, attend board meetings, representative of the BCVTA sits on the CVBC Council as an observer.

SPCA
Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) – collaboration on common issues that cross jurisdictions, collaboration on stray animal standard development, quarterly meetings.

WCVM
WCVM – attend the white coat ceremony and the annual WCVM Advisory Committee meeting.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
Ministry of Agriculture – support ministry priorities such as workforce shortages, and animal welfare framework review, open communication, regular meetings.

CCVR
Council of Canadian Veterinary Registrars – work with other Canadian Registrars as well as the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) to explore common issues and attempt to harmonize approach when possible.

CVMA
CVMA – Functions as the secretariat for the CCVR and is engaged in discussions on common issues at the national level (i.e. workforce shortage).



ACTIVITIES

- New and Updated Policies/Standards:
  - Stray or found animals standard and guidelines
  - Committee Appointments Policy
- Registration:
  - CVBC Policy: Registrant Requests to Transfer to Inactive Status
  - Registration Committee Policy: Alternative Assessment of English Language Proficiency
  - CVBC Guidelines to the Bylaws: Inactive Registration and Continuing Education Requirements
  - Flow chart for Registration Application Process
  - Application checklists for each class of registration
- Continuing Competence Program:
  - Continuing Competence Committee Policy: Defining the 2-year CE Cycle
  - CVBC Policy: Continuing Education Approval Criteria
  - CVBC Guidelines to the Bylaws: Inactive Registration and Continuing Education Requirements
- Practice Facility Accreditation Program:
  - Review of Part 3 and Schedule D to produce Facility Terminology document
  - Updated Facility Annual Declaration to better define Scope of Practice
- Updated Committee Terms of Reference:
  - Continuing Competence
  - Investigation
  - Registration
  - Practice Facility Accreditation
- Working Groups:
  - Companion Animal Dentistry
  - Telemedicine
  - After Hours Care
  - Devocalization
  - Equity Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Group
- Implementation of significant changes to the Complaints process following review:
  - Implemented risk-based decision making for the Investigation Committee (IC)
  - Provided the IC with access to past disciplinary decisions to assist with consistent decision making.
  - Increased the number of CVBC staff and investigators in the Complaints and Discipline department
  - Implemented the early resolution stream for low-risk complaints to assist with more timely investigations and resolutions.
  - Implemented clearer publicly available information about the complaints process including making translation services available to the public if assistance is required in submitting or communicating about a complaint.
  - Implemented training for CVBC staff, inspectors and IC members related to equity and diversity, fairness, and handling of complaints and investigations within the statutory framework of the *Veterinarians Act*.



ACTIVITIES

- Reviewed first proposed draft of bylaws provided by BCVTA.
- Engaged a contractor to review RVT regulations in the USA and Canada to help inform further RVT bylaw development and to support the operations of a working group.
- Initiated a review of the Provisional Supervised Active policies to ensure they achieve expected outcomes.



Committee **Reports**

REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

The 2022-2023 fiscal year was another busy year for the Registration Committee, and another year of continued growth of CVBC registrant numbers. The Registration Committee meets monthly to review applications for registration that require the Committee's attention and to discuss and develop policies.

The CVBC's 2021 bylaw amendment to establish the provisional supervised form PSA of Private Practice registration for individuals in the process of completing the full series of qualifying examinations of the National Examining Board (required for graduates of non-AVMA-accredited veterinary schools) has continued to be a successful initiative. During this fiscal period, the Registration Committee approved 35 applications for PSA registration, and 6 PSA registrants received their CQ and were granted full Private Practice registration.

The Committee also worked to develop policies to guide their processes and to help clarify requirements established in the bylaws. This included updating the policy on registration transfers to inactive status; developing a policy for the Registration Committee's alternative assessments of applicant English language proficiency; and coordinating work (with the Continuing Competence Committee) on a guide to the existing bylaws regarding inactive registrants and CE requirements.

General trends in registrant numbers continue to show growth. The CVBC registered 219 new veterinarians this year, which continues the year-over-year trend in increasing volume of new registrations – 191 during 2021-2022, and 137 during 2020-2021.

Numbers of board-certified specialists registered with the CVBC also grew, with 11 new full-registrant specialists (in Specialty Private Practice or Private Practice), plus 9 specialists who spent time in BC under Temporary registration. Specialties included Small Animal Internal Medicine, Large Animal Medicine, Small Animal Surgery, Large Animal Surgery, Microbiology, Radiology, Radiation Oncology, Dentistry (Small Animal and Equine), Cardiology, and Emergency & Critical Care.

PRACTICE FACILITY ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE (PFAC)

The PFAC has had a busy year as the facility inspectors and the office worked tirelessly to make a dent in the inspections that had been put on hold with the onset of the Covid Pandemic.

The Covid Pandemic shutdown and the scarcity of facilities inspectors meant that, from early 2020 to mid-2022, very few in person inspections took place. Virtual inspections were used to approve of new and relocating facilities during that time. The creation of a follow-up to virtual inspection process and the hiring of new inspectors led to a huge increase in inspections performed overall. Almost all the facilities that had a virtual inspection and received provisional approval to operate by the end of 2022 have now had a follow-up in-person inspection. The virtual inspection policy is still in place and is being used to allow new facilities to be inspected as soon as they are ready to go, while also allowing existing facilities to participate in the virtual re-accreditation process.

The PFAC knew the inspection log jam had broken up and was heading their way. They have risen to the challenge and spent many hours reviewing and meeting to accredit new facilities and re-accredit existing facilities. Their meetings also involve considering failures to meet the standards, requests from registrants seeking alternate ways to accredit their services, and new policies, protocols and forms for the facilities department.

The PFAC Panel remains an important part of the accreditation process, as the members of the panel allow approval of new and relocating facilities in between meetings, rather than a facility having to wait for the full committee to meet. They also approve major scope of practice changes, accredit minor SOP changes and grant extensions post-inspection.

The next year will continue to be busy for PFAC as the inspectors and office continue to inspect for re-accreditation and inspect new and relocating facilities. A new policy is being finalized to aid registrants considering a "non-typical" approach to facilities, and a reworked and updated virtual inspection policy is also planned. New inspection forms and a more streamlined facility Self-Assessment are also being developed.

Not surprisingly, as the inspectors got rolling, the Facilities Manager and Administrator were faced with many facilities to prepare for the committee to review. The office team appreciates the patience of registrants with delays in response time as the staff dealt with this deluge of forms and submissions. They survived the initial waves and, with the help of the new CVBC coordinator and talented summer students, improved turnaround time and consistency of process. They continue to work on efficient ways to ensure the standards are being met and make it easier for registrants to self-report and prepare for an inspection.

INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE

The Investigation Committee (IC) met ten times during the 2022-2023 fiscal year. The IC welcomed two new members this year to replace two outgoing members. At fiscal year end, the composition of the IC was nine registrants and two public members.

The most common issues identified by the IC continue to be patient care, client communications, deficient medical records, and professionalism, including failure to cooperate with a CVBC investigation.

The data on the complaints process show a continued increase in the number of complaints received per year. We also saw a marginal increase in the median timeline for complaint investigation completion. It is important to note that the IC continued to tackle aging complaints that went unaddressed in past years and needed to proceed to resolution. With implementation of the recommendations of Harry Cayton and Greg Cavouras, it is anticipated that the median timeline for complaint completion will improve. Several positive changes have been implemented to enable the investigation process to become more timely, efficient, transparent, consistent and focused on the public interest. Some highlights of these changes include:

- Implementing risk-based decision making for the IC in order to align with CVBC's mandate of public protection.
- Enabling the IC to access previous disciplinary decisions to assist with consistent decision making.
- Hiring additional inspectors to assist with yielding more timely investigations.
- Implementing the early resolution stream for low-risk complaints to assist with more timely investigations and resolutions. The early resolution stream consists of more focused investigations with the IC reviewing the information from the investigation in panels, as opposed to a review being conducted by the full IC.
- Implementing clearer publicly available information about the complaints process to ensure transparency of the CVBC's investigation process.
- Implementing training for CVBC staff, inspectors and IC members related to equity and diversity, fairness, and handling of complaints and investigations within the statutory framework of the *Veterinarians Act*.



CONTINUING COMPETENCE COMMITTEE

The 2022-2023 reporting year involved the start of the Continuing Education Audit for the 2021-2022 CE Cycle. The Audit included both a random audit of 2.5% of all active registrants plus directed audits of all registrants who did not report their minimum CE hours (required by bylaw) by the end of the cycle (December 31, 2022). In practice, this meant that 43 registrants were randomly selected for auditing, while an additional 197 registrants, were subjects of directed audits for a failure to report their minimum-required CE hours. The Audit was still in progress as of June 30th (the end of the fiscal year), with responses and submissions still being received for review by the auditor and the Committee.

The Committee also engaged in discussion, development and revision of policies. These included clarifying CE hour requirements for new registrants (through revisions to the "Defining the 2-Year CE Cycle Policy"), improving the language of the "Content" section of the "CE Approval Criteria Policy" to better recognize areas of veterinary medicine beyond clinical practice, and coordinating with the Registration Committee to develop a guidance document to clarify the bylaw responsibilities for continuing education for registrants moving into and out of inactive status ("Guidelines to the Bylaws: Inactive Registrants and Continuing Education Requirements"). The Committee also began a review of the scope and limitations of acceptable CE formats permitted by the bylaws and the CE Approval Criteria Policy, work that was still ongoing and active at the end of the fiscal year.

During the 2022-2023 fiscal year, the Continuing Competence Committee met 5 times by videoconference, with a total meeting time of 8.5 hours.

DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

There were no changes to the membership of the Discipline Committee (DC) for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. The composition of the DC consists of 7 registrants and 3 public members. During the 2022-2023 fiscal year, the DC held one hearing into a citation matter; however, more time was required to finish the hearing and it will resume in the 2023-2024 fiscal year. One citation matter was resolved by consent order during the 2022-2023 fiscal year, and there are currently 9 matters for which the Investigation Committee directed citations and referred to the DC.

It is anticipated that the DC will hold hearings for these 9 citation matters in the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

The DC also underwent training during the 2022-2203 fiscal year with the British Columbia Council of Administrative Tribunals, which focused on administrative law, conducting fair hearings, evaluating evidence, decision making and decision writing.





The CVBC would like to thank all of our registrants and public members who participate and support our Council and Committee activities as well as our registrants who donate their time to commit to working group initiatives. We would not be able to forge down the path of continuous improvement without your support and participation. Your skills and expertise are invaluable to the CVBC.

CVBC COUNCIL

Dr. Jane Pritchard, President
Dr. Michele Martin, Vice President,
Gian Sihota, Treasurer, Public Member
Christine Arnold, Public Member
Harinder Mahil, Public Member
Dr. Justin McLash,
Kari Michaels, Public Member
Dr. Josh Waddington

OUTGOING MEMBERS

Christopher Finding, Public Member
Dr. Jane Mancell

INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Dr. John Bratty, Chair
Dr. Terry Chatton
Dulce Cuenca, Public Member
Dr. Parmjit Dhillon
Dr. Sarah Dyck
Dr. Shawn Llewellyn
Dr. Saman Moaveni
Alison Paine, Public Member
Gurminder Parihar, Public Member (Appointed in new fiscal year)
Dr. Janet Sunstrum
Dr. Holly Tillotson
Dr. Peter Watson

OUTGOING MEMBER

Dr. Rosamund Harrison, Public Member

DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Dr. Ian Welch, Chair
Carol Baird Ellan (Appointed new fiscal)
Dr. Carsten Bandt
Keith Bracken, KC, Public Member
Dr. Amy Cheung (Appointed new fiscal)
Dr. Teresa Cook
Dr. Rayna Gunvaldsen
Bradley Kielmann, Public Member
Dr. Davinder Kumar (Appointed new fiscal)
Dr. Tatjana Mirkovic
Dr. Al Runnells
Dr. Catharine Shankel
Herman Van Ommen, KC, Public Member

REGISTRATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Dr. Carsten Bandt, Chair
Dr. Tej Paul Bhatia
Katherine Crosbie, Public Member
Dr. Margaret Henderson
Dr. Simrat Kaur
Dr. Anil Sharma
Dr. Trevor Reeves

PRACTICE FACILITY ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE:

Kim Holbrow, Chair
Christine Arnold, Public Member
Dr. Gurmeet Bhullar
Dr. Heather Neely
Dr. Anil Sharma
Dr. Renu Sood
Dr. Dalwinder Toor
Dr. Josh Waddington
Dr. Ian Welch

OUTGOING MEMBER

Dr. Elizabeth Davis

CONTINUING COMPETENCE COMMITTEE:

Dr. Jane Pritchard, Chair
Dr. Ellen Boyd (Appointed new fiscal)
Dr. Theresa Burns
Dr. Po-Yan Cheng
Dr. Rosamund Harrison, Public Member
Dr. Emma Turner
Dr. Lisa Yee

OUTGOING MEMBER

Christopher Finding, Public Member

CVBC COMPLAINTS INVESTIGATORS:

Dr. Kristen Baird
Dr. Christine Clifton
Dr. Jessica Gu
Dr. Aleksandar Jovanovic
Dr. Claire Kavanagh
Dr. Brad McKell
Dr. Chris Milligan
Dr. Greg Parks (Inspector Support)
Dr. Christine Smetschka
Dr. Joanne Weetman
Dr. Ben Weinberger
Jim Westman

CVBC FACILITY INSPECTORS:

Dr. Denis Anderchek
Dr. Judy Currie
Dr. Thisuri Eagalle
Brittany Harmening RVT
Leanne Hillis-Schmidt RVT
Tinille McKenzie-Wyatt RVT
Steve Shaw

DENTAL STANDARD WORKING GROUP:

Dr. Christiane Armstrong
Dr. Adam Avitan
Dr. Sylvia Hurdle
Dr. Loic Legendre
Dr. Kristina Ringness
Dr. Tom Solseth
Dr. Holly Tillotson

AFTER HOURS CARE WORKING GROUP:

Dr. Adam Avitan
Dr. Meggie Beal
Dr. Cherri Beltran
Dr. Joseph Butterweck
Dr. Uschi Craigdallie
Dr. Ashleigh Gendreau
Dr. Chris Milligan
Dr. Catharine Shankel

TELEMEDICINE WORKING GROUP:

Dr. Holly Davies
Garth Graham
Dr. Grace Karremen
Dr. Dave Kirby
Dr. Ginger Langan
Dr. Justin McLash

EDI ADVISORY WORKING GROUP:

Halimah Beaulieu and Adeline Huynh – Commons Consultants
Dr. Satveer Dadrwal, Dr. Emilia Gordon, Dr. Avtar Jandi, Dr. Doris Leung, Dr. Megan Bergman, Gian Sihota

College of Veterinarians of British Columbia

CVBC STAFF

Dr. Megan Bergman, Registrar & CEO
Dr. Stacey Thomas, Deputy Registrar
Joel Walsoff, Legal Counsel
Ransiri Fernando, Complaints & Investigation Legal Counsel
Dr. Sheila Rusticus, Staff Veterinarian / Facilities Manager
Irina Sear, CFO & Human Resources Officer
Rosalee Magcalas, Executive Assistant
Christina Spring, Registration Coordinator
Darcie Light, Senior Paralegal – Complaints
Nerisa Bernhardt, Paralegal – Complaints
Madison Garson, Paralegal – Complaints
Amneet Ghuman, Paralegal – Complaints
Lorelei Villasoto, Legal Assistant – Complaints
Angela Jeffery, RVT, Facility Accreditation Administrator
Johwena Si, CVBC Coordinator
Babal Sanghera, CVBC Community Liaison
Nancy Robertson, Receptionist
Tina Hedman, Bookkeeper



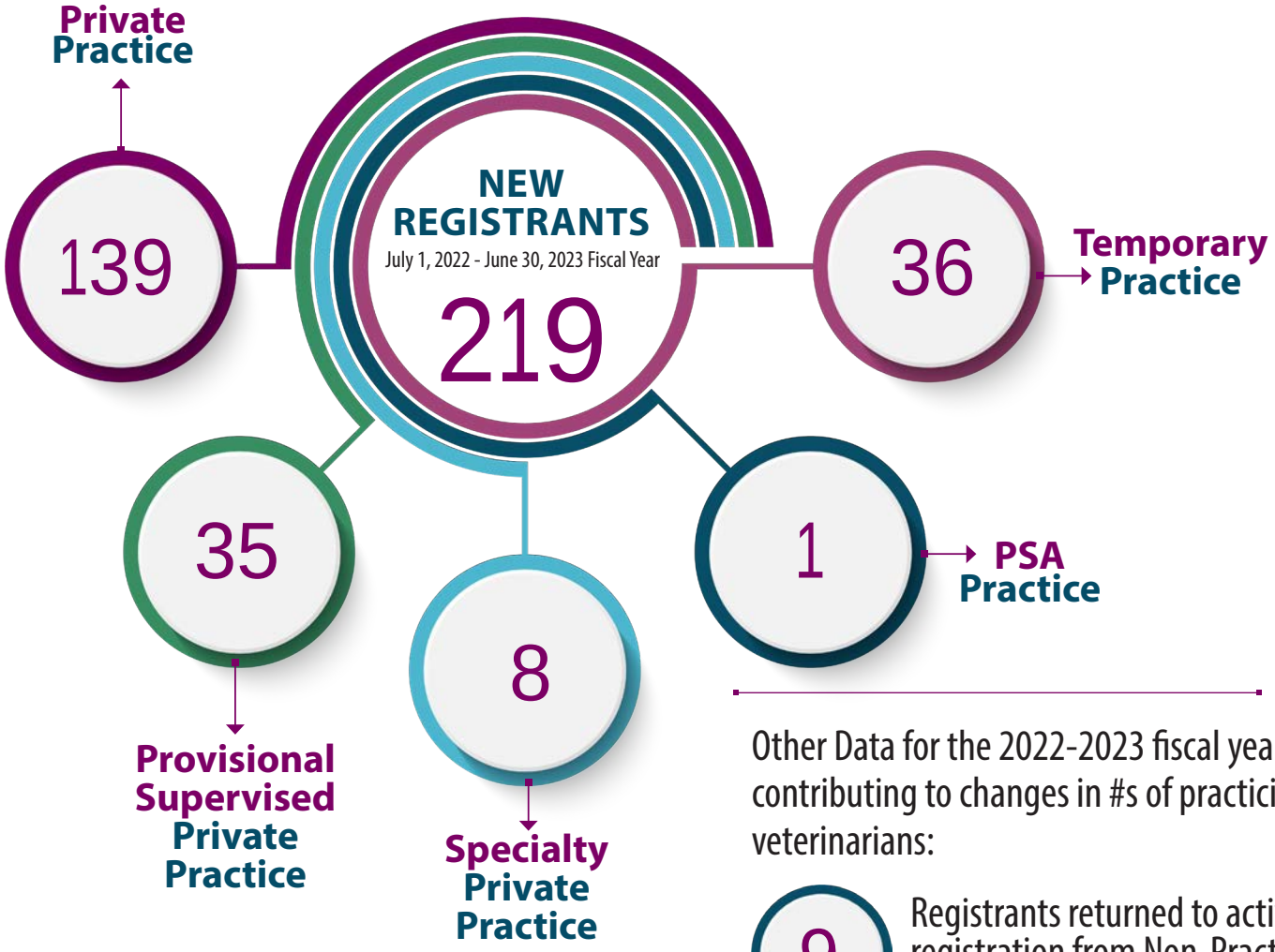


CVBC by the numbers

New Registration **Statistics**

43% of new registrants are graduates of Canadian veterinary colleges.

57% of new registrants received their veterinary training outside of Canada.



Other Data for the 2022-2023 fiscal year contributing to changes in #s of practicing veterinarians:

9 Registrants returned to active registration from Non-Practicing or Retired status.

-50 Registrants transferred out of active - 50 registration to Non-Practicing or Retired status.

-64 Veterinarians became "former" registrants (through resignation, cancellation or lapsing of a temporary license).

119 Applications for registration initiated during the 2021-2022 fiscal year that remain open at this time in varying stages of completion by the applicants.

CVBC by the numbers

Total Registrants as of June 30, 2022





CVBC by the numbers

Investigations **Statistics**

218
New complaint files opened

161
Complaints Reviewed

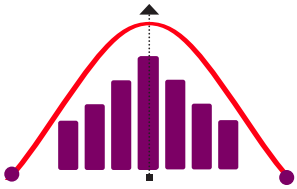
136
Veterinarians Involved

Time from receipt of the complaint to first s. 57 disposition decision of Investigation Committee

Median – 1.38 years

Shortest – 3.3 months

Longest – 3.58 Years



DECISIONS TO TAKE FURTHER DISCIPLINARY ACTION

10
Citation issued for disciplinary hearing (s. 57(1)(b))

1
Suspension or condition on practice (s. 65)

Complaints considered by the Investigation Committee

5
Dismissed without an investigation (s. 51)

87
Dismissed with no further action (s. 57(1)(a))

45
Dismissed with no further action and a letter of advice (s. 57(1)(a))

0
Citations resolved without a hearing

Decisions to request resolution by consent

12
Remedial action by consent or undertaking (s. 57(1)(c))

1
Reprimand by consent (s. 57(1)(c))

CVBC by the numbers

Practice Facilities Accreditation **Statistics**

TOTAL PRACTICE FACILITIES





PFAC PANEL DECISIONS

PAtO new	27
PAtO for relocation & major renovations	11
Extension request	9
SOP change	22
TOTAL	69

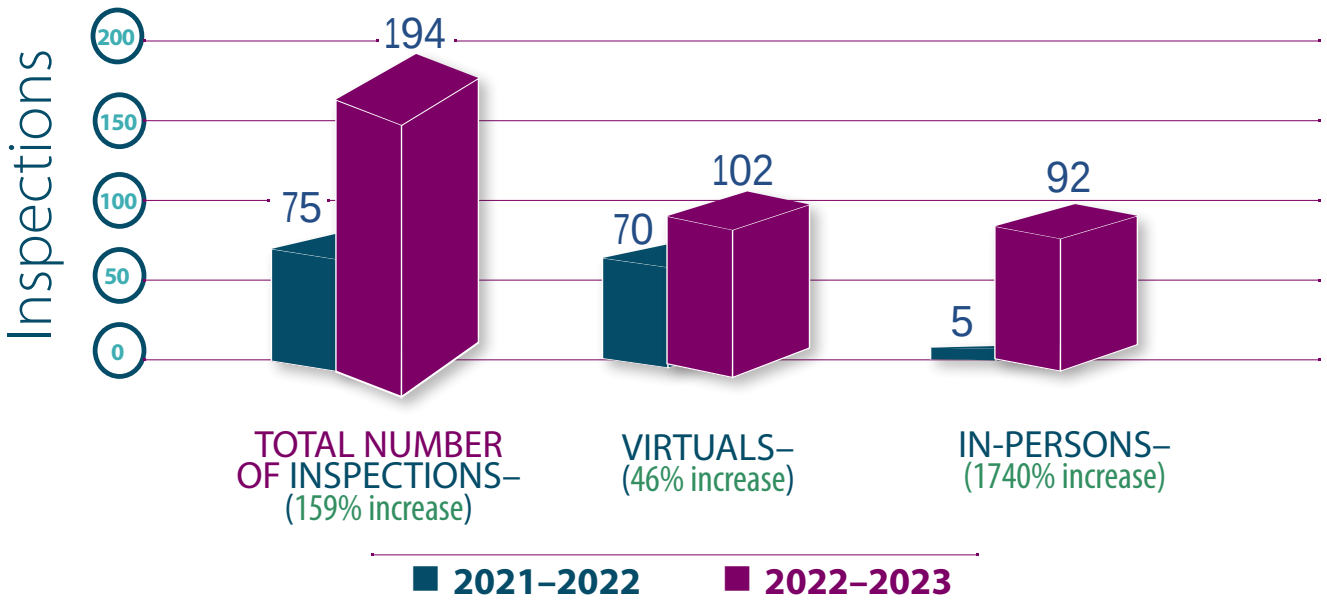
TOP 2 FACILITY DEFICIENCIES

- Management of Controlled Drugs
- Post-Anesthetic Recovery Monitoring Records

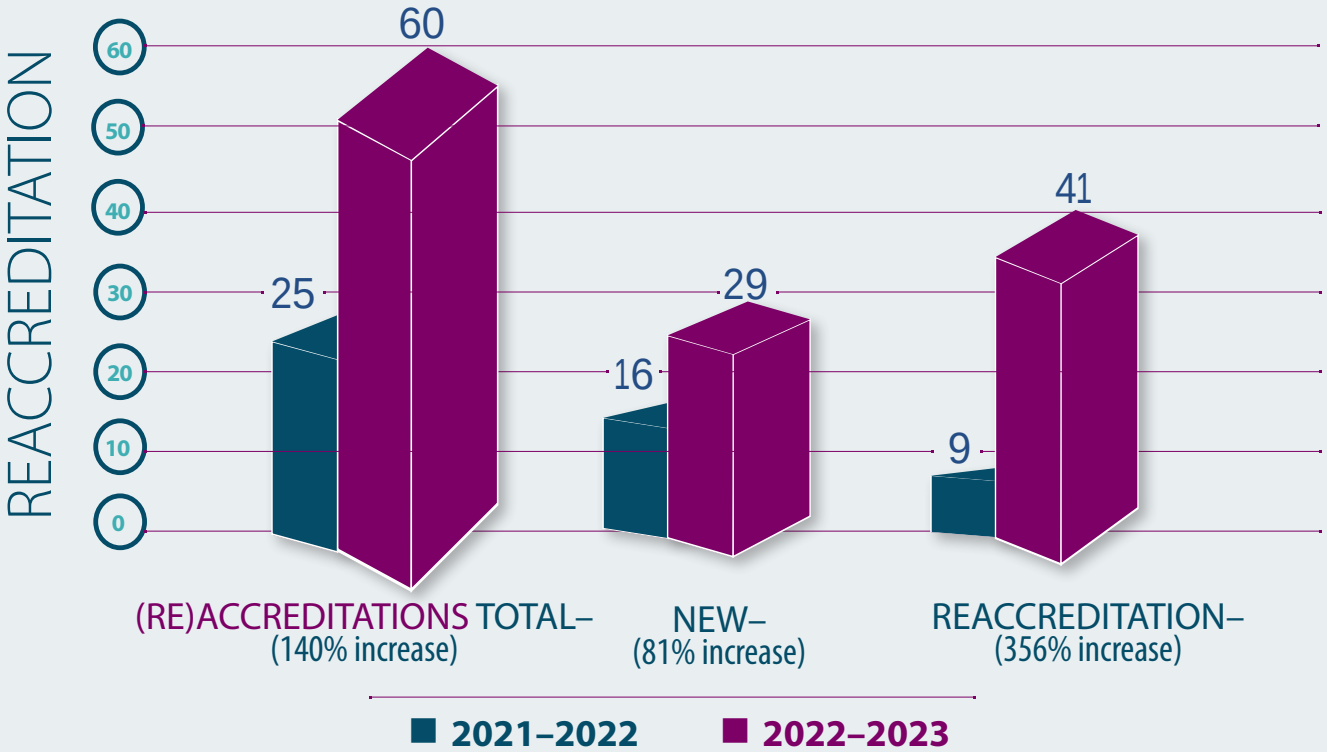
CVBC by the numbers

Inspections Statistics

NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS COMPARISON



(RE)ACCREDITATIONS COMPARISON



Treasurer's **Report** — with audited financials



Mr. Gian Sihota, CVBC Treasurer, Public Member

For the first time in several years, the CVBC incurred a large deficit in FY'23 of $496K. While there is a steady growth in registration revenue (7% from FY'22) due to an increased number of registrants, fees associated with registration have remained unchanged since 2012 and were not sufficient to offset the increased expenses associated with inflation, tackling back-logs in inspections resulting from previous years' Covid shutdowns, and legal fees associated with complaints and investigations, some of which have been referred to the Discipline Committee and are proceeding to a hearing process.

Although this is not a sustainable deficit for the CVBC to incur year over year, it was one that was foreseen and planned for in the FY'23 budget with the intent to utilize excess funds (FY'20: $306K, FY'21: $402K, FY'22: $59K) funds. These were put towards getting facility inspections up to date, completing evidentiary reviews and pre-hearing/hearings, getting caught up on citations, and staffing at the appropriate level to manage the growth we have seen at the CVBC over the past few years. The CVBC will remain diligent in managing costs and creating efficiencies where possible, but the reality is that costs have increased in every expense category at a rate that is higher than the amount of revenue coming in. There are enough reserves for the CVBC to remain in a strong financial position at this time, but the CVBC will need to increase revenue to a rate that matches annual expenses incurred.

There is a large increase in the cash on hand ($3.539M in FY'23 vs. $496K in FY'22), which is offset by a decrease in portfolio investments that the CVBC has invested in ($1.215M in FY'23 vs. $4.653M in FY'22). With greatly varying but improved interest rates over the last year, the CVBC was able to earn the highest rate of return on funds by not locking in any term deposits ($155K FY'23 interest income vs. $32K in FY'22). As of June 30, 2023, the CVBC had net assets of $3.248M, a decrease of $496K over last year.

I am confident that the CVBC will continue to be able to fund the required expenditures associated with keeping to its mandate and appreciate the diligence that the entire CVBC team applies to running the CVBC efficiently to serve the public interest.

Revenue and Expense, 2018 Actual to 2022 Actual





College of Veterinarians of British Columbia

Consolidated Financial Statements

For the year ended June 30, 2023

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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Council of the College of Veterinarians of British Columbia

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements of the College of Veterinarians of British Columbia (the "College"), which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position as at June 30, 2023 and the Consolidated Statements of Operations, Changes in Net Assets and Cash Flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the College of Veterinarians of British Columbia as at June 30, 2023 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the College in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the consolidated financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Consolidated Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these consolidated financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the College's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the College or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the College's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these consolidated financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the College's internal control.

- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.

- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the College's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the consolidated financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the College to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the consolidated financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the consolidated financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

As required by the Societies Act (British Columbia), we report that, in our opinion, the accounting principles in Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations have been applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Chartered Professional Accountants

Vancouver, British Columbia
September 25, 2023

College of Veterinarians of British Columbia
Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

As at June 30	2023	2022
Assets		
Current		
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 2)	$ 3,538,980	$ 495,543
Accounts receivable	15,779	12,660
Losses recoverable (Note 6)	15,217	110
Prepaid expenses	33,826	22,920
GST receivable	18,167	10,643
	3,621,969	541,876
Portfolio investments (Note 3)	1,214,922	4,652,637
Property and equipment (Note 4)	160,700	183,334
Recoveries on provision for unpaid losses (Note 6)	86,433	102,868
	$ 5,084,024	$ 5,480,715
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Liabilities		
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$ 315,237	$ 294,823
Deferred revenue - annual registration fees	1,414,456	1,331,343
Provision for unpaid and future claims (Note 6)	106,100	110,708
	1,835,793	1,736,874
Net assets		
Unrestricted	3,179,915	3,636,675
Invested in property and equipment	160,700	183,334
Deficit of Captive Insurance fund	(92,384)	(76,168)
	3,248,231	3,743,841
	$ 5,084,024	$ 5,480,715

Approved on behalf of the Council:

Richard Signature President Title

Gian Scholz Signature Treasurer Title

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

College of Veterinarians of British Columbia
Consolidated Statement of Operations

For the year ended June 30	2023	2022
Revenue		
Annual registration fees	**$ 2,788,251**	$ 2,606,451
New registration fees	**141,450**	138,750
Inspection fees	**145,810**	161,200
Interest	**154,899**	31,676
Examinations	**86,800**	72,898
Fines and penalties	**17,098**	25,807
	3,334,308	3,036,782
Expenses		
Salaries and benefits	**1,715,674**	1,334,996
Office and other	**200,207**	184,154
Rent	**119,697**	115,951
Professional services	**196,412**	307,036
Facility inspection costs	**185,414**	61,705
Legal services	**526,317**	231,573
Regulatory investigations	**330,675**	230,065
Council and committee meetings	**174,429**	122,253
Information technology services	**255,524**	240,019
Amortization	**38,226**	45,736
Insurance	**43,824**	59,609
Staff development	**10,061**	23,754
Captive management fees	**30,958**	20,588
License fees	**2,500**	2,500
Recovery for unpaid and future claims	**-**	(1,785)
	3,829,918	2,978,154
(Deficiency) excess of revenues over expenses	**(495,610)**	58,628

College of Veterinarians of British Columbia
Consolidated Statement of Changes in Net Assets

	Unrestricted	Invested in Property and Equipment	Captive Insurance Fund	2023	2022
Balance, June 30, 2022	**$ 3,636,675**	**$ 183,334**	**$ (76,168)**	**$ 3,743,841**	$ 3,685,213
(Deficiency) excess of revenues over expenses	**(441,168)**	**(38,226)**	**(16,216)**	**(495,610)**	58,628
Purchase of property and equipment	**(15,592)**	**15,592**	**-**	**-**	-
Balance, June 30, 2023	**$ 3,179,915**	**$ 160,700**	**$ (92,384)**	**$ 3,248,231**	$ 3,743,841

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

College of Veterinarians of British Columbia
Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended June 30	2023	2022
Cash provided by (used in)		
Operating activities		
(Deficiency) excess of revenues over expenses	**$ (495,610)**	$ 58,628
Items not involving cash		
Amortization	**38,226**	45,736
Recovery for unpaid and future claims	**11,827**	(1,785)
	(445,557)	102,579
Changes in non-cash working capital balances		
Portfolio investments - accrued income	**(4,632)**	(2,383)
Accounts receivable	**(3,119)**	(10,892)
Losses recoverable	**(15,107)**	2,467
Prepaid expenses	**(10,906)**	(6,242)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	**20,414**	121,187
GST receivable	**(7,524)**	(5,073)
Deferred revenue - annual registration fees	**83,113**	94,122
	(383,318)	295,765
Investing activities		
Purchase of property and equipment	**(15,592)**	(778)
Proceeds on disposal of investments	**3,442,347**	980,000
Purchase of investments	**-**	(2,246,749)
	3,426,755	(1,267,527)
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents during the year	**3,043,437**	(971,762)
C**ash and cash equivalents**, beginning of year	**495,543**	1,467,305
C**ash and cash equivalents**, end of year	**$ 3,538,980**	$ 495,543

1. Nature of Operations and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Purpose of the College

The College of Veterinarians of British Columbia (the "College") is a statutory self-governing professional regulatory body created and empowered by the Veterinarians Act SBC 2010 c.15 (the "Act") of the Province of British Columbia. Its statutory mandate is to serve the public interest by regulating and upholding the standard of the practice of veterinary medicine in B.C. It does so by setting and enforcing standards of ethical and competent behaviour on the part of its registrants.

The Act and College By-laws including the Code of Ethics are the means by which the registrants of the College are licensed and regulated. The Act clarifies the public interest mandate and registration, complaint and discipline processes.

The College is a tax-exempt body under Section 149(1)(l) of the Income Tax Act.

The BC Veterinary Captive Insurance Co. Ltd. (the "Captive") is a subsidiary of the College. The College holds 10,266 (100%) of the common shares of the Captive. The Captive is incorporated under the Insurance (Captive Company) Act of British Columbia and is governed by the provisions of that Act and related Regulations which require the Captive to maintain a minimum shareholders equity of $300,000. The Captive was in compliance with the $300,000 requirement throughout the year ended June 30, 2023.

The College and Captive directors and officers were provided with liability insurance while providing their services.

The College's general operations are insured for liability with respect to bodily injury and property damage liability, products and completed operations liability, personal and advertising injury liability, employee benefits, tenants legal liability, and medical payments.

1. Nature of Operations and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Basis of Accounting

These consolidated financial statements have been prepared using Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations ("ASNPO").

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the College and the Captive. The Captive is wholly owned subsidiary of the College and intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated upon consolidation.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of deposits held with a financial institution that have a maturity of three months or less at date of acquisition.

Property and Equipment

Property and equipment are carried at cost less accumulated amortization. Amortization is calculated using the following annual rates:

Furniture and fixtures	- 20% declining balance basis
Computer hardware	- 20% declining balance basis
Computer software	- 20% declining balance basis
Office equipment	- 20% declining balance basis

Revenue

The College follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Annual registration fees are deferred and recognized over the registration year of January 1 to December 31.

Special levies are recognized as revenue when approved by Council and collectability is reasonably assured.

Examination are recognized when examination is taken. New registration and inspection fee revenues are recognized when levied.

Interest and other revenue is recognized in the year when earned.

Fines and penalties recognized when levied and deemed collectible.

Income Taxes

The Captive is a taxable entity and accounts for income taxes using the taxes payable method. The taxes payable basis is a method of accounting under which the Captive reports as an expense of the year only the cost of current income taxes for that year, determined in accordance with the rules established by the taxation authorities.

Provision for Unpaid and Future Claims

The College has historically recorded a provision for claims incurred during a particular fiscal year but not reported and any future claims based on amounts determined in accordance with accepted actuarial standards in Canada by qualified, independent actuaries. This reserve consists of discounted unpaid claims and loss adjustment expenses, estimated Provision for Adverse Deviation and policy liabilities in connection with unearned premiums.

For fiscal 2023/2023, Management has recognized a provision based on their best estimate of the liability, using the information prepared by the actuary at April 30, 2022 and any new activity and information obtained since that time.

1. Nature of Operations and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Financial Instruments

Financial instruments acquired or issued in an arms-length transaction are recorded at fair value upon initial recognition. Any equity instruments quoted in an active market are subsequently measured at fair value, with all other financial assets being subsequently measured at amortized cost less any impairment. All financial liabilities are subsequently measured at amortized cost. Financial assets are tested for impairment when changes in circumstances indicate the asset could be impaired.

Transaction costs on the acquisition, sale or issue of financial instruments are expensed, except in the case of financial instruments measured at amortized cost where they are charged to the financial instrument.

Donated Services

The College and its members benefit from donated services in the form of volunteer time for various committees in excess of per diems. The value of donated services is not recognized in these consolidated financial statements.

Discipline Matters

The College records legal fees related to disciplinary actions as they are incurred. Recoveries of fines and costs are recognized as revenue when all matters relating to their realization have been resolved, the fine or penalty has been levied and the amounts are deemed to be collectible.

Use of Estimates

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with these standards requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results may differ from those estimates. The most significant areas for estimates relate to legal contingencies, the provision for claims, collectability of fines and penalties for disciplinary matters, provisions and recovery of legal costs from third parties.

Employee Future Benefits Policy

The College has an RRSP contribution plan. The plan is a defined contribution plan and contributions are expensed as entitlement occurs. All eligible individuals are entitled to a contribution by the College to their RRSP in the amount of 4% of their annual earnings.

2. Cash and Cash Equivalents

The College and Captive's cash accounts are held at a credit union within British Columbia and bear interest at market rates.

3. Portfolio Investments

	2023	2022
Operating escalating 3 year term deposit - Vancity		
- Matures on October 10, 2023 at annual escalating rates of 0.60%, 0.70%, and 1.1%	**1,200,000**	1,200,000
Operating escalating 3 year term deposit - Vancity		
- Matured on December 11, 2022 at annual escalating rates of 0.60%, 0.70%, and 1.1%	**$ -**	$ 1,191,750
Operating term deposits - Vancity		
- Matured on October 30, 2022 at 0.25%	**-**	180,810
Operating term deposit - Vancity		
- Matured on April 6, 2023 at 1.25%	**-**	2,058,831
Accrued Interest	**9,511**	16,090
Vancity shares	**5,411**	5,156
	$ 1,214,922	4,652,637

The College’s investment policy is to invest conservatively with highly-rated counter-parties with the objective of preserving capital while earning a reasonable rate of return.

4. Property and Equipment

	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	2023 Net Book Value	2022 Net Book Value
Furniture and fixtures	**$ 25,910**	**$ 18,893**	**$ 7,017**	$ 8,771
Computer hardware	**175,918**	**141,519**	**34,399**	25,458
Office equipment	**49,415**	**44,625**	**4,790**	5,988
Member registration system	**223,620**	**109,126**	**114,494**	143,117
	$ 474,863	**$ 314,163**	**$ 160,700**	$ 183,334

5. Income Taxes

	2023	2022
Excess of revenues over expenses before income taxes	**$ (495,610)**	$ 58,628
Adjusted for tax differences:		
College amounts not subject to tax	**479,394**	(101,868)
Deficit of revenues over expenses for tax purposes	**(16,216)**	(43,240)
Statutory rate	**13.00%**	13.00%
Expected income tax expenses (recovery)	**(2,108)**	(5,621)
Loss carry-forwards not recognized	**2,108**	5,621
Income tax expense	**$ -**	$ -

6. Provision for Unpaid and Future Claims

	2023	2022
Net liability for unpaid losses (a)	**$ 6,512**	$ 6,512
Unpaid claims - losses recoverable (b)	**15,217**	1,328
Unpaid claims - unpaid losses recoverable	**84,371**	102,868
	$ 106,100	$ 110,708

(a) An actuarial valuation of the claim liabilities of the Captive was performed by an independent actuary for the year ended April 30, 2022. Management has estimated the liability as at June 30, 2023.

(b) The Captive has a confidential binding arrangement which indemnifies the Captive against all losses in excess of $50,000 per policy year pursuant to the policies issued to the College.

The College as sole shareholder of the Captive relies on section 76 of the *Veterinarians Act* and section 1.33(1) of its Bylaws to discuss details of the arrangement only in closed meetings of the College's Council in order to maintain confidentiality conferred by its enabling statute.

7. Employee Future Benefits

During the year, the College contributed $52,206 (2022 - $43,717) to employees' RRSPs.

Depending on their position, an employee is entitled to at least two weeks of annual paid vacation leave which increases depending on the position, length of employment and management discretion. These paid vacation days are accrued for as earned. As at June 30, 2023, the College accrued $78,037 (2022 - $60,101) for unused vacation and these amounts are included in accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

8. Commitments

The College entered into a premises lease for 7 years commencing November 1, 2017 and expiring on October 31, 2024. In addition, the College has entered into an equipment lease for 5.5 years commencing on March 1, 2022 and expiring on August 1, 2027. The minimum annual payments relating to these contracts are as follows:

	2023
2024	$ 74,860
2025	27,952
2026	3,420
2027	3,420
	$ 109,652

9. Financial Instruments Risks

The College, through its financial assets and liabilities, is exposed to various risks. The following analysis provides a measurement of those risks as at June 30, 2023. There has been no changes to these risks from the prior year.

(a) Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk that the College will incur a loss due to the failure by its debtors to meet their contractual obligations. Financial instruments that potentially subject the College to significant concentrations of credit risk consist primarily of cash and cash equivalents, portfolio investments and accounts receivable. The College limits its exposure to credit risk by placing its cash, cash equivalents and portfolio investments with high quality financial institutions, in accordance with investment policies adopted by Council. Additionally, the College mitigates credit risk related to accounts receivable by billing in advance of services, aggressive penalties on overdue accounts, and a review of overdue accounts on a regular basis. The College's losses recoverable are supported by an indemnity agreement with the Province.

(b) Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The College is not exposed to significant interest rate risk as all rates on cash, cash equivalents and portfolio investments are fixed.

(c) Capital Risk Management

As required by the Insurance (Captive Company) Act of British Columbia, the Captive must maintain a minimum shareholder's equity of $300,000. During the year ended June 30, 2023, the Captive complied with this requirement.



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Sign Up:

1. Go to www.homeweb.ca
2. Enter and find/select "College of Veterinainas of British Columbia."
3. Enter your basic personal details (name, e-mail address, password, date of birth, gender)
4. Identify how you are related to the CVBC (member employee)

Log in using your email address and password