



**SAVT Annual General Meeting
Travelodge Hotel, November 3rd, 2012**

Attending: Mel Browning, Tamara McLoughlin, Nicole Wood, Nadine Schueller, Cindy Toy, Patricia Perrin, Carolyn Cartwright, Shelinda Hill, Jane Rathgeber, Carla Hudy, Tanya Weber, Jennifer Garbutt, Susan Thiessen, Sandy Parsons, Lesley Coutts, Arlee Deschene, Kathleen Conkie, Tawnia Sawatsky, Paula Mason, Karla Anne Hadlow, Annette Lorenz, Brenda Smith, Corrie Stoll, Nora Cochrane, Lois Ridgeway, Brianne Schneider, Nicole Slater, Jaime Ratt, Mia Turner, Bernice Ruf, Taylor Vessey, Star Winter, Cherie Anderson, Tracey Lemieux, Krista Goebel, Brenda Beierle, Bobbie Beuker, Babie Dean, Jodi Becquet, Laura Ostrander, Peggy Nelles, Collette Schick, Megan Sparks, Brianna Thiemann, Carlamae Ashby, Katie Smale, Lori Huagrud, Shelagh Barclay, Brandi Tebb, Kimberly Foster, Kevin Hein, Caitlyn Hauser, Leah Deans, Karen Watson, Megan Matte, Amanda Mingeault, Jodi Walchuk, Sheila Kucher, Darlene Ford, Susan Bernauer, Tania Friesen, Erin de Connick Smith, Chrissie Engel, Lynne Dyck, Chelsea Amy, Judy Currie

1. Tawnia Sawatsky called the meeting called to order at 12:40pm
2. Amend the agenda by adding sub section c) to New Business. Paula Mason made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Nadine Schueller seconded.
3. Minutes of the last Annual General meeting approved. Motion to approve the 2011 annual general meeting made by Chrissie Engel. Seconded by Paula Mason.
4. 1st call for nominations for BOD

Tawnia Sawatsky and Paula Mason volunteered their names to stand for Member at Large. Darlene Ford volunteered her name for Financial Officer. Patricia Perrin volunteered for Secretary. Tamara McLoughlin nominated Nicole Wood for President elect; Nicole let her name stand for that position.

5. Presidents Report

This year the Board of Directors focused on finishing several projects which started last year.

We have worked very hard to resolve our logo issue. We are excited to present our new logo today and are hoping that it is voted in. I have spent a year and a half working on the logo upgrade and am extremely happy with the new design. I feel it is a new look but maintains many of the qualities from our old logo.

This year the Board of directors have decided to cancel our subscription with TechLife Magazine and will start receiving Canadian Vet Tech Magazine in January. Over the last years we have run into several management issues with TechLife, but also we feel as though the quality of this magazine has declined. The Board of Directors feels that Canadian Vet Tech will be a suitable substitute for our members. I would like to encourage our members to write articles and submit them to Canadian Vet Tech; they are always willing to consider them.

We have been busy with updating our website, standard operating procedures, policies and bylaws. These updates are a continual process and we hope that by dedicating our time to maintaining them we are creating a more efficient SAVT. I would like to thank Nadine and Tamara for their hard work in these areas.



Lastly, I would like to say thank you and goodbye to Tamara McLaughlin, our Past President, from the Board of Directors. Tamara signed up as President-Elect in 2008 and she has given her blood, tears and sweat to the SAVT. I truly feel that the SAVT benefited greatly from having Tamara in the President position for 2 years in a row. Her knowledge in regards to bylaws, policies, and the CAAHTT has really helped improve SAVT. So thanks Tamara you are a role model for all Presidents to come!

6. Treasurers (Financial Officers) Report

Nadine presented a slide show that outlined our financial position as an organization and membership changes.

Active Membership fees:

November –Dec 31, 2012 - \$170 (Early Discount-increase of \$4)

Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2013 - \$180 (regular Price)

February, 2013 - \$180 + \$50 (late fee)

March 1 – Struck- as per Bylaw 5.11

5.11 Dues and Fees

5.11.1 The membership fees for all categories of Members will increase automatically by 3% each year and shall be due on January 1st of each year.

5.11.2 Any Member, who does not pay their fees within sixty (60) days of the first of January of each year, shall automatically cease to be a member of the Association. But any such member may on payment of all unpaid dues or fees, be reinstated upon approval of the Board of Directors

New this Year:

If renewed online but not paid, fees will be charged as if not renewed.

i.e.) renewed online Dec 1, 2012 for early payment of \$170, but no payment received by January 1st, extra \$10 will apply OR renewed online January 1st, but payment not received by March first- \$50 late fee will apply! If renewed on last day, for example Dec 31, 2012 for early discount- payment must be postmarked within 10 days!!

Active members as of September 30, 2012 - 365

Non-practicing: 4

Student: All student members are free

- a) Jane Rathgeber made a motion to approve the financial statement for 2011-2012. Jodi Walchuck seconded. All in favor. Carried.
- b) ¹Tamara made a motion at the AGM on Saturday November 3rd, 2012 the members voted to appoint an external auditor for a review of the fiscal year ending 2013 or a full audit as required by Saskatchewan justice. Seconded by Chrissie Engel. All in favor. Carried.

7. 2nd call for nominations for the BOD

No additional names for positions.

8. CAAHTT Report

Good afternoon, I am Carolyn Cartwright & this is Shelinda Hill & we are very pleased to be your new CAAHTT directors representing SAVT on the Canadian Association of Animal Health Technologists & Technicians. For a little history, the Canadian Association of Animal Health Technologists and Technicians was founded in 1989 by representatives of the provincial associations in Canada. It is the

¹ Nadine Schueller looked up the non-profit act. What Lois was referring to with income over \$100,000 needing an audit- that only applies to Charities, not member non-profits. The Association is still ok with just reviews, or even internal audits.



joining of these associations that make CAAHTT truly a national body discussing issues with a national focus and playing an integral part in international issues.

Mission Statement:

“To be the national and international voice providing coordination and resources to support our members in the delivery of animal health care services.”

Vision Statement:

“CAAHTT is the national voice providing leadership and resources to strengthen the Animal Health Technologist / Veterinary Technician profession.”

One of CAAHTT's attributes is the networking that takes place between the associations. Communication is huge and we can share our struggles and successes. Ultimately associations can apply ideas to their associations and can grow and learn across Canada from the shared knowledge. CAAHTT is facilitating the perfect venue for this to happen. CAAHTT secures positions on the committees as a national voice that can make a real difference for AHT/VT's in Canada. Provincial Associations cannot do this alone.

As RVTs we should not just think of ourselves as provincial members, but of Canadian members. There was a time when the Veterinary Technician was unrecognized at a local level and now we are seen as professionals at a national & international level, a proud accomplishment.

I attended the annual general meeting in July in Montreal, which was held in conjunction with the CVMA conference. This is a very exciting time for CAAHTT, with all provinces being in attendance at the meeting. Everyone in attendance is working towards the goal of all the provinces/territories being an active, national voice for technicians in our country. CAAHTT is in the process of affiliation agreements to accommodate each provinces individual by-laws/legislature, etc. There is consideration with this of possibly implementing a new fee structure. Currently, OAVT has signed a term agreement with CAAHTT (making all provinces members of CAAHTT) while the affiliation agreement is being finalized. I am pleased to announce that currently all provinces are currently members in CAAHTT.

In addition to the AGM, there was a very productive strategic planning session. A committee has been formed to work on implementing a plan to pursue and move ahead on suggestions that came forward at the strategic plan. The first of these is to review the CAAHTT vision and mission statements.

A strong united voice nationally and internationally, will help promote and recognize our profession and its members. This year, the CVMA & CAAHTT have each appointed a representative to be a liaison for each group's council. This is a positive step, working together in the animal health field and promoting the professions. Michele Moroz is the CAAHTT rep and Dr. Troye McPherson is the CVMA rep.

CAAHTT has 3 awards presented annually; the AHT/VT of the Year, the Sandy Hass Appreciation Award & the Recognition Award. At this evenings SAVT banquet and awards, CAAHTT will be presenting 2 awards to SAVT members; 2012 Sandy Hass Appreciation Award and the 2012 Recognition Award



What an honor it will be to have 2 of our provincial members recognized at a national level.

There was lengthy discussion with regards to TECHLIFE magazine, and CAAHTT's role with this. CAAHTT is co-owner, and ATSAQ is managing and doing the publication of it. They are looking at some options and this is currently being reviewed. SAVT is not planning to continue with the Techlife publication.

There was a bylaw change at the AGM, so that any province that is not in good standing; ex behind on dues, that they will lose their voting privileges until they are again in good standing. Many of the provinces struggle as associations. The legislature is not mandatory membership/registration, so therefore they struggle to maintain numbers, etc. The CVMA also struggles with this issue.

October 14-21 was National Vet Tech Week, great pride in celebrating this week to recognize our profession. Health Canada posted National Vet Tech Week / CAAHTT on their website's calendar of events: linking with CAAHTT in promoting this event.

The office administrator, Sarah, is working 2 days/week for CAAHTT and 3 days/week for CVMA and is working out of the CVMA office. She has updated the website and is working with the CVMA manager with regards to finances, sponsorship & marketing. The current membership fee is \$22 per member, translated that is less than \$2/month, which is less than 1 Tim's coffee per month to have a national voice of our profession.

It is only 2 years until a milestone is reached, of the 25 year anniversary. The 2013 CAAHTT AGM is in July, in Victoria, BC in conjunction with the CVMA annual convention.

9. SVMA Report

Dr. Judy Currie introduced herself to the members as the new SVMA Registrar and Secretary/Treasurer. She has an open door policy and would be glad to meet with anyone that has any questions or concerns. The SVMA are having a council meeting next week and will be discussing the position of SAVT liaison.

10. Election of Directors:

President Elect- Nicole Wood
Financial Officer- Darlene Ford
Member at large- Paula Mason
Member at large- Tawnia Sawatsky
Secretary- Patricia Perrin

11. Old Business

- a) \$100 Charity

The members were asked to recommend charities that were to receive our donation of \$100. New Hope Dog rescue with a vote of 7. Ronald McDonald house with a vote of 14. Wildlife Rescue with a vote of 14. The winner being The Children's Hospital with 16 votes. Next year we will have a list of charities that have received the donation in the past posted for all the members to see.

12. New Business



a) Bylaw changes

Motion #1- Code of Ethics, Professional Department

~~4. No member will violate Section 2 of the Veterinary Act of Saskatchewan.~~ No member will violate Section 17(1) as defined in Section 2 of the veterinary Act of Saskatchewan.

Chrissie Engel made the motion to change the above. Paula Mason seconded. All in favor. Carried.

Motion #2- Article V, Membership

5.1. The Board of Directors shall approve or disapprove all membership applications either: Active, Associate, Non-Practicing, Temporary, Student or Honorary.

Bernice Ruf made the motion to change the above. Kathleen Conkey seconded. All in favor. Carried

Motion #3- Article V, Membership, 5.2. Active membership

~~5.2.1 f) Application for membership must be completed within six months of writing the examination. If not completed after six months, the stages of application for membership must be repeated.~~

Paula Mason made the motion to strike the above. Amanda Migneault seconded. All in favor. Carried.

Motion #4- Article VI, Board of Directors

6.1. The affairs of the Association shall be managed by the Board of Directors. There shall be a Past-President, President, President-Elect, Secretary, Financial Officer, and Members at Large ~~and CAAHTT Directors~~. At any time the Board shall be no less than three(3), and no more than ten(10), each of whom at the time of his election and throughout his term of office shall be an Active Member of the Association.

Lois Ridgeway made a motion to change the above. Nicole Wood seconded. All in favor. Carried.

Motion #5- Article VI, Board of Directors

6.3. Term of Office ~~for the Board of Directors~~

The term of office for the Board of Directors will commence at the adjournment of the Annual General Meeting at which ~~he is~~ they are elected.

The Secretary and Financial Officer will serve two(2) year terms.

The Past-President, President, President-Elect and Members-at-Large will serve one(1) year terms.

Any Director may hold a particular office for two(2) year terms; ~~he~~ they may then seek another office after the completion of the term(s); ~~he~~ they may aspire to the same office after being absent from the office for one full year term.

~~The CAAHTT Directors will serve two(2), three(3) year terms commencing on July 1 following appointment.~~

~~The CAAHTT Directors will serve on the CAAHTT Board no more than the two(2), three(3) year terms, he may aspire to the same office after being absent from the office for one full term.~~

Bernice Ruf made the motion to change the above. Kathleen Conkey seconded. All in favor. Carried.

Motion #6- Article VII, Officers, Terms and Duties of the President

7.1.1 The President shall serve a one(1) year term which is automatically followed by a one(1) year term as Past-President. In the event of a vacancy, the immediate Past-president shall succeed to the Presidency to fill the remaining term and may, thereafter complete the immediate Past-President term. If the Past President is called on to do this more than one(1) term then they will have the option to decline and the Board of Directors may appoint an SAVT member in good standing to fill the position.



Tawnia Sawatsky made the motion to make the above changes. Sheila Kucher seconded. All in favor. Carried.

Motion #7- Article VII, Officers, Terms and Duties of the CAAHTT Directors

7.7.2. The CAAHTT Director's role as an **Ex-officio** member of the SAVT Board of Directors is to be the liaison between SAVT and CAAHTT. A CAAHTT Director will be required to give a report at each SAVT Board of Directors meeting.

7.7.3. Two members will be appointed to the Canadian Association of Animal Health Technologists and Technicians(CAAHTT) Board by the SAVT Board of Directors. The CAAHTT Directors will each serve a three(3) year term commencing ~~June 1~~ **May 1** following appointment.

Jane Rathgeber made the motion to make the above changes. Peggy Nells seconded. All in favor. Carried.

b) New Logo

Jane Rathgeber made a motion to accept the new logo as put forth by the board. Tawnia Sawatsky seconded. All in favor. Carried. The members agreed the Membership cards will be changed as new ones are issued instead of a mass change.

c) Sunlife Insurance

The Board of Directors had made a motion to accept Sunlife's proposal to introduce an Association group insurance plan. Individual members may purchase insurance at a group rate through Sunlife. The SAVT will receive ½ the commission and will provide a link on our website. SAVT and Sunlife will be launching this December 1st 2012.

13. Chrissie Engel made a motion for the meeting to adjourn at 1:42pm.