

# ***MONTHLY NEWSLETTER***

**ISSUE 11**

— <https://cpvma.ca> —

**APRIL 2025**

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## **Register for the 2025 Symposium - May 2<sup>nd</sup> to May 4<sup>th</sup> !**

The monthly newsletter is your go-to source for all things CPVMA. Stay connected with event updates, read articles of inspiring experiences shared by pre-vet and current vet students, new opportunities for animal experience. Keep up with our news and highlights to empower your journey into veterinary medicine. All our newsletters will be available to read in our Newsletter Archives on our website. Thank you for being a part of our community!

### **Highlights of this issue:**

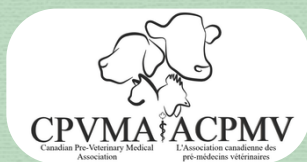
- **2025 Symposium schedule**
- **In-person option details**
- **Speakers of Symposium - Part 2**
- **Executive Spotlight - Chantel**
- **Merchandise store now open**
- **Article of the month**
- **Symposium sponsors reveal**

## **Executive Team Updates**

With the 2025 Symposium just around the corner, the executive team has been hard at work behind the scenes to bring you an unforgettable experience. We've been finalizing the event schedule, coordinating with our incredible lineup of speakers and generous sponsors, and designing our vFairs virtual symposium platform to ensure it's both engaging and user-friendly. Beyond these key preparations, we've also been crafting promotional materials, launching our official merchandise store, and brainstorming creative ways to connect with attendees—whether you'll be joining us virtually or in person. Excitement is in the air, and we can't wait to share more in the days leading up to the 2025 Symposium. Stay tuned!

By your senior VP of Public Relations





# Symposium schedule



The official 2025 Symposium schedule is now available, outlining the planned events and sessions for the days ahead.

**\*\*The time displayed here is in Eastern Standard Time (Toronto)!**

## DAY 1: MAY 2ND, 2025 (FRIDAY)

**5:00 PM - 5:50 PM** Opening Ceremony & Keynote Speaker  
*Dr. Crystal Lee*

**6:00 PM - 7:15 PM** Sustainability Panel  
Moderator: *Dr. Juan Orjuela*  
Panellists: *Tracey Brown, Dr. Colleen Fisher, Dr. Kristy Haines, Maria-Victoria Walker-Genovese, and Dr. Michelle Yee*

**7:30 PM - 8:00 PM** CPVMA Q&A & Kahoot Game  
*CPVMA Executive Team*

## DAY 2: MAY 3RD, 2025 (SATURDAY)

**10:00 AM - 10:50 AM** Lecture: Managing a Vet Practice or Climate Action  
*Dr. Sue Burlatschenko or Dr. Matthew Richardson*

**11:00 AM - 11:50 AM** Vet Schools Admission Presentation  
*2 Vet schools*

**12:00 PM - 12:50 PM** Lecture: Public's Understanding  
*Dr. Christian Catalano*

**1:00 PM - 1:50 PM** Coffee Chat: Sponsor Networking and Lunch Break

**2:00 PM - 2:50 PM** Lecture: Environmental Sustainability  
*Dr. Diccon Westworth*

**3:00 PM - 3:50 PM** Lecture: Climate Action  
*Dr. Diccon Westworth*



# Symposium schedule



**\*\*The time displayed here is in Eastern Standard Time (Toronto)!**

**4:00 PM -  
5:20 PM**

Vet Schools Admission Presentation  
*3 Vet schools*

**5:30 PM -  
6:20 PM**

Lecture: Public's Understanding  
*Tracey Lawrence & Antonia Laoutaris*

## DAY 3: MAY 4TH, 2025 (SUNDAY)

**10:00 AM -  
10:50 AM**

Lecture: Financial Sustainability or Community Outreach  
*Dr. Colleen Fisher or Dr. Sue Kilborn*

**11:00 AM -  
11:50 AM**

Vet Schools Admission Presentation  
*2 Vet schools*

**12:00 PM -  
12:50 PM**

Lecture: Metal Health  
*Dr. Stef Lim or Melanie Savage*

**1:00 PM -  
1:50 PM**

Coffee Chat: Sponsor Networking and  
Lunch Break

**2:00 PM -  
2:50 PM**

Lecture: Sustaining Animal Welfare (AW) or Environmental Sustainability (ES)  
*AW: Dr. Jim Berry or Dr. Bettina Bobsien, ES: Dr. Stephanie Schiavone*

**3:00 PM -  
4:20 PM**

Lab: Pathology  
*Dr. Emma Borkowski*

**4:30 PM -  
5:20 PM**

Vet Schools Admission Presentation  
*2 Vet schools*

**5:30 PM -  
6:20 PM**

Lecture: Effects of Climate Change  
*Dr. Stephen Atkinson*

**6:30 PM -  
7:20 PM**

Closing speaker/Announcements  
*Dr. Tracey Young*



# SYMPOSIUM REGISTRATION

Join us for the fourth CPVMA Pre-Veterinary Symposium, a hybrid event that will bring together leading experts and students from the field of veterinary medicine. Come learn about sustainability practices that will help this vital industry keep thriving now and for future generations. This is a unique opportunity to network, learn, and gain valuable insights from industry leaders. The symposium will take place on May 2-4, 2025. Don't miss your chance to be a part of this groundbreaking event. Register now to secure your spot and be a part of shaping the future of veterinary medicine!

🔗 Register now: <https://cpvmasyposium.vfairs.ca/en/#about>  
Or visit the 2025 Symposium tab at our website [cpvma.ca](https://cpvma.ca)



## SUSTAINABILITY IN VET MED

📅 MAY 2ND - MAY 4TH, 2025

📍 **VFAIR OR IN-PERSON:** 489 QUEEN ST E,  
TORONTO, ON, M5A 1V1



**VIA VFAIR**

SPONSORED  
BY



Join us in person at the  
symposium to have a fun  
networking weekend!



Refreshments will be  
provided on May 2nd!

Join us for a  
complimentary lunch on  
May 3rd and 4th!



**Location: 4/F, 489 Queen St E,  
Toronto, ON M5A 1V1**

2-4  
MAY

🕒 MAY 2<sup>ND</sup>: 4:30PM - 8:00PM

🕒 MAY 3<sup>RD</sup>: 10:00AM - 6:20PM

🕒 MAY 4<sup>TH</sup>: 10:00AM - 7:20PM



**Parking is free! Parents can  
attend without registration!**

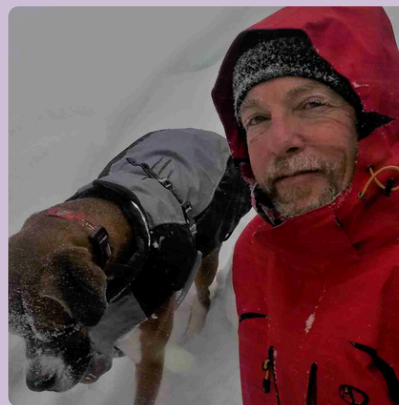


# Meet Our Speakers

We are excited to continue with Part 2 of our speaker introductions for this year's Symposium! These outstanding individuals are bringing diverse insights and expertise you won't want to miss. To learn more about each speaker and their topics, check out our social media channels or visit the registration link!



**Dr. Stephen Atkinson**  
*Topic: Effects of Climate Change*



**Dr. Jim Berry**  
*Topic: Sustaining Animal Welfare*



**Dr. Bettina Bobsien**  
*Topic: Sustaining Animal Welfare*



**Dr. Matthew Richardson**  
*Topic: Climate Action*



# Meet Our Speakers



Tracy Brown  
*Sustainability Panelist*



Dr. Kristy Haines  
*Sustainability Panelist*



Maria-Victoria Walker-Genovese  
*Sustainability Panelist*



Dr. Michelle Yee  
*Sustainability Panelist*



# Executive Spotlight

## Meet Chantel

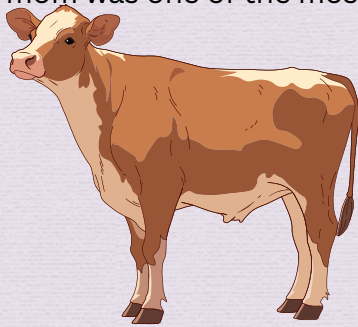
Hello pre-vet students!

My name is Chantel, and I'm currently the Co-President of the CPVMA. In this role, I co-lead our executive meetings and oversee the sponsorship, fundraising, and finance teams. My main focus is to support these teams throughout their term and ensure they have everything they need to succeed.

I graduated from the University of Guelph with a BSc in Animal Biology in 2022, and went on to complete my MSc in Population Medicine, also at the University of Guelph, in 2024.

My favourite animals are cows—especially Jerseys—but don't tell my dogs that, haha! I've always been drawn to large animal medicine and hope to become a large animal vet working with farmers in rural communities. At the same time, I'm open to other areas in vet med like wildlife conservation, epidemiology, or even academia.

During my third and fourth years of undergrad, I worked as a research assistant on dairy cow studies. One of the most memorable experiences was scrubbing in to assist with a fat tissue biopsy and helping prepare the collected samples for histology. Another unforgettable moment came while working on a dairy farm, when I assisted with a difficult calving. The relief and joy after a successful delivery of both the calf and the mom was one of the most rewarding experiences I've ever had.

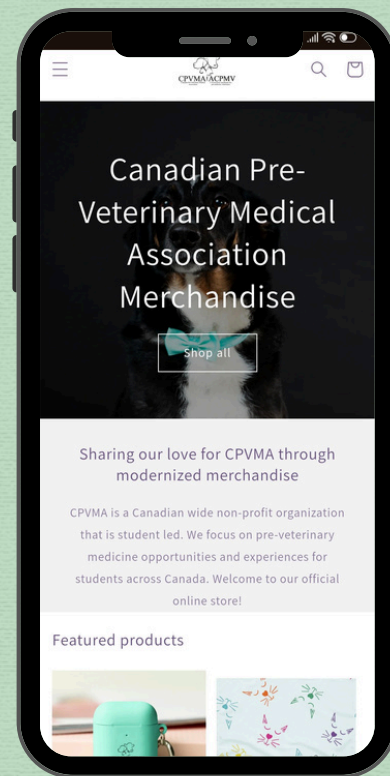


### Advice for pre-vet students?

Believe in yourself. If this is what you truly want, know that you can do it. The only person standing in your way is you. Surround yourself with people who uplift and support you. Lift others up, too—we're all in this together, and one day we'll be colleagues. Don't let rejection stop you. I've been rejected from vet school three times, and now I'm taking a different route, applying to the University of Calgary's vet program this fall. Rejection is just redirection. Keep going. I believe in you. Good luck this exam season—you've got this!



# SHOP THE OFFICIAL CPVMA MERCHANDISE STORE – OPEN EXCLUSIVELY FOR APRIL AND MAY!



🌟 **Stickers**—Brighten up your notebooks, laptops, and more with a splash of CPVMA spirit!

🐾 **Pet Bandanas**—Adorable and stylish accessory for your furry friends

🧢 **Hats for Every Style**—From baseball caps to beanies, keep it cool (and cozy) with CPVMA-branded headwear

👕 **Comfy Clothes**—Study in ultimate comfort with our soft tees, hoodies, and sweatpants

**SHOP NOW**

Please support us as we are a non-profit organization, and every purchase helps us continue our mission to serve the pre-vet community. Shop now and show the world you're part of the CPVMA community!



# Article of the Month

As temperatures rise, external parasites such as fleas, ticks, and mites become more active, posing significant risks to pets. These pests can cause severe itching, skin infections, anemia, and even transmit dangerous diseases. Fleas multiply rapidly, infesting both pets and their surroundings, while ticks—found in grassy or wooded areas—can spread illnesses like Lyme disease and must be removed with care. Ear mites, common in young cats, lead to intense scratching and secondary infections. Mange mites (sarcoptic and demodectic) primarily affect dogs, causing severe skin irritation and hair loss. Effective prevention, prompt treatment, and veterinary guidance are essential to control infestations and safeguard all household pets.

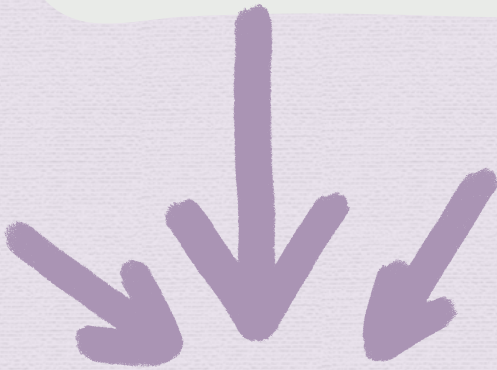


PHOTO FROM CANVA



..... Thank You Sponsors .....





# ..... Thank You Sponsors .....



**On behalf of the CPVMA team, we sincerely thank you for supporting our organization as well as being a part of our 2025 symposium!**





# The Canadian Pre-Veterinary Medical Association

## WHO ARE WE?

The CPVMA is a student led, nonprofit organization that aims to connect the pre-veterinary community across Canada. Our goal is to provide resources to pre-veterinary students and give them the opportunity to network with fellow peers and professionals in the field.

## OUR EVENTS

- Virtually online and accessible from anywhere in Canada
- Feature veterinary professionals and current veterinary students
- Prepare pre-veterinary students for success in their future endeavors

## SPONSORS NEEDED!!

CPVMA would not be possible without our generous sponsors. If you or your organization is interested in becoming a sponsor for the year 2024-2025 or have any questions please email us at [cpvma.acpmv@gmail.com](mailto:cpvma.acpmv@gmail.com)!

## STAY INFORMED!

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 [www.cpvma.ca](http://www.cpvma.ca)

