



CANADIAN VETERINARY
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE
DES MÉDECINS VÉTÉRIAIRES

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 21, 2010

Canadian veterinarians receive national awards for their contributions to veterinary medicine

OTTAWA — Several Canadian veterinarians have been awarded for their extraordinary contributions to the veterinary profession and to animal health and welfare. These individuals were recognized during the annual Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) Awards Ceremony in Calgary, Alta.

2010 CVMA AWARD RECIPIENTS:

CVMA Small Animal Practitioner Award

The CVMA Small Animal Practitioner Award, sponsored by Petsecure Pet Health Insurance, encourages progress in the field of small animal medicine and surgery. **Dr. Susan Little** is an outstanding advocate for feline medicine. Dr. Little is an international lecturer in feline medicine, part-owner of two feline specialty practices in Ottawa, Ont., and President of the Winn Feline Foundation, a non-profit organization that supports studies to improve cat health. With a strong interest in feline welfare, she provides medical care for un-owned cats in Ottawa animal shelters and is actively involved in the "Association of Shelter Veterinarians". Dr. Little is currently writing and editing a feline medicine textbook to be published in 2011. An outstanding advocate for feline medicine, thoroughly engaged in public animal health, Dr. Little is known, respected and sought after throughout the world for her expertise.

CVMA Humane Award

The CVMA Humane Award, sponsored by Intervet Schering-Plough Animal Health, is awarded to an individual whose work is judged to have contributed significantly to the welfare and well-being of animals. **Dr. Bill Ballantyne** has had a long career in animal agriculture and the food of animal origins industry, working for companies in meat processing and in government. Throughout his career, he worked to improve the welfare of animals on the farm and during transportation, lairage and slaughter. Even in retirement he continues to work for farm animal welfare through his leadership in the newly formed Canadian Swine Health Board.

CVMA President's Award

The CVMA President's Award is given on occasion to recognize an individual for his or her dedication and exceptional contribution to the Association. **Dr. Gordon Dittberner's** lobbying of the federal government for infrastructure funding was instrumental in the expansion and upgrading of Canadian veterinary schools. He advocated with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the importance of creating a National Aquatic Animal Health Strategy, delivered through the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. Dr. Dittberner lobbied for the development of the Public Health Agency of Canada as a separate agency and for a strong involvement of the veterinary profession in this new agency. He initiated and provided crucial guidance on the CVMA's Canadian Veterinary Reserve as Project Manager. For the last 10 years, he has been CVMA's Senior Advisor of Veterinary Affairs which has involved him in most of the CVMA's policy issues and government relations.

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Hill's Public Relations Award

The Hill's Public Relations Award, sponsored by Hill's Pet Nutrition Canada Inc., recognizes an individual or group for their work towards enhancing the public image of the veterinary profession. **Dr. Danny Joffe** is a small animal practitioner who is recognized by many as the 'go-to' veterinary spokesperson for television, newspaper and radio journalists seeking more information about a veterinary issue or pet care story. He has addressed controversial public opinions and medical debates with integrity, clarity, judicious explanations and statements. Dr. Joffe has been awarded in recognition of his exceptional work in representing veterinarians, veterinary medicine, and responsible pet ownership to the public.

Intervet Schering-Plough Award

The Intervet Schering-Plough Award was established by Intervet Schering-Plough Animal Health to enhance progress in large animal medicine and surgery. **Dr. Herman Barkema** is a Professor in Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases and Head of the Department of Production Animal Health at UCVM. His research program focuses on prevention and control of diseases in cattle herds, with a special interest in mastitis and Johne's disease. He leads one of the two research themes in the Canadian Bovine Mastitis Research Network, is a Board member of the National Mastitis Council and the Chair of its International Advisory Committee. He also leads the Research committee of the Canadian Voluntary Johne's Disease Program, and leads and participates in several large projects on this disease.

R.V.L. Walker Award

The R.V.L. Walker Award is presented annually to the president of the Students of the CVMA (SCVMA) for his/her work to promote student interests in the Association. There are two recipients of this award – the plaque is presented to the President of the Students of the CVMA and the cash award is made available to the veterinary college where the President is registered in order to provide financial assistance to a student veterinarian in financial need. The recipient of the plaque portion of this year's award, **Ms. Ariane Bornais**, is the 2009-10 president of the Students of the CVMA and is entering her fourth-year student at the Faculté de médecine vétérinaire in St-Hyacinthe, Que.

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The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) is the national voice for the veterinary profession dedicated to serving and representing the veterinarians of Canada. To learn more about CVMA visit www.canadianveterinarians.net.

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