



CANADIAN VETERINARY  
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## NEWS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 16, 2019

### Newfoundland and Labrador Veterinary Centre Receives National Award for Excellence

TORONTO, ON. – The Veterinary Specialty Centre of Newfoundland and Labrador (VSCNL), has been recognized as *Practice of the Year* by the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) for outstanding achievement with their community.

“We would like to thank the CVMA for recognizing the efforts of the VSCNL team,” said John Mackenzie, co-owner of VSCNL. “We would also like to thank our incredibly talented and caring team who works hard to care for each patient, never hesitating to give back to our community.”

Dr. Trina Bailey, founder and managing director of the VSCNL, grew up in Newfoundland, then completed a Bachelor of Science at Dalhousie University before her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Prince Edward Island’s Atlantic Veterinary College (AVC) in 2000. She worked at AVC as a clinical instructor and research assistant, followed by a small animal rotating internship in 2002. In 2003, Dr. Bailey and her family moved to Baton Rouge, La. where she completed a surgical residency and a Master of Science degree in 2006, subsequently becoming a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons in 2007.

After returning to Canada, Dr. Bailey worked as an AVC professor and travelled to Newfoundland a few times a year, providing surgical services. During these trips, the need for advanced veterinary care in the province was evident as travel with sick and injured pets is difficult and sometimes impossible. In 2014, Dr. Bailey moved back to her home province, with her family, to provide full-time referral animal surgical services. This grew to include radiology and 24-hour emergency services, as well as visiting specialists in other areas. The VSCNL is the only referral hospital and emergency centre in the province and was opened to help provide advanced care with the goal of no pet having to leave home for their care.

“The CVMA Practice of the Year Award, established in 2013 and sponsored by Scotiabank, is just one of CVMA’s annual awards recognizing great contributions to the Canadian veterinary profession,” states Dr. Terri Chotowetz, CVMA President. “The VSCNL is the only hospital in Newfoundland and Labrador providing access to advanced specialist, diagnostic, and treatment options 24-hours, 365 days a year, lessening the financial impact of travel for pet owners, as well as the stress of travel for both the pet and its owner.

In addition to providing industry-leading services and care, VSCNL also works to give back to the community through numerous charitable activities throughout the year including sponsorship of local amateur sports, the SPCA St. John’s, St. John’s Regatta, and local food banks.

– more –

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“It’s a great honour to be recognized by the CVMA,” said Dr. Trina Bailey, co-owner of VSCNL. “Our vision was to create a centre of excellence to provide specialty and emergent care allowing pets and pet owners to remain in the province. It was also incredibly important for us to build a team who was committed to the community in which we live and work. It’s a wonderful feeling to see this dream in action.”

*CVMA’s Practice of the Year Award, sponsored by Scotiabank, recognizes a veterinary practice team for outstanding achievement within their local community. Such achievements may include innovations in provision of veterinary services, commitment to work-life balance, meaningful community or charitable involvement, or implementation of 'green' practice procedures.*

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*The Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) is the national and international voice for Canada’s veterinarians, providing leadership and advocacy for veterinary medicine. Each year, CVMA proudly recognizes individuals and groups for their outstanding contribution to veterinary medicine. Visit [canadianveterinarians.net](http://canadianveterinarians.net) to learn more about CVMA.*

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