



CANADIAN VETERINARY  
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION  
L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE  
DES MÉDECINS VÉTÉRINAIRES

339, rue Booth Street  
Ottawa (Ontario) K1R 7K1  
t • (800) 567-2862  
f • (613) 236-9681  
admin@cvma-acmv.org

## NEWS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 16, 2019

### Alberta Veterinarian Honoured for Dedicating Entire Career to Canadian Cattle

TORONTO, ON. – Dr. Karin Orsel was awarded the 2019 Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) *Merck Veterinary Award* for dedicating her entire career to the Canadian cattle industry, including both beef and dairy cattle.

“Dr. Orsel has a successful independent and collaborative research program, using her training as a veterinary epidemiologist to investigate diseases in cattle, with a primary focus on lameness as well as collaborative studies on Johnne’s disease,” states Dr. John Kastelic, Professor and Head of the Department of Production Animal Health at the University of Calgary – Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (UCVM). “She also monitors disease transmission between domestic and wild animals, which has had an impact on animal health and welfare and also human health as some of the diseases are known to affect humans.”

Dr. Orsel completed a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine at Utrecht University in 1996 and did locums in several veterinary clinics in the Netherlands. In 1997, she returned to her alma mater to work in the ambulatory clinic of the Department of Farm Animal Health. Her involvement in an epidemiologic study during a foot and mouth disease outbreak in 2001 motivated her to enroll in graduate studies on this topic and she received a Master of Science in Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics in 2004, and subsequently a PhD in 2007.

The following year, Dr. Orsel, with her husband, moved to Canada to join UCVM where she focuses on epidemiology, concentrating on infectious cattle diseases. She passed the European College of Bovine Herd Management’s board exam in 2009 and, currently, Dr. Orsel leads the UCVM’s Cattle Health Research Group as a veterinary epidemiologist.

“Dr. Orsel is a dedicated instructor and supervisor who has mentored numerous veterinary students and graduate students aspiring to work within the Canadian food animal industry,” expresses Dr. John Campbell Professor in the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine. “She was the recipient of several different University of Calgary awards, she established a robust research program, and made numerous presentations to both the veterinary and agricultural communities, all accomplished in the short time she’s been at UCVM, approximately 10 years.”

Dr. Orsel is well known in the scientific community and goes to great lengths to disseminate her research findings to the scientific and veterinary communities, as well as numerous producer and industry forums. She has a great reputation for her knowledge, expertise, ability to communicate, and willingness to be involved.

– more –

**One Profession, One Strong Voice.  
Une profession, une seule voix.**

canadianveterinarians.net  
veterinairesaucanada.net

CanadianVeterinaryMedicalAssociation  
@CanVetMedAssoc • @Assoccanmedvet



CANADIAN VETERINARY  
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION  
L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE  
DES MÉDECINS VÉTÉRINAIRES

339, rue Booth Street  
Ottawa (Ontario) K1R 7K1  
t • (800) 567-2862  
f • (613) 236-9681  
admin@cvma-acmv.org

*The Merck Veterinary Award, sponsored by Merck Animal Health, is presented to a veterinarian whose work in large animal practice, clinical research, or basic sciences is judged to have contributed significantly to the advancement of large animal medicine and surgery, including herd health management.*

– 30 –

*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.*

**Contact:** Alexandra Schlesiger, Assistant Manager of Communications & Public Relations  
Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA)  
613-236-1162 ext. 125  
[aschlesiger@cvma-acmv.org](mailto:aschlesiger@cvma-acmv.org)



**One Profession, One Strong Voice.  
Une profession, une seule voix.**

[canadianveterinarians.net](http://canadianveterinarians.net)  
[veterinairesaucanada.net](http://veterinairesaucanada.net)

 [CanadianVeterinaryMedicalAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/CanadianVeterinaryMedicalAssociation)  
 [@CanVetMedAssoc](https://twitter.com/CanVetMedAssoc) • [@Assoccanmedvet](https://www.facebook.com/Assoccanmedvet)