



CANADIAN VETERINARY  
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION  
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## NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

July 8, 2016

### **Alberta Veterinarian Awarded for her Contribution to the Advancement of Veterinary Medicine**

OTTAWA, Ont. – Dr. Melodie Chan has been honoured with the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association's (CVMA) *Industry Award* for championing best practices in animal welfare and animal husbandry.

"We are pleased to honour Dr. Melodie Chan with the CVMA Industry Award for her dedication throughout her career, which has motivated those around her to be the best they can be," says Dr. Nicole Gallant, 2015-16 CVMA President.

Dr. Chan is a past-president of both the Western Canadian Association of Bovine Practitioners and the Canadian Association of Bovine Veterinarians. She was the recipient of the Young Veterinarian of the Year Award in 2009 presented annually by the Alberta Veterinary Medical Association. In 2014, Dr. Chan was named as an honoree of Vance Publishing's "Top 40 Under 40" Award Program, recognizing those making a significant contribution to America's food system.

She grew up in the greater Vancouver area and fell in love with agriculture during her undergraduate studies at the University of British Columbia. In 2002, Dr. Chan graduated from the Western College of Veterinary Medicine and pursued a career within the dairy industry. After completing an internship in Dairy Production Medicine at Cornell University, Dr. Chan worked at a mixed animal practice in Saskatchewan and then started her own dairy veterinary practice in Olds, Alta. In 2011, Dr. Chan joined Zoetis (formerly Pfizer Animal Health) as part of the Cattle Veterinary Services team. She is currently the head of Zoetis Canada's Veterinary Services Team for cattle, equine and genetics.

In 2009, Dr. Chan attended the American Veterinary Medical Association "Veterinary Leadership Conference" in Chicago where she was first introduced to the Veterinary Leadership Experience. This experience was so impactful that a year later, she introduced the Emerging Leaders Program (ELP) that is now offered annually to the CVMA membership.

"One of the many traits that distinguishes Dr. Chan from her peer professionals across Canada is her focus on the well-being and success of her veterinary colleagues and their healthcare teams," says Dr. Rick DeBowes, Director, Professional Life Skills Program, Washington State University, College of Veterinary Medicine. "While Melodie has many gifts and competencies ranging from bovine medicine to singletrack mountain biking, she astutely recognized that for our profession to continue to grow and thrive in our rapidly changing world, increasingly veterinarians would need to have focused training in personal leadership, teamwork, organizational culture and professional communication.

*The CVMA Industry award publicly acknowledges and celebrates the role of industry in veterinary medicine. This award is presented to a veterinarian for their contributions of to the advancement of veterinary medicine.*

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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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