



CANADIAN VETERINARY
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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Nova Scotia Veterinarian Awarded for his Dedication and Compassion to Animals in his Care

OTTAWA, Ont. – Dr. Ernie Prowse was honoured with the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) *Small Animal Practitioner Award* for his compassion and continuous dedication to the animals in his care.

“We are honoured to present Dr. Ernie Prowse with the Small Animal Practitioner Award,” says Dr. Nicole Gallant, 2015-16 CVMA President. “He has committed hundreds of hours of personal time annually for more than a decade in developing the partnership between industry and veterinary team members in improving the standard of veterinary care in the Atlantic region.”

Dr. Prowse was born and raised on a dairy farm in Prince Edward Island where visits from veterinarians stimulated an early interest in the profession. He received his Bachelor of Science degree from Prince of Wales College (now part of the University of Prince Edward Island), then studied at Dalhousie University where he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts, followed by a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (honours) from the University of Guelph in 1976.

His first veterinary position was at the Belleville Animal Hospital in a mixed practice, followed by a small animal practice in Halifax. After four years in Halifax, he and his wife, Pam, built a small animal practice in Truro, making Central Nova Animal Hospital (CNAH) a reality. Dr. Prowse has always had a special interest in orthopedic surgery. After selling CNAH in 2000, he now strictly practices orthopedic surgeries, taking him to various hospitals in Nova Scotia.

He has held various positions in the Nova Scotia Veterinary Medical Association and CVMA. He was involved with the founding, and later teaching, of some courses in the Animal Health Technician program at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College (now Dalhousie University) and the animal care and training program at the Truro Prison for Women. Dr. Prowse stepped down as Chair of the Atlantic Provinces Veterinary Conference (APVC) in 2015 after working tirelessly in the role for 14 years, but remains an active committee member. The APVC continues to attract world class speakers primarily due to Dr. Prowse promoting a culture of the highest quality maritime hospitality and professionalism.

Dr. Prowse’s passion has influenced those he has worked with throughout his career. Dr. Penny Richards, who Dr. Prowse hired fresh out of veterinary school says, “His thoughtful caring demeanor and the quality of care he provided for client’s pets created a loyal bond. This was at a time when animal health technicians were only seen in a university setting, before clinics regularly ran in-house bloodwork, and nobody talked about the client animal bond. Our current office manager’s first meeting with Ernie was as a new client with a puppy over 25 years ago. He greeted her and then promptly got on all fours to greet her new pet.”

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CVMA's Small Animal Practitioner Award, sponsored by Petsecure Pet Health Insurance, is presented to a CVMA member whose work in small animal practice, clinical research or basic sciences is judged to have contributed significantly to the advancement of small animal medicine, surgery, or the management of a small animal practice.

– 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 to learn more about CVMA.

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