



CANADIAN VETERINARY
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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Saskatchewan Veterinarian Honoured Nationally for Improving the Lives of Animals Across Canada

TORONTO, ON – Dr. Dennis Will has been honoured with the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association's (CVMA) *Humane Award* for his animal welfare advocacy and improving how animals in Canada, specifically livestock are treated.

"I have known Dr. Will for 15 years and he has always been someone who approaches diverging opinions and conflict calmly, focusing on what we have in common, rather than what divides us," states Dr. Martin Appelt, Senior Director, Programs and Policy Branch at the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA). "He is an unwavering advocate for animal welfare and has been working as a private practice veterinarian, a regulator with CFIA, and on many professionally committees and advocacy groups, improving the lives of animals everywhere."

Dr. Will, a 1978 graduate of the University of Saskatchewan's Western College of Veterinary Medicine, has worked in mixed-animal practice for the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, in various capacities. He has also worked in disease control and food safety, including work in beef, hog, poultry, and alternative livestock plants, and on the development of a specific animal welfare policy and training manual, undertaken by the CFIA in large part due to his dedication and diplomacy.

He researched and spearheaded the science-based publication reflecting current best practices and international (World Organisation for Animal Health) standards for animal welfare at slaughter. Dr. Will's animal welfare experience also includes work with the Domestic Meat Inspection Program, enhancing humane handling and food safety at voluntary meat processing plants, as well as consulting work, plant reviews, and provincial training concerning animal welfare and slaughter.

Dr. Will's international development work includes stints in China and Mongolia where he was part of a Canadian team, based out of Calgary, providing training in animal health, disease control, food safety, and public health. He is also chairperson of the Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association Animal Welfare Committee which is actively involved with several animal welfare related projects.

Dr. Appelt insists that, "the CVMA Humane Award requires that the nominee's work is judged to have contributed significantly to the welfare and well-being of animals and it's easy for anyone who knows him to say, 'Stop right there, that's Dr. Dennis Will.'"

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The CVMA Humane Award, sponsored by Merck Animal Health, recognizes leadership in the care and well-being of animals. This award is presented to a veterinarian whose work is judged to have contributed significantly to the welfare and well-being of animals.

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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 to learn more about CVMA.

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