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**44<sup>th</sup> WSAVA Congress  
& 71<sup>st</sup> CVMA Convention**  
16-19 July, 2019 | Toronto, Canada



## 2019 CVMA

### National Issues Forum Panelists:

#### Telehealth and Animal Welfare Panelists – Pros, Cons and Implications for Veterinary Patients

Tuesday, July 16, 2019



#### Dr. Heather Bacon

*BSc (Hons), BVSc, CertZooMed MRCVS*

Dr. Bacon graduated from the University of Bristol with a degree in Veterinary Medicine and Surgery, and the University of Liverpool with a degree in Conservation medicine. She has worked in veterinary practice for 15 years with a range of domestic, zoo and wildlife species. Heather is the Veterinary Welfare Education and Outreach manager at the Jeanne Marchig International Centre for Animal Welfare Education (JMICAWE) at the University of Edinburgh's Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, where she is responsible for developing and delivering the overseas projects of the Centre, and works internationally to develop capacity in the areas of veterinary skills, animal welfare, animal behaviour and veterinary ethics. Heather organizes postgraduate courses on a variety of MSc programs, as well as the undergraduate curriculum in animal welfare and ethics. Heather is completing her PhD investigating the knowledge and attitudes of zoo staff to zoo animal welfare issues in a diverse global community. Through her role at the JMICAWE she has worked with NGOs, veterinary, and political organizations to develop veterinary education initiatives particularly on the topics of optimizing veterinary care, dog population management, zoo animal, and exotic pet welfare. Heather is an active member of a number of veterinary committees. Previously, she has lived in China working as the Veterinary Director at the Animals Asia Foundation, an NGO working to end the trade in bear bile across Asia.



#### Jan Robinson,

*Registrar and Chief Executive Officer of the College of Veterinarians of Ontario*

Jan Robinson is currently the Registrar and Chief Executive Officer of the College of Veterinarians of Ontario, a position she began in 2012. A leader in profession-based regulation, Jan has over 25 years of experience providing vision and direction to regulatory and public policy organizations. She is a keen strategist with the ability to build partnerships and engagement at the provincial, national and international levels. Jan's position enables her to bring innovative approaches to the delivery of regulatory programs. Key contributions include the development of a framework to establish governance excellence, implementing an accountability, risk and evidence based approach to regulation at all levels of the organization, and leading legislative change that promotes public access and safety. Jan is a

trusted advisor and is frequently consulted on varied organizational and regulatory matters. She is a sought after speaker and has had the privilege of teach and presenting around the world.

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### **Dr. Lori Teller**

*Texas A & M University (for the American Veterinary Medical Association)*

Dr. Lori Teller is a graduate of Texas A & M University College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences (TAMU CVM), and she is a board-certified diplomate of the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners in Canine and Feline Practice. She worked at Meyerland Animal Clinic for many years, starting at the age of 12, and continuing after graduation from veterinary school. Recently Dr. Teller joined the faculty at TAMU CVM as the Clinical Associate Professor of Telehealth. Dr. Teller has special interests in internal medicine cases, particularly those regarding GI diseases and autoimmune problems. She also greatly enjoys cytology as a diagnostic tool for lumps and bumps and working with senior animals to alleviate pain as they age. She is also very passionate about telemedicine and the role it can play in veterinary medicine.

Dr. Teller has been very involved in the veterinary profession and is a Past-president of both the Harris County and Texas Veterinary Medical Associations and was a recipient of the TVMA's Recent Graduate of the Year Award in 1995 as well as the President's Award in 2007, 2009 and 2016. She has served on several committees and task forces for the American Veterinary Medical Association, including the Animal Welfare Committee, and has also served in the AVMA's House of Delegates. She currently serves on the AVMA Board of Directors from District VIII and chairs the AVMA's State Advocacy Committee. In addition, she is a Trustee for the TVMA's VPAC and helps to raise awareness and funds for political causes important to veterinary medicine. Dr. Teller has also served as the Chair of the Board of Certification for the American Society of Veterinary Journalists and was a founding Board member of the Women's Veterinary Leadership Development Initiative. She was named one of 14 Veterinarians to Watch in 2014 by Veterinary Practice News, and she has a monthly radio spot on Houston's NPR radio station where she highlights the importance of veterinary care for dogs and cats. She serves as a mentor to many veterinary students, recent graduates, and young leaders, helping them navigate the complicated world of veterinary medicine and life beyond the boundaries of work. Outside of the veterinary world, Dr. Teller was a founder and a Board Trustee for The Gateway Academy, a high school for students with learning differences and special needs in Houston, and she was recognized as an "Everyday Hero" by 740 KTRH for her volunteer work in the prevention of child abuse. She married her high school sweetheart, Dr. Craig Teller, and they have one son and several pets. In her spare time, Dr. Teller loves to hang out with her friends and family, exercise, read, and travel extensively to places where she can explore new things by day and enjoy great wine and food by night. She's also a sucker for chocolate chip cookies, corny jokes, and puppy breath.



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