The CVR Management Model

The CVR Advisory Board

Dr. John Drake - Chair
Dr. Peter Buck - Public Health Agency of Canada
Ms. Tracey Firth - Canadian Animal Health Institute
Dr. Jim Goltz - Council of Chief Veterinary Officers
Dr. Curt Hagele - provincial Registrars
Mr. Robert Lesser - Public Safety Canada
Dr. George Luterbach - Canadian Food Inspection Agency
Mr. Rick McDonald - Canadian Animal Health Coalition
Dr. Alan Meek - Deans of Canadian Veterinary Colleges
Ms. Tara Sefton - Cdn. Assoc. of Animal Health Technologists & Technicians
Dr. Mike Sheridan - CVMA Council
Dr. Dianna Smith - provincial Veterinary Medical Associations
Dr. Carin Wittnich - Oceanographic Environmental Research Society

The CVR Advisory Board

Interested in learning more?

Please contact us:

Canadian Veterinary Reserve
c/o Canadian Veterinary Medical Association
339 Booth Street, Ottawa
Ontario, Canada
K1R 7K1
Phone: 613 236 1162
Fax: 613 236 9681
E-mail: reserve@cvma-acmv.org

CVMA website:
www.canadianveterinarians.net

The CVR greatly acknowledges the contributions and commitment of the Government of Canada, through the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, which makes this program possible.

Of course, we all hope that a disaster involving animals will never happen here in Canada but we know that it could happen and our veterinarians want to be ready. That’s why over 380 Canadian veterinarians have joined the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association’s – Canadian Veterinary Reserve (CVR).

Hope is not a strategy!
**What is the Canadian Veterinary Reserve (CVR)?** The CVR is a growing, national body of qualified Canadian veterinarians who are available to rapidly assist governments in responding to large-scale emergencies and/or disasters involving animals (livestock, pets and wildlife).

**Why is the CVR needed?** In general, governments lead the response in large-scale emergencies and disasters. In Canada, as in most countries, the government (federal, provincial or territorial) may not have sufficient numbers of veterinarians on staff to deal with an animal health crisis of very large proportion. Governments maintain a base of resources that can respond to the most likely occurrences and look to other sources to assist on an "as and when needed" basis (referred to as surge capacity). The CVR has been established to provide this veterinary medical surge capacity in Canada.

**What does the CVR do?**

1. If a foreign animal disease outbreak emergency occurs (such as Foot & Mouth disease), the CVR is ready to assist the Canadian government to respond swiftly.

2. The CVR is also working with federal and provincial/territorial governments in Canada to enhance their capacity to respond to major civil emergencies or disasters affecting farm and/or companion animals (i.e. floods, hurricanes, earthquakes, massive power outages, etc.).

3. As the CVR grows and develops, we hope to also provide assistance and expertise internationally to help other countries provide for the health and welfare of animals in large-scale emergencies and disaster situations.

**How has the CVR developed?** Veterinary reserves already exist in several other countries such as the US, UK, and Australia. In 2006, the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) stepped forward to play a lead role in the development of the CVR in Canada. With the support and partnership of the CFIA, the CVR became a reality in October 2006. Events such as the rapid and global spread of Avian Influenza and the hurricane disasters in the US in 2005 have spurred CFIA and CVMA veterinarians alike to take action.

**How is the CVR activated?** The CVR is activated when a request is made from the federal or provincial/territorial governments to the CVMA. The CVMA then notifies and mobilizes the CVR for service.