FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Mona Campbell Centre for Animal Cancer receives National Award for Comprehensive Cancer Care Benefitting Both Humans and Animals

OTTAWA, Ont. – The Mona Campbell Centre for Animal Cancer at the Ontario Veterinary College (OVC), University of Guelph (U of G) has been recognized as Practice of the Year by the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) for creating a comprehensive veterinary cancer centre serving central Canada and beyond, while offering unique clinical trial research opportunities, facilitated by U of G’s Institute for Comparative Cancer Investigation.

“The CVMA is pleased to present OVC’s Mona Campbell Centre for Animal Cancer with the Practice of the Year Award in honour of its clinicians and researchers who continually seek better ways to treat cancer in pets, some of which may translate to helping people with cancer,” says Dr. Troy Bourque, 2016-17 CVMA President. “The veterinarians, students, and staff who serve in OVC’s Mona Campbell Centre for Animal Cancer Centre have worked in conjunction with veterinary cancer patients and their families to create an internationally recognized comprehensive veterinary cancer centre with the common goal of compassionately treating companion animals with cancer while advancing the understanding of cancer and improving treatment options to benefit both animal and human patients.”

The Centre is part of OVC Health Sciences Centre and offers surgery, radiation, chemotherapy, and investigational therapies in conjunction with clinical trials to diagnose and treat cancer in animals. It provides experiential oncology teaching in OVC’s Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program and provides post graduate training for veterinarians seeking further clinical training in oncology through residencies, internships, and for students seeking postgraduate degrees.

The animal cancer centre is the only international member of the National Institutes of Health Center for Cancer Research Comparative Oncology Trials Consortium. The clinical caseload has facilitated the creation of the Companion Animal Tumour Sample Bank, which is a unique resource providing access to clinical specimens from naturally occurring cancers to the scientific research community.

Named for the late Mona Campbell, the centre was constructed in 2012 with support from her estate, as well as additional funds raised by the OVC Pet Trust, for a total of $13.75 million. A remarkable Canadian businesswoman and philanthropist, Mona Campbell was also a lifelong advocate for animals and a generous supporter of OVC. It is staffed with veterinary medical oncologists, a veterinary surgical oncologist, post graduate veterinary residents and an oncology intern, registered veterinary technicians, radiation therapists, an animal care attendant, a clinical trials co-ordinator, a tumour banker, and a clinical counsellor.
CVMA’s Practice of the Year Award, sponsored by Scotiabank, recognizes a veterinary practice team for outstanding achievement within their local community. Such achievements may include innovations in provision of veterinary services, commitment to work-life balance, meaningful community or charitable involvement, or implementation of 'green' practice procedures.

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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