Ottawa Veterinarian Honoured Nationally for Outstanding Contributions to the Veterinary Profession

OTTAWA, ON – Dr. Bernhard Pukay is being honoured with a Life Membership to the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) for his significant contributions to the CVMA and veterinary profession worldwide.

“We are pleased to honour Dr. Bernhard Pukay with a Life Membership to the CVMA,” says Dr. Nicole Gallant, 2015-16 CVMA President. “We cannot thank him enough for his over four decades of dedication to our Association and his passion for the profession.”

Dr. Pukay has been involved with the CVMA since the beginning his career. He has served on CVMA Council, The Canadian Veterinary Journal Editorial Review Board and Editorial staff (as Associate Editor), CVMA’s National Issues Committee, CVMA Veterinary Caribbean Development Programme (a joint CVMA-Canadian International Development Agency initiative) and numerous committees and advisory boards, including the Communications Advisory Board.

He graduated from the Ontario Veterinary College in 1974 and joined the Alta Vista Animal Hospital in Ottawa in 1975, becoming a full partner after three years. He was Past-President and CEO of the Alta Vista and Bayview Animal Hospitals, where he was a general practitioner while also operating a Dermatology Referral Service.

Dr. Pukay was Co-founder and Past-President of the Canadian Academy of Veterinary Dermatology and is a Honourary Life Member. Throughout his career, he was involved in clinical research and lectured extensively on veterinary dermatology and was published in several veterinary journals. Dr. Pukay also consulted and lectured worldwide on practice management and served as a consultant to several international companies.

He was Executive Producer and Host of the popular 30-minute television series on pet care called PET CONNECTION that was televised in Canada, the United States, and around the world on The Discovery Channel and Animal Planet. He also hosted a radio phone-in show for CBC for over 20 years and wrote a syndicated pet care column for CanWest and The Ottawa Citizen for over 30 years.

Dr. Pukay was the recipient of the Ontario Veterinary Medical Association Veterinarian of The Year Award, the CVMA Public Relations Award, and the Canadian Animal Health Institute Leadership Award.

“Dr. Pukay has made significant contributions to not only the CVMA, but to the global veterinary profession,” says Dr. Clayton Mackay, President Clayton Mackay Veterinary Consulting. “It has been my good fortune to work with Dr. Pukay in several different areas, but especially in bringing the message of the Human-Animal Bond to North American veterinary audiences. His unique ability to connect with his audiences made him a very popular early proponent of the Bond Centered Practice.”
Life Membership is presented to a CVMA member for long and outstanding service on CVMA Council, Executive, Boards and Committees, or for outstanding contributions to the veterinary profession.

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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