CHAIRED BY
DR. JEAN GAUVIN,
President-Elect of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association and companion animal practitioner in Lachine, Québec.

STEWARDSHIP OF ANTIMICROBIAL DRUGS IN ANIMALS IN CANADA
Dr. John Prescott, a veterinary bacteriologist at the Ontario Veterinary College, will discuss Canada’s progress in the last 15 years in addressing the antibiotic resistance issue, the unique factors which have prevented Canada from reaching international standards and addressing national recommendations, and the multiple ways in which we can improve stewardship.

RATIONAL USE OF ANTIMICROBIALS IN VETERINARY MEDICINE IN EUROPE
Dr. Peter Jones, 2013–14 president of the British Veterinary Association, will describe various antimicrobial stewardship initiatives being undertaken in the UK and further afield in the EU through the Federation of Veterinarians in Europe, and the outcome achieved so far in addressing what is one of the most serious threats to human and animal health in the 21st century on a global scale.

OVERVIEW OF AMR IN THE USA: RATIONAL SELECTION AND PRUDENT USE OF ANTIMICROBIAL DRUGS
Dr. Mark Papich, professor of Clinical Pharmacology, and supervisor of the Clinical Pharmacology Laboratory in the College of Veterinary Medicine at North Carolina State University, will give an overview of efforts by organizations such as the American Veterinary Medical Association, American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine, and International Society for Companion Animal Infectious Diseases to develop stewardship guidelines to help veterinarians use antimicrobials responsibly.

CVMA ANTIMICROBIAL PRUDENT USE GUIDELINES FOR COMPANION ANIMALS
Dr. Nigel Gumley, an Ottawa companion animal practitioner, chair of CVMA’s Working Group on Prudent Use Guidelines for Companion Animals and CVMA’s representative on the AVMA’s Task Force for Antimicrobial Stewardship in Companion Animal Practice, recently led the development of CVMA’s Antimicrobial SmartVet, a smartphone application that assists veterinarians with the process of selecting appropriate antimicrobial therapy for specific bacterial diseases of dogs and cats.

QUÉBEC’S VETERINARY ANTIMICROBIAL REGULATION AND STEWARDSHIP
Dr. Michel Major, chief veterinary officer for the province of Québec (MAPAQ), will report on regulatory developments that have been put in place to better manage the use of antimicrobials in Québec. MAPAQ and several partners initiated several studies on the issue of antibiotic stewardship and prevention of antimicrobial resistance. These studies led to the adoption of an action plan in 2011, which is being implemented in collaboration with other partners from Québec’s animal health sector.

Mandatory continuing education for Québec veterinarians on antimicrobial resistance and use
Dr. Joël Bergeron, president of the Ordre des médecins vétérinaires du Québec, will provide an overview of the steps that led the licensing body for Québec veterinarians to adopt a policy of mandatory continuing education on antimicrobial resistance and the appropriate use of antimicrobials. This policy aims to affirm the commitment of the veterinary profession to animal health and welfare, public health and the fight against antibiotic resistance.

CANADA’S ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE ISSUES: THE HUMAN MEDICINE PERSPECTIVE
Dr. Jim Hutchinson, a medical microbiologist, Medical Director of the Antimicrobial Stewardship Program at Island Health in British Columbia and co-chair of the Antimicrobial Stewardship Working group of the International Society for Chemotherapy, will provide an overview of Canada’s antimicrobial resistance issues from a human health perspective.

PROACTIVE VETERINARIANS IN ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE: PROOF AND POSSIBILITIES
Dr. Marie Archambault, a veterinary microbiologist at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Montreal, will provide a thought-provoking overview of veterinary use of antibiotics. When it comes to antibiotic resistance, are veterinarians the only ones to blame? Are veterinarians making responsible choices? Do we test and monitor enough for antibiotic resistance? Do we limit transmission through infectious control and surveillance?