



BRITISH
COLUMBIA

March 29, 2023
Our Ref. 128588

I am writing in regard to the Government of British Columbia's support of the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM) and veterinary training opportunities for BC students.

This government and ministry know that veterinarians play a critical role in supporting the agricultural sector, people, and the health and welfare of animals across BC.

Last spring, the Province of British Columbia stood by its commitment to increase access to post-secondary education for veterinarians and doubled the intake of funded BC students starting their veterinary studies at the WCVM—the first increase in over a decade. We also provided funding that enabled the WCVM to waive the differential tuition fees for previously admitted BC students who were not in a provincially subsidized seat. As recently [announced](#), I am pleased to inform you that this significant increase of subsidized seats for BC students attending the WCVM has been made permanent through funding from the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills as part of our Future Ready Plan.

Expanding training is one way that BC is working to address the need for more veterinarians. Other ways include recruiting more veterinarians and veterinary technicians through initiatives such as the [Provincial Nominee Program](#). My Ministry and the Ministry of Agriculture and Food are committed to continuing to work with partners, including municipalities and regional districts, to help attract veterinary professionals to high demand areas and support veterinary care services in the province.

I want to thank you for your thoughtful advocacy and passion on this matter. The work that we will do together as we launch the Future Ready plan will benefit British Columbians throughout the province.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Robinson'.

Honourable Selina Robinson
Minister

pc: Honourable Pam Alexis
Minister of Agriculture and Food

AGR.Minister@gov.bc.ca