

CVMA-AVMA AHT/VT Accreditation Reciprocity

At its July 2006 meeting, the CVMA Council approved recognition of the accreditation process of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA) as being equivalent to that of the CVMA's Animal Health Technologist/Veterinary Technician Program Accreditation Committee (AHTVTPAC). The AVMA Executive has also made a corresponding decision. This mutual recognition will allow graduates of CVMA-accredited programs to be eligible to apply for registration in the USA, and graduates of AVMA-accredited programs will be eligible to apply to provincial AHT/VT associations in Canada. In addition, Canadian graduates will have access to baccalaureate options in the United States that are not available in Canada. Further to discussions between the CVMA and the Canadian Association of Animal Health Technologists and Technicians (CAAHTT), the CVMA began lobbying the AVMA and CVTEA in 2003 in pursuit of this objective.

The foregoing action recognizes the increasing integration of veterinary medicine, particularly in North America, and the high quality of the accreditation processes of the CVMA and the AVMA. Moreover, each association will have a representative sit on the other's accreditation committee, which will help to ensure that the standards continue to be equivalent for the purpose of maintaining reciprocity. **Dr. Gavin Hamilton**, the chair of the AHTVTPAC, will continue as the CVMA's representative on the CVTEA until the end of 2006, at which time **Dr. Glen Jackson**, Windsor, Ontario, will take over the responsibility. The AVMA's representative on the AHTVTPAC will be **Dr. Edward Gordon**, Potsdam, New York.