



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



ISSUE 22

<https://cpvma.ca>

MARCH 2026

The monthly newsletter is your go-to source for all things CPVMA. Stay connected with event updates, read articles of inspiring experiences shared by pre-vet and current vet students, new opportunities for animal experience. Keep up with our news and highlights to empower your journey into veterinary medicine. All our newsletters will be available to read in our Newsletter Archives on our website. Thank you for being a part of our community!

Highlights of this issue:

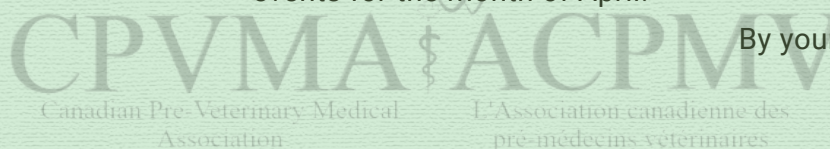
- **Exec Feature of the Month**
- **Upcoming Events**
- **Symposium Details & Subtopics**
- **Article of the Month**



Executive Team Updates

This month's Executive Team Update features CPVMA's Jr. VP of Sponsorship, Rosa Carmela Vivona, a third-year Animal Biology student at the University of Guelph. Rosa expands on her experience, her journey towards a career in veterinary neuroscience, and advice for other pre-vets. With our Annual Symposium creeping closer, we are excited to announce the sub-topics that will be explored under our central theme, One Health in Action. Our article for the month of March focuses on the Toronto Zoo's newly welcomed giraffe calf and her public naming contest! Stay up to date through our Instagram for more details about upcoming events for the month of April!

By your Jr. VP of Public Relations



Executive Feature of the Month:

ROSA CARMELA

JR. VP OF SPONSORSHIP

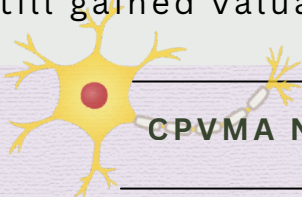
Hi everyone! My name is Rosa Carmela and I'm this year's Junior VP of sponsorship. I'm currently in my third year studying animal biology at the University of Guelph while also doing a minor in neuroscience. Throughout my time in university, I have learned so much about myself, the way I study, and new things that I never thought would interest me. I knew going into University that I loved all things science-related, but I was also aware of my passion for helping animals, which is why I felt animal biology would be a wonderful start to working towards a career goal of mine to assist with animals' behaviours, health, and well-being.



What I was unaware of was how much I enjoy learning about the field of neuroscience. I find the brain fascinating because there is so much that is unknown, and being able to dive deeper into my minor has allowed me to broaden my scope of learning and lean more into my curious side since I love learning new things. Discovering my new interest of neuroscience has allowed me to plan ahead for what I picture my future career to look like. My main goals are to be in the field of animal behaviour and/or specialize in neurology after completing a DVM. I feel that what I have learned in my program and minor has definitely prepared me for these potential career paths.

To touch on some of my most memorable animal-based experiences, I have been an active volunteer at a vet clinic in my area since high school, where I have assisted with general practice duties such as restraining, prepping for surgery, maintenance around the clinic, walking animals, and, of course, learning from the head veterinarian. This experience has validated my passion for owning a clinic and provided valuable hands-on experience relevant to my education. I wanted to see if I was interested in research during my second year, so I helped a PhD student collect samples on a cow pasture for her project. This experience clarified that a research career was not for me, but I still gained valuable knowledge, which I will forever appreciate.

CONTINUED BELOW...

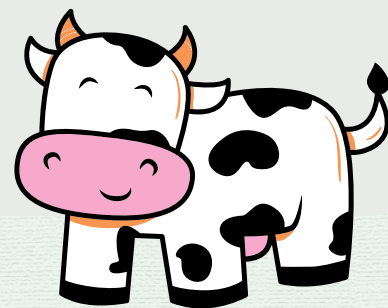


When I did discover my passion for neuroscience, I volunteered at a wonderful specialty neurology hospital, where I got to dive deeper and see numerous spinal cord surgeries, MRIS, and shadow a veterinary neurologist taking appointments and diagnosing illnesses. This experience was extremely beneficial because I was able to immerse myself in the field of interest I am most interested in and learn what it is truly like to be in a busy referral Hospital. I was also a part of the Dairy Show for College Royal this year, which was so fun since I have not really had much large animal experience yet! For future plans, this summer, I am aiming to do a two-week study abroad program in Greece and I am so excited to travel to a new place and learn more about veterinary medicine.

Outside of school and animal-related experience, I am an active SafeWalk volunteer and future assistant coordinator. SafeWalk is an on-campus, safety, volunteer-based program that assists with walking students home after dark who would want accompaniment to their destination on campus, which has been a wonderful community to be a part of. Along with this, I am a fundraising executive for the Guelph Neuroscience Student Association, and I was a summer camp counsellor for Autism Ontario. During my free time, I enjoy watching shows and movies, with my favourites being The Big Bang Theory and any Harry Potter or Star Wars movies.

Advice to Pre-vet Students:

My advice to pre-vet students is to never stop learning because it is a gift and we are fortunate to be given the opportunity to chase our dreams. It is also so important to always be proud of yourself and to never give up! As much as we all want to be perfect, we need to understand that we can only do what we can do, and as long as you try, you can do no wrong. If anyone would like to reach out and chat, I am always here, and if you ever want to talk about something Star Wars related, you know who to call :) All the best with your future endeavours <3



EVENTS COMING SOON...

END OF APRIL - STAYED TUNED ON OUR INSTAGRAM FOR UPDATES!

“PATH TO VET SCHOOL WORKSHOP”

The Path to Vet School workshop is designed to guide students through the journey of pursuing a career in veterinary medicine. It covers key steps such as prerequisite courses, gaining animal and veterinary experience, building a strong application, and preparing for interviews. Attendees also gain insight into what veterinary schools look for in applicants, along with tips from current students or professionals about navigating the process and standing out in a competitive field.



“GAINING VETERINARY EXPERIENCE WORKSHOP”



The Gaining Veterinary Experience Workshop is designed to help students understand how to build meaningful and diverse experience for a career in veterinary medicine. It highlights different opportunities, such as working or volunteering in clinics, farms, research labs, and animal shelters, and provides tips on how to find positions, approach clinics, and make the most of each experience. Attendees also learn what veterinary schools look for, including hands-on skills, animal handling, and strong communication, and how to showcase these experiences effectively in applications.

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND...

HYBRID SYMPOSIUM!

Thanks to last year's success, the CPVMA is excited to announce we will be hosting the 2026 symposium hybrid again! You can join the symposium **virtually from anywhere** across the globe, or **in-person in Toronto, ON!**



While our speakers will be joining virtually, the in-person symposium provides an exclusive opportunity to:



CONNECT WITH OTHER PRE-VETS



**NETWORK WITH CPVMA EXECUTIVES,
SPEAKERS & SPONSORS**



**EXPERIENCE THE ENERGY OF A LIVE
EVENT**

Spots are limited, and will be available on a first come, first serve basis. Registration info will be coming soon to secure your spot!



IMPORTANT DETAILS



DATE: May 1st- May 3rd



LOCATION: In-person details TBA



**THEME: One Health In Action- Bridging Animal,
Human & Environmental Health**



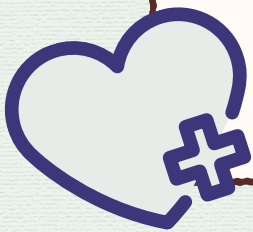
2026 SYMPOSIUM SUBTOPICS

LISTED ARE THE VARIOUS TOPICS COVERED AT THIS YEAR'S **ONE HEALTH IN ACTION** SYMPOSIUM!

- Animal Rights & Welfare
- Surveillance & Prevention of Zoonotic Disease
- Future of Antibiotics & Antimicrobial Resistance
- Laboratory Animal Health as One Health in Action
- Community-Based Veterinary Care
- Diversity in Veterinary Medicine
- Mental Health
- Wildlife Health & Outbreak Prevention
- Food Safety & Sustainable Food Systems



KEEP AN EYE
OUT FOR
UPCOMING
REGISTRATION!



Article of the Month

The Toronto Zoo recently welcomed a healthy female Masai giraffe calf, born on February 22, 2026, to mother Mstari; the calf stood shortly after birth and measured about 6 feet 4 inches tall, which is typical for giraffes. The zoo has launched a public naming contest with five Swahili-inspired options—Binti (daughter), Imara (strong), Nyota (star), Neema (grace), and Sanaa (art/beauty)—with voting open until March 23. This initiative not only engages the community but also raises awareness about the conservation of Masai giraffes, an endangered subspecies facing threats like habitat loss and poaching. Visitors will soon be able to see the calf during scheduled viewing times, including over March Break, and can also watch her through an online livestream.





The Canadian Pre-Veterinary Medical Association

WHO ARE WE?

The CPVMA is a student-led, non-profit organization that aims to connect the pre-veterinary community across Canada. Our goal is to provide resources to pre-veterinary students and give them the opportunity to network with fellow peers and professionals in the field.

OUR EVENTS

- Held online and accessible from anywhere in Canada
- Feature veterinary professionals and current veterinary students
- Prepare pre-veterinary students for success in their future!

SPONSORS NEEDED!!

The CPVMA is made possible thanks to the generous support of our sponsors. To learn more about sponsorship opportunities, please contact us at cpvma.acpmv@gmail.com.

STAY INFORMED!

@cpvma.acpmv

cpvma.acpmv@gmail.com

www.cpvma.ca

