

# College GROWTH SPURT

This summer, project managers added another welcome check mark to their growing list of completed expansion and renovation projects at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM). The latest project to open its doors in early July was the Veterinary Teaching Hospital's new two-storey addition. The structure is a major part of WCVM's \$57-million expansion that includes 8,000 square metres of new space and renovations to about 7,000 square metres in the college's existing facility.

Besides new examination rooms and designated areas for specialized clinical services, the expanded space includes new reception areas for the Large Animal and Small Animal Clinics, new offices and garage space for the hospital's Field Service and additional office space for WCVM faculty and administrative staff.

But as construction signs and safety barriers disappeared in front of the hospital, work continued to ramp up on other projects. Now, the most visible construction site is on the building's southeast side where crews are working in the expanded diagnostics facility — an area that will eventually include a new post mortem room and additional space for diagnostic laboratories and administrative offices.

Equipped with increased biosecurity and biosafety standards, the enhanced diagnostic facilities and equipment will enable WCVM to work with its partners in addressing major animal health issues including preparedness for foreign animal disease diagnostics.

David Humphreys of UMA Engineering Ltd., project manager for WCVM's expansion and renovation project, gives a quick overview of WCVM construction and upcoming plans:

- **Research wing:** Staff and students moved into the 1,468-square-metre, two-storey facility on April 30. The facility adds crucial office space and two multi-user research laboratories to WCVM — including the newly-dedicated Westgen Research Suite — an animal reproduction-oriented research centre.

- **Veterinary Teaching Hospital renovations:** A new large animal chute system was completed and opened in January 2007. Workers completed renovations to the small animal surgery, anesthesia, intensive care and treatment rooms in mid-November 2006.

- **Veterinary Teaching Hospital expansion:** The two-storey addition opened to staff, faculty and the public in early July. Renovations to areas in the existing hospital will continue into early 2008.

- **Diagnostics area:** Expansion work on the structure began in the fall of 2006. Workers have completed the basement and main floor on the diagnostics expansion site. Work continues on the second floor and roof during the fall of 2007.

- **Room 2115 lecture theatre renovation:** These additional seats and room renovations prepare the College for an increased student enrollment in its undergraduate veterinary degree program. Renovations wrapped up in late August 2007.

- **Future design work** is ongoing on a number of academic facility improvements, additional large animal facility improvements and on the renovation of the existing diagnostics laboratory once the expansion is completed. Visit [www.ucvm.com](http://www.ucvm.com) for further construction updates. **H**



The new Large Animal Clinic reception area at WCVM.



WCVM's new large animal chute system.



One of two multi-user laboratories in WCVM's new research wing.

**ABOVE:** Second floor windows of WCVM'S new Veterinary Teaching Hospital addition.