



EHRF Covers THE WEST

When Western Canada's cold weather puts most riding and driving events on ice, horse people do the next best thing: take in the region's annual equine trade shows, conferences and meetings.

In the past months, representatives from WCVM have promoted the Equine Health Research Fund and the College's matching gift incentive program at several of these equine events. To raise more awareness about WCVM's "Give \$1, Invest \$2 in Horse Health" campaign, the Fund also organized several draws for embroidered rain sheets and coolers. Combined with matching funding, proceeds from these draws have raised more than \$1,400 for equine health research activities at WCVM.

• **The Mane Event Equine Education and Trade Fair, Chilliwack, B.C.** (top photo, left to right): Two EHRF Fellows — Drs. Luca Panizzi and Tal Raz — joined WCVM development officer Patti Tweed and second-year veterinary student Hayley Lang at this mega-trade show from October 19-21, 2007. WCVM representatives also met with horse owners in the demonstration ring where they gave tips on basic equine veterinary care. Throughout the weekend, EHRF advisory board members Drs. John Twidale and David Paton joined the WCVM team along with Drs. Theresa Burns, Kirsten Schwichtenberg, Farshad Maloufi, Hermen Geertsema and Eric Martin. The raffle winner was Kelly Bilquist, a horse owner from Gabriola Island, B.C.

• **Alberta Horse Breeders and Owners Conference, Red Deer, Alta.:** Veterinary students Carolyn Kondra, Nicole MacMillan, Jamie Rothenburger and Jenna Bayne travelled with EHRF Fellow Dr. Chris Bell to attend this popular conference from Jan. 11-13. Dr. Katharina Lohmann of WCVM also gave a presentation on geriatric horse care during the weekend. In the second photo (left to right), MacMillan and Kondra present an embroidered rain sheet to raffle winner Laurie Thiessen of St. Albert, Alta.

• **WCVM Equine Club's annual Equine Seminar, Saskatoon, Sask.:** On February 2, nearly 300 people — Pony Club and 4-H members and their chaperones and parents — came to WCVM to learn more about equine health care from more than two dozen WCVM Equine Club members. The students organized 15 different presentations with topics ranging from dentistry and first aid to performance-related injuries. Veterinary student Tamara Quaschnick (bottom photo, left) presents an embroidered cooler to the day's winner, Brandy Dobroskay from Dalmeny, Sask.

• **Saskatchewan Horse Federation annual general meeting, Regina, Sask.:** Field service resident Dr. Kristin Poirier and veterinary student Carolyn Kondra represented the EHRF at the weekend conference that took place from March 7-9. Marie Fitzgerald of Saskatoon, Sask., was the raffle winner.

• **Royal Manitoba Winter Fair, Brandon, Man.:** Members of the Manitoba Equine Ranching Association and the North American Equine Ranching Information Council (NAERIC) promoted the Fund by distributing copies of *Horse Health Lines* and other EHRF material at the organization's booth during the week-long fair that began on March 29 and wrapped up on April 5. **H**

4 Akin to the Fund

Nearly three decades after Dr. Jeremy Bailey was an EHRF Fellow, the large animal surgeon, professor and associate dean (academic) is retiring.

6 Diggin' Deep

Five WCVM-based research teams dig deep to investigate five horse health research studies with the support of the Equine Health Research Fund.

8 Carpal Spavin Surgery, Fine Tuned

EHRF Research Fellow Dr. Luca Panizzi teamed up with equine surgeon Dr. Spencer Barber to test a less invasive technique for treating carpal spavin.

10 Study Sheds New Light on Night Blindness

A WCVM study's results show a definite association between congenital stationary night blindness and coat patterns in the Appaloosa breed.

11 Straight from the Horse's Mouth

Veterinary dentist Dr. James Anthony talks about the growing recognition of dentistry's importance in equine health — and a glimpse of its future.

14 Key Facts about Equine Herpes Virus

Learn more about equine herpes virus and how you can prevent its spread among horse populations.

FRONT COVER: EHRF Research Fellow Dr. Luca Panizzi with one of his research horses in WCVM's paddock area. Panizzi has been investigating a less invasive arthrodesis technique for treating carpal spavin in horses.

HORSE HEALTH LINES

Horse Health Lines is produced by the Western College of Veterinary Medicine's Equine Health Research Fund. Visit www.ehrf.usask.ca for more information. Please send comments to:



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Make Your MATCH!

Western Canadian horse owners helped the Western College of Veterinary Medicine meet the \$100,000 maximum for the matching gift incentive program's first year. Now let's make it two years in a row!

Through a five-year fund raising incentive, the Heather Ryan and L. David Dubé Foundation has pledged to match any "new" funding dollars to the College's equine health research programs. In total, the Foundation will contribute as much as \$500,000 in matching funds over five years — beginning in 2006 and ending in 2011.

The goal is that this unique incentive will encourage more horse owners, horse sport groups, breed associations and equine businesses to support vital equine health research at WCVM.

And remember, any amount that you or your organization can give will make a significant impact on horse health — especially when it can be doubled!

Here's how you can double your investment in equine health research:

- **BECOME** a donor. As a first-time contributor to the Equine Health Research Fund, your gift will increase the Fund's annual donations used to conduct cutting-edge research, to train equine specialists and to generate valuable horse health information.
- **BOOST** your annual donation. Every dollar that you give to the Equine Health Research Fund over and above the amount of your usual contribution will be matched.
- **INVEST** in major equine health research projects at WCVM. Besides its support of the EHRF, the Heather Ryan and L. David Dubé Foundation is investing in large-scale, collaborative research initiatives at WCVM over the next five years. The Foundation will donate one dollar for every dollar that you contribute to supporting these high-priority projects that focus on critical issues in horse health.

For more details, contact WCVM's Development Office at 306-966-7450 (wcvm.supportus@usask.ca).