



# Commonwealth Veterinary Association e-Newsletter

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## Incoming CVA Executive Meet in Sydney

The incoming CVA executive consisting of President elect Dr Peter Thornber, Treasurer elect Dr Deb Kirton, Program Manager elect Dr Jeff Cave and current President Dr Abdul Rahman recently meeting at the Australian Veterinary Association office in Sydney to discuss plans for the CVA going forward.

As a group, the incoming CVA executive are working with the catch cry that in going forward the CVA will be **"relevant and visible"** to all veterinarians throughout the commonwealth.

The programs the CVA plans to concentrate on are:

1. On-line CPD. The CVA is already making good use of the WVA Education Network. The CVA also plans to make use of other CPD providers as opportunities arise through its existing collaboration with organisations such as World Animal Protection and the development of collaboration with other organisations, as well as through a network of web links on the CVA web page. In time we hope webinars, Skype conferencing, and on-line discussion groups will become part of the CVA's CPD program. The accessibility and promotion of these programs to all veterinarians with internet access will be the key to their success.

2. Its existing programs such as the CVA study fund for short term study abroad, the guest lectureship program in bringing a lecturer to a country for short term CPD delivery, and the CVA book program which will be extended to include e-books as well as donated veterinary supplies. These programs will be given a greater emphasis than in the past although naturally the onus will be on the potential recipient in requesting them.

3. The facilitation of disaster relief as seen in the recent example where Nepal made very good use of the

CVA in telling the world of its plight and in requesting assistance.

4. The CVA's communications through an update of its website in the near future, social media, e-newsletter and general communications strategy. By doing this the CVA should become accessible to nearly all veterinarians throughout the commonwealth.

We expect regional conferences and pan Commonwealth conferences will remain a feature of the CVA's activities although more with the purpose of aligning with other organisations and more for the attendance of high performing country councillors since by their nature conferences can be expensive activities without a great return on their investment. We would hope that Skype conferencing will increase the ability for councillors to interact without the costs involved in transport and accommodation.

So that gives a summary of what the CVA is planning to offer. From there the onus is on potential recipients to make SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, timely) requests.



Dr Rahman passing the presidential mantle to Dr Thornber

## Disaster in Dominica

On 27 August, Tropical Storm Erika hit Dominica killing at least 31 people and leaving a mass of destruction in its wake.

Dr Reginald Thomas, CVA Councillor for Dominica, has reported that substantial losses of livestock including cattle, sheep and goats has occurred. Furthermore, a section of the island involving in excess of 300 homes has been left uninhabitable. As a result, the people from those areas have been forced to evacuate leaving their animals trapped in those areas.

Dr Thomas requested that in the short to medium term veterinary equipment and supplies are needed to help serve the affected areas. He felt that Dominica has a sufficient number of personnel to deal with the situation. Access into affected areas is being coordinated with assistance from the police.

Dr Thomas is our best point of contact in Dominica to coordinate this response. Dr Thomas' email address is [reginaldethomas@hotmail.com](mailto:reginaldethomas@hotmail.com) and his postal address to where supplies and other donations can be sent is:

Relief materials  
Livestock Development Unit  
Botanic gardens  
Roseau  
Dominica



## CVA Joins End Rabies Now Campaign

The End Rabies Now campaign will highlight the progress being made towards rabies elimination across the world. As the African proverb proclaims: "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." Richard Branson, Jane Goodall and Levison Wood are amongst the campaign's earliest endorsers.

The defining mission of the End Rabies Now campaign is to mobilise worldwide support to save lives in areas where rabies continues to threaten both human and dog populations. To raise awareness that we have the tools and the knowledge to end rabies; and that what we need now is the political will and resources to end human deaths due to dog-transmitted rabies by 2030.

Please follow @EndRabiesNow on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/EndRabiesNow), and like the campaign on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/EndRabiesNow). With your help, we can increase global support for the campaign and achieve the campaign's mission.

There's power in numbers. Together, we can end human deaths from dog-transmitted rabies for the good of people and animals.

## Recipes from the world – from Canada

### Poutine

#### Ingredients:

- 1 quart vegetable oil (for frying)
- 1 (10 1/4 ounce) can beef gravy
- 5 medium potatoes, cut into fries
- 2 cups cheese curds

#### Directions:

Heat oil in a deep fryer or deep heavy skillet to 365°F (185°C). Warm gravy in saucepan or microwave. Place the fries into the hot oil, and cook until light brown, about 5 minutes. Remove to a paper towel lined plate to drain. Place the fries on a serving platter, and sprinkle the cheese over them. Ladle gravy over the fries and cheese, and serve immediately.