

SATURDAY, JUNE 8
Conference Day 1

TIME	SESSION
9:00 AM – 10:30 AM	<p>Jean Donaldson, "Moving Towards Standards of Care in Pet Dog Training"</p> <p>Companion dog training has professionalized in recent decades, with the advent of certifications, conferences and associations. How training and cases are approached, however, is left entirely to the discretion of the practitioner, and competence and ethical standards are still optional. This talk will explore the rationale for and items for inclusion in standards of care for trainers.</p>
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM	<p>Debbie Martin, "Doing Better Together - Trainer and Veterinarian Collaboration"</p> <p>Veterinarians and professional modern trainers have the same goals; to improve the human-animal bond, relieve pain and suffering (physical and emotional), and to do so without doing harm to the patient. A collaboration between these fields creates a complete animal behavior healthcare team and benefits all parties; the trainers, veterinary professionals, the client, and the pet! This session will explore the possible roles of trainers within the veterinary field and how that can benefit the veterinary hospital. Debbie will also address how to triage behavioral concerns, to help you better identify when a veterinarian should be involved in a case. Case examples will be used to facilitate the learning process.</p>
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM 2:15 PM – 3:30 PM	<p>Dr. Karen van Haften, "Rodent Training" (Workshop)</p> <p>Rodents are highly trainable and an excellent species for sharpening your training skills. This lab will cover the basics of +R rodent training and provide lots of time to practice with live rodents. All rodents will be BC SPCA adoptable animals, mainly rats but possibly also mice, guinea pigs, gerbils, and chinchillas.</p>
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM	<p>Dr. Chris Pachel, "Do You See What I See? Medical Issues that Present as 'Bad Behaviour'"</p> <p>Clients frequently report changes in their pet's behavior to veterinary staff during appointments. Understanding when to recommend additional diagnostics and when to recommend primary behavior treatment is a valuable skill to have in your tool kit! This presentation will cover common conditions that may appear to be behavioral in origin, when in fact, they may be occurring due to an underlying medical concern.</p>
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM	<p>Debbie Martin, "Preventive Behaviour Services Animal Trainers Should be Offering in Veterinary Hospitals"</p> <p>The adage is, "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." This certainly is true with canine and feline behavioral concerns. With behavior issues being the number one reason for pet relinquishment, it is imperative that veterinary hospitals provide preventive behavioral services for their clients/patients. An overview of several preventive behavior services that can and should be offered in veterinary hospitals will be discussed including: puppy and kitten classes, fun visits, victory visits, veterinary visit preparation classes, and private training or behavior modification sessions.</p>
2:15 PM - 3:30 PM	<p>Debbie Martin, "10 Tips to Make Your Clients and Patients Eager to Come Back!"</p> <p>It does not require a complete renovation of your hospital to make your facility a relaxing oasis for your clients and patients. This session will cover a variety of cost-effective strategies to help cultivate a relaxing and inviting environment from the front door to the back door. Not only will your clients and patients be eager to come back, but they may also not want to leave!</p>
2:15 PM - 3:30 PM	<p>Sarah Pennington, "Training Tips for Reactive Dogs"</p> <p>On-leash reactivity is a very common problem. Although the reason for the reactivity may be different, surprisingly the on-leash outbursts can look the same. Recognizing the motivation behind on-leash reactivity is important. In this talk we will look at the "usual suspects" for on-leash reactivity. As well as the ways to determine the type of reactivity a dog has. In addition an on-leash reactivity case study will be presented. This will demonstrate a training plan option to use to change the behavior of a leash reactive dog. Video demonstrations of the plan in action will be included.</p>

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TIME	SESSION
4:00 PM – 5:30 PM	Dr. Chris Pachel , "Desensitization & Counter-Conditioning: Details Make the Difference" Desensitization and counterconditioning are two of the most commonly recommended techniques for changing behavior or emotional states, but they have to be implemented correctly to be successful! This presentation will cover the principles of these techniques as well as troubleshooting many of mistakes that are commonly made by owners, vets, and trainers.
4:00 PM – 5:30 PM	Kim Monteith , "Behaviour & Outreach: Caring for Vulnerable Populations" TBA

SUNDAY, JUNE 9
Conference Day 2

TIME	SESSION
9:00 AM – 10:30 AM 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM	<p>Dr. Chris Pachel, "More than Good Recommendations: Communication Tips for Successful Behaviour Plans"</p> <p>Successful treatment relies on a working partnership between the clinician and the client. This depends on several factors including reliable observation skills from both individuals, open communication between the clinician and the client, and a client skill set that allows them to implement the recommendations consistently and correctly. These and other factors such as compliance, consistency, anthropomorphism, and communication will be covered within the presentation.</p>
9:00 AM – 9:30 AM	<p>Dr. Karen van Haften, "Emotional Motivations and Behaviour Modification for Aggressive Behaviour in Dogs"</p> <p>Aggression is a learned behaviour that is influenced by emotional and environmental factors. The first step in helping a dog with aggressive behaviour is understanding the underlying emotional motivation. Medical and behavioural differentials for aggressive behaviour and the diagnostic process, will be discussed.</p>
9:30 AM – 10:30 AM	<p>Debbie Martin, "Training and Behavior Modification Techniques for Territorial Aggression in Dogs"</p> <p>Aggression directed toward unfamiliar people entering the home is a common behavior complaint of dog owners. This session will explore behavior modification strategies for safely, humanely, and effectively addressing this common issue.</p>
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM	<p>Dr. Claudia Richter, "How I Treat Fear Aggression"</p> <p>Human directed aggression in dogs is most often fear based and can have a multitude of causes. Having a dog that has shown aggression towards a human, be it unfamiliar people or people within the family, takes an emotional toll on everyone involved in the care. The focus of this talk will be on how to determine the underlying cause of the aggression, addressing management and safety concerns and on the development of a treatment plan. We will also discuss the role of trainers and the veterinary team in prevention of aggression.</p>
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM 2:15 PM – 3:30 PM	<p>Debbie Martin, "Systematic TEAM Approach to Reducing Reactivity (STARR) in Dogs" (Workshop)</p> <p>Using ACES (Associations, Cues, Exposure, and Systematic training exercises) a systematic approach can be used to minimize leash reactivity by changing the dog's emotional and behavioral responses to stimuli. This workshop will be a combination of short lectures, video examples, demonstrations, and practice sessions with stuffed dogs.</p>
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM	<p>Dr. Claudia Richter, "Feline Aggression"</p> <p>Feline-human directed aggression is a multifactorial disease that is in most cases detrimental to the human animal bond, putting cats at high risk of relinquishment or in the worst cases euthanasia. Fear plays a big role in a lot of cases of aggression and owner and adopter education on appropriate interactions and recognizing cat body language play a key role in setting the animal and the new family up for a successful and long lasting relationship. Causes of human directed aggression in cats, treatment including behaviour modification and medication options as well as prevention will be discussed. Lastly the role of the veterinary team in the care of aggressive cats will be addressed.</p>
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM	<p>Lisbeth Plant, "Aggressive Dog Behaviour Case Studies"</p> <p>A behaviour modification program is a big undertaking, not only for the owner and their dog, but also for the behaviour consultant, who will invest his or her reputation in the result of the program.</p> <p>In this session, we will look at an analysis of Lisbeth's behaviour database. Out of 600+ cases, we will look at the types of cases that may be more likely to have a successful outcome, and which ones may be more challenging. We will then pick out and discuss some of those cases in detail, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Goal setting – Re-homing – Euthanasia decisions – Involving the veterinarian and the veterinary behaviourist – Managing the bite risk – Use of artificial and live decoys – Owner compliance

SUNDAY, JUNE 9
Conference Day 2

TIME	SESSION
2:15 PM – 3:30 PM	<p>Dr. Karen van Haften, "Feline Inappropriate Elimination"</p> <p>Inappropriate elimination is a common frustration for cat guardians. With a long list of medical and behavioural differentials, this presenting complaint often frustrates veterinarians as well! This lecture will cover the basics of working up an inappropriate elimination case, with emphasis on behavioural differential diagnoses. Treatment plans, including enrichment, environmental management, behaviour modification, and the role of anxiety-reducing medications will be addressed.</p>
2:15 PM – 3:30 PM	<p>Dr. Zazie Todd, "What Dog Trainers Need to Know about Cat Behaviour"</p> <p>Since many dog households also have cats, and dog-cat conflict may be a reason for hiring a dog trainer, it is important for dog trainers to know something about cats. This talk will run through some essential information about cat behaviour, from the sensitive period for socialization to how to set up the cat's environment and resources to help keep stress levels low. Although we are used to thinking of dogs as having great noses, so do cats, and we will look at the role of chemical signals (including the use of synthetic pheromones). Feline body language is also different from dogs and it is important to know how to recognize signs of stress in cats.</p> <p>Recent research suggests that people feel their dog and cat have a better relationship when the cat is comfortable with the dog, so we'll look at what can help cats and dogs get along. Training cats is becoming increasingly popular so we'll consider differences between training cats and dogs and look at what are useful things to train cats. Dog trainers will gain a better general understanding of cat behaviour as well as specific tips for dog-cat relations and training cats, and where to find resources if extra help is needed.</p>
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM	<p>Speaker's Panel Session</p> <p>Join us for an interactive session with our all-star speakers! We will discuss a variety of meaningful topics in animal behaviour and training, and will answer questions you have been dying to know the answers to. Audience questions will be submitted throughout the weekend.</p>

MONDAY, JUNE 10
Learning Lab

TIME

SESSION

Learning Lab: Humane Handling & Co-operative Veterinary Care

Dr. Karen van Haaften, Kim Monteith, Dr. Claudia Richter, Debbie Martin, Mandi Idle

For veterinarians, veterinary technicians, veterinary assistants, animal trainers, and trainers interested in veterinary training

Whether you need to learn the basics or you want to polish off your impressive humane handling skills, this workshop will have something for everyone! Experts in the field will provide instruction and 1-on-1 coaching with live dogs and cats.

9:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Topics Covered:

- Pre-visit preparation
- Environmental management
- How to use body language and behaviour to stay safe & protect your patient
- Basic restraint & towel techniques for dogs & cats
- Troubleshooting & common mistakes
- Chemical restraint
- Training for co-operative veterinary care