DO YOU KNOW AN OUTSTANDING VETERINARIAN?

Dr. Irene Moore – 2017 Outstanding Veterinarian Award: Dr. Moore was recognized for her outstanding volunteerism and commitment to the veterinary profession. She has served as a leader through her many volunteer positions with industry organizations, her associate director role at the University of Guelph’s Ridgetown campus and through her research and speaking.

Dr. Jennifer Day – 2017 Outstanding Veterinarian Award: As someone who has been actively involved in both the association and regulation aspects of veterinary medicine for more than 20 years, Dr. Day has shown extraordinary service and leadership within the field of veterinary medicine.

Dr. Amy Bennett – 2017 Rising Star Award: Passionate about equine medicine, Dr. Bennett has an extensive skill set and an impressive dedication to her clients and the animals in her care. An active volunteer and sought after mentor, she is a local resource for knowledge and experience.

Dr. Sandra Watzin – 2017 Award of Merit: As a forward-thinking leader and an ambassador for the profession, Dr. Watzin demonstrates a high level of compassion, empathy and dedication in her approach to enhancing the lives of her patients. She has also contributed to her community through generous donations to pet charities and by mentoring countless veterinary students.

Dr. Jeffrey Latimer – 2017 Award of Merit: Dr. Latimer was lauded by his colleagues for his outstanding client service, dedication to assisting animals in need and improving animal welfare, and for his willingness to always go above and beyond the call of duty. One of his hospitals was also voted the public’s favourite veterinary hospital in the 2016 Got a Pet? Get a Vet contest.

Ayala Sher – 2017 Honorary Membership Award: Since establishing SafePet Ottawa in 2014, Ms. Ayala Sher has worked tirelessly to ensure the safety and well-being of companion animals living in homes affected by domestic violence.

How do I nominate someone for an OVMA award?
1. Choose an award category that best suits your proposed candidate.
2. Complete an OVMA Awards Program nomination form.
3. Compile your supporting materials (biography, supporting letters, newspaper clippings, etc.).
4. Mail, email or fax your completed nomination form and supporting materials to OVMA at the address below.

*Please be sure to include biographical information about your nominee. This will serve as the basis of the award nomination and presentation.

What do award recipients receive?
Award winners will receive an engraved OVMA award, complimentary registration to the OVMA Conference & Trade Show, accommodation for one night at the conference venue, and travel expenses to/from the conference.

When are awards presented?
Awards are presented during the annual OVMA Conference & Trade Show in January. Awards are not automatically awarded on an annual basis, but are awarded when at least one nominee meets the award criteria, as determined by the OVMA Awards Committee and the Board of Directors.

When is the deadline for nominations?
Nominations must be received by Oct. 1 of each year. Nominations will be accepted after Oct. 1, but will not be considered until the following year’s awards program.

About OVMA
Founded in 1980, the Ontario Veterinary Medical Association represents thousands of Ontario veterinarians in private practice, government, academia, industry and public service. Our mandate is to advance and promote excellence in the veterinary profession in Ontario, and to contribute to the betterment of animal health and the protection of human health.

For more information, contact:
OVMA
420 Bronte Street South, Suite 205
Milton, ON L9T 0H9
Tel: 1.800.670.1702
Fax: 1.877.482.5941
info@ovma.org
www.ovma.org
The OVMA Awards Program honours those who have made extraordinary contributions to the veterinary profession, and provides OVMA with the opportunity to recognize and share the inspiring and exceptional work being done on behalf of animal welfare, veterinary medicine and the veterinary profession.

OVMA Award Recipients are recognized for their achievements in the following ways:

- Award winners are honoured at a ceremony during the annual OVMA Conference & Trade Show.
- Award winner profiles are published in OVMA's member magazine, Focus.
- Award winners are announced on the OVMA website (www.ovma.org) and OVMA social media sites.
- Press releases are distributed to media in the recipient's local community.

**Award Categories & Requirements**

Nominees must meet the eligibility criteria and nomination requirements for each award as outlined below. Additional supporting materials are required.

**Outstanding Veterinarian Award**

This award is presented to a veterinarian for outstanding contributions to the veterinary profession.

**Eligibility/Requirements:** All veterinarians who are members of OVMA are eligible. Nominees should demonstrate a suitable background of leadership in professional associations at the regional, provincial and/or national levels, plus involvement in the community leading to an enhanced image of veterinarians and/or the profession. A minimum of two letters of recommendation from two veterinarians—one of whom is an OVMA member—must accompany each nomination.

**Honorary Membership Award**

This award is presented to someone who is not a veterinarian but has contributed to animal welfare and/or the veterinary profession.

**Eligibility/Requirements:** Any person, other than a veterinarian, who has served the interests of the veterinary profession through various endeavours. A minimum of two supporting letters, both from OVMA member veterinarians, must accompany each nomination.

**Golden Life Membership Award**

This award recognizes OVMA members who are retired from full-time career pursuits of veterinary medicine or who have been a veterinarian for a minimum of 30 years, and have served the profession in an extraordinary manner. Recipients receive an honorary lifetime OVMA membership.

**Eligibility/Requirements:** OVMA member veterinarians who are either retired or have been a veterinarian for a minimum of 30 years. A minimum of two supporting letters are required: both from OVMA member veterinarians, must accompany each nomination.

**Associate of the Year Award**

This award recognizes OVMA members who are either retired or have been a veterinarian for a minimum of 30 years and who graduated five years ago or less are eligible for nomination. Nominees should demonstrate a suitable background of leadership in their clinic, community, or in organizations at the local or provincial level. A minimum of two supporting letters are required: one from a staff member, and one from an OVMA clinic owner at their place of employment. The nomination should also include one letter from a client that can be requested by the clinic staff in support of the nomination.

**Rising Star Award**

This award is presented to an associate veterinarian who has demonstrated superior leadership in their place of employment and their community for the betterment of animal welfare and/or their clients and/or their colleagues in the veterinary profession.

**Eligibility/Requirements:** All associate veterinarians who are OVMA members and who graduated more than five years ago are eligible for nomination. Nominees should demonstrate a suitable background of demonstrated client and patient service, and should be recognized as a leader in their clinic, community, or in organizations at the local or provincial level. Their exceptional conduct should reflect an overall positive image of the veterinary profession. A minimum of two supporting letters are required: one from a staff member, and one from an OVMA clinic owner at their place of employment. The nomination should also include one letter from a client that can be requested by the clinic staff in support of the nomination.

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**Outstanding Veterinarian Award**

This award is presented to an associate veterinarian who has demonstrated superior customer service and has proven to be an asset to their practice as well as their community.

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