



Livestock Health Extension Services Project

THE ROLE OF VETERINARY ORGANIZATIONS IN GLOBAL HEALTH

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Presentation Goal

1. Consider how standards are set for an individual to become and remain recognized as a veterinarian
2. Identify the role of a veterinary professional association
3. Identify the role of a veterinary statutory body
4. Connect the responsibilities of the various organizations using the Canadian experience as a model.



Maintaining Global Health

- From my experience, veterinary services must be:
 - qualified
 - dependable
 - consistent
 - verifiable
 - ethical



Veterinary Services

- OIE definition:
 - “governmental and non-governmental organizations that impact animal health and welfare measures...”
 - Specific to a country or territory



Veterinary Authority

- OIE definition:
 - “Governmental Authority...having the responsibility...for the implementation of animal health and welfare measures, international veterinary certification...”
 - Specific to a country or territory



Veterinary Statutory Body

- OIE definition:
 - “ authority regulating veterinarians and veterinary para-professionals”
 - Goes by many different names
 - board
 - college
 - association
 - council
 - chamber
 - Function is the same, regardless of name



Veterinary Professional Organization

- A body responsible for establishing and maintaining the identity and credibility of veterinarians
- No specific regulatory function
- May be specific to a country or region or may be extend beyond regional boundaries



Veterinarian

- OIE definition:
 - “a person registered or licensed by a relevant **VETERINARY STATUTORY BODY** of a country to practice veterinary medicine/science in that country”



Veterinarian

- What a veterinarian does
 - public practice...employed by government or agency and engaged in veterinary practice at a global population level
 - clinical/private practice...employed by non governmental corporation or self employed and engaged in veterinary practice at an individual animal or herd/farm level



Veterinarian

- How a veterinarian is educated
 - broad based
 - comparative bio-medical
 - specific to veterinary medicine
 - standardized professional degree



Veterinarian

- How a veterinarian is professionally committed
 - membership in local, national and international veterinary associations
 - Deliver veterinary services for the benefit of society
 - Follow a written code of ethics and conduct

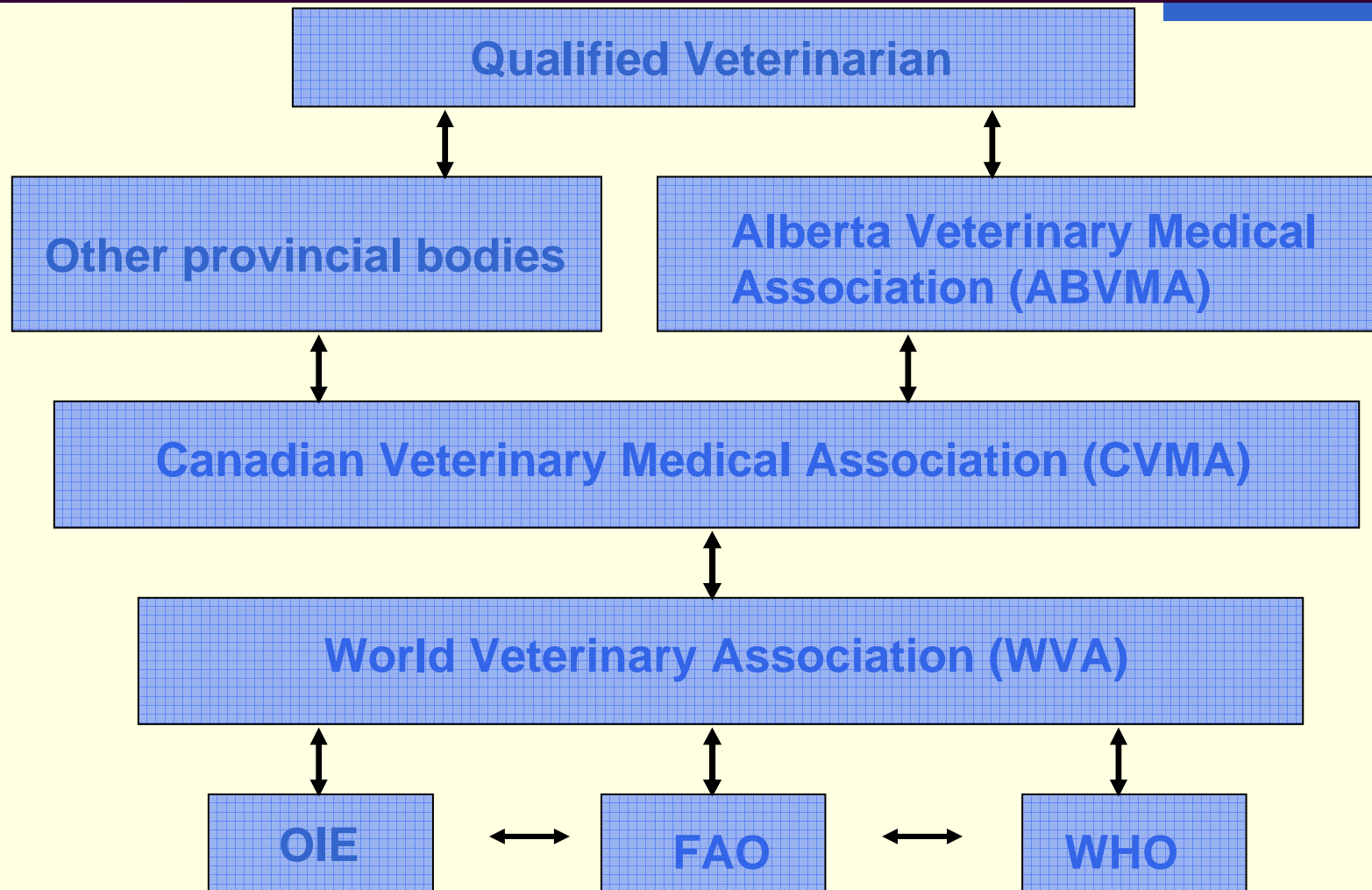


Veterinarian

- How a veterinarian is professionally accountable
 - licensed or registered by a Veterinary Statutory Body
 - empowered by legislative authority of jurisdiction to practice
 - possess a minimum entry level education
 - continuous education
 - verifiable competency
 - accountable to public through enforceable complaint review process



AB.VMA – Alberta Veterinary Medical Association





Alberta Veterinary Medical Association

- Veterinary Statutory Body
- Provincial jurisdiction under legislation
- Mandatory registration of all persons practicing veterinary medicine in province
- Discipline process to deal with complaints about veterinarians
- Sets standards for practice in the province



Alberta Veterinary Medical Association

- Interacts with government and other organizations in policy matters regarding animal health and welfare
- Provides and encourages foundation education and continuous education for practitioners
- Communicates with members regarding issues in veterinary medicine
- Educates public in areas of animal health
- Appoints a delegate to Canadian Veterinary Medical Association

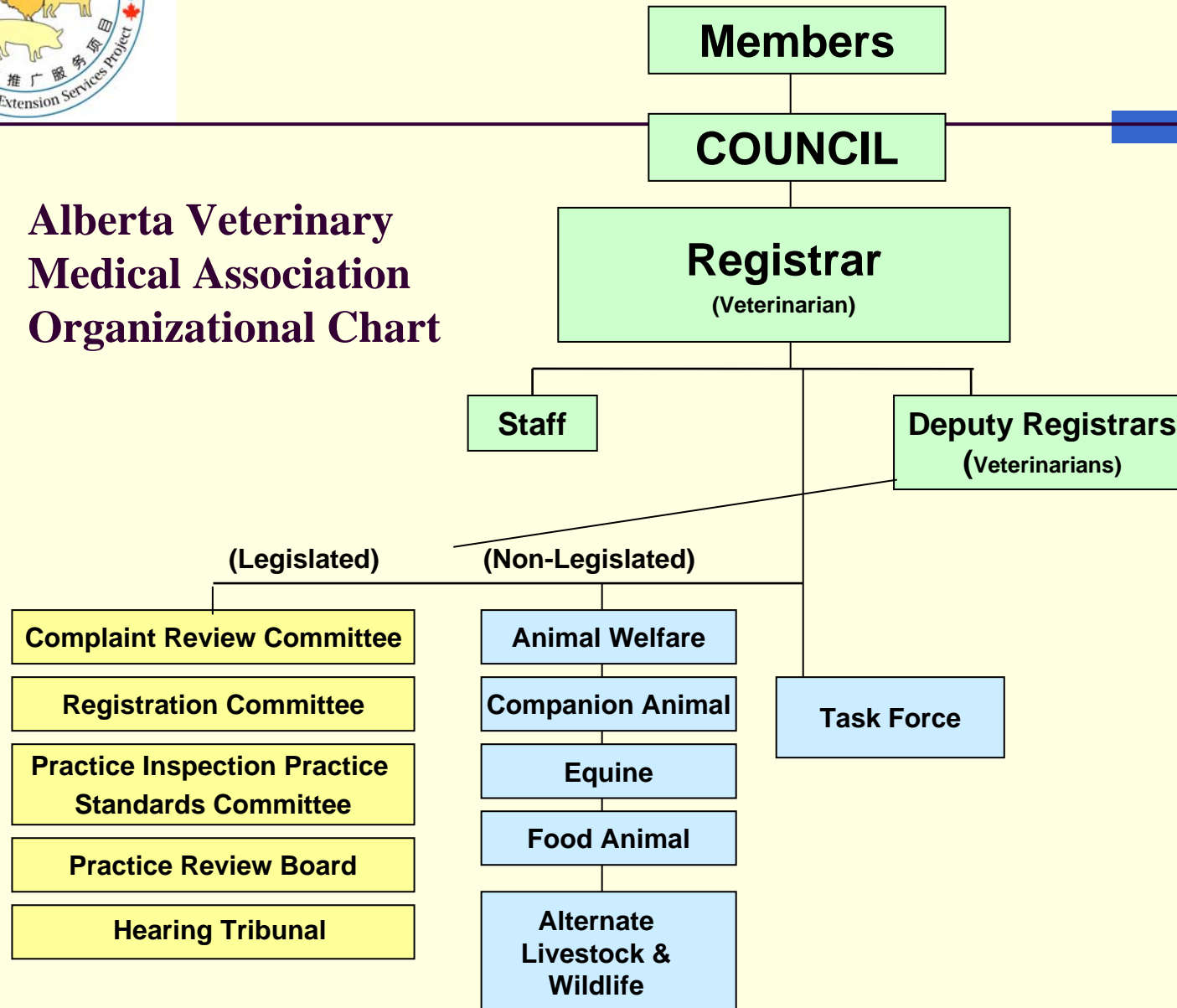


Alberta Veterinary Medical Association

- Governed by Council and various committees
- Council consists of:
 - Eight elected practicing veterinarians
 - Delegate from the Office of the Chief Provincial Veterinarian
 - Delegate from Canadian Food Inspection Agency
 - Delegate from two regional Veterinary Educational Programs
 - Delegate representing Animal Health Technologists
 - Two members of the public appointed by the provincial government



Alberta Veterinary Medical Association Organizational Chart





Public of Alberta

Government of Alberta

Minister of Alberta Employment and Immigration

Veterinary Profession Act



- **Bylaws**
- **Council Guidelines**
- **Practice Standards**
- **Code of Ethics**



Canadian Veterinary Medical Association

- Veterinary Professional Organization
- Represents veterinarians from across Canada
- Governing body consists of delegate from each provincial Veterinary Statutory Body and veterinary educational organizations



Canadian Veterinary Medical Association

- Functions by:
 - publishing both a practice oriented and research orientated veterinary journal
 - communicates with members through a web site and news letters
 - Provides education to public in areas of animal health and welfare
 - hosts an annual convention for continuous education and professional interaction of veterinarians
 - Develops policy and positions regarding: Animal welfare, National Veterinary Issues, International Veterinary Issues, Veterinary Practice and business, Government programs
 - representing veterinarians at an international level through delegation to: World Veterinary Association, Pan American Veterinary Association, Common Wealth Veterinary Association



Canadian Veterinary Medical Association

- Provides essential role in operating the National Examining Board for the Provincial Statutory Bodies
- The National Examining Board :
 - provides accreditation services for veterinary educational programs in partnership with American Veterinary Medical Association
 - provides examination services for graduates of accredited and non accredited veterinary programs



National Examining Board- Exams

- North American Veterinary Licensing Exam
 - Mandatory for all veterinarians registering/licensing in any North American jurisdiction
 - Computer based exam, requires up to eight hours to complete and measures general knowledge in all veterinary scientific and medical areas

- Basic Clinical and Science Exam
 - Mandatory for graduates of programs not accredited by the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association
 - Computer based exam, requires several hours to complete and measures knowledge of foundation sciences up to the stage of clinical training

- Clinical Proficiency Exam
 - Mandatory for graduates of all non accredited programs
 - Practical, hands on examination, using live animals, requires 4-6 days to complete and evaluates ability to handle actual medical, surgical and diagnostic problems



Certificate of Qualification

- Is provided to all veterinarians who have successfully completed the examination sequence of the National Examining Board
- Is the essential verification of entry level education to be registered/licensed by any Canadian Veterinary Statutory Body



World Veterinary Association

- Members are all veterinarians in member countries
- Member countries are represented through their national veterinary professional organization
- Serves the profession by:
 - publishing policies and discussions relating to animal health and welfare, veterinary education, veterinary professionalism, food safety and security
 - communicating with veterinarians and the public through a web site and news letters

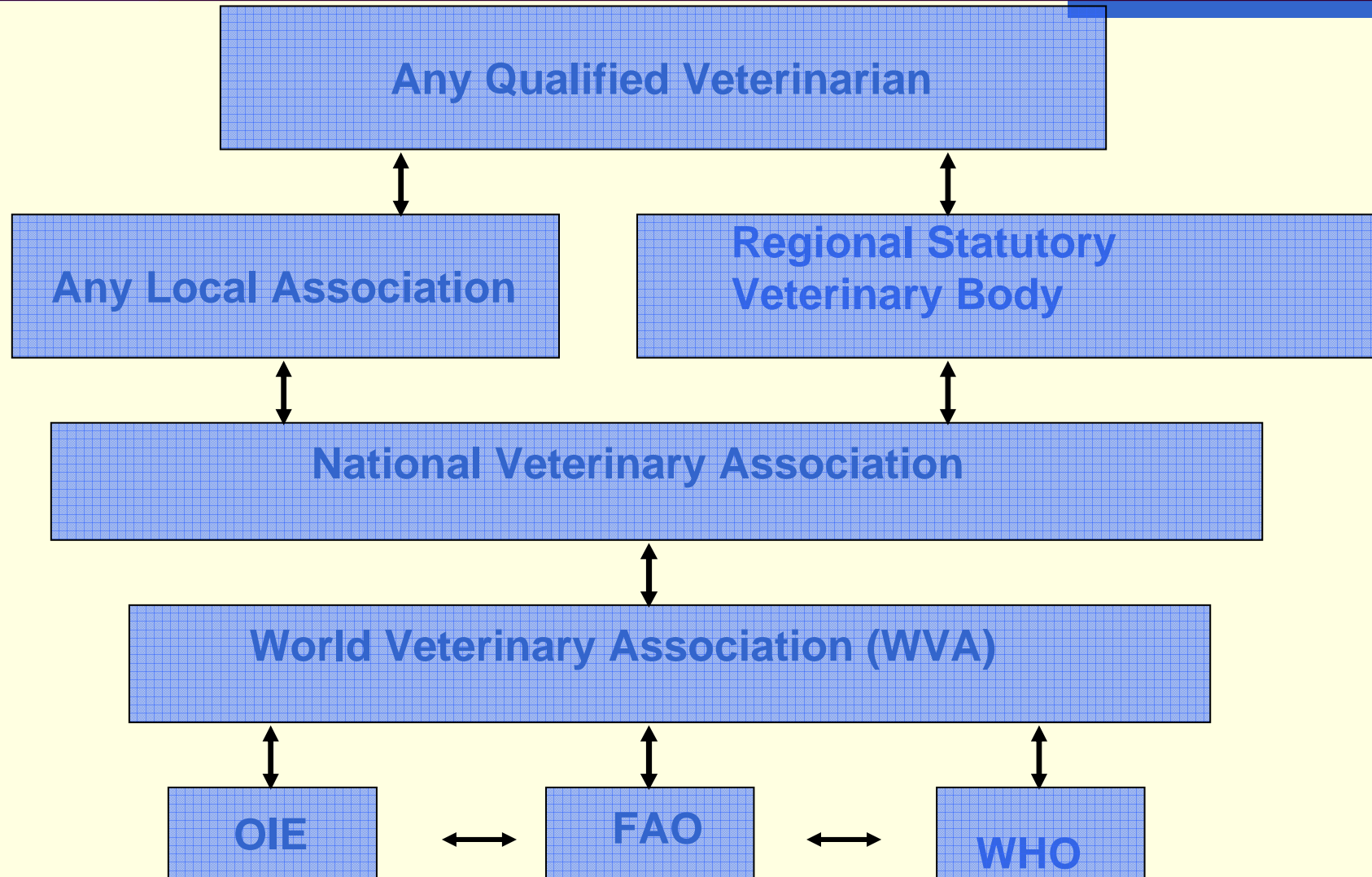


World Veterinary Association

- Serves the profession by:
 - World Veterinary Congress, hosted every 3 years by a member country for the purpose of continuous education and interaction between veterinarians globally
 - provides a voice for individual veterinarians on international bodies that set policy relevant to veterinary medicine
 - OIE- World Organization for Animal Health
 - FAO-Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations
 - WHO-World Health Organization of United Nations



Connecting Veterinarians to the World





Livestock Health Extension Services Project

- Thank you for your attention
- Dr. Duane Landals
 - Registrar, Alberta Veterinary Medical Association
 - Vice President, World Veterinary Association

