CANADIAN EMBRYO TRANSFER ASSOCIATION AMERICAN EMBRYO TRANSFER ASSOCIATION



2012 JOINT CONVENTION REGISTRATION BOOKLET





September 13-15, 2012 Victoria Inn Hotel & Convention Centre Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

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American Embryo Transfer Association (AETA)

1800 South Oak St. Suite 100 Champaign, Illinois 61820-6974 Tel: 217-398-2217

Fax: 217-398-4119 E-mail: aeta@assochq.org Web site: www.aeta.org

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{as of June 26, 2012 }

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INFORMATION ON WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, CANADA

Known for its friendly and welcoming spirit, Winnipeg is a diverse multicultural city with a rich and varied history. An aboriginal trading centre prior to the arrival of the Europeans, Winnipeg was at the heart of the country's fur trade and instrumental in developing Canada's gateway to the west. Home to a grain exchange that once rivaled the largest markets in the world, Winnipeg's architecture and neighbourhoods reflect the profound character of this small prairie town.

Over the last decades, Winnipeg has developed into a cosmopolitan city complete with top-notch restaurants, swanky boutiques, exciting attractions and an arts and culture scene that bursts with talent and originality.

Combining the food, art and culture of a bustling cosmopolitan city with plenty of small town charm, Winnipeg offers unique and unforgettable experiences.

Home to more than 1,100 restaurants, Winnipeg's top notch food scene tantalizes every taste bud. Sample exotic dishes at authentic mom-and-pop restaurants, bite into innovative tapas at trendy bistros and dine with gourmands at hotspots manned by the city's top chefs.

Known as the "cultural cradle of Canada", Winnipeg is home to Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet, the Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre, Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra and so much more. The city also boasts a proud aboriginal heritage as the heart of Canada's historic fur trade. Festivals abound in Manitoba's capital with a year-round slate of activity including Festival du Voyageur, Folklorama and the Winnipeg Folk Festival. Here, theatre season is alight with talent, excitement and star power. Winnipeg also offers an impressive and inspiring arts scene, from the world's largest collection of Inuit Art, to modern canvases covered in spray paint to locally-made handicrafts.

Areas like Osborne Village, Academy and the Exchange District cater to shopaholics with unique stores and boutiques featuring of-the-moment fashion, chic furniture and one-of-a-kind treasures.

Families will delight in the attractions at the Manitoba Children's Museum and enjoy exploring The Forks—Winnipeg's gathering place with nine acres of activity, restaurants, shopping and interactive fun. For the outdoor aficionado, green spaces blanket the city. Take a bike ride through scenic Assiniboine Park, see a herd of bison at FortWhtye Alive and practice your bird calls at Oak Hammock Marsh.

For more information on Winnipeg, please visit the Winnipeg Tourism web site at: http://www.tourismwinnipeg.com/
For attractions and things to see and do, please visit: http://www.tourismwinnipeg.com/things-to-do



CONVENTION REGISTRATION INFORMATION

(Please refer to the Convention Registration Form)

Early Registration Deadline Date is: August 6, 2012

- DELEGATE REGISTRATION: (for Members & Non-Members of CETA/ACTE & AETA)
 Included in the delegate registration fee are: Scientific sessions on Friday and Saturday, breakfast & lunch on Friday and Saturday, Banquet on Friday. (NOTE: Thursday seminar is not included)
- ► TECHNICIAN REGISTRATION: (For individuals employed as a technician & working with a veterinarian)

 Included in the technician registration fee are: Scientific sessions on Friday and Saturday, breakfast & lunch on Friday and Saturday, Banquet on Friday. (NOTE: Thursday seminar is not included)
- STUDENT REGISTRATION: (For Full-time Students)
 Included in the student registration fee are: Seminar on Thursday, Scientific Sessions on Friday and Saturday, breakfast & lunch on Friday and Saturday. (NOTE: Banquet on Friday is not included)
- ▶ <u>COMPANION REGISTRATION:</u> (For non-practitioner companions attending the convention but not attending the scientific sessions.) Included in the companion registration fee are: Breakfast on Friday & Saturday and Banquet on Friday.
- ▶ <u>SEMINARS:</u> Two (2) seminars are being offered on Thursday afternoon: ET 101 and ET 201, please refer to the program outline for further details on these seminars. (Note: There is a separate registration fee to attend the seminars, please indicate on the Convention Registration Form your seminar of choice.)

<u>CANCELLATION POLICY:</u> To be eligible for a refund of meeting registration fees, requests must be received in writing before the following dates:

- On or before August 20, 2012 Full refund of registration fee
- After August 20, 2012 NO REFUND
- The cancellation dates apply only to the meeting registration fees
- Please refer to the 'Convention Registration Form' for additional information.

CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE) HOURS

CETA/ACTE

There will be a total of 15 hours of continuing education (3 hrs for the pre-conference seminar & 12 hrs for the main meeting) for the 2012 CETA/ACTE and AETA Joint Convention (pending RACE approval).

For CETA/ACTE Certification purposes:
There will be 10 CE credits for the 2012 CETA/ACTE & AETA Joint Convention.

AETA

This course has been submitted (but not yet approved) for 15 hours of continuing education credit (3 hrs for the preconference seminar & 12 hrs for the main meeting) in jurisdictions which recognize AAVSB R.A.C.E. approval; however participants should be aware that some boards have limitations on the number of hours accepted in certain categories and/or restrictions on certain methods of delivery of continuing education.

Call 217-398-2217 or E-mail: aeta@assochq.org for further information.

HOTEL INFORMATION

ACCOMMODATIONS

RESERVE YOUR ROOM NOW

The 2012 CETA/ACTE & AETA Joint Convention will be held at the *Victoria Inn Hotel & Convention Centre* in *Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada*. Rooms are being held at a group rate of \$140 CAD per night for single/double occupancy. Reservations must be made prior to <u>August 15th, 2012</u>. After this date, reservations will only be accepted upon availability and at the current rack rate. The convention rate will not apply for reservations after <u>August 15th, 2012</u>. Please give the hotel the group name (CETA & AETA Joint Convention) or group code (476817) when making a reservation.

For reservations, please call: 1-877-842-4667 or you can make your reservation on-line from the CETA/ACTE and/or AETA web site. (NOTE: only deluxe guestroom reservations can be made on-line.)

Victoria Inn Hotel & Convention Centre

1808 Wellington Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3H 0G3

Deluxe Guestrooms (Single/Double): \$140 cad/night (+ applicable taxes)

Executive King Business rooms or Executive Suites: \$175 cap/night (+ applicable taxes)

Convention Rate is available until August 15th, 2012

The Victoria Inn Hotel has an on-site family venue (Dino-Beach Family Water Park) and offers the following complimentary services: In room wireless or hard-line high-speed internet / Wireless high speed internet in all conference space / lobby internet computer / parking / 24 hour airport shuttle

For more information on the Victoria Inn Hotel, please visit: http://winnipeg.vicinn.com

How To GET THERE

BY AIR: You will arrive in Winnipeg at the < Winnipeg James Armstrong Richardson International Airport >

The Victoria Inn Hotel is adjacent to the airport and provides a 24-hour complimentary airport shuttle to and from airport/hotel. To access the shuttle, please go to the baggage claim area, and pick up the telephone labeled 'Victoria Inn Hotel' on the shuttle service board.

IF DRIVING:

Winnipeg is an easy destination to get to and is only one hour north of the U.S. border crossing at Pembina, North Dakota.

In Canada:

 The No. 1 Trans-Canada Highway (eastwest) provides direct connection to all major urban centers in the country.

From the United States:

 North on Interstate 29 and cross the border at Pembina/Emerson and continue on Hwy # 75 to Winnipeg.

Once in Winnipeg, please refer to this map for directions to the hotel.



SOCIAL EVENTS - THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

GOLF TOURNAMENT at River Oaks Golf Course

6:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Best Ball Tournament

CO-SPONSORED BY: Partnar Animal Health & Reproduction Resources

PLEASE MEET IN THE HOTEL LOBBY AT 6:00 AM

River Oaks is an 18-hole, par 72 public golf course, located five kilometers south of Winnipeg. Family owned and operated since 1991, River Oaks is known for its scenic views of the LaSalle River, long rolling fairways, and mature oak trees.

River Oaks welcomes golfers of all levels, with challenging bunkers and water hazards. Golfers will especially enjoy the island green at the end of the par 5 9th. The middle section of the course is enhanced by the mature oak trees lining both sides of the fairways.



Dress Code: Players must wear proper attire on the golf course property. Acceptable attire consists of slacks or tailored golf shorts and golf shirts with collars for men. Slacks, skirts or proper golf shorts for the women. Shirts must be worn at all times. Golf shoes or running shoes with flat heels. Only soft spikes are allowed, no metal spikes permitted.

For additional information, please visit: http://www.riveroaksgolf.ca/

Club Rentals:

<u>PLEASE NOTE:</u> We have been notified by the River Oaks Golf Course that their access to high quality rental clubs has been impacted by the closure of the only business in Manitoba that provided this service.

9 sets of Right-handed and 3 sets of left-handed are all that's available for our event. So if you are not able to bring your set along, please check off on the golf registration form that you need rentals and what hand you require. We will do our best to accommodate everyone. The cost of rentals is \$35.

PRE-CONFERENCE SOCIAL at the HITCH N' POST RANCH

5:30 PM - 9:30 PM

SPONSORED BY: Bioniche Animal Health

PLEASE MEET IN THE HOTEL LOBBY - BUSES WILL LEAVE AT 5:30 PM

Come and join us for an evening filled with fun and laughter. We will take a short bus drive outside Winnipeg to the Hitch N' Post Ranch where you will be treated to a delicious Roast Beef barbeque with all the fixins. There will be a western theme and there may even be a few surprises in store. It will be a great venue to visit and catch up with all your colleagues and friends.





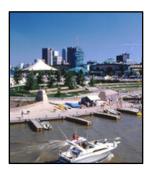
COMPANION TOURS

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH

9:00 AM - 2:30 PM

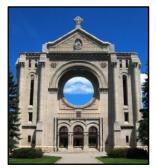
PLEASE MEET AT THE CONVENTION REGISTRATION DESK AT 8:45 AM

WINNIPEG CITY SIGHTSEEING TOUR by BUS



At 9:00 am you depart the Victoria Inn to tour Winnipeg, the wonderful city of trees! This tour includes the Forks National Historic site, Winnipeg's historical "meeting place", with its unique outdoor historic site and indoor market of shops, cafes, and restaurants.

Across the new Esplanade Riel Bridge, you will visit Winnipeg's French Quarter (St. Boniface) and the beautiful St. Boniface Cathedral, the oldest cathedral in Western Canada. The Cathedral's cemetery features the grave of Louis Riel, the famous Métis leader and founder of Manitoba.



You will tour through the Exchange District, with its exceptional collection of terra cotta and cut stone architecture. This thriving and unique neighborhood is home to an array of restaurants, nightclubs, art galleries and Winnipeg's theatre district. Its cobblestone streets and friendly



pedestrian environment also contribute to its popularity as a period backdrop for today's movie industry.

You will also see the Legislative Building, the beautiful homes of Wellington Crescent, and Winnipeg's 393-acre Assiniboine Park where you will have the opportunity to walk through the unique Leo Mol Sculpture Garden, which features bronze sculptures, porcelains, paintings and sketches by celebrated Winnipeg artist, Leo Mol.

At 12:00 noon you arrive at the Forks where you have <u>lunch on your own.</u> Following lunch you have time to browse the many shops or simply relax by the river. At 2:00 pm you depart back to the Victoria Inn.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH

9:00 AM - 12:00 NOON

*PLEASE MEET AT THE CONVENTION REGISTRATION DESK AT 8:45 AM *

THE HERMETIC CODE TOUR: Decoding the Ancient Egyptian and Masonic Mysteries of the Manitoba Legislative Building



At 9:00 am you depart the Victoria Inn by highway motor coach for the Manitoba Legislative Building. Upon arrival you join your tour guide for a morning of decoding the famous symbols and architecture that makes the building truly unique. Your guide will uncover trails of occult clues concealed in the building's architecture including: hidden hieroglyphic inscriptions, numerological codes, and Freemasonic symbols so

intelligently masked it has escaped historians and visitors for nearly a hundred years! You will learn that the building is a library of coded messages

and secret techniques inscribed in a Masonic language. Is it possible that the Legislative Building is really a conduit of magical power? Is the building's location in the centre of North America a site for numinous earth energies? Come and find out for yourself! The tour has been designated as a Signature Experience Collection by the Canadian Tourism Commission and Winnipeg's number one tour as ranked by Trip Advisor. At 11:30 am you depart by highway coach back to the Victoria Inn.



PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH

8:00 AM - 11:00 AM	MEETING: CETA/ACTE Certification Committee Meeting
7:30 AM – 5:00 PM	MEETING: AETA Board of Directors Meeting
11:00 ам - 6:00 рм	MEETING: CETA/ACTE Board of Directors Meeting
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM	EXAM: CETA/ACTE Certification Exam (for initial certification)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH

6:00 AM – 2:00 PM	SOCIAL: Golf Tournament at River Oaks Golf Course
	Co-Sponsored by: Partnar Animal Health & Reproduction Resources
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	MEETING: CETA/ACTE Certification Exam REVIEW
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	EXAM: AETA Certification Exam (for initial certification)
12:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Exhibit Set-up
12:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Registration
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM	SEMINAR: ET 101 Presented by: Dr. Randall Hinshaw & Dr. Richard Whitaker Description: This seminar will cover the most basic concepts of embryo transfer from collection to freezing including superovulation, synchronization, equipment, processing, and records.
2:00 рм — 5:00 рм	SEMINAR: ET 201 Topics: Superovulation schedules, synchronization of recipients, Handling and Assessing IVF embryos in the field Moderator: Dr. Kevin Lindell Sponsored by: Vétoquinol Canada
5:30 PM -9:30 PM	SOCIAL: Hitch 'N Post Ranch Sponsored by: Bioniche Animal Health

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH

Registration
Exhibits Open
Breakfast in Exhibit Room Sponsored by: Professional Embryo Transfer Supply, Inc. (PETS)
Companion Tour: Winnipeg City Sightseeing Tour <i>by bus</i> with time at 'The Forks National Historic site'
Welcome and Announcements
SESSION: The 5-day CO-Synch + CIDR program for timed AI in cattle Presented by: Dr. Michael Day Sponsored by: Pfizer Animal Health Description: The basis for development of the 5-day CO-Synch + CIDR program, its benefits, and the potential factors that contribute to the enhanced fertility with this program will be discussed.

FRIDAY,	SEPTEMBER 14 TH	continued
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8:50 AM - 9:40 AM SESSION: Semen production and quality control

Presented by: Tom Kroetsch

Description: This presentation includes a brief review of the history of bovine AI, a chronological snap shot of a day in an AI semen production lab, a comparison between conventional and sexed

semen production and a review of present and future semen quality control.

9:40 AM - 10:30 AM SESSION: BVD virus - it's impact on female and male fertility and approaches to control

Presented by: Dr. Rob Tremblay

Description: BVD virus is uniquely capable of impacting reproduction by infecting the developing fetus at all stages of development. Bulls may harbor BVD virus in their testicles and shed virus in their semen. Unfortunately, it is often difficult and expensive to make a clear diagnosis of BVD infection. Its presence is more often suspected than proven. New testing technologies and strategies have made testing more accessible. This presentation will address the impact of BVD on the male and female reproductive systems and strategies for control.

10:30 AM – 11:00 AM Break in Exhibit Room

Sponsored by: Veterinary Concepts

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM MEETING: AETA Business Meeting

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM MEETING: CETA/ACTE Annual General Meeting

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM Lunch in Exhibit Room

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM MEETING: CETA/ACTE New Board of Directors Meeting

12:30 PM – 1:30 PM MEETING: AETA New Board of Directors Meeting

1:30 PM — 3:00 PM SESSION: Practitioners Forum: Presentations and Question & Answer session

Moderator: Dr. Reuben Mapletoft

3:00 PM - 3:30 PM Break in Exhibit Room

Sponsored by: Minitube International, Inc.

3:30 PM - 5:30 PM SESSION: Practitioners Forum continued...

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM SOCIAL: Social hour in Exhibit Room

7:00 PM SOCIAL: Banquet

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH

6:30 AM – 7:30 AM	AETA Past Presidents Breakfast
7:00 AM – 1:30 PM	Exhibits Open
7:00 AM – 8:00 AM	Breakfast in Exhibit Room
7:00 AM – 3:00 PM	Registration
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Companion Tour: The Hermetic Code Tour – Decoding the Ancient Egyptian and Masonic Mysteries of the Manitoba Legislative Building
8:00 AM — 10:00 AM	CETA/ACTE SESSION: Information Session Fee Survey Discussion / CFIA Embryo Export Approval Program update

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH continued...

8:00 AM – 10:00 AM	AETA SESSION: Cooperator Committee Presentation / AETA Certification Session: Updates and quiz for current certified practitioners
10:00 AM – 10:30 AM	Break in Exhibit Room Sponsored by: Minitube International, Inc.
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	Presented by: Brian Van Doormaal Description: Dairy producers in Canada and internationally now have access to various DNA genotyping services for parentage confirmation and/or discovery, genetic recessive profiling, and genomic evaluations. These advancements have revolutionized how breed associations and genetic evaluation centres offer their respective services to producers and industry organizations. Of major importance is the significant impact of genomics for increasing the accuracy of genetic evaluations for young bulls, heifers and cows, which provides new opportunities for improved genetic selection and mating strategies to boost rates of genetic progress and profitability of the dairy herd.
11:30 ам — 12:00 рм	SESSION: Estrous synchronization and embryo transfer in bison Presented by: Dr. Robert McCorkell Description: The presentation will review recent work on bison estrous synchronization and embryo transfer that is being conducted by the Wood Bison Reproductive Research Group.
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM	Lunch in Exhibit Room
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM	MEETING: Joint Convention Committee Meeting (CETA/ACTE & AETA)
1:30 PM — 3:00 PM	SESSION: The Effect of Nutrition on Reproduction: Applications for ET Donors and Recipients Presented by: Dr. Gary Oetzel Description: This presentation will review our current understanding of the effects of nutrition on reproductive performance. Common problems with feeding management will be highlighted. Applications of these principles will be made to the feeding of ET donors and recipients.
3:00 РМ — 4:00 РМ	SESSION: Postpartum uterine diseases in dairy cows: What's new? Presented by: Dr. Jocelyn Dubuc Description: Postpartum uterine health is a critical point addressed on a daily basis by veterinary practitioners. This conference will review current knowledge on definition, diagnosis, treatment, and impacts of postpartum uterine diseases. Results from a recent large-scale study will also be presented.

THE CONVENTION SPEAKERS

Dr. Michael Day:

Dr. Michael Day earned his BS in Animal Husbandry from the University of Missouri, Columbia, in 1980. He subsequently earned his MS and Ph.D. degrees in reproductive endocrinology in the Department of Animal Sciences at the University of Nebraska- Lincoln, and joined the faculty at The Ohio State University in the Department of Animal Sciences in 1985. He is currently a Professor and Graduate Studies Chair in the Department. In 1996-97, Dr. Day took a sabbatical to work in collaboration with Dr. Jock MacMillan at the Dairying Research Corporation in Hamilton, New Zealand.

The focus of Dr. Day's research is the endocrine regulation of pubertal, follicular and uterine processes in cattle. Research targeting development and improvement of estrous cycle control in beef cattle has been a constant component of his program. He currently has ongoing and active research collaborations in Brazil in addition to his program in Ohio. Dr. Day has authored/coauthored over 75 journal articles, 125 abstracts and 30 papers in proceedings. His research has been primarily funded by USDA-NIFA and the AI industry. He contributes to many extension programs on a State, national, and international level.

Dr. Jocelyn Dubuc:

Dr. Dubuc completed a veterinary degree in 2005 at the Université de Montréal. He then completed a master degree at the Université de Montréal in 2007 and a doctoral degree at the University of Guelph in 2010. His doctoral degree focused mainly on postpartum uterine diseases. During his graduate studies, he worked as a dairy practitioner in 2 practices. He currently works as a faculty for the ruminant field service clinic of the Université de Montréal. He focuses on dairy herd management and preventive medicine. His main interests in research and practice are postpartum uterine diseases, transition cow diseases, and milk fat depression.

Dr. Randall Hinshaw:

Randall Hinshaw received his DVM degree from the University of Georgia in 1982 and moved to Harrisonburg, VA to begin his veterinary career. The practice currently is bovine exclusive and employs seven veterinarians. Since 2000 his practice has been limited to bovine embryo transfer and ultrasonography. He has given numerous presentations and training seminars across the U.S. and served as the president of the American Embryo Transfer Association. In 2006 he was given the bovine practitioner of the year award from the American Association of Bovine Practitioners. He and his wife, Linda, have three adult daughters and three grandchildren.

Thomas G. Kroetsch:

Tom Kroetsch, a native of Waterloo County, Ontario, graduated with his Honours B.Sc. (Biological Science) in 1974 and his M.Sc. (Reproductive Physiology) in 1992, from the University of Guelph. His graduate project studied the impact of the semen donor on bovine IVF. After over 25 years of AI laboratory management Tom joined the Semex Alliance as Technical Specialist in 2002 and was promoted to the role of Director – Production and Quality Control in June 2004. He has been involved in various international projects in Brazil, China and Hungary, was the 1999 recipient of the Ontario Agriculture College Outstanding Service Award and has contributed to over 35 scientific publications on semen-related investigations.

The Convention Speakers continued...

Dr. Kevin Lindell:

Dr. Lindell completed his BS in Biology from The Citadel in 1990 and his DVM and MS from Purdue University in 1994. After 2 years of mixed-animal practice, Dr. Lindell was the sole proprietor of a large animal (predominantly dairy) practice in southern New England until January of 2005. At which time he joined his practice to the Ambulatory Service of Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine where he continues to serve on the faculty.

In addition to serving the dairy community in CT, MA and RI through the ambulatory service office in Woodstock CT, Dr. Lindell lectures on the Grafton campus on ruminant diseases and Assisted Reproductive technologies. He is the schools' AABP representative and advisor to the student livestock organization. He has been active in the embryo transfer field since 1998, AETA certified since 2004 and is currently the Vice President of the American Embryo Transfer Association. He provides extension services both locally and internationally and has an active interest in zoonotic diseases.

Dr. Reuben John Mapletoft:

Dr. Reuben Mapletoft received a DVM from the University of Guelph in 1967, and MS (1975) and PhD (1977) degrees in Endocrinology and Reproductive Physiology from the University of Wisconsin. He joined the WCVM as Director of Clinical Research in 1977. He became Head of the Department of Herd Medicine and Theriogenology (now Large Animal Clinical Sciences) in 1998. In July, 2002, Dr. Mapletoft took a one year Leave of Absence to consult with Bioniche Animal Health, which has led to a 50% appointment with the University of Saskatchewan.

Dr. Mapletoft's research in reproductive biology and the application of assisted reproductive technologies in cattle spans more than 30 years. He is well known for his work in bovine embryo transfer, estrus synchronization and superovulation. His embryo transfer protocols have become the *de facto* standard for clinical use worldwide, and he has been instrumental in developing the embryo transfer industry in Canada and around the world. He is a Past-president of the International Embryo Transfer Society (IETS) and Founding President of the Canadian Embryo Transfer Association (CETA), and he was Chairman of the Import/Export Committee of the IETS for 10 years. He is currently a member of the Certification Committee of CETA and several IETS committees.

Much of Dr. Mapletoft's recent work has involved the manipulation of ovarian follicular function for superovulation, estrus synchronization and timed-breeding in cattle. He has also utilized *in vitro* fertilization to evaluate oocyte competence, the effect of sperm morphology on fertilization and zygote development, and the development of this model to study male factor infertility in humans. He is also investigating the use of non-biological additives for the culture and cryopreservation of spermatozoa, oocytes and embryos.

Dr. Mapletoft is also very active in technology transfer; he has given over 150 invited lectures in more than 30 countries and has trained graduate students from all over the world. He has contributed more than 300 papers to published conference proceedings, and authored more than 130 refereed publications. He has conducted over three dozen embryo transfer workshops for more than 200 veterinary professionals from around the world.

Dr. Robert McCorkell:

Dr. McCorkell received his DVM from the Western College of Veterinary Medicine in 1983. He then spent many years as a mixed animal practitioner, much of it in rural central Alberta, before returning to graduate school to study the reproductive physiology of some of Canada's native ungulates (elk, and white-tailed deer). After receiving his PhD from the University of Saskatchewan in 2006 he was a lead researcher in a project investigating the reproductive physiology of Wood Bison. He is a member of the Wood Bison Reproductive Research Group working to adapt assisted reproductive technologies to bison in order to provide a possible solution to the diseased wood bison in Wood Buffalo National Park. In August of 2008 he joined the new Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Calgary as a Senior Instructor.

The Convention Speakers continued...

Dr. Garrett R. Oetzel:

Dr. Garrett R. (Gary) Oetzel, DVM, MS, is an associate professor in the Food Animal Production Section, Department of Medical Sciences, School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Dr. Oetzel grew up on a beef cow-calf farm in southwestern Ohio. He completed his undergraduate and veterinary medical training at The Ohio State University, receiving his BS in 1978 and DVM in 1981. From Ohio he went to the University of Illinois where he completed an internship, residency, and graduate program. He received his MS degree in Veterinary Clinical Medicine in 1985. Dr. Oetzel then spent three years as an assistant professor at Colorado State University where he refined his interests in dairy nutrition and dairy production medicine. After one year in private dairy practice in Reedsville, WI, Dr. Oetzel joined the Food Animal Production Medicine Section at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Veterinary Medicine in September, 1989. Dr. Oetzel's research interests are in applied dairy nutrition and metabolic diseases such as milk fever, ruminal acidosis, ketosis, and displaced abomasum. He teaches veterinary clinical nutrition to the first- and third-year veterinary medical students and applied dairy nutrition to the fourth-year veterinary medical students. His clinical interests include troubleshooting techniques and the application of herd-based tests for metabolic disease problems in dairy herds.

Dr. Robert Tremblay:

Rob Tremblay is a Bovine and Equine Specialist with Boehringer Ingelheim (Canada) Ltd. He graduated from the Ontario Veterinary College in 1982 and worked in large animal practice in New Brunswick. After receiving a DVSc degree in 1988, he remained at OVC as a faculty member in the large animal clinic until 1992. He spends much of his time working on the control of infectious diseases of cattle.

Brian Van Doormaal:

Brian Van Doormaal has dedicated his professional career of 26 years involved in the genetic improvement of dairy cattle in Canada. Most significantly, he has been the General Manager of Canadian Dairy Network (CDN) for the past 17 years, a position he has held since the company was first established in 1995. For a period of two years starting in June 2010, he was also the Chief Executive Officer of Holstein Canada and managed both companies during a time when the industry was embracing genotyping and genomics for dairy cattle improvement. Over the course of his career at CDN he has been directly involved in the implementation of several genetic evaluation advancements including national genomic evaluations for Canada in 2009. At Holstein Canada, focus was on the establishment of a world leading breed association offering a full portfolio of genotyping services for all dairy breeds in Canada and abroad. Internationally, Brian Van Doormaal has been the Canadian representative on the Steering Committee of Interbull for over 16 years. In addition, he is well-known for his numerous extension articles and public speaking engagements in both official languages aimed at educating dairy producers and industry personnel on a wide variety of topics associated with dairy cattle improvement and genetic selection.

Dr. Richard Whitaker:

Richard O. Whitaker, DVM, MBA. Whit did his undergraduate studies at Washington and Lee University and The University of Virginia; graduated from the University of Georgia - College of Veterinary Medicine in 1979, and earned an MBA from the University of Southern Maine in 2004. Dr. Whitaker has been a Bovine Embryo Transfer practitioner for over 30 years. Whit formed New England Genetics in 1987 and became Certified by the American Embryo Transfer Association in 1988. He presently serves AETA's Board of Directors, and chairs the AETA Government Liaison Committee. Dr. Whitaker also owns and operates a small animal practice, Central Maine Veterinary Hospital in Turner, Maine.