



ONTARIO
ASSOCIATION OF
VETERINARY
TECHNICIANS

1970-
2020

2020-12-22

The Honorable Christine Elliott

Minister of Health
438 University Ave, 8th Floor
Toronto, ON M5G 2K8

Dear Minister Elliott

The Ontario Association of Veterinary Technicians (OAVT) is the professional association representing Registered Veterinary Technicians in Ontario. On behalf of our membership of 4000 RVTs, we would like to thank the Ministry for its ongoing attention to the health and well-being of Ontarians and congratulate you and your colleagues on leading the path forward during the COVID-19 pandemic. The past 10 months have been a trying time for many and with the recent announcement and now administration of the COVID-19 vaccination, we move into a new phase to combat this virus.

Veterinary practices and related animal care facilities provide medical care, animal husbandry and various public-facing services. RVTs contribute to animal well-being, food safety and One Health initiatives, including the prevention and monitoring of zoonotic diseases and fostering the human-animal bond. Activities that have continued throughout the pandemic. RVTs as members of the veterinary healthcare team have been beneficiaries of essential workplaces and services remaining open and for that we thank you.

The nature of the care settings and services provided, places RVTs at higher risk of exposure. The complexities and considerations of developing a provincial immunization plan are numerous. The OAVT respectfully requests RVTs and veterinary colleagues be considered for priority immunization.

I appreciate your consideration of the above request. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact the OAVT through the office of the Executive Director and Registrar, Elise Wickett, elise@oavt.org 519-731-5292

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Phil Nichols', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Phil Nichols, RVT, CAWA

*Ontario Association of Veterinary Technicians
Board of Directors, President*