# Welcome Friends, to the First Annual NOVTA Symposium!

Bringing quality CE to Veterinary Technicians from Northern Ontario to promote and support lifelong learning and growth









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Presented by NOVTA, NOVA, Callander Animal Hospital, and
P3 Veterinary Partners
and with the generous support of Collège Boréal



Saturday, October 25 & Sunday, October 26, 2025 21 Lasalle Blvd., Sudbury, ON





Featured Speaker- Dr. Graeme Doodnaught, B.Sc. (Hons.), BVM&S, M.Sc., DÈS, MRCVS, DACVAA

# NOVTA SYMPOSIUM

25 October, 2025 07:30h – 16:00h Collège Boréal, Sudbury ON

7:30-8:00	Registration and Breakfast
8:00-9:00	Session 1 – High risk anesthesia
9:00-9:15	Break
9:15-10:15	Session 2- Complications and how to
	address them when they happen to you
10:15-10:30	Break
10:30-12:00	Session 3- Anesthetizing in an Emergency
12:00-13:00	Lunch and trade show
13:00-14:00	Session 4 - Emergency Part 2
14:00-14:15	Break
14:15-15:15	Session 5-Updated Recover Protocols
15:15-16:00	Tour of Collège Boréal
17:00-22:00	Dinner and trivia night at the Hilton Garden Inn, prizes for top finishers!

Lecture details are subject to change







# Day 2- Sunday

Featured Speaker: Lisa Vetoretti, BA, RVT, CRP, CPEP



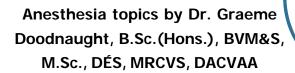


07:30-8:00	Registration and Breakfast
8:00-9:00	The Double-Edged Sword of Workplace
	Communication - Part 1
9:00-9:15	Break
9:15-10:15	The Double Edged Sword- Part 2
10:15-10:30	Break
10:30-12:00	Managing Stress: Controlling the
	Controllables
12:00-13:00	Lunch and trade show
13:00-14:30	Combating Rudeness in the
	Workplace
14:30-15:00	Closing remarks and farewells

Lecture details are subject to change







Please note that Dr. Doodnaught's lecture list is an example of topics he may cover; the finalized list was not available at the time registration was opened

Session 1-High Risk Anesthesia

Learn what to do with all those cases we dread; the seniors and geriatrics, the obese patients, the brachycephalics, the critically ill patients, and the cardiac patients.

Session 2 – Complications and what to do when they happen to you Hypotension, Apnea, Hemorrhage, Oh My! After the internal panic, learn what to do when things go sideways.

Session 3 & 4- Anesthetizing in an Emergency Emergency patients rarely read the textbook. These lectures will teach you safe anesthetic protocols for everything from a C-section to a GDV, for all those nights when referral just isn't an option.

Session 5 - Updated Recover Protocols

Recent updates to the Recover protocol will be shared so you're up to date on the latest knowledge. We'll also use this session to introduce a new tool in anesthesia and address specific questions you may have.



### Day 2 seminars presented by Lisa Vetoretti, BA, RVT, CRP, CPEP, AVMA Accredited Well-Being Educator



# Lecture 1 - The Double Edged Sword of Workplace Communication

Description: Communication is considered a double-edged sword because of its power to move us closer to, or further away from, authentic, healthy connection. For example, 24/7 news coverage can be informative and increase anxiety, social media can be used for networking and cyberbullying, and how we communicate with each other in the workplace can induce more psychological distress and be a buffer to or help prevent psychological distress. In the process of managing our day-to-day work life, we often lose sight of how communication patterns and the ways we interact with each other impact our wellbeing and the wellbeing of our colleagues. Effective communication is a cornerstone of healthy workplaces, and yet it is often an afterthought. Under duress, communication can become transactional—focused on short term gains, alleviating symptoms rather than addressing root causes of conflict, and prioritizing winning over problem resolution and relationships. Teams that communicate effectively are more likely to have higher psychological safety, encourage innovation and timely decision-making, create goodwill, minimize miscommunication, and be better equipped to successfully navigate difficult situations.

This interactive seminar teaches core communication skills to promote connection, support a strong sense of belonging to the team, increase trust in the organization, and facilitate candid and open communication among team members.

Objectives: At the end of this seminar, learners will:

- · Define workplace wellbeing,
- · Compare and contrast transactional and relational communication,
  - · Describe two core communication skills to promote connection,
    - · Describe one connection buster



### Day 2 seminars presented by Lisa Vetoretti, BA, RVT, CRP, CPEP, AVMA Accredited Well-Being Educator



#### Lecture 2: Managing Stress: Controlling the Controllables

Description: Wanting to have control over our lives is a natural human desire. Believing we have the power to exert some control over our environment and produce desired results gives us feelings of order, stability, and safety, and a mechanism for managing fears of uncertainty. Unfortunately, persistent attempts to change or control what is not within our control is counterproductive at best—draining time, energy, and resources, while increasing stress and taking a toll on our relationships and wellbeing. The irony is that the more we try to exert control over situations outside our control, the more out of control we feel—creating a harmful cycle of rigid thinking, perfectionism, risk-aversion, greater difficulty trusting others, hypervigilance, and being overly critical of self and others. In this engaging seminar, participants will learn how to distinguish between what we can and cannot control, the upside of stress, the role that lowering reactivity plays in reducing rates of occupational distress and burnout, and evidence-based approaches for managing stress more effectively at home and in the workplace.

<u>Djectives:</u> At the end of this seminar, participants will:

- · Define stress
- · Define illusion of control
- · Identify a key modifiable factor in occupational distress
  - · Compare and contrast two types of coping methods





### Day 2 seminars presented by Lisa Vetoretti, BA, RVT, CRP, CPEP, AVMA Accredited Well-Being Educator



Lecture 3: Leveraging Your Vet Med Superpowers to Combat Rudeness in the Workplace

Description: Do you cringe at the thought of navigating conflict, anger, or rudeness in the workplace? If so, you aren't alone. Like many others, it might be because you're experiencing more unpleasant interactions at work than ever before. Research from around the United States and beyond shows that rudeness is on the rise, especially towards people whose job is to help others - including first responders, healthcare professionals, restaurant workers, flight attendants, store clerks, attorneys, and others. Rudeness at work can hurt us in many ways. It can harm our emotional and physical health and negatively impact our organizations. Fortunately, there are effective steps we can take to address the rise of rudeness in the workplace. In this presentation we explore why rudeness in the workplace is on the rise, how we can address challenging behaviors, and why attempts to control others' behaviors at best aren't effective, and at worst, often backfire. We will also share how to leverage and apply the superpowers veterinary professionals already possess when working with reactivity in animals, to difficult encounters with humans. Come away with evidence-based strategies for managing and preventing anger in the veterinary workplace.

Objectives: Participants can expect to learn about:

• Factors that have contributed to the rise of rudeness

• The mythology of kindness campaigns

• Applying our everyday skills, knowledge and abilities with patients to encounters with people



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### Location:

The daytime symposium activities will be hosted at Collège Boréal at 21 Lasalle Blvd in Sudbury, ON on the third floor in the Salle Trisac, the Restaurant "Pied du rocher", and the Cafeteria, marked with orange stars on the map below. There is parking on site, free of charge; we recommend using lot B3 as shown by the yellow star on the map below. When entering the parking lot from Lasalle Blvd, turn left at the first fork and follow the driveway around the side of the building to lot B3. Enter the Collège at the door with the lnukshuk statue and the registration table will be right inside.



### **Evening Activities:**

Please plan to join us after the Saturday symposium programming for a buffet dinner and trivia night, hosted by Nickel City Trivia, at the Hilton Garden Inn. All NOVTA attendees are welcome to come for dinner starting at 5pm, followed by a fun night of competition to see who is the smartest cookie in the jar. Choose your team wisely, we're going to have prizes for the victors!

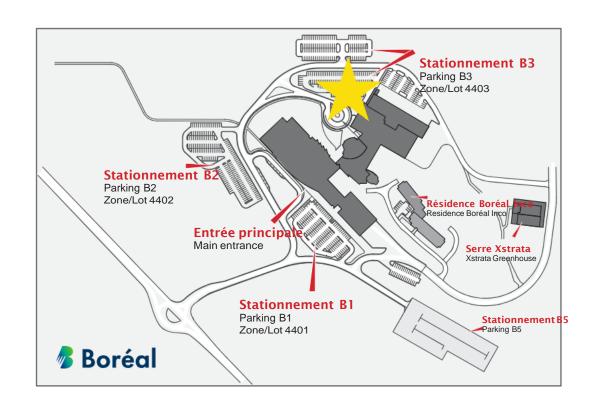








### Collège Boréal Campus map showing lot B3







### Symposium lecture and lunch locations on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor









Thank you to our organizing committee members:



Dr. Courtney Andrews
Dr. Lisa Chamberland
Dr. Andrea Danyluk
Dr. Derek Laporte
Kiana McFadden-Houle

And our industry reps who were instrumental in making this symposium a reality:

Stephanie Ingwersen & Nicole Pitulia – Hill's Pet
Nutrition

Erika McQuiggan & Charlene Gallo – Eickemeyer Reuben D'Souza & Kristie Borkovich – ProConcepts





Please watch your email for a post-symposium survey that will help us plan for an even better event next year.

If you're interested in joining the planning committee for next year's symposium, please email us at northernvettechs@gmail.com







