



Canadian Council on Animal Care Conseil canadien de protection des animaux

Major international meeting for scientists, veterinarians, regulatory experts, and animal welfare organizations is being held for the first time in Canada

Eighth World Congress on Alternatives and Animal Use in the Life Sciences

PRESS RELEASE (for immediate release)

Ottawa (Ontario), August 18, 2011 – The Eighth World Congress on Alternatives and Animal Use in the Life Sciences (WC8), which will bring together more than 800 researchers, veterinarians, animal welfare organizations, public representatives, members of institutional animal care and use/ethics committees, and regulatory experts from more than 50 countries, will be held for the first time in Canada, in Montréal to be exact, from August 21 to 25, 2011.

The large majority of systems of oversight of ethical animal use in science worldwide is based on the **Three Rs** ethical principal, proposed in 1959 by the Britons William Russell and Rex Burch, recommending **Reduction** of the number of animals used, **Refinement** of experiments to minimize pain, and **Replacement** of animal use by striving towards non-animal methods.

In recognition of Canada's internationally valued contributions to Refinement of animal use in science, the Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC) will be hosting the WC8. The CCAC will be the first national oversight system for the ethical use and care of animals in science to host this international event.

According to Dr. Clément Gauthier, CCAC Executive Director and WC8 Co-chair, the “WC8 will provide a forum that supports both quality science and the ethical use of animals, whether those animals are laboratory animals, farm animals or wildlife. In Canada, scientific animal use policy is developed with input from regulators, scientists and the public. This tradition of consensus-building inspired our Congress motto, *The Three Rs – Together it's Possible*”.

The goal of WC8 is to bridge the distance between science and policy, and to identify opportunities for collaborations. The WC8 will provide the opportunity for sharing scientific data, policy knowledge and animal use experiences in order to further global progress in the Three Rs.

Take a look at the five main themes covered at the WC8 (www.wc8.ccac.ca).

For further information, please contact:

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About the Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC)

Based on peer review, the CCAC is an autonomous and independent body responsible for the care and use of animals in science (research, teaching and testing) in Canada. Created in 1968 and registered as a not-for-profit organization, the CCAC is financed primarily by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC). The CCAC acts as a quasi-regulatory body and sets standards (its guidelines documents and policies) on animal use in science that apply across Canada.

CCAC Website: www.ccac.ca

CCAC Three Rs Microsite: <http://threers.ccac.ca/en/alternatives/>

The Three Rs - Together It's Possible.



8th World Congress on Alternatives and Animal Use in the Life Sciences
Montréal, Canada • August 21-25, 2011
Hosted by the CCAC
wc8.secretariat@ccac.ca
www.wc8.ccac.ca