



Canadian Council on Animal Care

Workshop

June 14, 2014

Challenges for ACCs:

Building Trust Inside and Outside:



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TRUST

**The problem may start with us believing that
we are already trusted**



The Optimal ACC

- ◎ **CCAC Policy Statements for Institutional Animal Care and Use Programs**
 - Terms of Reference for Animal Care Committees* March 2006



The Optimal ACC-Composition

- ◉ community reps
- ◉ scientists and/or teachers
- ◉ non-animal user
- ◉ technical staff representation
- ◉ student representation
- ◉ the ACC coordinator
- ◉ animal facility Director
- ◉ occupational health and safety and biosafety representatives
- ◉ biostatisticians, ethicists and those responsible for public relations.
- ◉ chair
- ◉ veterinarian



The Optimal ACC-Composition

“community rep”

- ⊙ person(s) representing community interests and concerns
 - no affiliation with the institution,
 - not been involved in animal use for research, teaching or testing
 - needed for all ACC activities throughout the year
 - ensure they are balanced-research is necessary
 - worth their weight in gold
 - finding and keeping



The Optimal ACC-Composition

“animal user”

- ⦿ scientists and/or teachers
- ⦿ experienced in animal care and use
- ⦿ representation of all the major animal-using divisions of the institution
- ⦿ the good the bad and the ugly



The Optimal ACC-Composition

“non-animal user”

- ⦿ an institutional member whose normal activities, past or present, do not depend on or involve animal use
 - Commitment
 - Consider involvement in research of some type



The Optimal ACC-Composition

“technician”

- ⊙ animal care, an animal facility or an animal research technician
- ⊙ grass roots
- ⊙ knows the lay of the land
- ⊙ More than one facility represented
- ⊙ The doubters – bring them into the status of the enlightened



The Optimal ACC-Composition

“facility managers”

- ⊙ many facilities – rotate

“good to have”

- ⊙ biostatisticians – or knowledgeable persons
- ⊙ ethicists
- ⊙ public relations
- ⊙ health and safety
- ⊙ transgenic/breeding coordinator



The Optimal ACC-Composition

“The Chair”

- ⦿ not directly involved in the management of the institutional animal facilities,
- ⦿ not the vet
- ⦿ not-too many protocols-yet credible
- ⦿ recognized from within the ranks
- ⦿ not afraid to represent the committee



The Optimal ACC-Composition

“Veterinarian”

- ⦿ isn't this straight forward?
 - Combined or amalgamated ACCs
 - All facets represented
- ⦿ Vet/Chair relationship



Tools to inform animal users

- ◉ Webinars
 - CCAC, OSHA
- ◉ Newsletters
- ◉ Animal users email lists – new information ccac guidelines drafts etc
- ◉ Professional development day – ie the refresher
- ◉ Guest speakers



The Perfect Protocol Form

- ⦿ Just shoot me now
- ⦿ CCAC scapegoat
 - Mandated questions
- ⦿ Ask questions up front on protocol or risk having to ask later
- ⦿ Repetitiveness
- ⦿ The format – pdf, word, electronic program
 - user friendly
 - Drop downs to take away the guessing



The Perfect Protocol Form - Consensus

- ⦿ Perfect from who's perspective
- ⦿ The right mix – scientists, community rep, veterinarian, ACC coordinator
- ⦿ In advance appeal to the masses – survey says



The Perfect Protocol Form - Consensus

- ⦿ Revisions – no new questions – every new one means one has to be taken
- ⦿ Before you are done – appeal to the masses
- ⦿ Trial it-use someone on your side



Communication builds trust

- Transparency of the process
- Accountability
- Vet written reports to ACC
- Post approval monitoring reports
- You may be dealing with concerns and don't want to bother the committee with information
 - But do your job and let the ACC do theirs



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Animal Care Committee

- ◉ Value added process
- ◉ Facilitate research to move forward
- ◉ Reconciling/adjudicating issues
- ◉ Preserve the integrity of the institution
- ◉ Bridge to senior administration
- ◉ Collegial atmosphere



.CCAC.

Building Trust

Questions ???

.CCPA.