

Community Representatives:



THE VOICE OF THE CANADIAN PUBLIC



What is the Canadian Council on Animal Care?



- An autonomous and independent body created in 1968
- CCAC is a quasi-regulatory body and sets standards on animal use in science that apply across Canada
- The Canadian Federation of Humane Societies (CFHS) is founding member of the CCAC and has representatives on CCAC Council

Animal Numbers



- In 2011, the CCAC oversaw the welfare of approximately 3.3 million animals used in science in Canada, the same number as 2010
- This number is very similar to the number of animals used in 2010, (3.3 million)
- Fish continue to be the animals most commonly used in Canadian science, with 1.3 million used in 2011. Mice, at slightly more than 1 million came in second.

Animal Numbers (continued)



Dogs, cats, and primates had the lowest numbers (0.3, 0.2, and 0.1 % respectively)

Percentage of Animals Used in relation to
Categories of Invasiveness

B: 33.7

C: 29.2

D: 33.2

E: 3.9

Who is a Community Representative?

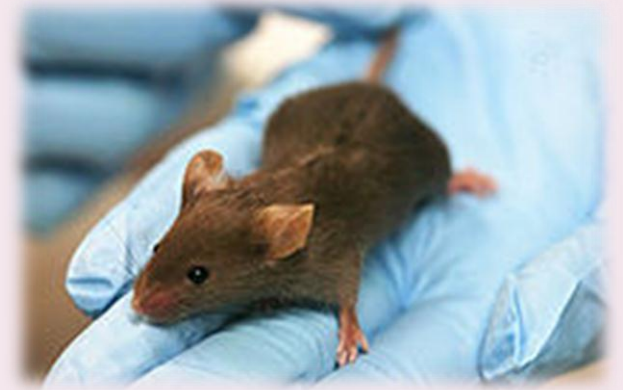


- They come from various backgrounds: humane society members, business people, teachers and retirees
- They do not use animals for scientific research; nor do they need a scientific background
- They must be actively interested in the care and use of animals and be willing to work with other members of the animal care and use programs

Where will you find Community Representatives?



- On CCAC Council
- On CCAC Assessment Panels
- On a local Animal Care Committee (ACC)



Assessment Panels



- Assessment panels carry out visits to institutions participating in the CCAC programs
- When conducting a visit, the panel assesses the structure of the institution related to their animal care and use program; the composition and functioning of the animal care committee; and animal care facilities

Assessment Panels (continued)



- Each assessment panel is composed of at least one scientist a veterinarian, and a community representative. A CCAC Assessment Director is present at every assessment visit as an ex officio member of the assessment panel
- Full assessment visits are conducted every six years; interim visits are carried out every three years. However, certain situations may require additional visits by Assessment Directors

Local Animal Care Committee



- CCAC requires all institutions conducting animal-based research, teaching or testing establish and Animal Care Committee. The ACC must be active and operate under the CCAC Terms of Reference
- All decisions involving animal care and use are decided at ACC
- The ACC must evaluate the ethical acceptability of any proposed animal use protocol before the study is allowed to begin

Local ACC (continued)



- An ACC is made up of scientists and/or teachers, a veterinarian, a non-animal institutional member, technical staff (animal care workers), student representatives, and one (1) or two (2) community representatives
- The exact composition is determined by the size of the institution. CCAC stipulates that all meetings must include the veterinarian and the community representative

Local ACC (continued)



- Community representatives are actively involved in protocol reviews, developing policies and procedures on animal care and use, and annual visits of animal facilities





Community Representatives need not apologize for not being scientists. They should not feel as though they are less informed. They should ask straightforward and honest questions and feel free to express honest opinions.



CCAC Community Representative Forum



- A forum for community representatives to communicate with other members
- An opportunity to ask questions, share experiences, and network outside of CCAC National Forums
- www.ccac.ca
- Community Forum
- User name and password



Discussion Questions



- What motivated you to become a Community Representative?
- Do institutions provide adequate training to community reps? What do/could they do to make you feel more welcome?
- Have you experienced any difficulties related to your role as Community Representative?

Discussion Questions (continued)



- Do you think the Canadian public is aware of the role of the CCAC and community representation?
- What are the positive aspects of being a Community Representative?



**THANK YOU FOR
YOUR
PARTICIPATION!**