



RLRI Canada 2026 Program Summary – Saskatchewan

Friday Evening February 13

Evening Devotion 8:00-9:00pm

“Holding on to Nothing – Until it Becomes Something” – Shane Rootes, CVM US CEO

Worship Team WCVM students

Saturday February 14

Morning Devotion 8:15-9:20am

**“Living your Faith with Boldness” - Pastor Bliss Steele
Worship Team**

Session One 9:30-10:20am

“Dealing with Difficult Clients” – Dr. Jen Loewen

To be able to treat our patients, we need to be able to build rapport and connect with our clients-remember it is a vet-CLIENT-patient relationship. Some clients are easier to connect with than others but I believe all want to feel seen and heard. We will discuss tools to building connection through the lens that we are all made in God's image and are children of God.

“Option E – All of the Above (new grad, work-life balance, marriage... and babies!)” – Dr. Ruth MacLean

Trusting God in the midst of whatever you're in can be a difficult choice, but it is ours to choose at ALL times. Come join Dr. MacLean as she relates trusting in God amidst pregnancy, graduation, marriage and death, and how God is the same yesterday, today and forever.

Saturday

February 14

Session Two

10:30-11:20am

“What I wish I’d known 25 Years Ago” - Dr. Becky Holvik

From her quarter-century in practice, Becky will share about staying the course as a Christian in the workplace - from learning how to dial back the stress in the clinic, to keeping her own adrenal glands in check, to saying “yes” to moments when animal treatments open the door for conversations about faith. This session will help participants take a long view of a career in vet medicine, and what it means to live as God’s vet in the moment.

“Adventures in India – Short-term Missions” – Dr. Debbie Hoffele

Dr. Debbie has been active with CVM short-term missions since 2014 - participating in trips to Mexico, Haiti, Honduras and primarily India. Working with nomadic shepherds and unreached people groups in the lesser Himalayan Mountain range is challenging but very rewarding. Long-term relationships can be built with our hosts, teammates and locals and we spread Christ's love through veterinary medicine.

Session Three

11:30am-12:20pm

“Tips to Get the Most out of Your Lab Testing” – Dr. Darren Wood (RACE) *presented via Zoom*

This is a RACE-approved CE session. By the end of the session participants will be able to:

1. Describe the best way to collect blood and cytology samples
2. Describe how to handle biological samples to ensure accurate results
3. Use a microscope and other common laboratory equipment properly

“Your Questions Answered” – Professional Panel

Join our panel for a Q&A to hear their real-world stories, and to ask the things you most want to know about in their professional and faith journeys

Activities/Free time

2:00-4:30pm

Session Four

4:45-5:45pm

“Dog Behaviour 101” – Pastor Bliss and Jessica Steele

Learning to read what your dog is communicating and how to communicate back is one of the most important things you can do to strengthen your relationship with them. Dogs communicate with both non-verbal and verbal communication; however, they only speak dog and will never be able to speak human. Together we will look at foundational dog behavior, communication and body language. How do you walk into an exam room and communicate the right leadership, dominance, energy and how to use this to change a dog’s life and ultimately the client’s life for Christ!

Session Five

5:50-6:20pm

**“Reflecting on Gratitude” – Lisa Balzer, CVM Canada Executive Director
CVF Updates**

Saturday

February 14

Evening Challenge

7:30-9:00pm

“Our Identity in Christ” – Dr. Kevin Winder

Every one of us has asked at some point, "Who am I?" For some, the question came from grandma or uncle who asked, "What are you going to be when you grow up?" For others, the question has come as we have faced challenges in school, in our careers or in our personal lives. As we struggle to live where our faith cuts through our vocation, we can come to a profound truth: Who I am is a direct result of Whose I am. As I realize who Jesus is, my own identity comes into focus.

Worship Team & prayer

Fireside

Sunday

February 15

Morning Devotion
and Wrap-Up

8:30-10:00am

“The Connection Between Gratitude and Worrying Less (Philippians 4:6)” - Adrian Holvik
Worship Team & prayer

