RLRI Western Canada 2024 Program Summary – Pioneer Camp, AB

Friday	February 16
CVM Host	**Lisa Balzer**
Dinner	6:30pm
Introductions/ Icebreakers	7:30pm
Evening Challenge	8:00pm

He calls us friend – Dr. Rick Graber
A deeper relationship with the Lord moves us from servant to friend (John 15:15). A servant doesn't know what his master is doing, but friendship, although it requires intimacy, reveals the thoughts and plans of God.

Worship

Saturday	February 17
Prayer Walk	7:00am
Breakfast	8:00am
Morning Plenary	9:00am

This Little Light of Mine – Are you letting it shine? – Pastor Bliss Steele
We are commanded to let our light shine, so we will take look at John 1:5 and Matthew 5:16 on just how significant the light of Christ is in our lives and how we are to let it shine in the world around us.

Session I 9:45am

Work-life Balance – Drs. Sarah and Brent Wagner
Is there such a thing as work-life balance? What do we get wrong? what might we get right? Work is a hugely important aspect of life and careers are very important. Although each person or family walks a different path, there are a few other things that probably should be prioritized. Sarah and Brent

will be talking about some of their experiences and lessons learned during 20-some years of marriage and children and community and careers. All this in the context of walking in "The Light".

Healing from Anxiety and Depression with God – Webinar with Dr. Christiane Orsini
Hopelessness? Depression? Anxiety? These are common sentiments for all of us. However, within the veterinary community, there is a crisis of veterinary wellness. The path of becoming a veterinarian is challenging and can feel overwhelming at times. Finding support and mentorship is critical, as is perseverance and resilience. The Christian veterinary community at CVM is here to help you. You are not alone. God has taught me so much through the last 9.5 years of veterinary medicine. He has brought me to a place of healing through intense transformation. I want to share my story with you and encourage you on your professional and personal journeys. Invite Jesus into your daily life in veterinary medicine. Mindfully make Him a part of every exam, consultation, treatment plan and surgery. Pray for your patients. Watch God work. You were not meant to do veterinary medicine alone. God is with you. God is ready to help you and bless you.

Session II 10:45am

Marriage lived in the Light – Dr. Becky Holvik
With 22 years of marriage and 25 years of veterinary practice under her belt, Becky understands the challenges of growing a God-honouring, healthy marriage amid a demanding career. Join her for insights and practical steps (delivered with a good dose of humour!) to help bring Christ to the center of the life that you and your spouse are building.

Living as a Full-Time Disciple – Dr. Jessica Semper
From prepping for appointments, to meeting new clients and patients, to dealing with emergencies and interacting with clients about things in their lives – practice is such a massive opportunity for sharing Jesus with people. Jessica will share how the Lord is leading and teaching her to walk out her calling, offering encouragement for you wherever God has placed you within the veterinary industry.

Session III 11:45am

Mongolia, mutton, and missions – Dr. Celine and David Newton
Is God calling you to serve Him here at home or abroad? In 2022, after Celine graduated from UCVM, she and her husband David (an engineer) went on a 6-week long apprenticeship program in Mongolia, exploring what long-term missions looks like (and eating a lot of mutton in the process) and to determine if overseas missions is where God is leading them. Come and hear about what they learned, what the CVM apprenticeship program is all about, and how we are called to serve God wherever He places us, both at home and abroad.

Are you looking up? – Dr. Mark Wickstrom
Almost all Christians believe in the literal, physical second coming of Jesus Christ to earth, and we are commanded to look for that event with anticipation (Luke 21:27-28, Titus 2:13). The exact timing of His return is not known, but Bible prophecy gives us some idea of what the world will look like in the last days. Are we seeing events and conditions in our world today that could fit these end-times prophecies, and if so, are you looking up?

Lunch, CVF updates 12:45pm

Activities	2:00 – 4:10pm
Session IV	4:25pm

Professional Panel Q & A
Bring your questions to this open Q&A session with three veterinarians at different stages in their career paths.

Short-term missions – Lessons Learned – Drs. Colleen and Clark Bertagnolli
We both feel blessed to have gained an education with few obstacles. We also believe that education is one of the key tools useful to alleviate poverty. Veterinary missions has allowed us to teach others, but God has also used these times to teach the both of us as well. We would like to share with you lessons learned, both practical and spiritual.

Afternoon Plenary	5:25pm

Walking in the Light – Dr. W. Ben Stoughton
In this session, the aim is to discuss how following King Jesus, the Light of the World, brings us out of darkness and begins the transforming journey of walking as children of light, even in the face of pain and suffering.

Dinner	6:30pm
Evening Challenge	7:30pm

The Scalpel and the Sword – Dr. Neil Connery
Dr. Neil takes us on a surgeon's journey into God's Word

Worship	
Fellowship by the campfire	8:45pm

Sunday February 18

Breakfast	8:00am
Morning Devotion	9:00am

Abiding in the Light – Lisa Balzer
Thoughts about 'being' and 'doing' in our relationship with Jesus. Based on John 1:3-4, 15:9-10; Ephesians 5:1-2

Worship	
Clean up and departure	

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