

**UNIVERSITY COUNCIL**  
**Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships (JCCP)**  
**REQUEST FOR DECISION**

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**PRESENTED BY:** Scott Walsworth, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships (JCCP)

**DATE OF MEETING:** March 20, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Beef Cattle Health Chair

**DECISION REQUESTED:** It is recommended by the Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships that University Council approve the Beef Cattle Health Chair in the Western College of Veterinary Medicine.

**PURPOSE:** To provide strategic leadership in beef cattle health for the Canadian beef industry, with a range of funded and targeted research initiatives including: factors limiting the production of cow-calf herds (funded Canadian Cow-Calf Health and Productivity Enhancement Network), the use of genomic technologies to inform antimicrobial stewardship in the beef industry, and finally, micronutrient deficiencies in fall-placed calves, increased risk of respiratory disease and response to vaccination early in the feeding period in cattle. This chair position aims to increase the critical mass of highly qualified personnel as leaders in beef cattle health in Canada, working in research, industry, government and veterinary groups. The research Chair program will provide critical expertise and qualified personnel able to respond to immediate and emerging research needs of the Canadian beef cattle industry. The research Chair in beef cattle will also continue to be a go-to resource for the industry through surveillance of on-farm antimicrobial resistance, micronutrient status and vaccination in the Canadian beef cattle herd, through outreach and education of producer and government groups and through continuing education for large animal veterinary practitioners. The establishment and maintenance of a Chair in beef cattle positions the WCVM, USask and Canada as leaders in the forward-thinking research to address the challenges of today and tomorrow.

**DISCUSSION SUMMARY:** The creation of the Beef Cattle Health Chair has been discussed with, and endorsed by, the donor, the Office of the Vice President Research, the Office of the Vice President University Relations, and the Office of the

**Vice-Provost, Faculty Relations.**

**There was a minority view within the Joint Committee for Chairs and Professorships which opposed the motion to recommend the Chair in Beef Cattle Health .**

**FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED:** With approval of the University Council and subsequently approval of Board of Governors, the terms of reference will be implemented immediately.

**ATTACHMENT:** Terms of reference for the Beef Cattle Health Chair in the Western College of Veterinary Medicine.



# UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

## Chair in Beef Cattle Health

### Terms of Reference

**Purpose:**

To provide strategic leadership in beef cattle health for the Canadian beef industry, with a range of funded and targeted research initiatives including: factors limiting the production of cow-calf herds (funded Canadian Cow-Calf Health and Productivity Enhancement Network), the use of genomic technologies to inform antimicrobial stewardship in the beef industry, and finally, micronutrient deficiencies in fall-placed calves, increased risk of respiratory disease and response to vaccination early in the feeding period in cattle. This chair position aims to increase the critical mass of highly qualified personnel as leaders in beef cattle health in Canada, working in research, industry, government and veterinary groups. The research Chair program will provide critical expertise and qualified personnel able to respond to immediate and emerging research needs of the Canadian beef cattle industry. The research Chair in beef cattle will also continue to be a go-to resource for the industry through surveillance of on-farm antimicrobial resistance, micronutrient status and vaccination in the Canadian beef cattle herd, through outreach and education of producer and government groups and through continuing education for large animal veterinary practitioners. The establishment and maintenance of a Chair in beef cattle positions the WCVM, USask and Canada as leaders in the forward-thinking research to address the challenges of today and tomorrow.

**Accountability:**

All terms of reference must align with the *Guidelines for Chairs and Professorships*.

**Chair Type:**

This will be a Limited Term Enhancement Chair. The objective of the chair is to enhance the research activities of an outstanding individual already currently employed at the University of Saskatchewan in WCVM for a time limited by the term supported by Beef Cattle Research Council funding.

**Source and Amount of Funding:**

A research contract of \$750,000 from the Beef Cattle Research Council (BCRC).

Funds of \$150,000 will be received each year over a period of five years starting in 2025, with the last payment received in 2029.

**Tenability:**

Funds will be received annually for a period of five years starting in 2025.

Gift payment schedule as follows:

- \$150,000 by March 31, 2025
- \$150,000 by March 31, 2026
- \$150,000 by March 31, 2027
- \$150,000 by March 31, 2028
- \$150,000 by March 31, 2029

Continuation of the chair after the five-year period will depend upon renewal of funding commitments.

**Selection Committee:**

This chair is created for an existing WCVM faculty member whose research aligns with the intended purposes of the donors, thus there will be no external search. Should the chair become vacant, WCVM will follow processes outlined in section 6 of the JCCP Guidelines related to vacancies.

If a new candidate is to be drawn from existing faculty, the Dean, Western College of Veterinary Medicine or designate, in consultation with the department or faculty in the school or college, shall appoint a selection committee for selection of an appropriate candidate. If an external search is approved, the membership of, and the process followed by, the search committee must align with the provisions of the Collective Agreement between the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Saskatchewan Faculty Association. Additional members may be included to the search process by forming a search sub-committee, as per the collective agreement.

**Chairholder Responsibilities:**

The chairholder will contribute to the research and teaching program of the Western College of Veterinary Medicine and the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences in areas of beef cattle research and herd health.

The chairholder's responsibilities:

a) Research:

- Enhance and accelerate research focused on beef cattle research at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine;
- Publish scientific studies in peer-reviewed scientific journals that are available to a wide and diverse scientific community investigating Immediate and emerging research needs of the Canadian beef cattle industry;

b) Outreach, industry extension and technology transfer:

- Present at scientific and industry conferences and perform outreach activities to educate veterinarians, beef industry, scientists and the public about the importance of beef cattle research, and new research findings and discoveries;
- Establish collaboration with scientists engaged in beef cattle research at the College and University as well as at regional, national and international levels; and
- Build and maintain relationships with the community and external stakeholders interested in beef cattle research as it relates to agriculture industry standards.

c) Teaching:

Provide didactic teaching, research training and mentorship to undergraduate and graduate students in areas of beef cattle medicine and herd health.

d) Provide the Dean of the Western College of Veterinary Medicine an annual report on the chairholder's research, teaching and other activities.

e) Fulfill all responsibilities as outlined in accordance with the university policies and regulations relative to Chairs and Professorships.

f) It is anticipated that the chair holder will spend their time as follows:

- 60% on research
- 20% on outreach, industry extension and technology transfer
- 10% on teaching
- 10% on administration.

**Term of Chair:**

The chair will be appointed for an initial five-year term with eligibility for renewal following the completion of the term. A Chairholder will be eligible to hold the chair title for a period of up to ten (10) years (five-year initial term plus one five-year renewal term). Renewal of this chair is dependant on continued BCRC funding and satisfactory progress as determined by the management committee. At the end of the chair, they would revert to their regular faculty position in WCVM.

**Renewal:**

All renewals of Chairholders must follow the renewal process outlined in Section 5.0 of the Guidelines for Chairs and Professorships.

**Review:**

Chairholder scholarship progression must be reviewed at least biennially. A financial review must occur annually. Chairholders must submit a final report at the end of their term. Reporting

structure and templates can be found in the Guidelines for Chairs and Professorships.

**Oversight:**

The Dean, Western College of Veterinary Medicine will be responsible to oversee the Chair.

Oversight responsibilities shall include the following:

1. Oversee the activities of the Chair or Professorship;
2. Oversee management of the fund to ensure compliance with the terms of the trust deed and the on-going financial integrity of the initiative;
3. Approve annual budgets;
4. Receive annual financial statements of the fund;
5. Receive and review the biennial scholarly report, the annual financial report and the final report on the activities of the Chairholder; and
6. Provide a copy of the required scholarly, financial and final reports to the co-chairs of the Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships.

**Removal of Chairholder:**

Any allegations related to a breach of one or more of the University policies made against a Chairholder should follow appropriate university policies and procedures related to the nature of the breach. This includes, but is not limited to, policies related to research, financial stewardship, and/or employment. Should the appropriate process conclude and determine that the Chairholder has breached a University Policy or failed to meet an expectation as a faculty member, the provost and vice president academic and vice president research will determine appropriate measures regarding the continuation of the Chairholder which may include termination from the Chair. The final determination will be communicated to the Chairholder, the dean/executive director and the chair of the Management Committee (if applicable).

**Eligible Expenditures:**

Expenditures will be in alignment with Section 2.0 of the *Guidelines for the Establishment of Chairs and Professorships*. The funding providing by industry partners will cover a portion (\$150,000/yr) of the cost of the chairholder salary, with Western College of Veterinary Medicine paying the remainder of the Chair salary plus benefits.

All funding is to be allocated to the direct and associated salary and benefit costs of the Chair in Beef Cattle Health.

**Unspent Funds:**

At such time that the Chair ceases to be in existence, any unspent BCRC funds for salary will be returned to BCRC.

**Insufficient Funds:**

Should there be insufficient funds to cover the costs of the chair, the excess cost will be covered by the Western College of Veterinary Medicine.

In the event that circumstances make the Chair in Beef Cattle Health no longer practical or desirable, the oversight committee, will recommend to University Council and the Board of Governors of the University of Saskatchewan, changes to the Chair. These recommendations will maintain, as much as is reasonably possible, the Chair’s spirit and general intent as identified in its statement of Purpose.

The creation of this Chair is subject to approval of both University of Saskatchewan Council and University of Saskatchewan Board of Governors.

The Dean, Western College of Veterinary Medicine recommends acceptance based on the above terms.



February 4, 2025

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Gillian Muir, PhD

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Date

The Office of the Vice-Provost, Faculty Relations recommends acceptance based on the above terms.



February 3, 2025

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Scott Walsworth, PhD  
Vice-Provost, Faculty Relations

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Date

The Office of the Vice President, Research recommends acceptance based on the above terms.



February 4, 2025

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Dawn Wallin, PhD  
Associate Vice President, Research

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Approved and accepted on behalf of the Board of Governors of the University of Saskatchewan.

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Cheryl Hamelin  
Vice-President, University Relations

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Date