

## October 2017

## Dear Valued Client,

The College of Veterinarians of Ontario (CVO) is proposing changes to their Veterinarians Act. Some of these changes could impact your ability to receive services from non-veterinarians.

As a physical therapist engaged in the practice of animal rehabilitation, I am MOST concerned about three of the listings under the Authorized Activities (i.e. activities which only a vet can do). However, the proposed wording may have an even greater impact on your ability to access or obtain services from non-veterinarians. Subsequently, I am requesting that all of our clients speak out in one or all of the following ways.

We are requesting that people:

- Fill out the CVO survey / request for feedback. A page has been set up that provides ALL of the details as it relates to the proposed changes and how to fill out the CVO survey. It can be found at: <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XQHZXP8">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XQHZXP8</a> (Note, the deadline to respond to the survey is October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017.)
- 2) We also request that you send a letter to the Ontario Minister of Agriculture, with a c.c. to the College of Veterinarians of Ontario, and your MLA (if you are an Ontario resident).
  - a. A personalized letter that tells your story and about your interactions with a physiotherapist practicing in Animal Rehabilitation would be most impactful. Below we have included points that you might wish to bring up along with your story.
  - b. If you do not have time to write your own letter, then we have created a form letter for you to sign and send to each intended party (see attached).
- 3) Spread the word. Our small voices were noted but not 'addressed' during the last round of consultation. Make every member of your family and all of your friends contribute a voice on this matter!

Please help us to ensure that your access to our services, and those of other non-veterinarians, are not impacted!

Sincerely,

Carolyn McIntyre, MScPT