

Jessica Beech, RVT – 2022 ABVTA Technologist of the Year

Jessica's contributions to animal welfare and the veterinary profession could well be summed up as enhancing the standards of practice. After eight years as a full-time registered veterinary technologist she continues to instill and maintain the community's confidence and trust in the profession by acting with honesty and integrity.

Jessica unceasingly does her best to protect the public from unethical and unprofessional conduct while also acting and advocating for change that enhances animal welfare. She exhibits the kind of work ethic and professionalism that I am sure we all wish were characteristic of every veterinary technologist. To find such constant striving to improve in an exhausting field such as this— when there are virtually no other rewards or compensation for doing so—is truly admirable. I believe the time has arrived to formally and materially acknowledge Jessica's significant contributions to Alberta's veterinary industry. A specific example includes elevating the industry's value and recognition by contributing to the veterinary medical profession through her excellence in client education. Jessica helps promote public health and safety by sharing information on various important subjects such as zoonotic diseases and how the public can protect themselves and their animals. Without fail she acts in her patient's best interest while still respecting and strengthening the bond between the animal and their family. She has always been very enthusiastic about continuously advancing and educating herself and others, which in turn enhances the professional practice standards.

I have had the pleasure of working alongside her at the Central Alberta Humane Society veterinary clinic for the past year and have witnessed her never ending hard work. Jessica's dedication, leadership and hard work has been impressively demonstrated in numerous instances during her tenure with CA Humane; including three months wherein she was the only RVT doing the job of two while the second RVT position was open, as well as training and mentoring a new RVT just out of school that filled the position. She also successfully manages the scheduling and administration of the CA Humane clinic's health checks and procedures while the clinic adapts to onsite locum and offsite veterinary services in place of a full-time onsite veterinary position. In addition to this, she is constantly supporting and engaging a unified team environment through our daily team meetings between the multiple departments at the shelter. She helps set the standards for animal care at the shelter by helping create and continuously updating shelter protocols, which is a big part of why the animal welfare at our shelter is of high standard.

On account of these efforts, Jessica Beech has not only earned this nomination but also the respect and gratitude of those whom she serves and serves with.