

Veterinary Internship (2021-2022)

Toronto Wildlife Centre – Toronto Zoo joint program

Work Status: 1 year contract

Location:

- Toronto Wildlife Centre (50%) – Downsview Park (4-60 Carl Hall Rd., Toronto) with plans to move within a year to the Rouge Park (6461 Steeles Ave. E., Toronto)
- Toronto Zoo (50%) – 361A Old Finch Avenue, Toronto

Reports to: Toronto Wildlife Centre Head Veterinarian

Salary: \$33,480 per annum

Position Summary:

A one-year veterinary internship, commencing September 7th, 2021, is offered jointly by Toronto Wildlife Centre (TWC) and the Toronto Zoo (TZ). The intern will spend a total of six months at TWC and a total of six months at the TZ. Rotations of 4 to 8 weeks will be scheduled in order to maximize the intern's clinical exposure. While this is a 1-year internship, we would accommodate earlier departure (as early as July 2022) if the intern is accepted in another internship or residency program.

This new program was developed to address the need for high quality applied clinical experience and training in zoological medicine. This program provides a broad training in different aspects of zoological medicine with cross-over between wildlife medicine in a large urban rehabilitation centre and general zoological medicine in Canada's largest zoological institution.

Under the direction of TWC and TZ Staff Veterinarians, the intern will participate in all aspects of zoological medicine. This program also provides a unique opportunity to conduct a small clinical research project or a retrospective investigation pertaining to Canadian wildlife species.

Background:

Toronto Wildlife Centre (TWC) is a registered charity that provides medical care and rehabilitation to sick, injured and orphaned native wildlife. TWC is the busiest wildlife centre in Canada, admitting over 5,000 patients annually, with more than 270 species of birds, mammals, reptiles, and amphibians represented. TWC's veterinary team consists of three part-time wildlife veterinarians, volunteer veterinary specialists, and three registered veterinary technicians who work closely with the rehabilitation, rescue and release departments to provide exemplary care to the animals at the centre. The veterinary hospital includes digital radiography, an in-house laboratory, an intensive care unit and a full surgical suite. Animals are treated at our primary location, and rehabilitation for some animals continues at TWC's Rouge Park property that boasts large outdoor enclosures.

The Toronto Zoo (TZ) houses approximately 4,500 specimens representing close to 450 species held in extensive indoor and outdoor habitats on a 700-acre site. The Zoo's Wildlife Health Centre, a 50,000 square foot, state-of-the-art facility, was completed in 2017. The building includes treatment, surgery, and diagnostic imaging rooms, a clinical laboratory, various multi-purpose animal wards, a pathology facility, an expansive quarantine wing, and laboratory space for reproductive programs and research. The TZ's veterinary team currently consists of four veterinarians (two of whom are ACZM and/or ECZM diplomats), one zoo (ACZM) resident, one pathology (ACVP) resident, four registered veterinary technicians, one hospital supervisor, 8 hospital keepers, and one clerk. The team works very closely with the Wildlife Care, Nutrition, Reproduction Sciences and Welfare Science departments.

Responsibilities:

- The intern will be incorporated into daily general medicine and surgery, anesthesia, emergency care, preventive health programs, nutrition, and pathology.
- The intern will actively participate in veterinary rounds and other learning opportunities (e.g., journal club).
- The intern will participate in off-site large animal rescues (e.g. deer) on rare occasions.
- The intern will communicate with staff, volunteers, and visitors.
- The intern will assist in the training of senior veterinary students at TWC and the TZ.
- The intern will be given the required time to conduct a research project and will be expected to submit at least one manuscript to a peer-reviewed scientific journal.

Position Requirements:

- Must possess a DVM (or equivalent) degree.
- Must be eligible for a General License to practice veterinary medicine in the Province of Ontario.
- Must have a minimum of one year of post-graduate clinical experience (internship or clinical practice).
- Must possess a full Class "G" driver's license along with a good driving record.
- Must demonstrate interest in zoo and wildlife medicine; previous zoological or wildlife experience is desirable.

Competencies:

- Must possess strong written and verbal communication skills, interpersonal skills, and organizational skills.
- Must be able to work with minimum supervision.
- Must be able to work closely as part of a team (in cooperation with animal care and other staff).
- Must be able to make effective animal healthcare decisions while working under stressful situations.
- Must be flexible and adaptable to a changing and dynamic work environment.
- Must have a strong work ethic and desire to learn.
- Must demonstrate a commitment to the principles of equity and diversity, and proven ability to work effectively with a diverse population.
- Must be able and willing to work shifts, weekends, and holidays.

- Must be able to meet the physical demands of the job, including the ability to lift a minimum of 25 kilos and the ability to stand, sit, walk, stoop, crouch, kneel and twist on a regular basis.

Compensation and Benefits:

- Salary \$33,480 annually
- Two weeks of vacation time per year
- 40 hours of professional development time per year
- Ontario CVO license paid for

TO APPLY: Please send a cover letter (personal statement), a resume, and 3 letters of recommendation to hr@torontowildlifecentre.com. Please make sure “Veterinary Internship” is included in the subject line.

Deadline for the application is July 4th, 2021.

Selection of the successful applicant is based on a combination of academic criteria, relevant interest and experience, referees’ evaluations, and an assessment of the candidate’s career goals and motivation. Internet-facilitated or telephone interviews will be conducted.

We would like to thank you for your interest in this position.

The Toronto Zoo and Toronto Wildlife Centre respect the principles of equity, diversity and inclusion and seek to model these principles in all that we do. We are committed to fostering an inclusive workforce where all employees feel respected, supported and valued. We strive to create an environment that represents the rich diversity of our volunteers, guests, and our community and encourage applications from all qualified individuals who can contribute to enhancing our commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion. Applications are especially encouraged from racialized persons/persons of colour, Indigenous/Aboriginal People of North America, persons with disabilities, LGBTQ persons, and women.