

Canadian Council on Animal Care: Short report
Based upon last Council Meeting held October 5, 2008

Please read the Mid-Term Performance Report which is posted on the CSZ website for more information. Few important points I would like to mention.

1. CCAC was given a 30% increase in their yearly NSERC-CHIR grant funding sending in April 2008 (3 year cycle). Both agencies were very impressed by the efforts of CCAC to the university community and its impact internationally. The increase was given based primarily on the increase in assessment load that has resulted from NSERC providing grants to colleges.
2. Three Rs. NSERC-CHIR were impressed by the efforts CCAC is making to advance the 3 Rs of Replacement, Reduction and Refinement. As a result, CCAC has instituted a new standing committee on the 3Rs Chaired by Dr. François Auger from Laval. A new micro-site will be launched this month (October) on the main CCAC website (<http://www.ccac.ca/>) that will be progressively filled with information on the 3Rs. One question that may soon appear on your animal care protocols will be whether you have looked at this site and at least considered alternatives.
3. National Institutional Animal User Training (NIAUT) program. Significant changes are occurring within this program. The Education, Training and Communications Committee is actively moving towards additional training modules for fish and wildlife species, including marine mammals, salmonids and zebrafish. Also, training should become a bit simpler as the modules will be available in ppt format for teaching/training purposes. It does appear that CCAC is attempting to meet the issues raised by the 'animal' community in Canada.

Reported by Tom Moon, CSZ representative to CCAC