



# Real Life Real Impact

Eastern Canada @ Crieff Hills Retreat Centre

February 24-26, 2023



## FRIDAY

4:00 - 5:30pm	Registration
5:30—6:30pm	Meal and Fellowship
7:00pm	Introductions, CVM overview, and Icebreakers— <b>Lisa Balzer</b> and <b>Dr. Kara Song</b>
8:00pm	Evening Devotion, Prayer— <b>Lisa Balzer</b>
8:20pm	Worship Music— <b>Dr. Christiane Orsini</b>

## SATURDAY

8:00am	Breakfast	
8:30am	Guided Prayer Walk— <b>Lisa Balzer</b> Worship Music— <b>Dr. Christiane Orsini</b>	
9:30am	Plenary Session— <b>Dr. Ben Stoughton</b> — <i>Proclaiming the Gospel to the Whole Creation</i>	
	Room A	Room B
10:30-11:20am	<b>Dr. Kara Song</b> <i>You mean it is possible? How you CAN pay back your loans</i>	<b>Dr. Jenna Donaldson</b> and <b>Dr. Suzanne Laidlaw</b> <i>Bodies, Behaviour and Welfare Part I</i>
11:30-12:20pm	<b>Dr. Becky Holvik</b> <i>Growing a Healthy Marriage Alongside a Demanding Career</i>	<b>Dr. Jenna Donaldson</b> and <b>Dr. Suzanne Laidlaw</b> <i>Bodies, Behaviour and Welfare Part II</i>
12:30pm	Lunch, CVF Updates	
1:30-3:30pm	Free time Activities and Fellowship	
	Room A	Room B
3:30-4:20pm	<b>Dr. Kara Song</b> <b>And Friends</b> <i>Workplace Panel Discussion</i>	<b>Dr. Christiane Orsini</b> <i>PAW-PRINTS: Reaching people through veterinary medicine on a global level</i>
4:30-5:30pm	Plenary Session— <b>Dr. Kevin Kennaley</b> — <i>Surrender vs. Doing Better and Being Better</i>	
5:30pm	Dinner	
6:30pm	Evening Challenge— <b>Pastor Joseph Bove</b> — <i>A challenge from our theme passage of Romans 12</i> Worship Music— <b>Dr. Christiane Orsini</b>	
8:00pm	Outdoor fireside	

## SUNDAY

8:00am	Breakfast
9:00am	Morning Devotion— <b>Adrian Holvik</b> Worship Music— <b>Dr. Christiane Orsini</b>
10:30am	Clean up and check out

If you have questions, contact Lisa Balzer at 306-261-0194, or email [lbalzer@cvm.org](mailto:lbalzer@cvm.org)





## RLRI Eastern Canada 2023 Program Summary Crieff Hills Retreat Centre, Guelph, ON

### Friday Evening February 24

**CVM Hosts** Lisa Balzer, CVM Canada Director  
Dr. Kara Song, CVM NE Region Rep

**Dinner** 5:30pm

Introductions/CVM overview/  
Games 7:00pm  
**Lisa Balzer, Dr. Kara Song**

Evening Devotion 8:00pm  
**Lisa Balzer**

Worship Music & Prayer 8:20pm  
**Dr. Christiane Orsini**

### Saturday February 25

**Breakfast** 8:00am

Guided Prayer Walk, Music 8:30am  
**Lisa Balzer**  
**Dr. Christiane Orsini**

Session One - plenary 9:30am  
**“Proclaiming the Gospel to the Whole Creation” - Dr. Ben Stoughton**  
Based on Mark 16:15

Session Two – split track 10:30am

**“You mean it is possible? How you CAN pay back your loans” – Dr. Kara Song**

Despite the constant clamor that it is impossible to pay off your loans and you just need to live with them, Kara found that it is possible. Hear about her journey as she works to pay



Session Five - plenary 4:30pm  
"Surrender vs. Doing Better and Being Better" – Dr. Kevin Kennaley

Dinner 5:30pm

Evening Challenge 6:30pm

**Pastor Joseph Bove**

A message from our theme text of Romans 12.

Music 7:30pm

**Dr. Christiane Orsini**

Outdoor fireside 8:00pm

Sunday February 26

Breakfast 8:00am

Morning Devotion 9:00am

**Adrian Holvik**

Worship music, prayer 9:30am

**Dr. Christiane Orsini**





## RLRI Eastern Canada 2023 Featured Speakers – Guelph, ON

Friday Evening

February 24

### Devotion

Lisa Balzer, CVM Canada Director and Region Rep

Lisa came to CVM Canada a year ago, from the world of long-term missions. She and her family lived and served in Southeast Asia for 15 years, leading development work in community radio and refugee engagement. Her educational background is in broadcasting and international development, and her family also has deep ties to vet medicine. Lisa is passionate to see students and professionals supported and encouraged in school and the workplace, and to grow the outreach of CVM Canada in the years to come. She lives in rural Saskatchewan with her husband, Steve, and their dog, Delilah.

### Worship

Christiane Orsini, DVM

Dr. Christiane Orsini is a 2014 graduate from the Ontario Veterinary College. Upon graduation, Dr. Orsini did locum work in Southwestern Ontario and GTA regions. She has experience in emergency and general medicine as well as clinical acupuncture. Dr. Orsini has a keen interest in integrative veterinary medicine and has her acupuncture certification from CIVT (College of Integrative Therapies) and has completed courses in Chinese Herbal Medicine and Integrative Canine Rehabilitation (also from CIVT). Long term, Dr. Orsini is looking forward to studying animal osteopathy from the Canadian Academy of Osteopathy in Hamilton and completing her Tui Na massage certification from the Chi Institute in Florida. She currently works as a veterinary telemedicine specialist for Smart.Vet Virtual Pet Care in Ontario. Dr. Orsini is blessed to be able to support the veterinary community and pet population at large by increasing access to care for patients in Ontario through telemedicine services. She resides in Guelph with her family. In her spare time, she enjoys writing worship songs and poetry, playing guitar, piano and drums, reading, hiking, playing squash, swimming, and spending time with family.

Saturday

February 25

### Session 1

W. Ben Stoughton, DVM, PhD, ACVIM Dipl.

Ben is from Merritt Island, Florida and is a large animal veterinarian and professor at the Atlantic Veterinary College (AVC) on Prince Edward Island (PEI). He is currently an AVC CVF advisor and has been involved with CVM (USA) since 2004. He joined the CVM Canada Board in 2022. Prior to God

calling his family to PEI in December 2017, he was a Lecturer at Texas A&M University (TAMU). He completed his undergraduate and DVM degrees at the University of Florida, and an internship at the Equine Medical Center of Ocala. After this, he completed a Large Animal Internal Medicine (LAIM) residency at TAMU and became Board Certified in LAIM in 2013. He then completed a Ph.D. studying Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. His family includes his beautiful wife, 4 children, 3 horses, 4 cats, 5 chickens, cattle and 2 dogs. He lives Coram Deo and loves teaching, photography and vegetable gardening. He also serves on the CVM Canada board.

## **Session 2**

### Kara Song, DVM

Kara is an Ohio State grad, class of 2018 with roots in New England. It was during school that she found a heart for missions and a passion for CVM. After graduating, she moved to Northeast Ohio where she worked in a busy companion animal general practice for four years. During that time she and Sadie, her Australian Shepherd mix, added to their family. First with a Golden Retriever named Caspian and then with her wonderful husband, Paul. Despite thinking she would stay at her clinic for some time yet, Kara felt God calling her to join CVM where she serves the Northeast region as representative.

### Suzanne Laidlaw, DVM

Dr. Suzanne Laidlaw currently serves veterinarians by encouraging them to take a break and know they have a relief veterinarian they can trust while off. This career choice came after being a mixed animal veterinarian for 10 years in both Northern Ireland and Canada and accidental equine veterinarian for 2 years in Canada. She completed her veterinary studies at Murdoch University in Australia, has travelled on several short-term service trips with CVM and worked as Regional Representative for CVM. She resides in the Blue Mountains (Ontario) with her husband Jeremy and dog Maple, on their yet to be decided what to farm, farm.

AND

### Jenna Donaldson, DVM

Dr. Jenna Donaldson is a partner in an equine practice based in Schomberg, ON. She graduated from OVC in 2013 and worked as an equine vet ever since. She is passionate about wellness and sustainability for veterinarians, and recently launched an equine ambulatory after-hours emergency service in the Guelph area. She lives on a Thoroughbred breeding farm where her dog enjoys bouncing through hay fields.

## **Session 3**

### Becky Holvik, DVM

Becky has served on the CVM Canada board for 14 years! With a passion for students, she makes every effort to be at their events. This is not easy as she works as a small animal veterinarian (OVC Class of 1999), runs a hobby farm, and has a family of her own to care for. She has even managed to serve in Kenya on short term mission, and sits on the CVM US board, representing Canada.

Suzanne Laidlaw, DVM (bio above)

AND

Jenna Donaldson, DVM (bio above)

#### **Session 4**

Christiane Orsini, DVM (bio above)

Kara Song, DVM (bio above)

AND

Jenna Donaldson, DVM (bio above)

#### **Session 5**

Robert Darren Wood, DVM, DVSc, Diplomate ACVP

Darren has been an associate professor of veterinary clinical pathology at the Ontario Veterinary College for the last 20 years and is a 1994 Atlantic Veterinary College graduate. He has served as a faculty mentor for the OVC Christian Fellowship student club for the last 3 years. He grew up attending a Baptist church in PEI but only truly became a Christian 7 years ago after enduring many struggles in life. In his spare time, he is an engaged member of Parkwood Gardens Community Church and remains active with his family which includes his wife Chantelle, 3 young adult sons, a rescue dog, and 2 permanent-foster cats.

AND

Kevin Kennaley, DVM

Kevin Kennaley, DVM, graduated in 1989 (a member of one of the 5 class hockey teams 😊) from OVC. He grew up as a practicing Catholic in Peterborough Ontario and discovered a personal Jesus at 16. He chose agnosticism for about 5 years but by grace (and prayers) returned to his faith in about 2016 where he felt at home for the first time in his life. Having worked for years in mixed practice, and some part time teaching (techs), Kevin found a very rewarding niche when he started a small animal mobile practice in 2018.

#### **Evening Challenge**

Pastor Joseph Bove

Joseph J. Bove has worked in veterinary software for twenty-seven years and a few months. This experience has enabled Joseph to consult on veterinary hospital and laboratory operations in many parts of the world. (US, Canada, Australia, Malaysia, Mongolia, Qatar, Dubai, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, UK, Hong Kong, New Zealand, Jordan, Egypt, Uganda, Bhutan, Thailand, Kenya, South Africa, Latvia, and possibly some others)

Joseph is also a pastor of a small church in Tallman, NY. He has had the great honor of preaching just over 65% of the chapters of the Bible. He has enjoyed working with CVM for roughly 15 years through

prayer breakfasts, RL/RI's, meetings with CVF groups, five mission trips to Mongolia, and meeting with and encouraging CVM missionaries in both open and closed countries. In his spare time, Joseph visits his family and sleeps.

Sunday

February 26

### Devotion

Adrian Holvik (bio pending)

