



Fund-a-Need | VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY AT TRU

Simulator technology is revolutionizing university education in health care and medicine. Help us fund two large animal simulators and provide the best education for veterinary technologists pursuing careers in clinics, rehabilitation, ranches, and research.

Advanced simulators have the ability to replicate human patients to provide specialized training—technology that is currently being utilized at Thompson Rivers University (TRU). Now, we're using the same mechanics in veterinary technology, harnessing the capabilities of simulators to prepare students to work with animals.

TRU is home to one of two programs in BC accredited by the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association. This year's TRU Foundation Gala will host a Fund-a-Need to raise \$100,000 to purchase equine and cow simulators for the Veterinary Technology programs. These simulators give students extensive hands-on experience, allowing them to practice diagnostic and practical skills more frequently and more repetitively than is possible with live animals. When students begin work with live animals, they are more prepared, more proficient, and more confident in their skills.

Students and faculty in the Department of Veterinary Technology at TRU have a special relationship with the animals that call the university home—some for decades of their life. Small, large and lab animals live at facilities on and off campus. Ethical and safe handling of the animals TRU cares for is paramount. Coursework involving these animals—including livestock, dogs, cats, wildlife, rodents and birds—is regulated by the Canadian Council on Animal Care to ensure animals are treated ethically, limiting the frequency they can experience the techniques students are actively learning.

Using simulators helps protect TRU's animals so they are not subject to undue stress when students are in the beginning stages of their training. New students become proficient without the need to endanger or cause unnecessary discomfort to live animals.

Join us in bringing this technology to TRU.



Did you know: TRU educates registered veterinary technologists through a two-year on campus diploma and a three-year distance-education diploma. We also offer an eight-month distance-education animal welfare certificate.



Did you know: TRU's large animals live on farmland in Knutsford, property that TRU has leased from generous local partners for 36 years. Students and faculty currently care for cattle, horses, sheep, goats, lamas and alpacas on the farm. Small animals live on campus, including cats and dogs.

HEREFORD MODEL DYSTOCIA SIMULATOR: COW AND CALF



- Includes Hereford cow and its accompanying calf
- Hereford cow size: 1.36m at the shoulder, over 2.44m from nose to tail. 0.8m at widest point
- Designed for durability, with greatest flexibility and most natural movement
- Enables students to practice techniques such as milking and calf pulling
- Has a functioning udder with the ability to simulate mastitic milk
- Replica pelvis, birth canal and bladder
- Calf is designed to withstand birthing simulation several times per day
- Students may place a halter and bandage legs
- Practice tail twist and tail jack

EQUINE PALPATION COLIC SIMULATOR: HORSE



- Modeled as a standard 15 hand Quarter Horse
- 1.5m at the shoulder and 2.25m from nose to tail. 0.6m at widest point.
- Organs include right and left ventral colon, right and left dorsal colon, cecum, three metres of small intestine, spleen, left kidney
- Palpable aorta capable of simulating a pulse
- Three sets of interchangeable ovaries
- Palpable soft uterus with cervix, urethra and broad ligament
- Students may give subcutaneous and intramuscular injections
- Jugular blood collection
- Leg bandaging and radiography
- Haltering and body condition scoring

Photos courtesy of supplier: Veterinary Simulator Industries Ltd.