



**NORTHERN ANIMAL HEALTH INITIATIVE
VOLUNTEER PLACEMENT DESCRIPTION 2022**

PART A: PLACEMENT OVERVIEW			
<i>Summary, for recruitment purposes</i>			
Job Title	Researcher, Needs Assessment		
Country	Canada		
Partner Organization	Veterinarians without Borders		
Placement location	Capital city		Comments: Position will be home-based, access to a computer and internet is required.
	Mid-sized town		
	Rural town/village		
	Various		
Duration (Months)	4 months		
Start date	Asap		
Placement goal and objectives (preliminary)	<p>Overall Goal: Identify existing needs in access to veterinary care and animal health initiatives in northern Canada with recommendations on priority areas and available resources.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Determine communities in the Canadian territories and remote areas of provinces where there is currently veterinary care, as well as communities where there are 100 or more families without veterinary care 2. Identify groups currently offering services to remote veterinary support to remote communities in Canadian provinces 3. Identify the needs from groups to grow their capacity and impact 4. Identify available resources ie. Mobile veterinary clinics, mobile vet equipment, etc that can address the needs. 		
Eligibility requirements	Open to Canadian Citizens and Permanent Residents of Canada only.		
Language Requirements	<u>Essential:</u> English <u>Desirable:</u> Working knowledge of French and Northern dialects		
Academic Qualifications	<u>Desirable:</u> Post-secondary education, preferably in a related field.		
Professional Background / Skills	<u>Essential:</u>		



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interest in animal health, particularly in Northern Canada communities • Strong understanding of census and other research data • Interview and communication skills • Analytical mindset, exceptional attention to detail, accuracy, and organizational skills. • Excellent time management skills • Commitment to the principles of volunteer cooperation and familiarity with participatory approaches to development, including the promotion of gender equality, good governance, and environmental sustainability <p><u>Desirable:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Familiarity with animal welfare terminology • Understanding of animal care and veterinary service delivery in remote communities
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About Veterinarians Without Borders

Veterinarians without Borders/Vétérinaires sans frontières (VWB/VSF) works for, and with, communities in need to foster the health of animals, people and the environments that sustain us. VWB/VSF works nationally and internationally to train animal health workers, increase food security, and improve animal & public health. VWB/VSF provides overseas volunteer placements for veterinarians and other animal & public health professionals.

About the Project: Northern Animal Health Initiative (NAHI)

Canada's vast, sparsely populated northern regions are defining elements of our nation, where dogs are integral to the culture, and iconic for these regions. Unfortunately, there are wide gaps in access to veterinary services in northern Canadian communities, resulting in animal health and welfare concerns as well as human health and safety issues. There are only a handful of full-time veterinary clinics operating in the three Canadian territories; in addition, long distances, physical isolation of communities, and high travel expenses reduce access to veterinary services across the north. In 2017, a VWB report documented over 50 communities of 100 or more people who were without access to full-time veterinary care. Many of these communities have never had temporary veterinary clinics and have requested the resources to offer basic animal health care, as well as assistance in providing programs to address One Health issues, such as rabies transmission.

We are operationalizing our Northern Animal Health Initiative with the vision of being more strategic and focused on the sustainability of the intervention. There will be enhanced emphasis on implementation of a community animal health worker framework and training to expand services across the targeted Territories and on engaging Territorial governments and Indigenous leadership for strengthened legislative environments. The provision of annual temporary veterinary clinics will be part of this and will continue with a view to expansion to other communities. This will be done in a participatory manner to allow for supporting/strengthening of the partnerships.