

## Being a Corporate Veterinarian....

Dr. Audrie McNab

Do I miss clinical practice? Yes I do! Do I miss interactions with clients and owners of their pets? Yes I do! But guess what? Corporate veterinary practice takes veterinary medicine to a whole other level because corporate vets



are involved in the 'Safe Food' movement. We champion the cause of One Health as we take the farm animal from the farm to the fork.

Do I have an issue looking after an animal that becomes food eventually? I won't get into the emotions of that but what I can tell you is it is a pleasure working in corporate practice. When you have taken an animal from the stage of piglet, chick or calf to an adult animal that is healthy based on your advice, your care, your practice and the rewards are immeasurable! The call to corporate veterinary practice involves not just diagnoses with little clinical practice but you also become an integral in the management of the micro and macro-environment of husbandry practices. Being involved in the financial well-being of that farm animal owner, you are also involved in the banking relationships with the farmer or producer and in the marketing of that animal or its by-products.

The corporate veterinarian teaches and coaches on farms and in workshops, sits in boardrooms, on the tailgate or doorstep of a pickup truck.

On behalf of corporate veterinarians, especially here in the Caribbean Broilers Group, I say thanks to the swine producers for whom we provide quality genetics and semen; to the dairy producers who allows us to optimize their production by providing the services of embryo transfer and artificial insemination which are all elements of dairy farming; to the poultry producers - formal and informal, the table

egg producers because you permit us to provide you with safe eggs and with healthy chicks from which you can only benefit. On behalf of us all I say thanks for allowing us to be your corporate friends! We work long hours and travel many miles across the length and breadth of not just Jamaica but the Caribbean.

Indeed the life of a corporate veterinarian is integral and inimical to the success of animal health and welfare, food safety and security and the support of livelihoods. Selah!



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