

W I N T E R 2 0 1 3

# *the* KIRKTON *Vet Clinic*

## EQUINE SERVICES

DR. R. YOUNG ~ DR. K. CROSSAN ~ DR. J. HODGE ~ DR. C. TELFER ~ DR. L. AURINI



*Lisa Aurini, D.V.M.,  
B.Sc.*

Lisa completed a B.Sc. at the University of Calgary before obtaining her D.V.M. at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine in Saskatoon, SK. She then completed a year-long equine internship at Okotoks Animal Clinic in Alberta and remained on after her internship for a few months as a staff veterinarian before joining us in December 2012 at the K.V.C. She has a strong interest in wound care, rehabilitation and lameness.

## ✘ It's an Exciting New Year ✘

*Hopefully everyone is well on their way into 2013 and abiding by their New Years Resolutions! A few exciting changes are in store at the K.V.C. this year - we are excited to fill you in on a few of them!*

### VETERINARIAN EXCITEMENT!

A few changes in our vet line-up will be taking place this year - the first to tell you about is the addition of a new vet to our team -

**Dr. Lisa Aurini!** Lisa has been with us since the beginning of

December and she will be a regular face out on the road with our equine staff as well as taking on a role in our clinic caring for some of our small

animal patients. We are very pleased to have her knowledge and expertise join our team! Secondly, for those of you that don't already know - **Dr. Carly Telfer** is expecting! She is due to foal near the beginning of April, and will be taking some much-deserved time off (beginning in March) to spend with her new baby. We will miss her very much during her maternity leave and wish her the best of luck!



*Have you read our  
Blog??*

*You don't have to be too  
technical to get some good  
information off our website!*

Not everyone is on Facebook, or surfs the web every night, but we have been doing our best to make sure that our clients have access to some good information online. In the past few months we have added a "Blogs" link to our homepage - where you can find articles about key health issues, and tidbits of information about what it's like to be an equine vet, etc. Topics such as "Colic First Aid" are quite relevant to this time of year, so if you haven't had a chance already, check it out at [www.kirktonvetclinic.com](http://www.kirktonvetclinic.com)

Mark Your Calendars...

## For the 2013 Equine Extravaganza!!!

*Wednesday, March 20, 2013 at the Kirkton Community Centre*

*Doors open at 6:00pm, talks to start at 7:00pm*



### *Time to Target Tapeworms!*

This is the time of year we recommend picking up a dewormer that will treat your horse for any tapeworms he or she may have acquired this summer. Many dewormers out there are good products, and quite effective, but only a few will treat your horse against this pesky parasite. A good rule of thumb is to look for a product that has the words “**Plus**”, “**Max**” or “**Gold**” at the end of the name. These dewormers contain the ingredient ‘**praziquantel**’ which is a drug that kills tapeworms. Pick yours up at the K.V.C. today, or ask at your local tack or feed store :)



### *Tips for Preventing Colic*

Winter weather and cold temperatures can wreak havoc on our horses' digestive systems. There are a few things we can do as horse owners in order to make the transition from warmer to colder weather a little easier for our equine friends.

1) **Make sure horses have access to clean, unfrozen water.**

This can be tricky in the cold weather, but installing a heated waterer in your pasture or purchasing individual bucket heaters can help avoid frozen buckets.

2) **Monitor hydration status.** A big contributor to colic in the wintertime is often dehydration. In the cold weather horses tend not to drink as much water, and combined with eating a drier roughage source (hay) they are easily dehydrated. A quick ‘skin pinch’ test can give you an idea of whether or not your horse is hydrated.

3) **Add water to the diet.** One way to increase that amount of water your horse takes in every day is to add it to his or her feed. Soaking pellets with warm water, or even soaking hay for 30 minutes prior to feeding will help your horse stay hydrated. Soaked beet pulp is another nice addition to add moisture in this cold weather.

4) **Make sure your horse is up to date with deworming.** Call us for more information if you are unsure of your deworming plan for 2013 - 519-229-8911.

**Early recognition and treatment of colic can result in a better outcome for your horse! For more information, check out our website: [www.kirktonvetclinic.com](http://www.kirktonvetclinic.com)**