

### 6315 – Veterinary Services Incorporated (VSI) Program

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#### 1.0 Purpose

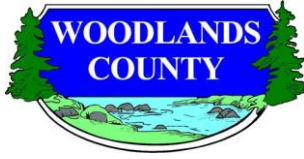
To assist the livestock industry of Woodlands County by encouraging and providing the means by which professional veterinary services can be provided in conjunction with promoting preventative veterinary medicine.

#### 2.0 Policy Details

Woodlands County recognizes the importance of the livestock industry in the municipality and will enter into an agreement with V.S.I. Services (1980) Ltd. in support of local livestock producers.

#### 3.0 Procedures

- 3.1 The Manager of Agriculture Services is an enforcement officer under the Alberta Soil Conservation Act and will:
  - 3.1.1 The program is for veterinary services on domestic cattle, hogs, sheep and goats raised or grown for the production of food.
  - 3.1.2 Livestock producers must reside in Woodlands County to qualify for the program.
  - 3.1.3 Livestock producers must own the animals that are to be covered under the program.
  - 3.1.4 Schedule "A" lists the eligible veterinary services and applicable fee structure for the program.
  - 3.1.5 Schedule "B" lists (partial) of ineligible veterinary services for the program.
  - 3.1.6 In order to receive benefits under the VSI Program, the applicant must agree to and sign Schedule "C" (VSI Program Agreement) and be issued a VSI Number and card



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- 3.1.7 In the event that the VSI Program requisition exceeds the annual set budget, Council may waive all or a portion of the funding overage or initiate a bill-back procedure based on calculations described in Procedure 6315-01 to recover all or a portion of the overage

#### 4.0 Exhibits / Appendices / Forms

- Schedule A – Eligible Veterinary Services
- Schedule B – Ineligible Veterinary Services
- VSI Program Agreement

V.S.I. SERVICES (1980) LTD.  
Schedule "A" 50/50 Effective Jan 1, 2023

**WOODLANDS COUNTY**

Until this Tariff is amended, and subject to the terms and conditions of the year 2023 contract, VSI Services (1980) Ltd. will pay the listed VSI fee charged by the veterinarian for the services stated herein. All other charges levied in association with the service(s) being claimed must be shown on the invoice.

**Note:** Unless otherwise noted all flat rate and hourly fees are fully inclusive which means the fee includes local anaesthetic procedures (including the drugs), surgical packs, suture materials, stitch removal and all drug administration procedures.

**CATTLE**

**A. Ancillary (add-on) Services**

SERVICE	VSI Code	Maximum Fee	50% VSI fee	50% CLIENT fee
Clinic Outpatient Fee	9	51.60	25.80	25.80

**Note:** This fee can only be claimed in conjunction with another valid VSI claim. It can only be charged once per occurrence. It is not a per animal fee.

Epidural	1	41.80	20.90	20.90
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**Note:** Epidurals can only be claimed in conjunction with dystocias (code 31), embryotomies (code 44 & 45) & prolapse revisits under code 52.

Intramuscular or Subcutaneous Injections	3	7.70	3.85	3.85
Intravenous Injections	4	15.10	7.55	7.55
Stall Fee (calves - <u>per 24 hr.</u> )	10	38.20	19.10	19.10
Stall Fee (older animals -per day)	11	60.80	30.40	30.40
Oral Drug Administration	5	42.00	21.00	21.00
Subconjunctival injection	7	15.10	7.55	7.55

**Note:** Codes 3, 4, 5 & 7 can only be claimed once per animal and only in conjunction with a code 26, 27, 50, 51, or 52 claim.

X-ray (2 views)	2	179.70	89.85	89.85
X-ray (subsequent views - each)	21	37.70	18.85	18.85
X-ray – Digital Equipment Surcharge	8	50.30	25.15	25.15

**Note:** Please be judicious in taking x-rays in situations where the x-ray won't add to the diagnosis or alter the course of treatment (e.g. most cases of broken legs in calves).

**B. Flat Rate Inclusive Surgical Procedures**

SERVICE	VSI Code	Maximum Fee	50% VSI fee	50% CLIENT fee
Abscesses	28	225.30	112.65	112.65
Claw Amputation	17	328.20	164.10	164.10
Epididymectomy	20	352.00	176.00	176.00
Eye Enucleation	16	492.20	246.10	246.10
LDA (Left Displaced Abomasum)	22	571.90	285.95	285.95
Omphalitis – Intra-abdominal debridement	35	342.60	171.30	171.30

**Note:** For superficial procedures with minimal debridement use code 28

RDA (Right Displaced Abomasum)	23	638.60	319.30	319.30
Rumen Fistula	24	230.90	115.45	115.45
Sole Abscess	29	177.00	88.50	88.50
Torsion (abomasal or intestinal – calves < 200#)	14	363.00	181.50	181.50
Umbilical Hernia (eviscerated in newborn calves)	18	363.00	181.50	181.50
Urethrostomy	15	286.60	143.30	143.30
Vasectomy	19	387.00	193.50	193.50



**C. Flat Rate Obstetrical and Reproductive Services**

Note: **Oxytocin** and/or **uterine boluses** are **included** in **all** obstetrical procedures.

SERVICE	VSI Code	Maximum Fee	50% VSI fee	50% CLIENT fee
Caesarean Section	41	669.00	334.50	334.50
Dystocia	31	302.40	151.20	151.20
Embryotomy (1 or 2 cuts)	44	454.70	227.35	227.35
Embryotomy (3 or more cuts)	45	535.00	267.50	267.50

Note: Code #1 (epidural) can be added, as appropriate, with codes 31, 44, 45 & 52.

Scrotal Circumference Measurement	65	31.40	15.70	15.70
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Note: This fee **only** applies for **bulls eliminated** from further breeding soundness evaluations.

Semen Test (1 <sup>st</sup> bull)	60	129.40	64.70	64.70
Semen Test (2 <sup>nd</sup> to 10 <sup>th</sup> bull)	61	91.40	45.70	45.70 each
Semen Test (11 <sup>th</sup> to 20 <sup>th</sup> bull)	62	83.80	41.90	41.90 each

Note: There is a **limit of 20** bulls per producer

Pregnancy Testing (per head)	6	6.30	3.15	3.15 each
Heifer Maturity Palpation (per head)	6hp	6.30	3.15	3.15 each

Note: There is a **limit of 400** per VSI client -- A higher fee can be charged for the first animal as per the AB.VMA fee schedule but VSI will only pay the VSI rate for the first animal.

Prolapses (includes epidural given)				
-Rectal	74	157.20	78.60	78.60
- Uterine	71	284.80	142.40	142.40
-Vaginal	81	204.70	102.35	102.35
-Vaginal & Rectal	84	236.30	118.15	118.15
Uterine Torsion (manual correction)	46	330.50	165.25	165.25

**D. Hourly Rates for Surgical & Professional Services**

Note: **Rates** are quoted for **1/4 hour** (15 minute) intervals. -- **All of the services in this section are fully inclusive** and an hourly rate can't be used for services for which a flat rate fee has been established.

Code **12A/12B** or **13A/13B** claims **CAN'T EXCEED 1½ hours** (parts A & B combined)

SERVICE	VSI Code	Maximum Fee	50% VSI fee	50% CLIENT fee
Surgery (major)	12A	123.40	61.70	61.70
Non Surgical Professional time	12B	70.10	35.05	35.05
Surgery (minor)	13A	76.10	38.05	38.05
Non Surgical Professional time	13B	70.10	35.05	35.05

Note: Only the actual surgical time should be claimed under codes 12 & 13. Time required for related services, e.g. examination, surgical preparation, immediate post surgical treatments, etc. should be claimed under codes 12B or 13B.

Professional Services (general)	25	70.10	35.05	35.05
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Note: This fee is used:

- For **herd** health visitations and/or **problems** (max. 2 units for set-up Veterinary-client-Patient Relation)
  - In place of codes 50, 51, 52 & 55 **as specified in section "E"**
  - When **more than two postmortems** are conducted
  - When a single animal is examined, euthanized then subjected to a postmortem
  - Other instances as agreed to or recommended by the VSI Manager
- Time claimed for codes 12, 13 & 25 should be consistent with time required by a veterinarian of **average competence**.

**E. Flat Rate Non-Surgical Professional Services**

SERVICE	VSI Code	Maximum fee	50% VSI fee	50% CLIENT fee
Cast Application (closed reduction)	26	162.90	81.45	81.45
Cast Removal	27	76.70	38.35	38.35
Examination	50	133.30	66.65	66.65
Examination (2 <sup>nd</sup> animal)	51	82.70	41.35	41.35
Examination (re-visit)	52	82.70	41.35	41.35
Next 24 hr IV hook-up + monitor	53	82.70	41.35	41.35
I.V. Hook - up (1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> no monitor)	55	148.40	74.20	74.20

Note: **This code includes the examination** and is for situations where the animal is not hospitalized for follow-up care.

I.V. Hook - up + 24 hour monitor	56	212.30	106.15	106.15
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Note: **Only** for calves up to **two months old**. It **includes the exam** and **professional services** for the **first 24 hours**. Code **53** should be used to cover professional services in **subsequent 24 hour periods**.

Services normally covered by codes 50, 51, 52 & 55 will be claimed under code 25 when more than two (2) claims are made using any combination of codes 50, 51, 52 & 55

Services covered by code 50 in combination with flat fee(s) of equal or greater value becomes automatic a code 51 - second animal

Postmortem - Brain Removal	99	88.00	44.00	44.00
Postmortem - 300 pounds or less / telemedicine	90	140.00	70.00	70.00
Postmortem - 300 to 800 pounds	91	150.70	75.35	75.35
Postmortem - over 800 pounds	92	226.60	113.30	113.30

Note: For **more than 2** postmortems at the **same time** make a **single code 25 claim**.

Technovit Block - Application of	30	114.20	57.10	57.10
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Note: **Materials are included** in this service

**PIGS****All Services**

Note: With the exception of the following pig services are to be billed by the hour under codes 12, 13, or 25, as appropriate:

SERVICE	VSI Code	Maximum Fee	50% VSI fee	50% CLIENT fee
Examination	50	133.30	66.65	66.65
Examination (2 <sup>nd</sup> animal)	51	82.70	41.35	41.35
Examination (re-visit)	52	82.70	41.35	41.35

Note: Codes 3, 4 & 5 can be claimed with codes 50, 51 & 52, as appropriate

Postmortem - 20 pounds or less or telemedicine	93	94.40	47.20	47.20
Postmortem - 20 to 100 pounds	94	101.00	50.50	50.50
Postmortem - over 100 pounds	95	123.30	61.65	61.65

Note: For **more than 2** postmortems at the **same time** make a **single code 25 claim**.



**SHEEP & GOATS****All Services**

Note: Most sheep and goat services can be billed by the hour under codes 12, 13, or 25, as appropriate, with the exception of the specific flat rate codes in this section:

All of the sheep codes are inclusive with the exception of codes 33, 50, 51 & 52 where the same conditions apply as for cattle.

Oxytocin and/or uterine boluses are included in all obstetrical procedures.

SERVICE	VSI Code	Maximum Fee	50% VSI fee	50% CLIENT fee
Caesarean	43	423.00	211.50	211.50
Dystocia	33	188.20	94.10	94.10
Examination	50	133.30	66.65	66.65
Examination (2 <sup>nd</sup> animal)	51	82.70	41.35	41.35
Examination (re-visit)	52	82.70	41.35	41.35

Note: Codes 3, 4 & 5 can be claimed with codes 26, 27, 50, 51 & 52, as appropriate.

Semen Test (1 <sup>st</sup> animal)	66	113.00	56.50	56.50
Semen Test (subsequent animals)	67	85.80	42.90	42.90
Postmortem - 20 pounds or less/telemedicine	96	94.40	47.20	47.20
Postmortem - 20 to 100 pounds	97	101.00	50.50	50.50
Postmortem - over 100 pounds	98	123.30	61.65	61.65

Note: For more than 2 postmortems at the same time make a single code 25 claim.

Prolapse - Rectal	76	133.40	66.70	66.70
Prolapse - Uterine	73	194.70	97.35	97.35
Prolapse - Vaginal	83	133.40	66.70	66.70
Prolapse - Vaginal & Rectal (NEW)	85	173.40	86.70	86.70

## V.S.I. SERVICES (1980) LTD.

### SCHEDULE "B"

Annexed to and forming a part of the agreement dated **effective January 1, 2023**

Following are some of the services not payable by V.S.I. Services (1980) Ltd

- a) castrations
- b) dehorning
- c) dockings
- d) spaying heifers
- e) embryo transplants, artificial insemination
- f) routine trimming of feet
- g) meat inspection
- h) scrotal hernias - all species
- i) umbilical hernias - all species
- Note:** With the exception of eviscerated hernias in newborn calves
- j) cryptorchid surgery- all species
- k) insurance examinations (including mortality, loss of use exams & reports)
- l) listed herd and dispersal sales
- m) shows & sales
- n) endorsement fees
- o) export testing
- p) parentage sampling
- q) routine vaccinations
- r) all drugs and medicines
- s) all laboratory fees
- t) waiting time
- u) after hours, emergency, or holiday fees
- v) mileage
- w) services relating to quality assurance programs such as CQA & QSH.
- x) internal fracture fixation procedures
- y) hospitalization for any **service not listed in Schedule "A"**
- z) Services under codes 12A/B & 13A/B over & above 1½ hours
- aa) Exams for non-conventional treatments and those treatments. (Examples: adjustments, acupuncture etc.)
- ab) VCPR consultations for a period longer than 2 units of code #25 (on farm only)
- ac) Blood transfusions (collection portion)

All "Schedule A" services for species not specifically identified on "Schedule A"

**Note:** All jurisdictions cover "Schedule A" services for the bovine, porcine, caprine and ovine species. Some jurisdictions cover some, or all, "Schedule A" services for alternative livestock species (e.g. elk, bison, deer, etc.). The specific species and services covered will be identified on the "Schedule A" that was approved by that particular jurisdiction.

Any other veterinary services not specifically listed in Schedule "A" as amended from time to time.



## Woodlands County

### Veterinary Services Incorporated (VSI) Program Agreement

I/We, \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ AB hereby apply for entitlement to benefits as provided by the agreement between VSI Services Ltd. and Woodlands County.

Further, I agree to the following:

1. The VSI Program is for domestic Cattle, Pigs, Sheep and Goats raised or grown for the production of food.
2. The attached Schedule "A" contains the list and fee structure of approved veterinary services covered under the VSI Program.
3. The attached Schedule "B" contains the list of items that are not covered under the VSI Program.
4. The VSI Program is limited to residents of the Woodlands County.
5. Benefits received under the VSI Program are limited to owned livestock (Cattle, Pigs, Sheep and Goats) only.
6. Woodlands County's VSI Program has a capped budget and at the end of the year (December 31<sup>st</sup>) overages above the budget will be billed-back to all VSI members based on their percentage of use.
7. VSI members that do not pay the billed-back amount will have their benefits under the VSI Program removed until such time as their account is paid in full.
8. Woodlands County reserves the right to amend or rescind their agreement with VSI Services Ltd. at any time.
9. Woodlands County, its employees and agents shall be indemnified and held harmless from any and all claims, demands, actions and costs that may arise as a result of an act or omission under the VSI Program.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ at the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, AB

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dawn Fortin, Ag. Services Manager

**VSI#: WC 15 -** \_\_\_\_\_