INTRODUCTION

Thank you for your enquiry about the position of Senior Veterinarian with RSPCA ACT. Included in this package you will find:

- How to apply for the position
- Information about RSPCA ACT
- Remuneration
- The selection process
- Job description, including selection criteria
- Personal Information cover sheet
- Pre-Employment Health Declaration

HOW TO APPLY FOR THE POSITION

Applications must be made in writing against the selection criteria, which are detailed in the job description.

With your application please include:

- Succinct claims against the selection criteria, including examples.
- A current CV including educational qualifications.
- The names and contact telephone numbers of two referees, both of whom should have known you in a recent professional capacity.
- Completed Personal Information cover sheet
- Completed Pre-Employment Health Declaration

To apply for the position or to obtain further information about the duties and responsibilities of the position you should email employment@rspca-act.org.au
Information About RSPCA ACT

The acronym RSPCA stands for the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Whilst the RSPCA in Australia is not directly linked to the RSPCA in the United Kingdom, it was in the UK in 1824 that a society with the aim of preventing cruelty to animals was first formed. William Wilberforce is often credited as starting RSPCA with Richard Martin (Humanity Dick Martin) both MPs in the British Empire in the early 1800s.

The first Act to be approved was one against cruelty to farm animals, particularly cattle in 1822. It was not until the late 1830's however, that the society started the tradition of the Inspector. Unfortunately, the popularity of so called sports, such as cock-fighting, bull and bear baiting, and the initial reluctance of magistrates to convict offenders, made the early days an uphill struggle.

The Queen's disapproval of using animals for experimentation was instrumental in the passing of the first law against vivisection. By 1841 there were five Inspectors; each paid a guinea a week, based in London, who travelled to various parts of the country bringing offenders before the Courts.

The first Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in Australia was formed in Victoria in 1871. RSPCA ACT was not formed until 1955. Each state has an RSPCA and in some States more than one animal shelter. In total there are over 60 shelters across the country.

At a national level, each state feeds into RSPCA Australia, which is located in Deakin in the ACT. RSPCA Australia does not operate an animal shelter; their role is to govern RSPCA at a senior level and influence policy and national decisions on animal care and welfare.

In the ACT, since 1955 the animal shelter at Weston has grown to a point now where we cater for over 8,500 animals annually, operate a budget of over $3,500,000, employ more than 45 people and enjoy the support of over 500 volunteers. We also provide care and protection services for animals in surroundings areas outside of Canberra, like Queanbeyan.

RSPCA is Australia’s most trusted and respected animal welfare charity. Working for RSPCA can be considered a privilege. We offer a dynamic, fast paced work place. We engage self-starting people who not only have a passion for animal welfare, but who are also good communicators, excellent problem solvers, show initiative and simply get on with the job.

We are responsible for raising most of our own income. Below is a breakdown of where our money comes from:

- Sales (animals, goods, services) $1,400,000
- Fundraising (membership, donations, events, sponsors) $1,200,000
- Non-Government Grants $200,000
- Government Grants $400,000
- Other income $500,000
RSPCA ACT provides the following services:

- An animal cruelty inspectorate with three full-time inspectors who investigate all reports of animal cruelty in the ACT
- An animal shelter that cares for over 7,000 animals every year
- A well-equipped veterinary clinic
- Monday to Saturday retail presence, including a pet supply shop

As RSPCA only receives very limited funds from the government, the above services are paid for by community donations, corporate sponsorships and events.

**REMUNERATION**

The Senior Veterinarian will be employed under a contract of employment which outlines all employment conditions. The remuneration offered is $90K plus super, currently 9.50%. RSPCA ACT also offers a Veterinary Surgeons support program which allows for three extra days leave per year to attend conferences, and up to $1000 per financial year towards vet education/conferences. RSPCA ACT provides a number of other employee benefits.

**SELECTION PROCESS**

All applications will be considered on the basis of their claims against the selection criteria. This will allow the development of a short list of candidates for interview. Following the interviews, referees’ comments will be sought for suitable candidates. It is expected that the successful candidate will start with RSPCA ACT August/Sept 2016.

Applications close COB 2 August 2016.