



BEHAVIOUR AT THE BEACH! A case- and data-based, intensive immersion course in behavioural medicine in collaboration with Atlantic Veterinary College, UPEI to be held **31 May 2026 – 5 June 2026, The Holman Grand Hotel, Charlottetown, PEI.**

4.5 days of lectures, discussions, cases, demos, Q & A! 36 HOURS OF RACE CE CREDIT! Come build your community of veterinarians passionate about evidence-based, humane, forward-thinking behavioural medicine and caring for the mental health of your patients in veterinary medicine!

*Do you want to practice the best preventative behavioural medicine possible? Do you want to give the best, evidence-based advice to stop and treat the most common behavioural problems? Do you want to go further and make behavioural medicine a core part of your practice? This course is for you! Our goal is to give you the tools to help care for your patients' mental health as well as you do their physical health, throughout their lifetimes. Behavioural complaints and problems remain the biggest cause of pet death and relinquishment. Early intervention **at both the general practice** and specialty practice level is essential, but you have to know what to do.*

This course is geared to both practitioners with no-to-little experience in the field and those with a lot, some of whom are working towards becoming specialists. Because of the unique team and immersive teaching style the course use – everyone is comfortable in asking to have their needs met and with discussion participation during or after the first day. We encourage targeted questions that may alter schedules.

*We can accommodate ONLY 40 participants because this is the capacity of the course room for this intimate intensive course. **Thanks to our sponsors Grey Wolf, ProConcepts Animal Health/Can Vet, and Virbac everyone who attends in person will get the discounted early bird price.***

DATES:

Course -7.00A Monday 1 June 2026 through 5.30P Friday 5 June 2026 (Arrival Sunday 31 May 2026; Drinks and food reception courtesy of Grey Wolf Sunday 31 May 2026, 6-9P in the Penthouse Suite of

the Holman Grand Hotel; Departure - Friday night 5 June 2026; optional later departures at hotel's discounted room price – you pay for these separately).

FACULTY: 3 internationally recognized experts in the field and 1 up and coming resident!

- Karen L. Overall, MA, VMD, PhD, DACB, Professor, AVC, UPEI, Charlottetown, PEI Canada (Course Leader)
- Goncalo da Graça Pereira, DVM, MSc, PhD, Dip ECAWBM (BM), Instituto Universitário Egas Moniz, Charneca da Caparica, Portugal, Escola Superior Agrária de Elvas, Instituto Politécnico de Portalegre, Elvas, Portugal, Departamento de Medicina Veterinária, Universidade de Évora, Portugal
- Niwako Ogata, BVSc, PhD, DACVB, Associate Professor, Purdue University College of Veterinary Medicine, West Lafayette, IN, USA
- Jenn Vernick, DVM, Resident in Behavioural Medicine at AVC UPEI, Charlottetown, PE, Canada

LOCATION:

Holman Grand Hotel – Charlottetown, PEI, Canada (<https://www.theholmangrand.com/en/>).

- Luxury, eco-conscious, boutique hotel with a wonderful restaurant and a fabulous bar.
- *Pet friendly and at no additional charge.*
- Pool, hot tub, fitness centre, spa (services listed online) on premises. Book spa services early – their schedule fills
- Hotel-wide complimentary broadband WiFi access.
- Walking distance to everything in town, across the street from the Confederation Centre art gallery, theatre, et cetera (<https://confederationcentre.com/>), and connected to Confederation Court Mall for shopping (<https://confedcourtmall.com/>). Bridges and tunnels available for very wet days.
- Valet parking @~ \$20 per day.
- Minutes to City Cinema (<https://www.cinemaslock.com/theatres/city-cinema>), the Trailside Music Hall (<https://trailside.ca/>) and dozens of fabulous and varied restaurants and bars.
- Minutes to major city parks, the harbor, the yacht club and similar facilities.

ROOMS:

All rooms are deeply discounted for this meeting. A hotel room for 5 nights (Sunday check-in; Friday check-out) is included in the cost of the meeting. The hotel will extend the same deep discount for additional rooms or dates on either side of the meeting for people who wish to vacation with their families. Please note on the registration form if you need any of these add-ons. Any additional days or rooms will be charged to you separately but you will get the conference discount.

AIRPORT:

Charlottetown International Airport (YYG), 15 minutes by taxi or car from the Holman Grand Hotel. Most flights and almost all international flights, will connect through Montreal or Toronto.

CARS:

If you are bringing family, extending your stay, or planning to travel on your afternoon off, it is almost mandatory that you rent a car. There are numerous car rental facilities at the airport. If you even

think you might take this course and need a car – [book it NOW](#). This is a small island, rental cars sell out, and you can always cancel later for free, but you cannot book what they do not have.

COSTS:

Thanks to the generosity of the hotel the costs in 2026 rose very little. Everyone qualifies for the Early Bird fee thanks to our sponsors so the cost for the 2026 course, inclusive, is **\$4990 CDN/~\$ 3617 USD**. Exchange rates are for example only – we are living in fluid financial times. **Hyper-local people – please note - there is a separate rate that includes in-course meals, but excludes hotel rooms. Reach out to me if this is you. Breakfast starts at 7A and the lectures start at 8A.**

What's included in the cost of the in-person course?

- 5 nights, standard luxury hotel room at the Holman Grand Hotel
- 5 breakfasts
- 5 morning breaks
- 4 lunches
- 4 afternoon breaks
- All lectures
- 3 month access to the lectures that are recorded (22 h)
- 36 hours RACE CE credit
- All notes – **which will be sent to you electronically before the course**
- One of the most amazing educational and networking experiences you will ever have!

What's *not* included in the cost?

- *You will be responsible for the cost of your own travel and any additional days, rooms, or upgrades. We can facilitate the additional days, rooms, and upgrades but you will pay the hotel directly for those, only. Book early for best access and fares, especially if you are traveling internationally. People travel to Charlottetown in the summer and for the last few years it's been busy – flights from Montreal and Toronto – your 2 connecting options – book fully. [BOOK YOUR TRAVEL EARLY!!!!](#)*
- Dinners. We did not include dinners so that, if people wished, they could bring family and be a tourist or just have a night off. This way people can order exactly what they want, experience some of Charlottetown's excellent restaurants, and budget their own time and finances.
- HOWEVER, we have a **Professors' Table** dinner on 3 course nights where we choose 3 different restaurants. All attendees pay for their own meal and drinks, which allows people to budget their own money, but the restaurants accommodate the big group and conversation. This has always been a great experience in the past!

PAYMENT:

Payment is through bank wire transfer or electronic transfer to avoid double billing. The event services now charge HST and the hotel has already included it the food, service, room, and lecture hall costs.

Contact me and I'll send you detailed payment instructions/options – BATB2026Course@gmail.com.

REGISTRATION:

See form below or contact me– BATB2026Course@gmail.com - and I'll send you a registration form.

Behaviour at the Beach (BATB) 2026 Tentative schedule – November 2025:

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7.00-8.00A		BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST
8.00A-10.00A		Dr. Karen Overall What's in a diagnosis: 'aggression', 'frustration', 'reactivity', 'sensitivity'	Dr. Karen Overall More on commonly used behavioural medications: aggressions	Dr. Goncalo Pereira Medications and other interventions for cats	Dr. Karen Overall Cognitive behavioural techniques – Medications and relaxation protocols	Dr. Goncalo Pereira Talking to clients: Understanding what they want, need, and are not saying and how this affects the patient
10.00-10.30A		BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK
10.30-12.30P		Dr. Karen Overall Update on commonly used behavioural medications: fear, anxiety, GAD, OCD	Dr. Goncalo Pereira Roles for pain and somatic illness in behavioural conditions	Dr. Karen Overall Medications affecting arousal and intense focus	Dr. Jenn Vernick Treating behavioural conditions in animals with somatic illness – managing polypharmacy	Dr. Karen Overall Roles for deprivation and trauma in behavioural conditions
12.30-1.30P		LUNCH	LUNCH	AFTERNOON ON YOUR OWN	LUNCH	LUNCH
1.30-3.30P	ARRIVAL	Dr. Goncalo Pereira Feline behavioural pathology	Drs. Karen Overall and Goncalo Pereira Video lab on understanding cat behaviour – ethograms, advances, relationships		Dr. Niwako Ogata, Karen Overall, Goncalo Pereira, and Jenn Vernick Quick cases: "What drug would you choose for....?" Quick case examples and first choices	Dr. Jenn Vernick More on neuronormative behaviours and puppy and kitten development
3.30-4.00P		BREAK	BREAK		BREAK	BREAK
4.00-5.30P		Dr. Jenn Vernick and Niwako Ogata – Case leaders *Real cases: Making the diagnosis, choosing the medications, implementing interventions	Dr. Jenn Vernick and Niwako Ogata – Case leaders *Real cases: Making the diagnosis, choosing the medications, implementing interventions		Dr. Jenn Vernick and Niwako Ogata – Case leaders *Real cases: making the diagnosis, choosing the medications, implementing interventions	Open Q & A
6.00P	6-9P Welcome reception: Pizza, salad, wine, dessert – Penthouse Suite	Dinner and evening on own – or <i>Professors' Table</i> ...see below				<i>Departure (check out 11A)</i>
6.30/7.00P onwards	3 different restaurants. Sign-up required.	Optional <i>Professors' Table*</i> for 10-15 attendees	Optional <i>Professors' Table*</i> for 10-15 attendees		Optional <i>Professors' Table*</i> for 10-15 attendees	

*For the cases – all faculty participate but the case presentation and discussion will be lead by Drs. Ogata and Vernick

Please share this announcement and let me know if you have any questions. Looking forward!
Karen Overall (koverall@upei.ca)



Behaviour at the Beach 31 May 2026 – 5 June 2026
Holman Grand Hotel, Charlottetown, PE, Canada

REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete this registration form and return it to me at koverall@upei.ca. You need do nothing to arrange your room(s) at the Holman Grand after you complete this form. *Your hotel for 5 nights - Sunday 31 May 2026 through Thursday 4 June 2026 (Friday check-out) - is covered through your registration fee.* You will directly pay the hotel only for additional rooms or nights on *either* side of the course dates, for which the hotel will honour the discounted course room price. I'll liaise with the hotel for you if you plan in advance. If you are hyper-local please just note that you do not need a room. Thanks! Karen Overall BATB2026Course@gmail.com/koverall@upei.ca

First name	
Last name	
Complete address (#, street, city, country)	
Cell/mobile phone #	
Best email address	
Number of people in YOUR room	
Do you need any extra rooms ?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	If yes, how many ADDITIONAL rooms do you need? _____
Do you need any extra nights ?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	If yes, how many ADDITIONAL nights do you need? _____
	If you need additional nights , please provide the dates: _____
Do you have food restrictions?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	If yes, <input type="checkbox"/> vegetarian; <input type="checkbox"/> vegan; <input type="checkbox"/> gluten-free <input type="checkbox"/> other – please tell us _____
Are you bringing a pet?***	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Will you be valet parking a car at the Holman Grand (additional daily charge)?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

*** The Holman Grand Hotel is a small, luxury, eco-conscious, completely pet-friendly hotel and good dogs can come to lectures.