Dear Successful Applicant:

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

You have been successful in securing a position with the Veterinary Technician Program here at St. Clair College.

This is a well-established program, that has been an integral part of St. Clair College for more than 50 years. Our graduates are respected throughout Ontario and Canada. We are very pleased to offer you the opportunity to begin your study in this exciting field with us.

The program provides you with exceptional hands-on experience with our colony animals in a clinical setting as well as providing for their welfare. Over the next 2 years you will have the opportunity to learn, and care for cats, dogs, mice, rats, rabbits, birds, cows and horses. Throughout the program, **the husbandry of the colony animals is the responsibility of the students**. This will give you the opportunity to interact and provide enrichment for our animals. As per our accrediting bodies you will complete a minimum number of hours each semester that is scheduled by the program technician. This entails certain weeks where you will be responsible for morning, noon and afternoon shifts as well as a minimum of one weekend per semester.

This program is a medical and scientific learning experience that is intensely delivered over a period of two years of study. Our goal is to ensure that you are successful and therefore we encourage an open line of communication between yourself and the instructors.

Work integrated experience through placements and externships is a vital component of this program. It presents the opportunity for students to consolidate their theoretical and practical education and continue to develop good professional work habits. There are two clinical placement rotations and two externship opportunities. These clinical rotations consist of 6 eight-hour days at one of our well-established community veterinary practices, and 1 eight-hour day at our local emergency hospital in third and fourth semester. The externship consists of 2 weeks or 80 hours working in an approved veterinary practice throughout Canada. These occur at the end of second semester and midway through the fourth semester. Students are required to provide their own transportation to the clinical area during all placements.

We encourage you to visit the St. Clair College's Veterinary Technician webpage.
https://www.stclaircollege.ca/programs/veterinary-technician

Once again, we welcome you to the program and look forward to assisting you on the road to a rewarding career as a Veterinary Technician.

Best regards,

Faculty and Staff of the Veterinary Technician Program
School of Health Sciences

Things to do:

1. **Pre-exposure Rabies Immunization**
   Pre-exposure rabies immunization (preventative vaccination) is conducted in order to protect individuals at high risk of contact with rabid animals. The potential contact group includes veterinarians and veterinary technicians. The Medical Officer of Health, of the Windsor-Essex Health Unit (in which St. Clair College is located) has indicated that the pre-exposure rabies immunization is required for veterinary technician students. The primary immunization regime for rabies prophylaxis involves a series of three injections over a three to four week period. Some health plans may cover the cost of the vaccine. The Veterinary Technician Program partners with ***Travel Health Windsor*** to offer a vaccine clinic for students each September. A physician will be on site to prescribe and administer the vaccine series. The cost is approximately $275 per vaccine.

   This must be completed prior or by the end of the fall semester.

   More information on prophylactic rabies vaccine can be found at:

   https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/healthy-living/canadian-immunization-guide-part-4-active-vaccines/page-18-rabies-vaccine.html

   Also, it is highly recommended that you maintain a current immunization against **tetanus**.

2. **Textbooks**
   Are located in the Campus Book Store under their course codes. They can be purchased new, and possibly used or rented. All textbooks for the Veterinary Technician Program can be found on reserve in the library. The following is a list of course codes for first semester classes and the required manuals:

   Required to purchase from SCC campus bookstore;

VET 112	Laboratory Procedures Lab Manual
VET 116	Animal Anatomy and Physiology Lab Manual
VET 109	Veterinary Practice Management Manual

The following **must** be purchased prior to the first day of classes.

3. **A full-length white lab coat**
   This will be required to wear in all lab classes.

4. **A USB stick**
   A minimum of 4GB is required for your VET 109 Veterinary Practice Management course.