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April 2, 2008

Ms. Mary Jane Spackman  
Newfoundland Club of America  
Charitable Trust Management Board  
Research Advisory Committee

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Dear Ms. Spackman and the Newfoundland Club of America Research Advisory Committee:

Mary Jane Spackman requested that Morris Animal Foundation (MAF) prepare a proposal for the Newfoundland Club of America's (NCA) consideration. Specifically, Ms. Spackman suggested that the NCA would be most interested in Dr. Vicki Wilke's study titled, *Chromosomal Regions and Genes Associated with Cranial Cruciate Ligament Rupture in the Dog*, at the University of Minnesota, and Dr. Thierry Olivry's study titled, *Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics of Hydroxyzine in Healthy Dogs*, at North Carolina State University. Synopses of both studies are included with this email.

The goal of Dr. Wilke's study is to determine the genes that are associated with cranial cruciate ligament rupture (CCLR), a devastating condition for Newfoundlands – treatment of which is estimated to cost dog owners over \$1 billion a year. This study was approved by our scientific advisory board in June 2007, however was given approved/unfunded status due to limited funds available. In order to fund an approved/unfunded study MAF's trustees require a pledge for the full budgeted amount of the study. Thus, MAF respectfully requests support for Dr. Wilke's entire two year study in the amount of \$119,672.

Dr. Olivry's study is looking at improving dosage amounts and frequency of hydroxyzine for treatment of atopic dermatitis. This study was funded by MAF and currently has one sponsor, thus the amount available for sponsorship is \$17,153. We ask you to consider sponsoring the remaining portion of this study as well.

Both of these studies passed our rigorous review process and both appear to have significant relevance to the Newfoundland breed. You can rest assured that MAF provides excellent scientific and financial oversight of our studies and only funds "the best of the best." Additionally, as a study sponsor your membership will receive progress updates from the investigator. We would also be happy to facilitate communication between you and the researchers should this be of interest to your group. Finally, the Newfoundland Club of America will be recognized in MAF publications and on our Web site.

An additional exciting opportunity to support canine health research exists through our Canine Cancer Campaign (CCC). This unprecedented \$30 million effort to cure canine cancer within a dog's lifetime - the next 10 to 20 years - is providing new hope in the fight against cancer with intensive canine cancer research. Through this campaign we have already launched, with the help of the AKC Canine Health Foundation, a national canine tumor bank. We are also conducting a multi-institutional clinical trial for a new Osteosarcoma drug, Rapamycin, and are planning to launch a large scale canine cancer prevention study this summer, with the help of the Golden Retriever Foundation.

We thank you for your interest in supporting Morris Animal Foundation's canine research and look forward to partnering with the Newfoundland Club of America to better canine health.

Sincerely,



Tobie McPhail  
Manager, Scientific Programs & Advancement  
Morris Animal Foundation