

# Curriculum Vitae

1. **Family Name:** McCRACKEN
2. **First Names:** ROBERT MILLIGAN (BOB)
3. **Date of Birth:** 20 July 1942
4. **Nationality:** BRITISH
5. **Civil Status:** Married to Hilda with three children – Mark, Cara & Stuart. Also 3 grandchildren – Callum, William & Catherine.
6. **Qualifications:** CBE, Ph.D., BVM&S, MRCVS, FRAGS.
7. **Education:**

<b>Institution:</b>	Royal (Dick) Veterinary School, University of Edinburgh
<b>Date:</b>	1962-1966
<b>Qualification obtained:</b>	Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine & Surgery. Gold Medal recipient for the “most outstanding graduate of the 1966 year”. Also recipient of several class Silver Medals and industry prizes.

<b>Institution:</b>	The Queen’s University of Belfast.
<b>Date:</b>	1968-1972
<b>Qualification obtained:</b>	Doctor of Philosophy. Thesis entitled “A study of the neural pathway of Aujeszky’s disease virus in experimentally infected calves”.

8. **Language Skills: (Mark 1-5 for competence)**

Language	Reading	Speaking	Writing
English	5	5	5

9. **Other Skills:**

- Experience in leading a State Veterinary Service of 780 staff;
- Experience in dealing effectively with an outbreak of FMD;
- Experience in dealing effectively with three outbreaks of Newcastle disease;
- Experience in formulating and implementing programmes to control and eradicate BSE from Northern Ireland;
- Experience in diagnosing BSE and scrapie by histopathological examinations;
- Expertise in national & international negotiations on matters veterinary;
- Experience as a Long Term Expert (Pre-Accession Adviser) with NI-CO in Malta;
- Experience as a Short Term Expert with NI-CO in Russia - St Petersburg and Moscow;
- Experience as a Veterinary Pathologist (gross, histopathological & ultrastructural) for 24 years (1966-1990) with particular interest in diseases of the central nervous system;
- Experience as a Senior Lecturer in the Queen's University of Belfast (1966-1990);
- External Examiner in Pathology in Veterinary Schools in GB and Ireland;
- Experience as a Vice-President of the British Veterinary Association;
- Editor of the Journal of Comparative Pathology;
- Member of Board and Examiner in State Veterinary Medicine Diploma and Certificate of the RCVS; and
- Computer Literate.

#### **10. Membership of Professional Bodies:**

- Commander of the British Empire (CBE);
- Fellow of the Royal Agricultural Societies (FRAg);
- Member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (MRCVS);
- Vice-President (President in 2004/5) and Member of the British Veterinary Association;
- Honorary member of the Association of Veterinary Surgeons Practising in Northern Ireland – the private veterinary practitioners association;
- Council Member of the Royal Ulster Agricultural Society;
- Past President and Member of the Association of Veterinary Teachers and Research Workers of GB and Ireland;
- Member of the Society for Veterinary Epidemiology and Preventative Medicine;
- Member of the British Poultry Veterinary Society;
- Member of the World Poultry Veterinary Society;
- Member of the British Cattle Veterinary Association;
- Member of the British Pig Veterinary Association;
- Member of the Pathological Society of Great Britain
- Member of the Neuropathology Society of Great Britain;
- Honorary Member of the Association of Veterinary Surgeons Practising in Northern Ireland;

- Past President and Member of the Agrarian Society; and
- Past President and Member of the Poultry Association of Northern Ireland.

**11. Present Position:**

- Pre-Accession Advisor on Twinning project 'Veterinary Controls – Animal Health/Public Health' in Malta; and
- Junior Vice-President of the British Veterinary Association.

**12. Years within the Firm:** 36 years

**13. Key Qualifications: (Relevant to the Programme)**

- 23 years experience as a research & diagnostic pathologist with a particular interest in diseases of the central nervous system;
- Author of over 100 scientific papers published in scientific journals;
- Experience in leadership (Chief Veterinary Officer) of a State Veterinary Service that is involved in animal health, animal welfare and veterinary public health. This includes animal disease eradication programmes and meat hygiene and inspection;
- Experienced in dealing with European Commission Mission Team (FVO) and USDA/FSIS visits to Northern Ireland relating to animal health & welfare and veterinary public health issues;
- Experience in the operation of Government laboratories that provide diagnostic, statutory and research facilities to the State Veterinary Service, private veterinary practitioners, farmers and other customers;
- Experience in negotiating at industry, National Government, European Community and International levels;
- Experience in presenting scientific and veterinary papers, nationally and internationally;
- Understanding of the European Community Directives, Decisions and Regulations pertaining to animal health and welfare and veterinary public health;
- Experience as a Senior Lecturer to under & post graduate students;
- Leadership skills, knowledge and experience;
- Experienced in conceptual and strategic thinking in relation to veterinary matters;
- Experienced in managing relationships and partnerships;
- Knowledge of the pathogenesis and epidemiology of animal diseases.

**14. Specific Overseas Experience:**

1985: Zambia (3 months project in the Veterinary Faculty of the University of Zambia)  
 1988: Saudi Arabia (Leader in an animal health project)  
 1990: USA (3 months Leadership & Management Course)  
 2000: Russia (St Petersburg and Moscow) – Short Term Expert with NI-CO.  
 2002/4: Malta (Pre-Accession Advisor) – Long Term Expert with NI-CO.

## 15. Professional Record:

<b>Date:</b>	December 2002 – March 2004
<b>Company:</b>	Northern Ireland Public Sector Enterprises Limited (NI-C0)
<b>Position:</b>	Pre-Accession Advisor to Ministry of Rural Affairs and The Environment, Malta
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Co-ordination of training in Malta in the areas of veterinary public health principles, red/white meat inspection techniques, guidelines for approval and licensing of meat premises, guidelines for good hygiene practice for food premises and farms, principles of HACCP, epidemiological surveillance, in particular, TSEs, Salmonella, blue tongue and Aujeszky's disease, and residue analysis of veterinary drugs.</li> <li>➤ Participation in an EU's Food &amp; Veterinary Office (FVO) visit to Malta on 4<sup>th</sup> December on Food Safety.</li> <li>➤ Provision of advice on documentation on the welfare of animals during transport and at slaughter to help prepare the Maltese Veterinary Service for an FVO visit in April 2003.</li> <li>➤ Provision of data on Salmonella and Campylobacter monitoring and laboratory testing.</li> </ul>

<b>Date:</b>	1998-2002
<b>Company:</b>	Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) for Northern Ireland
<b>Position:</b>	Chief Veterinary Officer
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All animal health programmes within Northern Ireland;</li> <li>• All animal welfare programmes within Northern Ireland;</li> <li>• All veterinary public health programmes within Northern Ireland;</li> <li>• Portal controls of the import and export of animal and animal products;</li> <li>• Effective leadership of 780 staff within the Veterinary Service;</li> <li>• Departmental Running Costs budget of £25m. Animal disease compensation budget of £20m;</li> <li>• National, European Community and International negotiations in matters relating to animal health &amp; welfare and veterinary public health. Negotiations and consultations with the Northern Ireland agri-food industries;</li> <li>• Education and negotiations with farmers and other agri-food industry leaders;</li> <li>• Strategic planning of the work of the Veterinary Service;</li> <li>• Leader in eradicating FMD from Northern Ireland during the 2001 outbreaks. Confined outbreaks to 4 farms.</li> </ul>

<b>Date:</b>	1990-1998
<b>Company:</b>	Department of Agriculture and Rural Development for Northern Ireland
<b>Position:</b>	Deputy Chief Veterinary Officer (Policy)
<b>Description:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deputise for the CVO;</li> </ul> Assist the CVO in determining policy advice on all matters relating to veterinary public health and animal health and welfare.

<b>Date:</b>	1985 (1 September – 22 December)
<b>Company:</b>	Seconded by DANI/Queen's University of Belfast to the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Zambia, Lusaka, Zambia.
<b>Position:</b>	Senior Lecturer and Pathologist
<b>Description:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Senior Lecturer in the Inaugural Year of pathology in the new Veterinary Faculty;</li> <li>• Formulate pathology lectures and practicals;</li> <li>• Deliver lectures and practicals.</li> </ul>

<b>Date:</b>	1966-1990
<b>Company:</b>	Veterinary Research Laboratories of the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland
<b>Position:</b>	Commenced my career as a Veterinary Research Officer (Pathologist) culminating in being appointed Head of the Pathology Department and Deputy Director of the Laboratories.
<b>Description:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diagnostic service to private veterinary practitioners and farmers in relation to animal, poultry and fish diseases;</li> <li>• Participated in regular meetings with farmers and/or private veterinary practitioners;</li> <li>• Statutory pathology for the State Veterinary Service;</li> <li>• Research pathology into animal diseases relevant to Northern Ireland;</li> <li>• In 1972, completed a PhD thesis on the neural spread of Aujeszky's disease (pseudorabies);</li> <li>• Senior Lecturer on animal health and diseases to final year agricultural students in the Faculty of Agriculture and Food Science;</li> <li>• Senior Lecturer to Microbiology students in the Faculty of Science.</li> </ul>

<b>Date:</b>	1966 (10 July – 15 October)
<b>Company:</b>	Private Veterinary Practice
<b>Position:</b>	Assistant veterinary practitioner
<b>Description:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assistant in large and small animal practice.</li> </ul>