



2025

ANNUAL REPORT

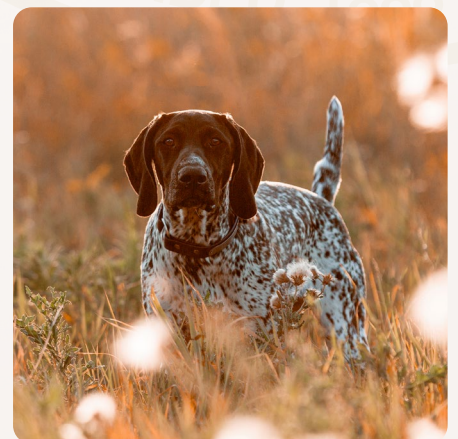


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ON THE COVER

German short-haired pointer
photo by Cristina Ralph



CHAIR'S LETTER

As I reflect on the past year, I am amazed at the resilience and determination of our organization. Our members are the most passionate and devoted people that I have ever had the pleasure of working with. From the small club operating from a kitchen table to the largest canine events organization in Canada, CKC members are there planning, working, and celebrating their successes. This shared dedication to purebred dogs and promoting responsible dog ownership continues to move our club forward.

I want to thank the members for their trust in me as your Chair of the Board. It has been an ultimate pleasure to represent you. In 2025, we began a search for a new Executive Director for our organization as we said farewell and happy retirement to Jeff Cornett. I am so very pleased with the result of our search resulting in the hiring of Natalie Tarini. Natalie's leadership and vision are already shaping the future of our club. Her energy, experience, and member-focused approach will continue to have a positive impact. The combination of dedicated staff, and many volunteers sitting on committees and councils is what enables the CKC to offer quality events over many different disciplines.

Behind the scenes exciting things are coming because of the committed efforts of staff and committee members. We were pleased to launch the first in a series of educational initiatives with the Ring Steward Education program. This initiative is the beginning of a broader

commitment to expand quality learning opportunities for our members. As a judge and a show organizer I cannot overemphasize the importance of volunteer participation such as ring stewards. A good ring steward can make a judging assignment pleasant and rewarding. This and other initiatives will help elevate the member experience. For example, we are moving to improve your access to digital services and elevate the exhibitor experience with online recording of results and data transfers that will result in faster results and access to more events. Throughout this process, we have listened closely to your feedback and are designing programs that reflect your needs.

It was an absolute pleasure to see the return of the CKC National Championship Dog show hosted by the Aurora & District Kennel Club in partnership with Royal Canin and Canadian Pet Expo. It was a spectacular event with entries coming from across Canada. I was thrilled to play a small part of this successful event which brought the public the best that Canada has to offer. Being a Cruft's Qualifying event added to the prestige of this event.

In 2025 we were busy on the advocacy front. CKC was involved in speaking directly to various levels of government across our great country. From actively engaging with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAPAQ) in Quebec to support in the development of its Animal & Welfare Strategy to participating in consultations on the Provincial Animal Welfare Services Act, 2019 (PAWS) Act in Ontario. We were always representing our membership and promoting the importance of regulations that support responsible breeding. In Manitoba, we met with the Minister of Agriculture to discuss

approaches for responsible pet ownership and identification. CKC continued to strengthen stakeholder relationships throughout the year. We participated in the Humane Canada conference, the International Partnership for Dogs' Global Health Forum and made presentations at two of Canada's veterinary colleges. All these efforts are essential to ensure that we are the go-to, trusted voice when questions regarding animal health and welfare issues are being discussed.

We are a diverse group, but in that diversity, we have strength. I am confident that we will face the challenges of the future with open eyes, honest dialogue, and collaboration and education. We, as a collective organization, can stand together in our shared passion and support CKC's position as the leading authority for all things canine.

Thank you all for the commitment, dedication, and trust that you have given us. I look forward to our paths crossing in the future at a show, in the field, or wherever our canine passions take us. And remember, at the end of the day, we all take the best dog home.



CORINNE WALKER

Chair, Board of Directors

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As I reflect on 2025, I do so with both the fresh perspective of someone who joined the Canadian Kennel Club in August and the deep appreciation that comes from stepping into an organization with such a proud legacy. Arriving partway through the year offered a unique vantage point: I was able to witness the momentum already underway, while also engaging directly with members, volunteers, staff, and partners to understand where we are headed and what our community expects from us.

What stood out most in my first months was the strength of CKC's foundation. Across the country, I met members who are deeply committed to the preservation, advancement, and responsible stewardship of purebred dogs.

I saw committees, volunteers and the Board working tirelessly to uphold standards, improve processes, and support the next generation of breeders, exhibitors, and dog enthusiasts. And I saw a staff team dedicated to modernizing our systems, strengthening governance, and delivering services that reflect the needs of today's membership.

2025 was a year of transition, but also one of meaningful progress. The organization continued to advance digital improvements, refine practices, and look at ways of strengthening our processes. We expanded our outreach, enhanced member support, and continued to build relationships with partners who share our commitment to canine health and responsible dog ownership and breeding. These achievements belong to the entire CKC community, and I am grateful to have joined at such a pivotal moment.

Looking ahead, my focus is on stability, transparency, and service excellence. Members deserve an organization that listens, responds, and evolves. They deserve clarity in process, fairness in decision making, and confidence that CKC is acting in the best interests of dogs and the people who care for them.

In 2026, we will continue strengthening our operational infrastructure, improving communication, and investing in initiatives that support breeders, clubs, and the broader canine community.

Thank you to the Board of Directors for their commitment to the CKC, to our volunteers for their dedication, and to our members for their trust. I am honoured to serve as Executive Director and look forward to building on the progress reflected in this report.

Together, we will continue to advance the mission of the Canadian Kennel Club and ensure a strong future for purebred dogs in Canada.



NATALIE TARINI

Executive Director



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OUR COMMUNITY BY THE NUMBERS

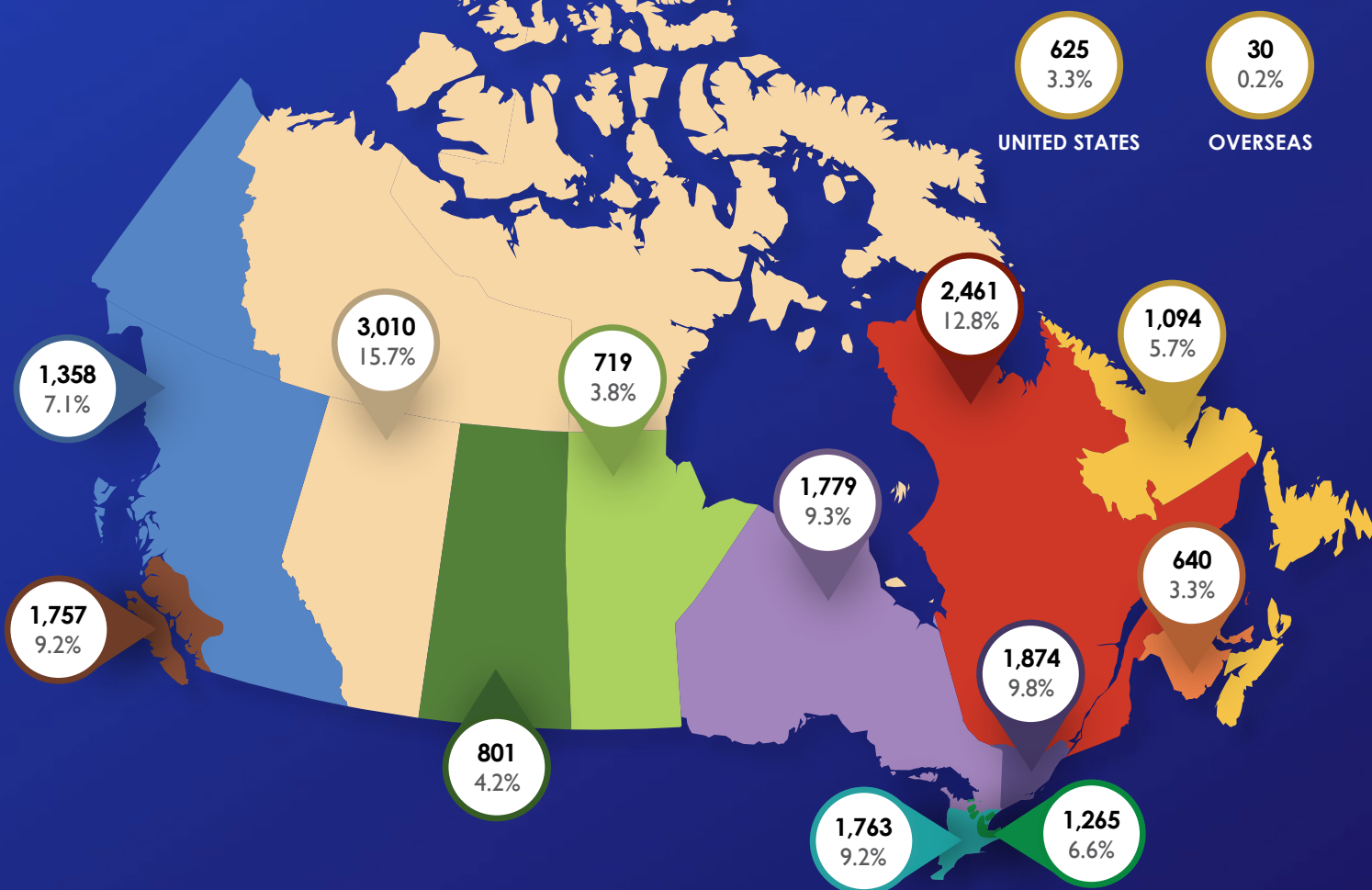
Founded in 1888, the Canadian Kennel Club (CKC) is the primary registry body for purebred dogs in Canada. We are a member-based organization that aims to serve our members and the public with education, support, guidance and the sanctioning of events for all their canine endeavours.

CKC members are at the heart of all we do, and we are grateful for the 19,176 individuals that are a part of this vibrant and active community.

2025 CKC MEMBERSHIP

- ZONE 1 NOVA SCOTIA / NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR
- ZONE 2 NEW BRUNSWICK / PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
- ZONE 3 QUEBEC
- ZONE 4 ONTARIO NORTH
- ZONE 5 ONTARIO EAST
- ZONE 6 ONTARIO WEST

- ZONE 7 ONTARIO CENTRAL
- ZONE 8 MANITOBA
- ZONE 9 SASKATCHEWAN
- ZONE 10 ALBERTA / NORTHWEST TERRITORIES / NUNAVUT
- ZONE 11 BRITISH COLUMBIA SOUTHWEST
- ZONE 12 BRITISH COLUMBIA INTERIOR AND YUKON



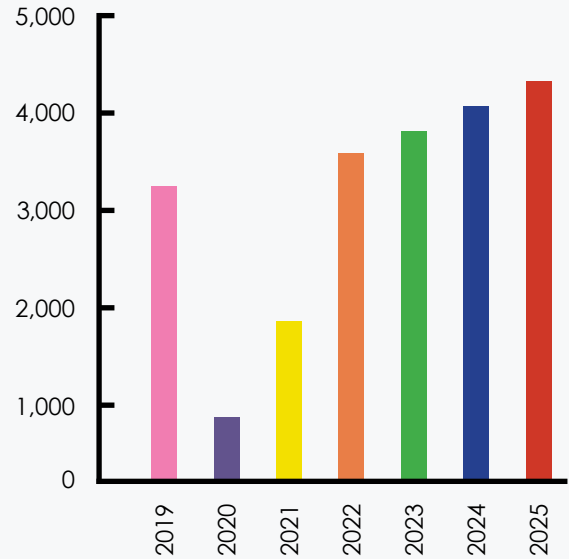
CKC EVENTS AND ENTRIES

The Canadian Kennel Club celebrates the vitality of the competitive dog show and event world. We administer, support and promote the work of CKC Clubs to organize and host sporting events across Canada. In 2025, CKC saw a record 4,359 events occur. From Tracking and Herding to Rally Obedience, Conformation, and many more events, thousands of passionate CKC members and their dogs showcased their skills, training and abilities.

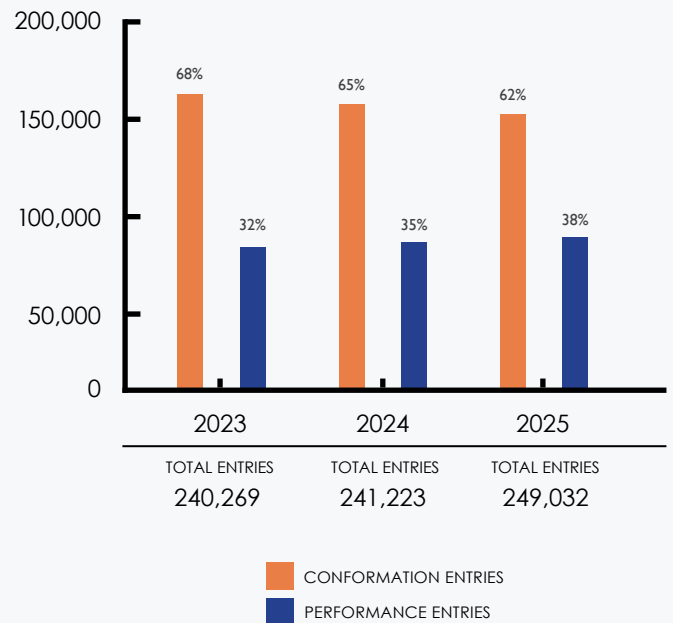
With the lows of the pandemic in the rearview mirror, CKC saw historically high event participation in 2025. There were an amazing 249,032 total entries seen across all events. Conformation shows participation remained very high, making up 62% of all event entries. With 154,740 entries, Conformation events continue to be popular among CKC members, dog lovers, exhibitors, and spectators alike.

Performance events participation saw a 10% increase with 94,292 entries in 2025. Performance entries made up 38% of total CKC event entries. It's exciting to see an increasing number of people getting involved in Performance events.

TOTAL EVENTS



EVENT ENTRIES



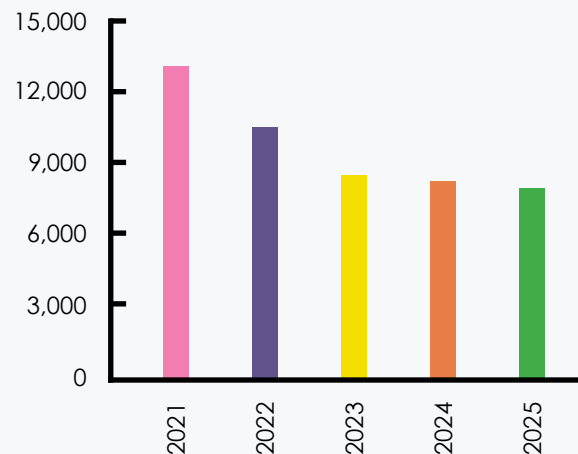
CKC DOG REGISTRATIONS

In 2025, the Canadian Kennel Club continued to see a decline in dog registration numbers that are closer to levels seen in the years before the pandemic. These trends are very similar to those seen with other Kennel Clubs such as the American Kennel Club and The Royal Kennel Club (United Kingdom).

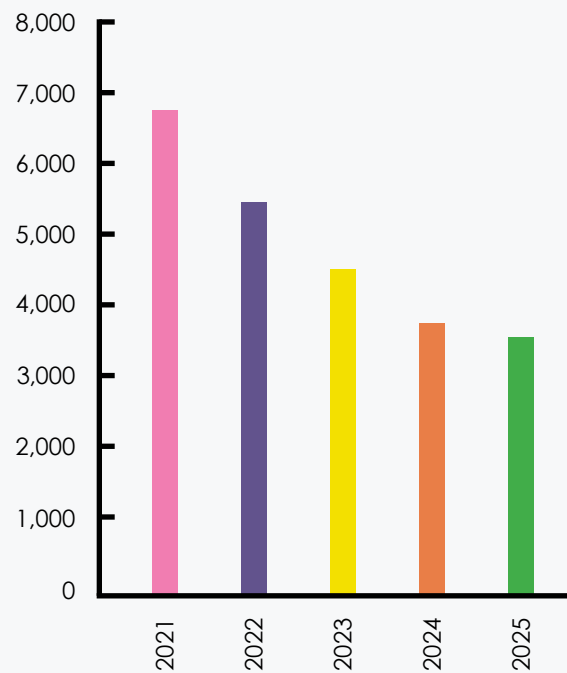
Puppy litter registrations continued to come down from pandemic level highs of 2020. There were a total of 7,873 puppy litters registered with CKC in 2025.

Similar to puppy litters, 2025 Canadian-born dog registrations declined to 36,812 from 44,988 registrations in 2023.

PUPPY LITTER REGISTRATIONS



CANADIAN-BORN REGISTRATIONS



CKC PARTNERSHIPS BENEFIT CKC MEMBERS AND PUREBRED DOGS

The Canadian Kennel Club continues to pursue partnerships that provide benefits to both our members and the well-being of purebred dogs. Partnerships support initiatives like the Integrated Breed Health Program, offer tangible benefits for our members, and provide us with access to knowledge and resources that support our mission: the preservation of purebred dogs and the health, well-being and enjoyment of all dogs.



German Shepherd Dog photo by Brianna Munch. Australian Shepherd photo by Laura Medland

Trupanion

In 2025, we proudly renewed our partnership with Trupanion, a Canadian-founded leader in pet medical insurance with over 25 years of experience protecting pets and supporting the breeding community. As the official pet medical insurance partner of the Canadian Kennel Club, more than 2,000 CKC member breeders have benefitted from Trupanion's free Breeder Support Program since the partnership began.

More than 26,000 CKC-bred puppies have gone home protected with immediate coverage through Trupanion's Go Home Day Offer, helping pets receive almost **\$980,000** CAD in care during their offer period. Additionally, Trupanion has proudly paid more than **\$10,000,000** CAD in veterinary invoices for CKC memberbred dogs over the life of their policies, reflecting the lasting value this partnership brings to breeders and their puppies.*

Our members are the backbone of the Canadian Kennel Club, and continuing our partnership with Trupanion allows us to offer meaningful support and added benefits across our entire

**Based on internal Trupanion data*

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Royal Canin

CKC also continued our partnership with Royal Canin, bringing even more evidence-based education and resources to our members, supporting their breeding programs, as well as the health and well-being of all CKC registered dogs.

As Royal Canin works to continue to improve and grow their online learning resource centre we collaborated with Royal Canin in 2025 on two more Ask A Vet webinars, hosted live in French and English. These webinars were added to CKC's Educational Resources on the Member Portal - hours of on-demand, recorded webinars and seminars. Thanks to partners like Royal Canin, these resources are free for CKC member breeders.

THE POWER OF JUNIOR HANDLING AND STELLA'S JOURNEY TO SHINE

When Stella turned eight, she didn't ask for a big birthday party with her classmates. She asked to go to a dog show.



There were balloons and streamers decorating the setup, and cupcakes shared ringside. Fellow Juniors sang “Happy Birthday” during competition

In between celebrating, Stella did what she loved most. “Going in the ring,” Stella says simply, when asked what she enjoys most about Junior Handling.



Stella began competing in PeeWee at six years old and finished the 2025 season in Junior Open. In just two seasons, her confidence grew dramatically, something her mother, Rianna, noticed right away. “Junior Handling has been night and day for my daughter’s confidence,” Rianna says. “First season to second season she’s a whole new kid. Her personality has bloomed and her confidence has grown so much.”

The ring didn’t always feel easy. Stella remembers her first time clearly. “The first time was really scary and I cried,” says Stella. Now, the nerves remain, but they feel different. “Now it’s still scary to go in the ring, but it’s like an exciting scary. I’m excited all day for my turn, but I still get nervous.”



According to Rianna, the support of the dog show community played a major role in Stella’s growth. “The conformation community as a whole wants to see the kids succeed. In every situation, adults are ready to step up on behalf of the kids. Offering dogs, making them aware of ring times, offering encouragement. I’m not sure if other exhibitors know how much those tiny interactions mean to the kids.”

She recalls a show in the Maritimes that became a turning point. “At that show, adults sought her out to tell her how gorgeous her dress was. Another Junior brought her a glittery bag with grooming tools, a little apron, bubbles and candy. When we went ringside someone started playing Dolly Parton’s 9 to 5, Stella’s favourite song, so by the time she went into the ring she was grinning ear to ear and strutting like a queen.”



Since then, Stella has handled Miniature Poodles, German Wirehaired Pointers, and Golden Retrievers, and is now aiming for her next goal. “I got a Reserve, but I don’t have that giant one yet,” she says. “So, I’m going to try to get one of those this year.” Stella’s experience reflected what the Canadian Kennel Club’s Junior Handling program offered junior handlers across Canada: mentorship, friendship, and the opportunity to build confidence in and out of the ring.

2025 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP DOG SHOW

The 2025 CKC National Championship Dog Show marked the return of this event for the first time in over a decade, bringing together exhibitors, breeders, and dog lovers from across the country for an exciting weekend of competition at the International Centre in Mississauga, Ontario.



The event celebrated the dedication and passion that define Canada's purebred dog community, with memorable moments unfolding across every ring.

The final lineup showcased exceptional dogs representing the highest level of quality and preparation. Prince the Pekingese earned the coveted Best in Show honour, while Rambo the Miniature American Shepherd was awarded Reserve Best in Show. Prince, bred and owned by Cynthia Dyson in partnership with Denise Cortelli and handled by Dyson, impressed the judge with his breed type, sound movement, and distinctive Pekingese characteristics. Rambo, bred by Ginger M. Fleguel, owned by Kelli Rettie, and handled by Cody Longworth, was praised for his condition, movement, and showmanship.

Best in Show judge Mike Macbeth noted the exceptional calibre of the finalists, explaining that both dogs stood out in an already remarkable group. She highlighted Rambo's correct coat, elegant movement, and confident presentation, while describing Prince as a spectacular representative of the Pekingese breed, combining correct structure with the breed's signature movement and expression.



The show also featured standout moments in Junior Handling, where Amelia Clark was named Best Junior Handler in Show with her Scottish Deerhound. Across the weekend, seasoned champions, rising newcomers, and dedicated breeders demonstrated the skill and commitment behind every dog presented.



The 2025 National Show carried additional significance as it marked Mike Macbeth's final judging assignment. A respected international judge who officiated in more than 30 countries, Macbeth concluded her distinguished career by awarding Best in Show at Canada's premier dog show. The Canadian Kennel Club extends sincere thanks to the Aurora and District Kennel Club, Canadian Pet Expo, and Royal Canin for their support in making the 2025 National Show a memorable success.

CKC ADVOCACY

CKC remains committed to advocating for our members and promoting canine health and well-being. Throughout 2025, with the support of our Board of Directors, Advocacy Committee and members, we represented and advocated for our members' interests in consultations with government and other stakeholders on issues impacting purebred dogs.

In January, we participated in a public consultation regarding Ontario's Provincial Animal Welfare Services Act, 2019 (PAWS Act). We expressed that while CKC supports measures that address unethical producers of dogs, "onesize-fits-all" regulations will negatively impact accountable CKC member breeders. Later in the year, we provided input to the Auditor of the Solicitor General's Office regarding potential risks and opportunities for improvement within the Animal Welfare Services Program.

In Manitoba, we consulted with Manitoba Veterinary Medical Association (MVMA) ahead of their vote on tail docking, providing input and research in support of veterinarians' continued ability to perform this procedure. Throughout the year, we remained engaged with Manitoba's Minister of Agriculture and Winnipeg Humane Society to explore opportunities to support the government with canine-related initiatives and consult on future changes to legislation.

In Québec, we met with Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAPAQ) to share our members' feedback on the regulations regarding the welfare and safety of domestic companion animals and equines, implemented in February 2024. We also met with the Fédération Québécoise des Municipalités (FQM) and Union des Municipalités du Québec (UMQ) to discuss the benefits of permanent identification and traceability for companion animals. To further strengthen relations with government and veterinary stakeholders, we participated in MAPAQ's Annual Partners' Meeting in May and joined the ministry's working group and sub-group supporting Quebec's Animal Health and Welfare Strategy.

CKC continued to monitor developments related to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) dog importation rule and remained engaged with the American Kennel Club (AKC), the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), and other partners to ensure that our members' concerns are represented. We remain committed to advocating on behalf of our responsible members who travel with/transport their Canadian-born, CKC registered dogs, and who work across borders to improve canine health, diversify breeding programs, utilize veterinary services, and participate in sporting and goodwill events. In addition, we attended an AKC webinar on Government Relations and Breeder Awareness and, through our strong relationship with AKC Government Relations, continue to share information and collaborate on issues affecting purebred dogs on both sides of the border.

We further strengthened our relations with various stakeholders. We attended the Humane Canada conference in Montréal, which helped to foster positive ties with animal welfare groups within the country. In June, we participated in the International Partnership for Dogs' Virtual Dog Health Forum, reinforcing connections with the global dog community and supporting collaborative efforts in canine health and well-being. We also participated in meetings hosted by the International Collaborative on Extreme Conformations in Dogs (ICECDogs) that focused on legislation from various countries related to extreme conformation in dogs. We look forward to building these connections and forging new relationships in 2026.

CKC'S COMMITMENT TO CANINE HEALTH & VETERINARY EDUCATION

In 2025, CKC continued its long standing commitment to supporting the health and well being of purebred dogs through strategic investments in veterinary education and research. From empowering students to advancing scientific discovery, CKC strengthened its partnerships with Canada's veterinary colleges and concluded a meaningful chapter of research funding through the CKC Foundation.



Every year, CKC provides bursaries of \$2,000 to each of Canada's veterinary colleges, offering meaningful support to deserving students as they continue their education in veterinary medicine.



This year, four exceptional students were recognized, including Alissa Flight from the Atlantic Veterinary College (AVC) at the University of Prince Edward Island, Yovela Wang from the Western College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan, Nicolas Farentino from the Ontario Veterinary College at the University Of Guelph and a student from the Faculté de Médecine Vétérinaire (FMV) at the Université de Montréal.

During the University of Calgary's Giving Day, CKC's contribution to the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (UCVM) was doubled, allowing for an even greater investment in the Companion Animal Health Fund and the future training of veterinarians. In addition to bursary support, CKC advanced educational initiatives on the health of all breeds, including brachycephalic breeds, and the importance of Respiratory Function Grading Scheme (RFGS) through presentations at AVC and FMV.



This year also marked the conclusion of the CKC Foundation (CKCF), an organization established in 2008 with a vision to advance canine well-being through research, education, and community programs. As it completed its mandate, the Foundation made a lasting contribution to the future of veterinary science by awarding three final research grants to FMV and UCVM. Through these collaborations, both universities have committed to sharing updates on their research progress with CKC, ensuring that members remain connected to emerging developments in canine health.

Together, these efforts reflect CKC's unwavering commitment to supporting veterinary education and advancing the health and well-being of all dogs.



2026 CHAIRS' AWARDS

The CKC, along with its Chair of the Board of Directors, Past-Chair, and Honorary Chair, is very pleased to recognize four exceptional CKC members for their invaluable contributions to our dogs, community, and sports. The CKC is deeply grateful and celebrates the many exceptional CKC members who were nominated for an award in 2026.



Border Collie photo by Sue Hawes



Golden Retriever photo by Denise Scholten

Gary Overs – CKC National Heritage Canine Performance Award 2026

Gary Overs has been involved in canine performance sports for more than 43 years, beginning in Obedience when he was just 18 years old. After taking a pet class at the Band City Kennelling and Obedience Club in Moose Jaw with a dog he adopted from the local Humane Society, his instructor encouraged him to begin competing. Shortly after, Gary purchased his first registered Golden Retriever and entered his first Obedience trial in Brandon, Manitoba, where he earned High in Trial both days.

Years later, Gary expanded into retriever field work and Hunt Tests after a fellow competitor suggested trying the sport with one of his field-bred Golden Retrievers. After passing a Working Certificate test and several Junior Hunt Tests, Gary says, “the hook was set.”

Among Gary’s most memorable accomplishments was qualifying at the 2023 National Master Hunt Test, where he and his dog earned both the National Master Hunt title and their Grand Master Hunt title. The following year, the same dog earned a GMOTCh title in Obedience while achieving top rankings nationally and within Saskatchewan.

Gary says what he enjoys most about canine performance sports is “the ability to take myself and my dog to a high level of performance, and competing as a team.” He also values “being involved with likeminded people” and believes that “every dog teaches you something new.”



Reflecting on the honour, Gary says receiving the National Heritage Canine Performance Award means a great deal because it comes from “my peers and fellow competitors.” He remains passionate about encouraging others in the sport and promoting the dog sports he loves “to ensure they continue for future participants.”

Gary credits much of his success to the support of his wife Shelley, his mentors Daryl Herchuk and James McGarry, and the Saskatoon Retriever Club community.

Congratulations, Gary, and thank you for your longstanding dedication to canine performance sports in Canada. The Canadian Kennel Club is proud to recognize your contributions to the sport and the positive impact you have had on fellow competitors, exhibitors, and future generations of participants.



James Deptuch – CKC National Obedience Award

James Deptuch's journey in purebred dogs began more than 50 years ago when he and his late wife, Doris, purchased a boarding kennel in British Columbia's Cowichan Valley. What started with a rescued Afghan Hound quickly grew into a lifelong passion for purebred dogs, breeding, and competition.

While Doris became heavily involved in conformation, James discovered his passion in obedience competition with the family's Poodles. Through the Canadian Kennel Club and the Tyee Kennel Club, he spent more than 30 years helping teach obedience classes and building lifelong friendships within the sport.



James's achievements in dogs span generations. One of his proudest memories was piloting a Poodle named Briquette to become the #1 Non-Sporting Dog and one of the Top Ten Obedience Dogs in Canada during the 1980s. More recently, at the age of 87, he guided his Poodle Am Can Ch Diplomat Swiftwind Ebony to two All-Breed Best in Show wins, while also earning a Grand Champion Excellent title and winning her class at the Poodle Club of America.



Today, at 91 years old, James continues to compete with the same enthusiasm that first drew him into obedience decades ago. Alongside his Standard Poodle, "Ruckus," GChS GChEx Diplomat Lakeridge It's Only Money RN RA RE RM CD SDN CA VA VE VB, he earned both Rally Master and Companion Dog titles in 2025, accomplishments he describes as especially meaningful at this stage in his life.

"Continuing to train, compete, and achieve new goals together at this stage of my life has been both exciting and deeply meaningful," said James.



For James, the greatest reward of obedience competition has always been the camaraderie among competitors and the shared encouragement that exists within the sport. "There is a wonderful sense of community in obedience, where everyone wants to see both dogs and handlers succeed," he shared.

Even after decades of involvement, James continues to travel to shows with family and work toward new titles with Ruckus by his side.

The Canadian Kennel Club proudly congratulates James Deptuch on being named the 2026 National Obedience Competitor of the Year and thanks him for his decades of dedication, sportsmanship, and passion for purebred dogs and the sport of obedience.

Lynne Bruce – CKC National Breeder of the Year



For more than 50 years, Lynne Bruce has dedicated her life to preserving, promoting, and responsibly breeding the Scottish Deerhound. Now recognized as the Canadian Kennel Club's Breeder of the Year, Lynne's lifelong commitment to the breed has left a lasting impact on the purebred dog community.

Born in Glasgow, Scotland, Lynne grew up surrounded by dogs and came from generations of passionate dog people. Her grandfather kept working dogs and hunting lurchers, while her uncle was one of the top Greyhound trainers in the United Kingdom. Lynne also spent time helping her father train working dogs, experiences that shaped her future in purebred dogs. Although she admired many breeds, it was the Scottish Deerhound that truly captured her heart.

"The deerhound had the ideal temperament for me, and I have owned and loved every one of them for over 50 years," Lynne shared.



After emigrating to Canada, Lynne established her Hollyrood kennel and has since bred 20 generations of Deerhounds while remaining deeply committed to preserving the breed's structure, temperament, and working ability.

"Breeding these dogs has been my life's achievement," she said. "The deerhound is on the endangered list, and my main hope is that this award will shine a light on what a truly magnificent and ancient breed this is."

Throughout her journey, Lynne has celebrated numerous accomplishments in conformation and lure coursing, including multiple Best in Show wins and memorable moments with her celebrated Deerhound "Polly," who earned Group Second at the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show.



Lynne credits much of her success to the support of respected mentors, fellow breeders, and longtime partner Heidi Gervais, who became an important part of the Hollyrood kennel program.

Passionate about mentorship and ethical breeding, Lynne believes responsible breeders must prioritize health testing, lifelong support for their dogs, and preserving breed standards for future generations.

The Canadian Kennel Club proudly congratulates Lynne Bruce on being named the 2026 Breeder of the Year.

Christina Koffman-Heard – CKC Thomas Curley Memorial Sportsmanship Award

Christina Koffman-Heard’s lifelong passion for purebred dogs began with a simple goal: giving back through St. John Ambulance Pet Therapy visits. What started as a family activity soon grew into a decades-long journey in the sport of dogs, leading to breeding, exhibiting, and campaigning dogs at CKC events across Canada.



Now, Christina is being recognized as the recipient of the first-ever Thomas Curley Memorial Sportsmanship Award, an honour that carries special meaning for her. “We were very close friends with Tom from our first show dog,” she shared. “He was a friend, mentor, confidant and someone we looked forward to seeing every weekend. I am truly humbled and honored to be receiving this award in his name.”

Over the years, Christina and her family bred and showed Newfoundlands under the SUMMERFORD prefix for 30 years before transitioning to Clumber Spaniels under the CLUSSEXX prefix. While she describes herself as “extremely competitive by nature,” Christina believes that sportsmanship is one of the most important qualities within the dog community. For her, good sportsmanship means “supporting others and helping newcomers to our wonderful sport.”

Among her favourite memories is whelping her first Newfoundland litter and later having the opportunity to show the puppies she helped bring into the world.

Reflecting on her journey in dogs, Christina says it best: “We have loved every single moment. Positive and negative, it has brought us to where we are now.”

The Canadian Kennel Club proudly congratulates Christina Koffman-Heard on receiving the Thomas Curley Memorial Sportsmanship Award and thanks her for her dedication, mentorship, and contributions to the purebred dog community.



A BIG TAIL-WAGGING THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

To all of CKC's amazing volunteers: you're the heartbeat of our purebred dog-loving community. You give so much of your time, energy and passion to support our mission! This year, we are especially grateful for each individual who has contributed hours of service, shared their expertise, and brought their spirit of generosity to the dog fancy. Your dedication makes a difference, allowing CKC to achieve more than we could ever accomplish alone. From lively discussions to careful planning, from ideas to action, and all the insights and energy you bring to every meeting, conversation or event; you're making an impact. We are proud to have your support and are grateful for your service.

The Canadian Kennel Club Board of Directors and staff would like to sincerely thank all our volunteers for everything you do to make a difference!

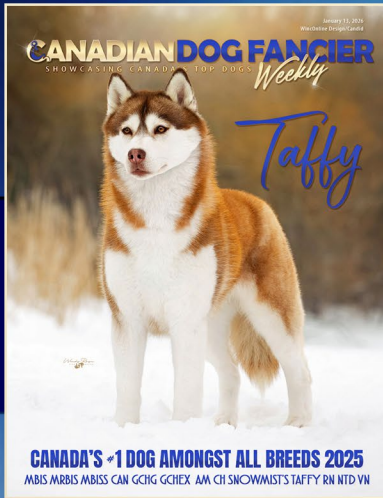


CANADIAN DOG FANCIER

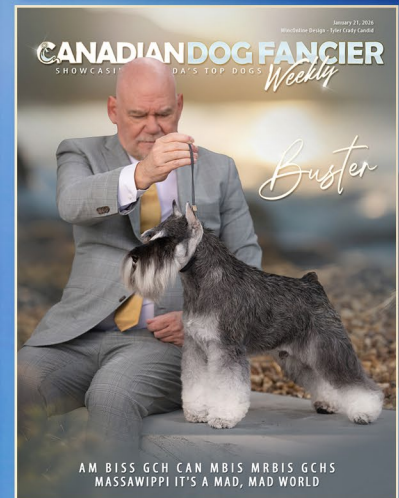
SHOWCASING CANADA'S TOP DOGS

A digital magazine created for the dog show community, reaching breeders, exhibitors and judges around the world!

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INDEPENDENT STANDING COMMITTEES

Independent Standing Committees are appointed in accordance with the By-Laws and under the terms of reference in the Policy and Procedures Manual. Independent Standing Committees consist of members of the Club who are not members of the Board. They operate at arm's length to the Board and their authority is independent of the Board.



Golden Retriever photo by Jacqueline Gori



Australian Shepherd photo by Kaitlin Fraser

APPEAL COMMITTEE

The Appeal Committee provides a mechanism for CKC members to appeal decisions made by the Discipline Committee, the Executive Director (under Section 15.1), and the Registration Committee. The Committee operates at independently from the Board of Directors and staff to ensure a fair and impartial adjudication process.

Staff Liaisons:

Tara Merrimen, Director of People and Culture
Kristi Schenk, Manager, Regulatory

Committee Chair:

Lionel Whittaker, Alberta

Members:

Carolyn Ayre, Alberta, William Miller, Ontario
& Judy Walson, Newfoundland

Report:

The Appeal Committee met remotely via Zoom on March 9, 2025 and September 21, 2025 and heard a total of six appeals.

Of those appeals, two were appeals of decisions of the Registration Committee and four were appeals from decisions of the Discipline Committee. Of the files heard, the Appeal Committee directed that appeals be allowed in part on three cases, modifying the decisions made by both Discipline and Registration Committees. Of the files heard, the Appeal Committee directed that appeals be upheld and found for the Appellants overturning the decisions made by the Discipline Committee on two cases. Of the files heard, the Appeal Committee directed that the appeals be dismissed, upholding the decisions made by the Discipline Committee on one case.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Audit Committee assists the Board in discharging its fiduciary responsibilities, by acting in an advisory capacity, in areas of financial policy development, assessment of control environment, review of financials and appointment of external auditors.

Staff Liaisons:

Jasoda Deonarine, Manager, Finance
Leah Maves, CPA, CA, Director of Finance (to June)

Committee Chair:

Melanie Towell, CPA, CA, Ontario

Members:

Andrew Brenner, Ontario & Cyndi Egbert, CPA, Saskatchewan

Report:

In the execution of their duties, the Audit Committee, comprised of three Chartered Professional Accountants, met seven times throughout 2025, via Microsoft Teams. The Audit Committee supported the Canadian Kennel Club with the review of the audited financial statements, management letter, and documentation related to the audit processes.

The Committee reviewed the strategic investments of the organization. The Committee monitored the financial health of the Canadian Kennel Club by reviewing the monthly financial statements and cash flow, monthly forecast, quarterly financial reports, and the annual operating and capital budgets. The Chair of the Committee sat on the Executive Director recruitment Committee. The Audit Committee Chair also sits on the IT Steering Committee, the ED Review Committee and the Strategic Planning Committee thereby ensuring appropriate financial perspectives on these important committees. The Audit Chair also attended the Quarterly Board Meetings where she presented the CKC's financial updates to the board and was readily available to answer their questions.

DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

The Discipline Committee of the Canadian Kennel Club (CKC) is responsible for addressing violations of the Animal Pedigree Act (APA), CKC By-laws, Codes of Ethics, Codes of Practice, and Club Policy.

Staff Liaisons:

Tara Merrimen, Director of People and Culture
Kristi Schenk, Manager, Regulatory

Committee Chair:

Robert Bradbury, Chair, Newfoundland

Members:

Rachel Brower, Saskatchewan, Linda St-Hilaire, Quebec,
Michael Catton, Ontario, & Gilles Chaloux, Quebec

Report:

The Discipline Committee convened in person on April 11, 12 and 13 and then remotely via Zoom on September 6 and 7 and November 29 and 30.

The November 2024 Discipline Committee meeting was cancelled due to lack of quorum. There were 22 files on agenda for the November hearings which were rescheduled and heard in April 2025.

In total, in 2025, 84 cases were heard by the Discipline Committee and 18 cases from 2025 remain to be heard.

In 2025, 84 files concerning non-delivery of certificates were opened and 74 of those files were closed. In accordance with Section 15.1 of the By-laws, non-delivery complaints involving first-alleged offences are within the jurisdiction of the Executive Director therefore, an additional nine files were opened for referral to the Executive Director.

Lastly, CKC has received feedback from the membership on the transparency of decisions in association with files moving forward to the appeal process. As a result, recommendations for further transparency are being worked on and will be given due consideration through the Legislation Committee, followed by Board review.

REPLACEMENT DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

The Replacement Discipline Committee is responsible for adjudicating matters related to the CKC By-laws, rules, regulations, policies, and procedures.

Staff Liaison:

Tara Merrimen, Director of People and Culture

Committee Chair:

Anil Singh, British Columbia

Members:

Claudia Brabazon, Ontario, Danielle Bordage, New Brunswick,
Jo-Ann Pavey, Ontario, & Pierre-Luc Hébert, Ontario

Report:

Members of the Discipline Committee recused themselves from hearing one case file due to a conflict of interest. Consequently, the Board invoked CKC By-law 13.9 to appoint a Replacement Discipline Committee to hear the one case file in question.

The Replacement Discipline Committee convened remotely via Zoom on October 18, 2025, to hear the case.

REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

The Registration Committee oversees the registration of dogs and the transfer of ownership, including complex or exceptional cases, and has the authority to suspend, investigate, and cancel registrations in accordance with CKC By-laws.

Staff Liaison:

Priya Bunsee, Bilingual Registration Specialist

Committee Chair:

Tannis Postma, Alberta

Members:

Barbara Arndt, Ontario, Dann Wilson, Ontario, Nancy Menard-Cheng, Quebec & Lauren Goebel, British Columbia

Report:

The Registration Committee held three (3) meetings via Zoom (January, April, June, September, October and November) The Committee sat for seven (7) days and -115 files heard during this time. The Committee heard 32 cases where individuals made presentations via Zoom.

The Registration Committee would like to express its appreciation to Sherry Weiss, Director of Operations and Priya Bunsee, Bilingual Registration Specialist, to the Committee, for the excellent support they have provided to the Committee throughout the year.

The Chair conveys her gratitude and appreciation for their support to Barbara Arndt, Dann Wilson and Nancy Menard Cheng and Lauren Goebel for their knowledge, experience, and professionalism they provided on all matters before the Committee.

The following are the Registration Committee

Statistics for 2025: (as of December 15, 2025)

- 142 files were opened in 2025 concerning registration matters and 27 were closed because the issues were resolved by staff.
- 115 Registration Committee files were heard
- 10 files were referred to the Discipline Committee
- 1 file was referred to the Appeal Committee
- 9 files were referred to the Board of Directors
- 6 files requested DNA testing
- 18 files called Private Breeding Records

Artificial Insemination: (as of December 15, 2025)

A total of 210 litters were registered from Artificial Insemination. 161 resulted from frozen semen and 49 from chilled semen.

Kennel Names: (as of December 15, 2025)

278	Kennel name applications received
229	Kennel name applications accepted
26	Kennel name applications rejected
1	Objections of kennel names received
0	Objection of kennel name not sustained
25	Transfer of kennel names received
25	Transfer of kennel names accepted
0	Transfer of kennel names rejected
14	Permanent kennel names received
14	Permanent kennel names accepted
0	Permanent kennel names rejected

Examining Committee: (as of December 15, 2025)

79 Files were set up to examine dogs that were imported to Canada not on CKC's List of Recognized Foreign Stud Books, and from the Registration Committee. 57 files were closed. Examining Committee is also responsible for exams from the Shows & Trials Division for Reinstatement of dogs. In 2025 there were 7 conducted and closed.

Listed Breeds:

New breeds Czechoslovakian Vlciaak and Lancashire Heeler were referred to the Board and approved to be added to the CKC's Listed Breeds list.

As prescribed in Sections 27.9 and 28.12 of CKC By-laws, the Registration Committee cancelled the following litter records:

- Cancel litter number EU3994819KJ Retrievers (Golden) for failing to provide DNA Parentage Testing Results.
- To cancel the dog's application, Brenheather's Boss Baby, HE4227360, for failing to provide DNA Parentage Testing Results.
- Cancel litter number CA591445FG (Poodle) for failing to provide legible DNA Parentage Testing Results.
- Cancel litter number GN4023721JL (Retriever Labrador) for failing to provide DNA Parentage Testing Results.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Standing Committees consist of Board members only or they may be a combination of Board members and lay members. The purpose of such committees is to assist the Board in the performance of its duties. They operate within their terms of reference specified the Policy and Procedures Manual and report back to the Board on a regular and timely basis. Unless specifically authorized by the By-laws or the Board, Standing Committees do not have any autonomous authority.

The terms of appointment of standing committees are for a period of three years and any such committee is appointed at the first quarterly meeting of the Board in the first year of the term of the Board.



Chihuahua (Long Coat) photo by Marianne Cuhaci



Wire-haired Vizsla photo by Natalie Warren

ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

The mandate of the Advocacy Committee is to further the CKC's position concerning animal advocacy issues and the role of purebred dogs, dogs, breeders, and dog ownership at the municipal, provincial, and national level, and to advise the Board on all such issues.

The Committee is comprised of one board liaison and ten (10) CKC members representing each province who serve as CKC Legislative Liaisons. Eligibility to serve on the Advocacy Committee requires backgrounds in one or more of the following areas: legal, government lobbying/politics, marketing/communications, media/PR, animal welfare, and experience working with volunteers on advocacy initiatives.

Staff Liaison:

Sarah McDowell, Manager, Government and Stakeholder Relations

Board Liaison:

Ramona Bauer, Zone 4 Director

Committee Chair:

Nancy McKenzie, Alberta

Members:

Katherine Ball, Saskatchewan, Marie-Josée Gallant, Quebec (since March), Laura Grandmont, PEI, Emily Gratton, Nova Scotia, Sharon MacArthur, Manitoba, Imelda McDonald, Newfoundland and Labrador (to June), Cheryl Mitchell, British Columbia (to January), Devon Nutbeem, New Brunswick, Richard Paquette, Ontario, April Perrin, British Columbia (since March)

Report:

The Advocacy Committee held nine formal meetings in 2025 and continued its work to advocate for purebred dogs, responsible dog ownership, and preservation breeders, across the country; through foundational work and support for various provincial advocacy-related matters.

To date, the Committee has developed and provided input on a roster of research, position statements and key messages regarding key priority issues, including dog identification, responsible breeding, brachycephalic breeds, sub-standard puppy producers, cropping, docking and dewclaw removal, as well as the importation of dogs.

Further, and outside official meetings, Committee members supported CKC on advocacy initiatives in Québec, Nova Scotia, Manitoba, and Prince Edward Island, as well as work on the CDC dog importation rule (through breed club affiliations) and updates. A number of Committee members also completed media training provided through the CKC.

I would like to thank the Advocacy Committee members for their support this year. Their passion and expertise are integral to CKC's advocacy work. I would also like to thank the CKC Board and diligent Staff Liaisons who are invaluable resources for this Committee.

BOARD ORIENTATION & EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Committee is responsible for the development of an orientation and education program for members of the Board of Directors.

Staff Liaison:

Tara Merrimen, Director of People and Culture

Committee Chair:

Tina Sandford, Zone 2 Director

Members:

Marc Ralsky, Ontario, Corinne Walker, Manitoba,
Jeff Cornett, Executive Director (to April)
& Natalie Tarini (since August).

Report:

Following the completion of the 2024-2026 Board's orientation in June 2024, the Board Orientation & Education Committee held one virtual meeting to discuss a vision for the Board's education over the next few years. In consensus, the Committee decided to engage the entire Board in the process of considering important educational subject matter and did so by leading a discussion at their September Board meeting. The Board brought forward items of interest as well as, highlighted areas that may require an education focus while serving their term as Directors. The Committee gathered all suggestions with the intention of reviewing priorities, taking into consideration alignment with the Committee's objectives for further educational planning, learning opportunities and implementation where applicable. The Board Orientation and Education Committee looks forward to the next steps in the education planning process.

BREED STANDARDS COMMITTEE

The Breed Standards Committee is responsible for reviewing and making recommendations to the Board regarding any proposed changes to the Breed Standards, including those changes which are proposed by the respective national breed clubs.

Staff Liaison:

Tracy Kent, Manager, Events

Board Liaison:

Tempest Deptuch, Zone 11 Director

Council Chair:

Jocelyne Gagne, Ontario

Members:

Stephanie Horan Nova Scotia
& Susan Quesnel, British Columbia

Report:

The Committee is governed in its work by Procedure RG002. The Committee also works with the Events Officiating Committee in reviewing proposed new breeds under Procedure

RG004, which states: The Breed Standards Committee and Event Officiating Committee may propose changes to the breed standard providing it is for grammar, terminology, and clarification.

The Breed Standards Committee met in February, May, July, and October 2025. The breed standards outline the ideal characteristics, temperament, and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.

New Breed Applications under review including the breed Standard: Barbado da Terceira, Bavarian Mountain Scenthound, Bracco Italiano, Czechoslovakian Vlcia, Catalan Sheepdog, Hanoverian Scenthound, Lancashire Heeler, Nederlandse Kooikerhondje, Pyrenean Mastiff, Swedish Lapphund, Tornjak, Boerboel.

Breed Standards amendments (complete or still under review): Borzoi, Brussels Griffon, Bulldog, Dachshund (special characteristics), Dalmatian, Lagotto Romagnolo, Mudi.

BREEDER RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The Breeder Relations Committee is responsible for making recommendations to the Board in the development of policy guidelines and/or programs as authorized by the Board of Directors relating to breeders of purebred dogs. This includes the development of a breeder education program, the development of appropriate standards, rules and regulations for breeding and the development of an associated national breeder certification program

Staff Liaisons:

John Atkinson, Director, Advocacy and Communications (to June),
Jacqueline Morley, Manager, Product and Experience (since July)

Committee Chair:

Stewart Dankner, Ontario

Board Liaison:

Ramona Bauer, Zone 4 Director

Members:

Trina Gallop, Manitoba, Glenda Newton, Québec,
Richard Paquette, Ontario, and Alistair Sutherland, Ontario

Report:

The Committee was highly active throughout the year, holding six meetings to provide essential input and guidance to the Canadian Kennel Club (CKC) across several critical areas impacting the purebred dog community.

A major focus was the development of CKC's new Breeder Listings, which will replace the former Puppy List. The Committee offered significant direction regarding their design, functionality, and accessibility, consistently emphasizing the need for the platform to effectively showcase accountable breeders who prioritize the health and well-being of well-bred, purebred dogs.

Furthermore, the Committee analyzed the concerning decreases in registrations for both Canadian-born registration and litter registrations. This involved an in-depth examination of the various factors impacting breeders in the current environment and exploring possible streams for diversification to sustain and grow the purebred community. The members also dedicated time to refining the focus areas for Breeder Education to ensure the content is relevant and impactful for CKC members.

Regarding ongoing health initiatives, the Committee played a key role in developing communications plans for Integrated Breed Health Program projects. A specific task included offering recommendations on the appropriate naming of the Breeder of Distinction Program, which is CKC's forthcoming national breeder certification program. The Committee also provided important feedback gathered from the town hall on the contentious Crop, Dock and Dewclaw removal position statement.

Finally, the Committee helped facilitate increased breeder support through CKC's Corporate Partner, Trupanion. The members also received and discussed updates on the Integrated Breed Health Program project deliverables, reviewing key decisions made and outlining necessary next steps for the program's successful implementation.

The Committee looks forward to continuing to guide and support breed health and breeder support initiatives in 2026!

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

*The Committee is responsible for:
Providing input on the communications strategic planning process;*

Identifying CKC's communications needs and priorities through appropriate consultation; and from time to time, delivering on projects and priorities as specified by the Board, the Committee, and staff; and

Assessing and evaluating the delivery of communication periodically against the needs and/or expertise of the CKC membership.

Staff Liaison:

John Atkinson Director of Advocacy and Communications (to September), Sarah McDowell, Manager, Government & Stakeholder Relations (since October)

Committee Chair:

Trina Gallop, Manitoba

Board Liaison:

Lee Anne Bateman, Zone 10 Director

Members:

John Rowton, Washington, USA, Jean-Claude Surprenant, Quebec, Alistair Sutherland, Ontario and Rosemary Young, Alberta

Report:

Over the past year the committee held eight formal meetings and several subcommittee meetings.

Key Areas of Focus for 2025-2026

The Committee identified several priority areas of focus for the term, including:

- Communications Channel Use
- Social Media
- Communications Content – what do members want to see more of?
- Improving Communications
- Public Awareness and Education
- Community Engagement and Public Relations

Highlights of 2025 Activities

Developing Communications Guidelines for the Board

The Committee drafted communications guidelines for the CKC Board of Directors. The presentation at the June Board meeting focused on a plan that would bring clarity and consistency to policies and guidelines, and a comprehensive plan was presented at the December 2025 Board meeting for discussion.

Annual Report

The Committee provided suggestions for the annual report, focusing on content that will engage members. The suggestions included stories about the achievements of members, member survey results and recipients of Chair's Awards.

Top Dogs

The Committee discussed strategies to enhance the annual list, including releasing the results earlier, changing the timing to March. They also discussed highlighting the performance events results, where CKC is seeing the largest growth.

Crisis Communications: Critical Incident

The Committee advised on the communications strategy for a critical incident in fall 2025, emphasizing transparency, fact-based messaging, and guidance for members. The committee is now following up to explore ways communications can better support the board and zone directors during critical events.

Ongoing Projects

Integrated Breed Health Program (IBHP)

The Committee continued its multi-year support of the IBHP communications strategy. In the past year, they provided feedback on the communications strategy presented at the April meeting. The Committee underscored the need to clearly communicate the benefits of the program to encourage participation.

Website Redesign

The Committee continued to receive regular updates on the progress of the project. This past year Committee members provided input and feedback on the new site map.

The Communications Committee remains committed to supporting CKC's strategic goals and fostering meaningful engagement with its members. We look forward to continuing this important work in the year ahead.

EVENT OFFICIATING COMMITTEE

The Event Officiating Committee is a committee of five CKC members. To the extent feasible, two of the members shall be from Conformation, one shall be from Obedience, one shall be from Performance Events, and one shall be from Field Events. The committee is responsible for making recommendations to the Board in the development of Policy Guidelines and/or Programs as authorized by the Board of Directors related to the training and accreditation of judges and event officials for all disciplines or as the Board may direct.

Staff Liaison:

Tracy Kent, Manager, Events

Board Liaison:

Peter Scott, Director Zone 6

Committee Chair:

Heather Langfeld

Members:

Thomas Alexander, Manitoba, Darwin Boles, Ontario,
Thora Brown, Ontario, Seanna O'Neill, Alberta

Report:

The Event Officiating Committee held meetings in January, February, April, July, September, October, November and December 2025. During these meetings, the Committee dealt with Board referrals, Breed Standard review for new breeds, rules and policy amendments.

The Committee was tasked with 3 referrals, Rat Terrier Club of Canada Requesting that the Rat Terrier Breed be Approved for Conformation Judging on a Ramp, referral of rules pertaining to Obedience Excusal Forms and a concern raised by member at 2025 AGM – Judges' Bias Toward Docked Over Undocked Dogs.

The Event Officiating Committee presented to the Board 2 motions regarding Policy & Procedure Manual Chapter VI Shows & Trials, 8 motions with regard to the Policy & Procedure Manual Chapter VII Judges, 2 motions regarding the Handbook for Conformation Judges effective date January 1, 2027, 1 motion regarding the Handbook for Conformation Judges effective date January 1, 2026, 5 motions regarding Conformation Show Rules and Regulations effective immediately, and 4 motions regarding the Conformation Show Rules and Regulations effective January 1, 2027. The Board carried 18 motions, 2 motion were withdrawn PPM, Ch VII. Judges, S. B, Applicant Conformation Judges (11) Observer Program and Report on Request to Consider a Rule of Eligibility Change for Judges, 2 motions were tabled regarding Policy & Procedure Manual Chapter VI Shows & Trials, Section N, Conformation Events, Subsection 6, Specialty Shows (e) and Section N, Conformation Events, New (7) Written Critiques – Conformation Shows, and 1 defeated motion regarding Policy and Procedures Manual, Chapter VII. Judges, Section B (10) Judging Seminars (a).

GENETICS & MEDICAL COMMITTEE

The Committee is responsible for making recommendations to the Board in the development of policy, guidelines and/or programs as authorized by the Board of Directors related to canine genetics. This mandate includes but is not limited to the development of an advanced health registry. The Committee is also responsible for recommendations to the Board of Directors in the development of policy, standards and guidelines relating to trends, advances, and changes to canine medical procedures as they impact CKC breeders.

Staff Liaison:

Kristi Schenk, Manager, Regulatory (to June) & Jacqueline Morley, Manager, Product and Experience (since July)

Committee Chair:

Alistair Sutherland (Ontario)

Board Liaison:

Lee Anne Bateman, Zone 10 Director

Committee Chair: Alistair Sutherland (Ontario)

Members:

Dr. Paul Eckford, PhD, Ontario, Dr. Oksana Moshynska, PhD, Saskatchewan, Dr. Roberta Parish, PhD, British Columbia & Dr. Meredith Walker, DVM, Ontario

Report:

The Committee held 5 formal meetings throughout the year, providing input and guidance for CKC on areas such as:

- Accommodations for persons with disabilities at events
- Declining registrations and the impact of ROE's on genetics diversity
- Breed sustainability for breeds with small gene pools
- Challenges in collecting information on and supporting breeds with inactive National Breed Clubs
- Viability of a Canadian solution/alternative for OFA
- Potential partners for CKC's DNA parentage program and key needs.
- Integrated Breed Health Program project deliverables, key decisions, and next steps.

The Committee wrapped up 2025 developing its focuses and priorities for the years to come. We are excited for the numerous breed health initiatives moving forward in 2026!

IT STEERING COMMITTEE

The IT Steering Committee shall be responsible for advising, reviewing, and approving IT strategic plans and overseeing major initiatives. The IT Steering Committee is a foundational practice for IT governance. Areas include:

- *IT strategic review*
- *IT service levels*
- *IT availability, capacity, and continuity management*
- *Information security*
- *Change management*
- *Release and deployment*
- *Incident management*
- *Access management and other areas as appropriate.*

Staff Liaison:

Andrew McCallister, Director, e-Business

Board Liaison:

Sylvain Sirois, Zone 3 Director

Committee Chair:

Andrew Ryall, Ontario

Members:

Andrew Ryall, Ontario Anthony Hartelaub, Ontario
Melanie Towell CPA, CA, Ontario Rometheis Wize, Ontario

Report:

The IT Steering Committee held two virtual meetings in 2025. Some key 2025 highlights include:

- Election of a new IT Steering Committee
- Review of Committee Work Themes
- License Cost Review Security
- Support Service Guidelines
- Impact of AI
- The review and endorsement of the 2026 IT budget

LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

The Committee is responsible for all matters relating to the review and subsequent proposals for amendments to the By-laws, the Policy and Procedures Manual and those general provisions contained in the rulebooks for the various disciplines. Additionally, the Committee shall also be responsible for all matters relating to Codes of Ethics.

Staff Liaisons:

Tara Merrimen, Director of People and Culture (Since November) Kristi Schenk, Manager, Regulatory (to November)

Committee Chair:

Lionel Whittaker, Alberta

Members:

Robert Bradbury, Newfoundland and Labrador,
Tannis Postma, Alberta, Peter Scott, Ontario,
Robert Whitney, Ontario, Sylvain Sirois, Quebec,
Corinne Walker (Ex Officio), Jeff Cornett, Executive Director (to April), Natalie Tarini, Executive Director (since August)

Report:

In 2025, the Legislation Committee held 3 virtual meetings. During these meetings the Committee considered the following:

Policy and Procedures Manual

Amendments respecting the following policies and procedures were referred to the Board of Directors:

- Chapter 3, Membership, New Procedure MS001 – Procedure for Establishing Power of Attorney
- Chapter 9, Board of Directors (D) Code of Conduct for Board Members
- Chapter 10, Committees, Councils and Appointments Procedure CM001 – Representation Before a Decision-Making Committee (4), Hearings
- Chapter 11, Regulatory, A, (5), (B)- Hearings (April 2025 Meeting)
- Chapter 11, Regulatory, A, (5), (B)- Hearings (June 2025 Meeting)

By-laws

Amendments respecting the following by-laws were referred to the Board of Directors:

- Interpretations
- 13.1- Registration Committee, (d) Authority to recall and revoke
- 18.1- Annual Reports - Report to the Annual General Meeting c)

Items Discussed

Board attendance at Hearings

- Successful Hearing Sheet
- Official Complaint Package
- Nomination to the Board of Directors Forms
- CKC Neutrality during Elections

RULES OF ELIGIBILITY (ROE) COMMITTEE

The Rules of Eligibility Committee is responsible for developing the terms of reference for the ROE project, working with breed clubs/spokespersons to draft rules of eligibility and analyzing templates for Board approval. The Rules of Eligibility Committee analyzes policy to ensure compliance with the Rules of Eligibility and the Animal Pedigree Act requirements. Additionally, this committee works with the Legislation Committee to bring work to date to the Board table prior to a Special or Regular Referendum.

Staff Liaison:

Jodie O'Meara, Supervisor, Registration
Sherry Weiss, Director of Operations

Board Liaison:

Tempest Deptuch, Zone 11 Director

Committee Chair:

Thora Brown, ON

Members:

Marnie Harrison, Alberta, Lisa Riccotti, Ontario

Report:

In 2025, the Committee completed work on the remaining breeds, and 43 new ROEs will proceed to the 2026 Referendum. Additionally, ROEs were completed for 8 new breeds (Basset Fauve de Bretagne, Boerboel, Pyrenean Mastiff, Tornjack, White Swiss Shepherd dog, Lancashire Heeler, Nederlandse Kooikerhondje and Catalan Sheepdog) seeking to be added to the Miscellaneous List of Breeds.

I would like to express my appreciation to Jodie O'Meara for the unending support she has provided to the Committee.

My thanks and appreciation are extended to the other members of the Committee for their knowledge, experience, patience and all the support they have given.

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Committee shall be responsible for the ongoing development of long-range strategic planning for the Club, reporting regularly to the Board with respect to its deliberations, findings, and recommendations.

Staff Liaison:

Tara Merrimen

Committee Chair:

Ramona Bauer, Zone 4 Director

Members:

Valerie Bandas, Saskatchewan, Jeff Cornett, Executive Director (to April) Marc Ralsky, Ontario, Natalie Tarini Executive Director (since August), Melanie Towell (Chair, Audit Committee, Ontario, Corinne Walker, Board Chair

Report:

In 2025, the Strategic Planning Committee held two virtual meetings and supported proposal presentations to secure a consultant to support governance work for strategy planning beginning in 2026 for the 2027-2029 Strategic Plan.

Although the existing 2023-2025 Strategic Plan was set to reach the end of its formal term, the Executive Director put forward a proposal to extend the Plan by one year, encompassing 2026, with the addition of two new strategic objectives. As part of this extension, a review was conducted of the core objectives in the 2023-2025 Strategic Plan (Integrated Breed Health, Modernization of Events, Internal Communications & Advocacy, and Internal IT Infrastructure), and it was noted that these objectives are largely operational, rather than representing high-level strategic priorities. Accordingly, it was recommended to continue developing these objectives, refining certain existing work items and adding new objectives. The Board emphasized the importance of ongoing updates, clear deliverables, and detailed reporting on progress and costs associated with each strategic objective.

In December 2025, the Board formally endorsed the objectives outlined below as key priorities within the 2026 CKC Strategic Plan.

1. Integrated Breed Health

Refine and validate the foundational pillars of this objective to ensure alignment with current member needs:

- Breeder education
- Breeder community support
- Breed health strategies
- DNA program
- CKC Breeder Program

2. Modernization of Events

Advance modernization efforts across key components of the event ecosystem:

- Event planning
- Event results and reporting
- Judge development and support
- Infrastructure improvements
- Canuck Dogs platform

3. Advocacy

Key focus areas for 2026:

- Develop an action plan for the Advocacy Committee with clearly identified objectives, roles & responsibilities, and support (such as key messaging and template letters to politicians).
- Work with the Advocacy Committee to develop a clear vision, and identify the purpose, of a CKC Ambassador Program. Work closely with the Advocacy Committee on the execution of the plan and identifying Ambassadors as part of the program.

4. New – Diversify Revenue Streams

- Develop and implement a comprehensive sponsorship package to support long-term financial sustainability of the CKC.

5. New – Improve Member Engagement

- Increase transparency in the Discipline and Appeals process.
- Communicate CKC's commitment to safety in sport and outline specific actions being taken.

The Strategic Planning Committee remains committed to work in 2026 that will clarify long-term priorities and measurable outcomes that will ultimately position the CKC for success in future years.

STANDING COUNCILS

The Board may strike councils to represent the interest of those people, groups or associations involved in the various disciplines which have been approved by the Club and in that capacity shall act as advisory bodies to the Board. The number and designation of such councils are that which are deemed necessary and appropriate by the Board and they are comprised of CKC Members. Councils operate within their terms of reference specified in the Policy and Procedures Manual.



Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever
photo by Sarah Moore



Miniature Long-haired Dachshund photo by Brenda Noseworthy

AGILITY TRIAL COUNCIL

The Agility Trial Council is responsible for considering and subsequently making recommendations to the Board regarding all matters related to agility trials. The purpose of agility trials is to demonstrate a dog's ability, regardless of breed, to work with its handler under a variety of challenges through a course of various agility obstacles

Staff Liaison:

Tracy Kent, Manager, Events

Committee Chair:

Sylvain Sirois, Director Zone 3

Members:

Wendy Beard, Ontario, Rachel Brower (to March 2025), Saskatchewan, Wanda Brown, Quebec, Jasmine deBlois, Saskatchewan, Lindsay Benbow, British Columbia, Sandra Esford, Ontario, Sherri Gourlie, Ontario, Jutta Hammermueller, Ontario, Stephanie Hayward, Nova Scotia, Brenda Juskow, Nova Scotia, Liana Klohn, PEI, Sandi Maday, Alberta, Tracey Mallinson (since January 2026), British Columbia, Janice McAllan (to January 2026), British Columbia, Ashley Stanley, Ontario, Marie-Josée Thuot, Quebec, Tracey Vatcher, Newfoundland & Labrador

Report:

The Agility Trial Council held a meetings in January, April, October and December. The council presented 69 motions to the Board with regard to Agility Trial Rulebook and 3 motions in regard to the Handbook for CKC Agility Judges with an effective date of January 1, 2026. The Board carried all motions.

2025 Statistics

218 Agility Trials were held.

BEAGLE AND BASSET HOUND FIELD TRIAL COUNCIL

The Beagle & Basset Hound Field Trial Council is responsible for considering and subsequently making recommendations to the Board regarding all matters relating to Beagle and Basset Hound field trials or any other event related to Beagles and Basset Hounds in the field. The Beagle is primarily a hunting dog whose main function is to find game and to chase it in an energetic and decisive manner. The purpose of Beagle Field Trials is to demonstrate these natural abilities and recognize those dogs that demonstrate the highest qualities of a Beagle

Staff Liaison:

Tracy Kent, Manager, Events

Council Chair:

Robert (Bob) Whitney, Director Zone 5

Members:

Dino Colucci, Ontario, Randy Doan, Ontario, David Fraser, Nova Scotia, William Friend, Alberta, Krystina Grandmond, Ontario, Andrew Hudson, Newfoundland & Labrador, Clair Murphy, PEI, Greg Steeves, Ontario, Penelope Woodwark, British Columbia

Report:

The Beagle and Basset Hound Field Trial council held a meeting in July 2025. The council presented 1 motion to the Board with regard to the Policy & Procedure Manual, Chapter VI Shows & Trials, P Field Trials and Tests. The Board carried this motion.

2025 Statistics

47 Beagle Field Trials were held.

CANINE GOOD NEIGHBOUR COUNCIL

The Canine Good Neighbour Council shall be responsible for considering and subsequently making recommendations to the Board regarding all matters relating to the Canine Good Neighbour Program.

Staff Liaison:

Tracy Kent, Manager, Events

Committee Chair:

Val Bandas, Director Zone 9

Members:

Susie Bell, Ontario, Linda Desaulniers, Quebec, Melissa Ireland, Manitoba, Jeanine Jorgensen, Saskatchewan, Diane Kearsey, Ontario, Cindy Maurer, Nova Scotia, Melony McCarthy, New Brunswick, Sharon Otto, Manitoba, Cris Reimer, Ontario, Dina Popadiuk, British Columbia, Angela Saunders, Alberta

Report:

The Canine Good Neighbour council held meetings in February, May, July and September 2025. The council presented 2 motions with regard to the Policy & Procedure Manual. The first one was in Chapter VI Shows & Trials, Q. New Events, and the second one was in Chapter VII. Judges, S Canine Good Neighbour Evaluators. They were both effective immediately and effective January 1, 2026. The council also presented 2 motions to the Board of Directors with regards to the Evaluator Guide, and 1 motion for the Schedule of Fees. The Board carried these motions.

2025 Statistics

108 Canine Good Neighbour Trials were held.

CONFORMATION COUNCIL

The Conformation Council is responsible for considering and subsequently making recommendations to the Board regarding all matters relating to conformation dog shows.

Staff Liaison:

Tracy Kent, Manager, Events

Council Chair:

Tina Sandford, Director Zone 2

Members:

Sandy Alexander, Manitoba, Jeff Burtch (since November) Manitoba, Nicole Casavechia, Nova Scotia, Thomas Curley (to Sept 2025), Ontario, Denis Gros-Louis, Quebec, Ted Fahlgren London, Ontario, Kristen Francis Port Robinson, Ontario, Kim Hamel Crofton, British Columbia, Lyzane Hamel Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, Quebec, Kathy Hawker Edmonton, Alberta, Tina Gaudet Calgary, Alberta, Laura Grandmont Coleman, PEI, Irene Latchford, Ontario, Kim Lellig (to November), Manitoba, Penny Lewis Lemberg, Saskatchewan, Richard Lopaschuk Cranbrook, British Columbia, Adele MacAskill, Ontario, Rod March, Newfoundland & Labrador, Patrick Mudge (to December), New Brunswick, Elizabeth Numbers Phelpston, Ontario, Linda Thompson

Greely, Ontario, Lisa Tremblay, British Columbia, Margaret Zacher Kelowna, British Columbia

Report:

The Conformation Council held meetings in January, July and October 2025. The council presented 1 report to the Board with regard to the Conformation Show Rules & Regulations regarding Chapter 14 and a total of 8 motions related to Policy & Procedure, Chapter VI Shows & Trial and the Conformation Show Rules & Regulations. The motions for the Conformation Show Rules & Regulations regarding updates to the Appendices were effective immediately, all of the other motions for the Conformation Show Rules & Regulations with the exception of one, have the effective date of January 1, 2027. The one motion that was carried with an effective date of January 1, 2026 was related to Appendix A (Breeds Registerable with Another Canadian Registry). Six motions were carried, 1 motion was withdrawn, and 1 motion was defeated.

Dog Show statistics in 2025

- 809 Conformation All Breed Shows (this includes open, multiple and altered) were held.
- 231 Conformation Limited Breed Shows were held.
- 508 Conformation Specialty Shows, Conformation Specialty Shows (altered) and Conformation Group Specialty shows were held.

JUNIOR KENNEL CLUB COUNCIL

The Junior Kennel Club Council is responsible for considering and subsequently making recommendations to the Board regarding the Junior Kennel Club program. The purpose of Junior Handling is to introduce and encourage youth to participate in the sport of purebred dogs, and to provide them with meaningful competition where they can learn, practice, and hone their skills and knowledge of the various breeds. Above all, it is an opportunity to enjoy the camaraderie of competing with those of a similar age.

Staff Liaison:

Tracy Kent, Manager, Events

Council Chair:

Sylvain Sirois, Director Zone 3

Members:

Roy Aitchison, Ontario, Aaron Andriash, British Columbia, Nathalie Beaulieu, Quebec, Cheryl Bedford, Ontario, Meagan Brown Wozniak (to July), Ontario, Karyna Cazalais Brownsburg, QC, Faith Cordeiro, Ontario, Carolyne Cybulsky, Manitoba, Joy Gray, Ontario, David Hampson, British Columbia, Shannon Kaytor (since July), Saskatchewan, Isabelle Loranger (to July), Saskatchewan, Tanya Martin (since October), Newfoundland & Labrador, Kyle Manuel, Nova Scotia, Andrea McEwen (since July), Saskatchewan, Deborah McMahan (since May), Ontario, Jolie McMullan, British Columbia, Richard Paquette, Ontario, Shannon Scheer, Alberta, Pamela Skanes (to December), Newfoundland & Labrador, Katelyn Sutton (to July), Saskatchewan, Mary Vanderburgh (to May), Ontario, Lesleigh Von Borziskowski (since October), Newfoundland & Labrador, Carrie Walsh, New Brunswick, Bonnie White, New Brunswick, Courtney Whitehead (since April), British Columbia.

Report:

The Junior Kennel Council held meetings in February, April, and October 2025. The council presented 27 motions to the Board with regard to the Junior Handling Rules & Regulations, 2 motions with regard to the Policy & Procedures, Chapter X. Committees, Councils & Appointments, Section E. Standing Councils – Terms of Reference (10) Junior Kennel Club Council, 1 Report regarding Policy and Procedures Manual, Chapter VIII. Junior Kennel Club, Section D. Funding of the National Junior Handling Competition, and 1 discussion item regarding the possible implementation of Junior Handling Rally Obedience. Twenty-eight 28 motions were carried and one motion was withdrawn.

2025 Statistics

- 299 Conformation Junior Handling events were held.
- 34 Obedience Junior Handling events were held.

OBEDIENCE COUNCIL

The Obedience Council is responsible for considering and subsequently making recommendations to the Board regarding all matters relating to obedience trials. The purpose of obedience trials is to demonstrate the usefulness of the dog as a companion of man, not merely the dog's ability to follow specified routines in the obedience ring. The objective of obedience trials is to produce dogs that have been trained to behave in the home, in public places and in the presence of other dogs, in a manner that reflects credit on the sport of obedience. Obedience is a sport and all participants should be guided by the principles of good sportsmanship both inside and outside the ring. All contestants in a class are required to perform the same exercises in substantially the same way so that the relative quality of the various performances may be compared and scored.

Rally is a companion sport to CKC obedience. Both events require teamwork between dog and handler, along with similar performance skills. Rally provides an excellent introduction to all CKC companion performance events for dogs and handlers. The chief objective of rally is to provide a fast-moving and motivational activity that demonstrates the competency of handler and dog in performing basic obedience exercises without requiring exact precision for success. Rally can also provide the opportunity to refine training skills for competitors in other events. The performance of dog and handler in the ring must meet the requirements of the rally regulations. Dogs in rally obedience events should demonstrate willingness, enjoyment and teamwork between the dog and handler. To that end, handlers are encouraged to use praise, encouragement and petting within the boundaries of these rules.

Staff Liaison:

Tracy Kent, Manager, Events

Council Chair:

Tempest Deptuch, Director Zone 11

Members:

Pauline Baldwin, Alberta, Darwin Boles, Ontario,
Gail Carroll, Manitoba, Lianne Daradics, Saskatchewan,
Kate Darbyshire, Ontario, Joey Farrell, Ontario,
Terry Gains, British Columbia, Christine Graham, Nova Scotia,

Joanne Groulx, Ontario, Stephen Hazelwood, New Brunswick,
Pierre Lambert, Quebec, Delvyn Lunn, Ontario,
Diana MacKenzie, Ontario, Christine Mackenzie, PEI,
Erin Moore, British Columbia, Tony Moores, Newfoundland &
Labrador, Eve O'Keefe, Alberta, Sharon Otto, Manitoba,
Marion Postgate, British Columbia, Gwen Roswell, British
Columbia, Nathalie Robitaille, Quebec, Marie Sawford, Ontario

Report:

The Obedience Trial & Rally Obedience Trial Council held 3 meetings, 1 in January, 1 in March, and 1 in May. The council presented 6 motions to the Board regarding Policy & Procedure, Chapter VII. Judges, D Applicant Obedience Trial Judges, Chapter Vi, Shows & Trials, Appendix 2 Mileage Restrictions, and 1 Report on the Referral of the Correspondence from Terry Benoit Re: Lowering Jump Height In Performance Events for the Australian Terrier. The Board carried all motions.

2025 Statistics

- 471 Obedience Trials were held.
- 14 Obedience Trials (Specialty) were held.
- 4 Obedience Trials (Limited) were held.
- 511 Rally Obedience Trials were held.
- 15 Rally Obedience Trials (Specialty) were held.

POINTING BREEDS FIELD TRIAL COUNCIL

The Pointing Breeds Field Trial Council is responsible for considering and subsequently making recommendations to the Board regarding all matters relating to field trials for pointing breeds, or any other event related to pointing breeds in the field.

The purpose of field trials for all CKC recognized pointing breeds is to promote and recognize those dogs that demonstrate the highest pointing dog qualities. They are assessed on a competitive basis in a natural setting using a standard of performance. Pointing dogs were selectively bred from dogs who exhibited pointing and retrieving from land and water instincts. These trials assist breeders who strive to enhance breed improvement by selecting breeding stock that have strongly

demonstrated these fundamental breed traits. The purpose of field dog tests for pointing breeds is to encourage the development and use of those natural abilities for which pointing dogs were originally bred. Pointing dogs were selectively bred from dogs who exhibited pointing and retrieving from land and water instincts. These tests assist breeders who strive to enhance breed improvement by selecting breeding stock that have strongly demonstrated these fundamental breed traits.

Staff Liaison:

Tracy Kent, Manager, Events

Council Chair:

Robert (Bob) Whitney, Director Zone 5

Members:

Howard Coneybeare, British Columbia, Arwen Dabb, Alberta, Jack Dafoe, Ontario, Maria Foster, Ontario, Christie Glenn, Nova Scotia, Kaylan Kardynal, Manitoba, Patti Lee, Saskatchewan, Kevin MacWilliams, Ontario, Russell Moore, British Columbia, Lola Nichol, Ontario, Brenda Pettigrew, Nova Scotia, Paige Pettis, Quebec, Louise Regimbald (to April 2025), Quebec, Phil Stanton, British Columbia, Michelle Santos, Ontario, Adrienne Turcotte, British Columbia

Report:

The Pointing Breeds Field Trial Council held 1 meeting in March. The council presented 6 motions regarding Field Dog & Water Tests Rules & Regulations for Pointing Breeds and 2 motions regarding Pointing Breeds Field Trial Rules & Regulations to the Board all motions were effective January 1, 2026. The Board carried all motions.

2025 Statistics

- 52 Pointing Field Dog Tests were held.
- 14 Pointing Field Trials were held.
- 37 Pointing Water Tests were held.

RETRIEVER FIELD TRIAL COUNCIL

The Retriever Field Trial Council is responsible for considering and subsequently making recommendations to the Board regarding all matters relating to retriever field trials. The purpose of a retriever field trial is to determine the relative merits of retrievers in the field and to test both the natural and trained abilities desired in a hunting retriever. Field Trials showcase and improve the retriever breeds by identifying the dogs which best demonstrate the desired abilities of a hunting retriever. Tests should be held in a natural hunting terrain and should be designed to test and separate the competing dogs with the dogs giving the best performances on that particular day being awarded placement. All dogs running in the trial should be given the opportunity to run as many of the tests as time and circumstances allow and if completing the tests in a satisfactory manner, shall be awarded certificates of merit.

Staff Liaison:

Tracy Kent, Manager, Events

Council Chair:

Janice Kivimaki, Director Zone 1

Members:

John Clarke (since June 2025), Nova Scotia , Anne Everett, British Columbia, Donald Gauthier, Quebec, Brian Griffin, British Columbia, Jim Ling, Ontario, John McDonald, Saskatchewan, Marg Murray, Alberta, Ross Peden, Manitoba, Walter Vessey, PEI Dennis Voigt, Ontario, Mike Zelman (to June 2025), Nova Scotia

Report:

The Retriever Field Trial Council held two meetings, 1 in April and 1 in June 2025. The council presented 10 motions to the Board with regard to the Retriever Field Trial Rules and Regulations with an effective date of January 1, 2026. The Board carried these motions.

2025 Statistics

98 Retriever Field Trials were held.

RETRIEVER HUNT TEST COUNCIL

The Retriever Hunt Test Council is responsible for considering and subsequently making recommendations to the Board regarding all matters related to hunt tests for Retrievers. The purpose of a hunt test for Retrievers, Barbet, Irish Water Spaniels and Poodles is to test the merits of, and evaluate the abilities of these dogs in the field in order to determine their suitability and ability as hunting companions. Hunt test should simulate as nearly as possible the conditions met in a true hunting situation. The test allows a dog to demonstrate these characteristics and continue breed improvement of these qualities.

Staff Liaison:

Tracy Kent, Manager, Events

Council Chair:

Janice Kivimaki, Director Zone 1

Members:

Keith Althouse, Saskatchewan, Chris Bayles, Ontario, Sandy Briggs, Ontario, Steve Bushie, Alberta, Kelly Crosbie, Ontario, Mark Edwards, Nova Scotia, Susan Endersby, British Columbia, Joey Farrell, Ontario, Dewayne Hay, Manitoba, John Kuepferling, Quebec, Tim Marshall, Ontario,

Rick Roberts, British Columbia, Walter Vessey, PEI

Report:

The Retriever Hunt Test council held 2 meetings 1 in March and 1 in July 2025. The council presented 11 motions to the Board with regard to the Retriever Hunt Test Rules and Regulations for Retrievers, Barbet, Irish Water Spaniels and Poodles with an effective date of January 1, 2026. The Board carried these motions.

2025 Statistics

77 Retriever Hunt Tests were held.

SCENT DETECTION COUNCIL

The Scent Detection Council is responsible for considering and subsequently making recommendations to the Board regarding all matters relating to Scent Detection events. Scent Detection is a sport that is inspired by working detection dogs that locate a scent and communicate to the handler that the specific scent has been found. Detection is done in a variety of environments and often during changing conditions that task the skill and concentration of the detection dog. Scent detection is a positive, challenging activity that allows dogs to use their strongest natural sense in a way that builds and strengthens a foundation of trust between the handler and dog. A scent detection event is a performance event, which provides a safe and fun activity that is open to all eligible dogs and their owners. In order for a team to qualify, both the dog and handler must be working together as a team and must be able to read each other's reactions. Communication and praise of the dog during the search are encouraged in a CKC scent detection event.

Staff Liaison:

Tracy Kent, Manager, Events

Council Chair:

Wayne Davidson, Director Zone 12

Members:

Cindy Bayers, Nova Scotia, Randi Benko, Saskatchewan, Lia Bijsterveld, British Columbia, Jane Book, Ontario, Dianne Desroches, Ontario, Kathleen Dupon (joined July, 2025), Ontario, Sandra Hébert, Quebec, Deborah Innes, British Columbia, Kelly Ladouceur, Alberta, Heather Langfeld (resigned July 20 25), Ontario, Glenda McLarty, Manitoba, Laurie McLaughlin, Ontario, Laurie Payten, British Columbia, Cherree Richmond, British Columbia, Karen Roberts, Ontario, Tanya Smith, New Brunswick, Jenn Stairs (resigned Oct 25), New Brunswick, Doug Teeft, Nova Scotia

Report:

The Scent Detection council held 2 meetings, 1 in July and 1 in November. The council presented 1 motion to the Board with regard to the Policy & Procedure Manual, Chapter VI Shows & Trials, Q New Events. The Board carried this motion.

2025 Statistics

172 Scent Detection Trials were held.

SPANIEL COUNCIL

The Spaniel Council is responsible for considering and subsequently making recommendations to the Board regarding all matters relating to field trials and hunt tests for sporting Spaniels, or any other event related to sporting Spaniels in the field. The purpose of a Spaniel field trial is to demonstrate the performance of a properly trained Spaniel in the field. The performance should not differ from that in any ordinary day's shooting, except that in the trial a dog should do its work closer to perfection. The purpose of a hunt test is to assess and identify those dogs which possess the basic requirements of "flushing" Spaniels. It will test the merits and evaluate the abilities of Spaniels in the field in order to determine their suitability and ability as hunting companions. Dogs are placed in four categories based on their ability, not age. Dogs do not compete against one another, but rather their performances are individually judged against the standard.

Staff Liaison:

Tracy Kent, Manager, Events

Council Chair:

Peter Scott, Director Zone 6

Members:

Christie Anderson, British Columbia, Michel Bourdeau, Quebec, Wayne Brennen, Alberta, Kimberly Chester, British Columbia, Clay Earl, Ontario, Mark Henderson, Saskatchewan, Bill McCaffrey, Ontario, Bruce Outhouse, Nova Scotia, Greg Royer, Alberta, Alex Smith, Ontario, Mike Sterling, Manitoba

Report:

The Sporting Spaniel Council held a meeting in January 2025. The council presented 1 motion to the Board with regard to the Policy & Procedure Manual, Chapter VI Shows & Trials, P Field Trials and Tests. The Board carried this motion.

2025 Statistics

- 44 Spaniel Field Trials were held.
- 6 Spaniel Hunt Tests were held.

TRACKING TEST COUNCIL

The Tracking Test Council is responsible for considering and subsequently making recommendations to the Board regarding all matters relating to tracking tests. The purpose of tracking tests is to demonstrate the dog's willingness to work with its handler under a variety of conditions and to follow a defined track, to discriminate scent, to locate and indicate articles.

Staff Liaison:

Tracy Kent, Manager, Events

Council Chair:

Wayne Davidson, Director Zone 12

Members:

Diane Adams (to June 2025), New Brunswick, Lale Aksu, British Columbia, Sandy Briggs, Ontario, Krystal Crighton, British Columbia, Elisabeth Delaporte, Quebec, Dianne Desroches, Ontario, Shirley Klatt (since Feb 2025), Alberta, Laura McKay, Ontario, Audra Sinclair, Alberta, Jenn Stairs, New Brunswick, Elizabeth Taylor, British Columbia, Rita Torpey, Manitoba, Louise Weaver, Nova Scotia, John A. (Jack) Wilhelm, Ontario

Report:

The Tracking Test Council held 2 meetings, 1 in May and 1 in September. The council presented 23 motions to the Board regarding the Tracking Test Rules and Regulations effective January 1, 2026. The Board carried all motions.

2025 Statistics

40 Tracking Tests were held.

WORKING CERTIFICATE TEST COUNCIL

The Working Certificate Test Council is responsible for considering and subsequently making recommendations to the Board regarding all matters relating to working certificate tests for Retrievers, Irish Water Spaniels, Standard Poodles, Airedale Terriers and Barbets. The primary objective of the WC, WCI and WCX tests is to encourage the development and use of those natural abilities for which retrievers were originally bred. The tests provide a means to help determine future breeding stock, encourage retriever owners to develop their dogs' natural abilities, and to have retrievers become more proficient as hunting partners. The tests are non-competitive and those dogs that pass the tests to the satisfaction of the judges will be recorded as having basic work ability.

Staff Liaison:

Tracy Kent, Manager, Events

Council Chair:

Janice Kivimaki, Director Zone 1

Members:

Thomas Alexander, Manitoba Shelly Blom, Ontario Sandy Briggs, Ontario Lynn Campbell, Saskatchewan Sharon Luckhart, Quebec Allan Mitchell, Ontario Ken Nette, Alberta Kimberly Pardy, Ontario Judy Teskey, British Columbia Laurie Waye, Nova Scotia Gail Wright Williams, New Brunswick

Report:

The Working Certificate Test council held 1 meeting in May 2025. The council presented 14 motions to the Board regarding the Working Certificate Test Rules & Regulations effective January 1, 2026. The Board carried all motions.

2025 Statistics

22 Working Certificate Tests were held.

COUNCILS – NO MEETINGS IN 2025

The councils listed below were not scheduled to meet in 2025; therefore, there are no items to report. We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that served.

Draft Dog Test

Council Chair:

Val Bandas, Director Zone 9

2025 Statistics

11 Draft Dog Tests were held

Members:

Sandee Baker, Alberta, Terri Collins (resigned July, 2025), Nova Scotia, Lianne Daradics, Saskatchewan, David Denis, British Columbia, Dean Edwards, British Columbia, Peggy Flockhart, Ontario, Glenda Johnson (joined August, 2025), Nova Scotia, Denise Lauzon, Ontario, Veronique Matte-Paquet, Quebec, Doug Savory, British Columbia, June Ward, Ontario, Nicole Wiebe, Alberta

Earthdog Test Council

Council Chair:

Peter Scott, Director Zone 6

2025 Statistics

25 Earthdog Tests were held

Members:

Lia Bijsterveld, British Columbia, Shannon Charron, British Columbia, Megan Crane, Nova Scotia, Liette Courchesne-Fadden (joined December, 2025), Ontario, Pam Dyer, Ontario, Jen Holder, Ontario, Anya Jacksteit, Saskatchewan, Lisa Maki, British Columbia, Kathy McAra, Alberta, Isobel McGowan (resigned November, 2025), Ontario, Shauna McLauchlan, Manitoba, Jane McLaughlin (joined December, 2025), Ontario, Debbie Miyashita, British Columbia, Paige Pettis, Quebec, and Davine Walsh, New Brunswick

Herding Council

Council Chair:

Val Bandas, Director Zone 9

2025 Statistics

- 140 Herding Arena All Breeds were held
- 16 Herding Stock Dog All Breeds were held
- 5 Herding Arena Specialties were held

Members:

Donna Marie Cyr-Teseke (joined April, 2025), British Columbia, Wendy Daechsel, British Columbia, Lisa Dahr, Nova Scotia, Dianne Devison, Ontario, Brandy-Lee Fazlic, Alberta, Gloria Graham (resigned March, 2024), Saskatchewan, Kara Hewitt, Manitoba, Lynn Leach, (passed away December 2024), British Columbia, Karin Lord (joined April, 2025), Alberta, Adele MacAskill, Ontario, Stephen Rowell, Ontario, Judith Snowdon (resigned January, 2025), Alberta, Jennifer Seaborn (joined March, 2024), Saskatchewan, Kristin Thomson, British Columbia, Kaili Wilkins (joined May, 2025), Saskatchewan

Lure Coursing Field Trial Council

Council Chair:

Ramona Bauer, Director Zone 4

2025 Statistics

- 33 Lure Coursing Field Trials were held
- 62 Chase Ability Tests were held

Members:

Angus Barrie, British Columbia, Kelly Chafe (joined May, 2025), Ontario, Dee Culbert, Saskatchewan, Heather Jean Dansereau, Ontario, Kate Darbyshire, Ontario, Carrie Greene, Nova Scotia, Lisa Miceli, Ontario, Ed Molloy, Alberta, Myriam Parent, Quebec, Laurie Rusticus, New Brunswick, Aaryn Secker, British Columbia, Marni Smith, Ontario, Tannis Tindall, Manitoba, Debra Verzyl, British Columbia, Ronnie Whitlock, Ontario

Sprinter Test Council

Council Chair:

Ramona Bauer, Director Zone 4

2025 Statistics

339 Sprinter Tests were held

Members:

Kelly Amos, Ontario, Daria Coneghan, Saskatchewan, Heather Jean Dansereau, Ontario, Kate Darbyshire, Ontario, Heather Jardine, New Brunswick, Tammy Mcallister (joined May, 2025), Ontario, Ashley McGuinness, Nova Scotia, Lisa Miceli, Ontario, Ed Molloy, Alberta, Myriam Parent, Quebec, Krista Prockiw, British Columbia, Aaryn Secker, British Columbia, Marni Smith, Ontario, Tannis Tindall, Manitoba

SELECT COMMITTEES

Select Committees (AKA Ad Hoc Committees) are appointed by the Board on an ad hoc basis to perform specific tasks. Upon adoption of its final report to the Board, a Select Committee ceases to exist.



Bearded Collie photo by Dawn Robitaille



Golden Retriever photo by Shannon Kaytor

AD HOC BRACHYCEPHALIC BREEDS ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

The Committee is responsible for the ongoing education and advocacy of all brachycephalic breeds, reporting regularly to the Board with respect to its deliberations, findings, and recommendations for the preservation of these breeds.

Staff Liaison:

Sarah McDowell, Manager, Government and Stakeholder Relations

Committee Chair:

Lee Anne Bateman, Zone 10 Director

Members:

Mark Berryman, Ontario, Lundi Blamey, Ontario, Dr. Oksana Moshynska, PhD, Saskatchewan, Pat O'Keefe, Alberta, Dr. Meredith Walker, DVM, Ontario, Dr. Matthew Wittenrich, DVM, Ontario

Report:

The Committee held five formal meetings in 2025 and continued its work to advocate for the health and well-being of all breeds including brachycephalic breeds through various initiatives. Throughout the year, the Committee reviewed and refined a position statement and key messages on brachycephalic breeds and supported the development of an educational RFGS video to

promote respiratory health benefits and encourage participation by owners and clubs.

The Committee met with IPATA to review its Brachycephalic Certification Program and secured formal IPATA approval for several Canadian RFGS examiners.

The Committee supported presentations on CKC's breed health initiatives, focusing on the Respiratory Function Grading Scheme. Delivered in March at the Atlantic Veterinary College and in October at the Faculté de médecine vétérinaire, Université de Montréal, the sessions were led by CKC Ambassador Dr. Jenn Woods, DVM, with Advocacy Committee representatives Laura Grandmont (PEI) and Marie-Josée Gallant (Québec). The Committee is pleased to report that in 2025, over 150 dogs were examined with the support of lead assessors, Dr. Matthew Wittenrich, DVM, and Dr. Jenn Woods, DVM. In addition, over 10 new Canadian RFGS examiners became OFA-approved in Ontario, Québec, Alberta, British Columbia and New Brunswick.

The Committee looks forward to supporting further expansion of the Respiratory Function Grading Scheme, as well as expanding education and advocacy regarding the health and well-being of Brachycephalic breeds and CKC's activities with Veterinary Colleges, Canadian animal organizations and international groups.

AD HOC ICONIC BREEDER CONFORMATION JUDGE COMMITTEE

The Ad Hoc Iconic Breeder Conformation Judge Committee was appointed to consider and develop policy with regard to an Iconic Breeder Judging Program.

Staff Liaison:

Tracy Kent, Manager, Events

Committee Chair:

Tina Sandford, Director Zone 2

Members:

Valeria Bandas, Board Member, Zone 9, Heather Langfeld, Chair, Event Officiating Committee, Marc Ralsky, Board Member, Zone 7, Robert Whitney, Board Member, Zone 5

Report:

The Committee held a meeting in January 2025 to finalize the draft policy. At the March 2025 meeting of the Board of Directors, two motions were presented. The first motion was to add the new Applicant Iconic Breeder Conformation Judge Licensing Program to Chapter VII, Judges, of the Policy and Procedures Manual, and the second motion was to add the application fee to the Schedule of Fees. Both motions were effective July 1, 2025. Both motions were carried.

AD HOC OWNER HANDLER SERIES COMMITTEE

The Ad Hoc Owner-Handler Series Committee was appointed to consider and develop policy with regard to an Owner-Handled Series.

Staff Liaison:

Krystal Mason, Supervisor, Events

Committee Chair:

Robert (Bob) Whitney, Zone 5 Director

Members:

Ramona Bauer, Board Member, Zone 4 , Wayne Davidson, Board Member, Zone 12 , Marc Ralsky, Board Member, Zone 7.

Report:

The Committee held meetings in March and September 2025. The Committee presented a draft policy to the Board in March 2025 which was approved in concept to launch January 2027. The committee continues to work on finalizing the details of policy.

AD HOC 2026 CKC National Championship Dog Show Committee

The Board of Directors appointed an Ad Hoc Committee to plan, coordinate, and provide strategic guidance for the 2026 CKC National Championship Dog Show.

Staff Liaison:

Krystal Mason, Supervisor, Events

Committee Chair:

Robert Whitney

Members:

Ramona Bauer, Board Member, Zone 4, Wayne Davidson, Board Member, Zone 12, Janice Kivimaki, Board Member, Zone 1, Tina Sandford, Board Member, Zone 2, and Robert Whitney, Board Member, Zone 5.

Report:

This item was discussed in camera, and a motion was passed to establish a Special Ad Hoc CKC National Championship Dog Show Committee.

Ad Hoc Not-for-Profit Discount Committee

The Ad Hoc Not-for-Profit Discount Committee shall be a committee of four (4) members, one (1) of whom shall be a member of the Board, one (1) of whom shall be selected from the IT Steering Committee and two (2) of whom shall be selected from the Communication Committee.

The Committee shall be responsible for preparing the necessary background material that is required to apply for Microsoft's not-for-profit licensing. This includes:

- *Proof of not-for-profit status*
- *Evidence that CKC has a positive social impact*

The Committee's mandate will end once the not-for-profit discount has been applied for and a decision made by Microsoft.

Your Partner in Dog Health

The International Partnership for Dogs (IPFDogs) is a non-profit organization leading a global, multi-stakeholder effort to enhance dog health & well-being.

Our purpose is to foster information sharing & collaboration, for the benefit of all dogs worldwide.

The Canadian Kennel Club has been a Contributing Partner of IPFDogs since 2019.

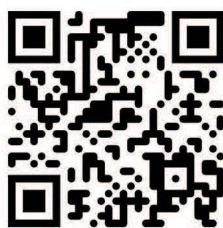


How We Can Help Canadian Kennel Club Members

Supporting efforts in responsible dog breeding & ownership is a key aspect of our mission. We invite you to utilize our resources, including:

- ✓ Pedigree Breeds Database, with 180+ breed profiles
- ✓ Searchable Genetic Testing Database of 360+ breed-specific genetic tests & test providers around the world
- ✓ Free articles & links to additional resources on DogWellNet.com – The Dog Wellness Network
- ✓ A vast, global network of dog experts & organizations & our knowledgeable Consulting Team
- ✓ Webinars & International Dog Health Workshops to address key issues in dog health & well-being

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