

## Your trainer

Karen L McClean  
Karen Pyror Certified Training  
Partner  
Certified Trick Dog Instructor  
Barn Hunt Judge #231A  
CGN Evaluator



## Treats

We use treats in class as a means of building the behaviours we want the dog to do through positive reinforcement. This does not mean that we bribe the dog. Treats are in play AFTER the behaviour rather than before. (We do sometime briefly use treats to lure as a method of kick starting a behaviour but the goal is always to quickly move away from treats in hand.) Treats will not make your dog overweight provided you adjust their meal intake accordingly.

Be sure to bring **LOTS!** Treats should be:

**SMALL:** pea size – for bigger dogs, or less for smaller ones

**SOFT:** generally soft treats are easier to take and make your dog less thirsty.

**SPECIAL:** something your dog really loves and does not get every day.

*Need ideas? Cheese – string cheese or small cubes, small pieces of hot dog, fresh boiled chicken, dried sardines or commercial soft treats.*

**PLEASE DO NOT BRING the following kinds of treats:**

Crumbly treats like commercial dried liver or chicken (these leave lots of small bits on the floor that are distracting to dogs in the next class).

Kibble, or cheerios - these may be fine at home but you need something better and more interesting for class.

# Class Information

## Canine Life Skills

### Foundations

Wags to Wishes Kg Training  
Okotoks, Alberta

# Canine Life Skills Foundations

## About this class

This class provides a basic introduction to handlers in effective, safe and relationship building, positive training techniques – including the concepts of positive reinforcement, how we get behaviours, when and how to add cues, how to increase duration and distance and how to proof against distractions.

## Content

Attention and Focus	Impulse control
Sit	Recalls
Down	Walking politely on leash
Stay and Wait	Dealing with undesirable behaviours
Leave it, Drop it, Give it, Take it	And more...
Polite greetings (dogs)	
Polite greetings (humans)	

## Class Details

The class is 6 sessions in length. The time and day of the week of your class will be confirmed via e-mail. Classes may not always be 6 consecutive weeks due to periodic out of town work commitments. A tentative schedule will be available at the start of the sessions.

Class notes are provided to you for each class – these are usually sent to you via e-mail after the class. **Please include my e-mail address in your address book to avoid these notes ending up in your spam folder.**

Class notices & reminders are sent weekly via Facebook (Wags to Wishes K9 Training) - **be sure to like and follow Wags to Wishes on FB.**

Payment may be by cash, check or e transfer ([karen@tarahillcairns.com](mailto:karen@tarahillcairns.com)) at the first class. For e-transfers please wait until 2-3 days before the class starts to send.

**LOCATION:** The street address for the class is #100 418204 21<sup>st</sup> Street West, Okotoks T1S 1A1. Directions and a map are available at [www.tarahillcairns.com](http://www.tarahillcairns.com) under the Wags to Wishes location tab. You can also search Google maps for Wags to Wishes K9 training .

## What to bring to class

1. Your dog – (of course!,) on a flat buckle or martingale (limited slip) or harness (if that is what you usually use). No head, prong, choke or e collars please. If you need these devices to control your dog please contact me about options.
2. A flat 4 or 6 foot leash – I recommend a light and soft flat leash, rather than a chain or corded leash. You will want to be able to tuck several folds of the leash in your hand so the lighter the better.
3. Treats, and if you have one, an easy access treat pouch.
4. Water and individual water bowls are available. Chairs and a small table are at each station.

- **Please respect the speed signs on the road leading to the property. Children and animals are frequently on the road. We also want to minimize traffic noise and dust for our neighbours.**
- **Please leash your dog when moving between vehicle & building.**
- **People and dogs exiting the building have RIGHT OF WAY. Please move back to allow people and dogs to exit safely.**

**Children in class:** Children are welcome to attend classes with the following provisos.

1. Children must be of sufficient maturity to not require you to supervise or entertain them while you are trying to learn.
2. Children must respect my rules regarding interactions with other dogs. Except when explicitly directed (& with your consent) there is to be NO contact between children and other dogs in the class.