

## Your trainer

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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

## Puppy Life Skills

Wags to Wishes Kg Training  
Okotoks, Alberta

# Puppy Life Skills

## About this class

This class is focused on helping puppies develop resiliency and confidence, through gentle challenges and the choice to engage or not. Puppies are never forced to do anything but rather reinforced for choosing to engage. Fine tuning challenges, allowing choice, and positive reinforcement helps your puppy learn to accept new situations and challenges with confidence. This class MAY include some group play but only when appropriate for the puppies in attendance.

## Content

**Attention is the key:** focus, name game, attention around distractions, puppy recalls

**Be Brave:** helping your dog learn to love new experiences

**Communication skills:** clicker training, manding, offering behaviours

**Dealing with puppy behaviour:** nipping and chewing, jumping up, resource guarding, crate training, addressing undesirable behaviours

**Enrichment** – the key to a happy, well-adjusted dog

## Class Details

The class is 4 sessions. The time and day of the week will be confirmed via e-mail. Classes may not always be consecutive weeks due to other commitments. A tentative schedule will be available at the start of class.

Class notes are provided for each class, usually by e-mail. **Please include my e-mail address in your contacts to avoid these notes going to spam.**

Class notices & reminders are sent weekly via Facebook (Wags to Wishes Kg 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.

**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 Kg 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 & soft flat leash, rather than a chain or corded leash. Flexi leads are not appropriate for this class.
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 provided:

1. They are of sufficient maturity to not require you to supervise or entertain them while you are trying to learn and to supervise your puppy.
2. They will 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.