



ELDERDOG  
CANADA

## ADOPTION APPLICATION

ElderDog typically re-homes:

- 🐾 older dogs whose lives have been disrupted due to relocation, illness, or death of a senior companion;
- 🐾 dogs who are part of our Dog Care Support for Seniors Program.

ElderDog's mission is to foster and support the relationship between ageing dogs and ageing people. Where possible we endeavour to re-home older dogs with older people.

Thank you for your interest in adopting an "Elder Dog." Because our dogs may have special age-related needs or have experienced recent disruption or stress, we take extra care to find homes that best suit the needs and abilities of both dog and human. Our application process helps us place our dogs in homes that will enable the human-animal relationship to flourish.

- 1.** First, please complete this application and submit to [info@elderdog.ca](mailto:info@elderdog.ca) or by mail to address below.
- 2.** Upon receipt of the application, one of our volunteers will contact you to set up a telephone conversation.
- 3.** The next step is to arrange a meeting with one of our volunteers in your home and, finally, a get-acquainted meeting with a dog.

ElderDog Canada  
National Office  
907 Feltzen South Rd  
RR #1 Rose Bay  
NS B0J 2X0

1-855-336-4226

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Honouring and Preserving the Human-animal Bond*

[info@elderdog.ca](mailto:info@elderdog.ca)  
[www.elderdog.ca](http://www.elderdog.ca)

*Date of inquiry:*

**ABOUT YOU AND YOUR HOME:**

*Name:*

*Address:*

*City/Province/PostalCode:*

*Phone:*

*E-mail address:*

*One of ElderDog's goals is to place older dogs with older human companions. Do you consider yourself in this category?*

*Are you making application on your own behalf or on behalf of an older person?*

*Is this a general application to become an ElderDog guardian or are you interested in a specific dog? If a specific dog, who would you like to welcome into your home?*

*Why are you interested in adopting an older dog?*

Would you consider adopting a dog that requires specialized or palliative care?

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*April, 2024*

*Do you work outside the home? If so, will the dog be alone for long periods of time?*

*How many adults will be living with and caring for the dog?*

*Are you (or the person on whose behalf you are applying) able and willing to provide routine veterinary care?*

*Older and aging dogs can sometimes require age-related medical or health care attention. Are you (or the person on whose behalf you are applying) able and willing to provide any special medical or health care that may be required?*

*Do you currently have or know of a local vet who would provide medical care for your companion? If so, please name the clinic and location.*

*Are there other animals in the house? If so, how many and what kind?*

*Are children in your home on a regular basis? If so, what age and level of experience with dogs?*

*Do you or anyone in your household have allergies to animals?*

*Do you or anyone in your household smoke inside the home?*

*If you (or the person on whose behalf you are applying) are an older person, do you have any requirements for dog care support (e.g., help with dog walking, transportation to and from groomer or vet, etc.)? If so, please explain.*

*Do you (or the person on whose behalf you are applying) live in an apartment, condo, house, or other? If you rent your residence or live in a condo, we require a letter of approval from your landlord or condo board. Applications from renters or condo residents will not be processed without this letter.*

*Will the dog have access to a fenced yard? Please note that ElderDog does not support the use of invisible/electric fences.*

*Are there stairs leading into the home? inside the home?*

*Is the home a quiet or very busy environment?*

*What else can you say about yourself and your home environment that will help us with re-homing considerations?*

**ABOUT YOUR CANINE COMPANION AND YOUR RELATIONSHIP:**

*Breed/age/ size preferences:*

*What kind of personality and temperament would you like your canine companion to have?*

*Please describe your past experience with dogs.*

*Have you had experience with an older dog? Please explain.*

*Have you or anyone in your household, ever been a person of interest with any animal protection agency or authority? If yes, please explain.*

*Have you had the difficult experience of losing a companion animal? Can you say something about that?*

*Have you had experience with behavioural training? Are you prepared to provide or get help with refresher training if necessary?*

*Please note that: ElderDog Canada does not support the use of e-collars, shock collars, prong collars, choke chains, or any other behaviour modification tools or training methods that may have the potential to physically or emotionally harm a dog. Because we typically are entrusted with the care and placement of senior dogs whose companions have no choice but to rehome their beloved dog, we make a commitment to do whatever we can to place elder dogs in a kind and loving environment where they can be comfortable for the rest of their lives. In our Credo, we identify qualities such as dignity, respect, and comfort as underlying all that we do. We take care to ensure that all of our decisions regarding placement of dogs aligns with these values.*

*How often will the dog be left alone?*

*How would you describe the role the dog will play in your home and family?*

*How do you imagine spending time with your dog (e.g., mainly quiet time around the house; being active in the out of doors)?*

## CONTINUING CARE

*In some situations, former companions who have to surrender their dog, make requests to be kept informed of their beloved companion's well-being or to have some form of contact. Sometimes, they express wishes for end-of-life care. Would you be comfortable with this?*

*Under what conditions would you imagine having to return the dog?*

*At ElderDog, we maintain a lifelong commitment to dogs in our care. This means staying in touch and keeping informed about any significant changes to the dog's health, well-being, or living situation. Are you willing to maintain contact with ElderDog?*

*In case of an emergency, is there someone who would be able to assume temporary care of your dog? Has this person agreed to do so?*

*Name:*

*Address:*

*Phone:*

*Email:*

*Relationship:*

*Please provide two non-personal references. Please avoid using friends or family members as references. We suggest a vet, groomer, dog trainer, associates in organizations to which you belong, or anyone else who can provide a character reference.*

*Please provide name, name of business or organization, your relationship to this person, and a contact number.*

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Reference # 1:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Contact information:

\_\_\_\_\_

Reference #2: Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Contact information:

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please note:** *We, at ElderDog Canada, commit to dogs entrusted to our care for the rest of their lives. Once your application is approved and a suitable dog placed in your care, there is a minimum two-week trial period before an adoption is finalized. During this period we will follow up regularly with you. Once it is determined that the placement is the most suitable dog-human-environment match, the adoption will be finalized with a commitment letter.*

*If, at any time for ANY reason, you can no longer care for or keep the Elder Dog you have adopted, it is necessary to contact ElderDog Canada to arrange for the dog's immediate return to our organization. Under NO circumstances should an Elder Dog be rehomed without ElderDog's involvement. Please initial to indicate your understanding of your commitment to ElderDog \_\_\_\_\_.*

Name(s) of adopter(s)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (to be obtained at home visit) \_\_\_\_\_

*Thank you for taking the time to think about and respond to the questions and issues we think are very important in helping us bring together people and dogs in loving companionship.*

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