



## **Application to Foster an Elder Dog**

ElderDog's mission is to support the relationship between ageing dogs and ageing people. When a special relationship between a dog and senior companion is disrupted or broken due to relocation, illness, or death ElderDog helps to find a loving new home for the dog. Sometimes, a dog might need to stay temporarily in a foster home until just the right forever home is found. We also provide temporary care in a foster home during a period of hospitalization or medical emergency.

ElderDog does not have a shelter and relies upon its foster family volunteers to:

- provide love and care for the dog;
- provide food, exercise, and safe environment;
- transport the dog to and from veterinary and grooming appointments (if possible).

Fostering is a rewarding experience that helps dogs in need by allowing them to live in a home, with a family, while their caregiver is unavailable. Fostering is the alternative to keeping dogs isolated and provides comfort for human and canine companions.

Fostering requires a commitment of your time and resources. You must be certain that your existing companion animals will accept the foster dog. Because older 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 processes help us place our dogs in homes that will enable the human-animal relationship to flourish.

- 1.** First, please complete this application and submit to [volunteer@elderdog.ca](mailto:volunteer@elderdog.ca) or by mail to ElderDog Canada, 907 Feltzen South Rd. Rose Bay, NS B0J 2X0.
- 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.
- 4.** Finally, we ask that you complete a police background check, required for all ElderDog volunteers.

Office Use #



ELDERDOG  
CANADA

### Volunteer Foster Application

Date:			
Name:		Email:	
Mailing Address (incl. apt/unit #):	Town/City		
Province:		Postal Code:	
Home Phone:		Cell Phone:	
Occupation(s) (current and previous, if retired):			
Hobbies or recreational activities and/or skills and experience related to ElderDog's goals and programs:			
Your interest in ElderDog Canada and reasons for wanting to contribute to the ElderDog mission:			

## **About You**

Are you over the age of 18? Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

How many adults live in the household?

Please provide the names of those over 18 who live in your home.

How many children live in or regularly visit the household? \_\_\_\_\_ What are their ages?

Do other animals live in the household? If so, what species?

Are the other animals spayed or neutered?

Are the animals up to date on vaccinations?

Is anyone in the home allergic to animals?

Does anyone in the home smoke?

Why do you want to foster dogs?

What age and type of dog would you like to foster?

Do you have experience with older dogs? Please explain.

Would you consider fostering a dog with special needs?

Would you be willing to foster a dog that needs palliative care?

Would you be willing to work with an ElderDog approved veterinarian?

How long are you prepared to foster?

On average, how many hours in a day will you be away from home or how many hours a day will the dog be left alone?

Where will the dog stay during the day while you are away?

Where will the dog sleep?

Do you have experience house-training dogs?

Do you have experience behaviour training dogs?

Do you have experience obedience training dogs?

Do you have experience with rescued or re-homed animals? If so, please explain.

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.

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

Do you have any other related experience?

**About your Residence**

What type of home do you live in (townhouse, condo, apartment, detached house etc.)

Do you own or rent? If you rent your residence or live in a condo or strata, we require a letter of approval from your landlord or condo/strata board. Applications from renters or condo/strata residents will not be processed without this letter.

Do you have a fenced yard? If so, how tall is the fence? Please note that ElderDog does not support the use of invisible/electric fences.

Are there stairs leading into the home? If yes, how many?

Do you have stairs inside the home? If yes, how many?

Do you have a way to safely separate/contain your foster dog from other animals and/or children in your home should problems arise?

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.

Reference # 1:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact information: \_\_\_\_\_

Reference #2:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact information: \_\_\_\_\_

We, at ElderDog Canada, recognize that dogs, especially older dogs, who need temporary care, may need special attention during a time of transition. Once your application is approved and a suitable dog is placed in your foster care, we will follow up regularly during the dog's stay with you to ensure the placement is in the best interest of both you and the dog.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**As a foster for ElderDog Canada, you are part of our community of ElderDog volunteers. ElderDog requires all volunteers to complete a vulnerable sector check. This can be done through your local police service. Depending on your location, this is either a no fee or discounted fee service when application is made in person and includes a letter from ElderDog confirming your volunteer status.**

We encourage all volunteers to become members as well. To become a member, please indicate here ( ) and include with your application the membership fee of \$20. Make cheques payable to ElderDog Canada, send an e-transfer to: [info@elderdog.ca](mailto:info@elderdog.ca) or submit payment through CanadaHelps at <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/elderdog-canada-inc/>.