

Finding Your Perfect Match



Scrolling through the many pet adoption sites can feel a bit like being on a dating website. You look at the photos and scan the profiles with a “type” in mind. You finally see a photo that tugs at your heartstrings, so you dig a bit deeper.

You read the profile and wonder if he or she could be your “soulmate.” But how to know if you’ve really found your perfect match? [See page 5](#) for tips on finding the four-legged love of your life.

IT'S PET DENTAL HEALTH MONTH!

Dental health is about more than just keeping those pearly whites looking good. Neglecting your pet's oral health can lead to pain, weight loss, and even heart disease. If you're not already brushing your dog's teeth, Pet Dental Health Month is a great time to start!

Check out these articles for tips, tricks, and more information:

- [The Most Common Dog Health Issue – Are You Doing Your Part?](#)
- [5 Consequences of Rotten Dog Teeth](#)
- [Dr. Ernie's Top 10 Dog Dental Questions... and His Answers!](#)

FEBRUARY 2020 THE OFFICIAL SPEAKING OF DOGS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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About Speaking of Dogs

Speaking of Dogs is a Toronto-based organization that launched in 2001 and is dedicated to educating and enlightening people about dogs through seminars, workshop forums, outreach and rescue. Our goal is to end cruelty, abandonment, mistreatment and homelessness of man's best friend.

Speaking of Dogs Rescue is the operating name of Speaking of Dogs Rescue Program, a Canada Revenue Agency-registered charity based in Ontario.

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Newsletters

If you no longer want to receive our newsletter, email newsletter@speakingofdogs.com, with “unsubscribe” written in the subject line.

Dogs Looking for Homes

A friend in need is a friend indeed

Without a doubt, a dog is a real friend. Our dogs come in all shapes and sizes, but they have one thing in common—they all need loving forever homes. Open your heart and your home to a rescue dog. You'll be glad you did. For complete information about the adoption process, please visit www.speakingofdogs.com/adoption-process. For more information on each dog, simply click on their name.

Daisy

FEATURED DOG:

Daisy is a 5-year-old spayed female cocker spaniel with a soft and fluffy chocolate brown coat. Although shy at first, she's an affectionate girl who eventually warms up and loves to give lots of kisses.

Daisy recently underwent surgery for bladder stones, had 14 teeth extracted and was diagnosed with a 2/6 heart murmur. She has now healed from her surgeries and her murmur is not symptomatic. She feels much better and has a lot more energy!

Daisy is not 100% housebroken and does not cue to go out, so she will need some additional house-training help. She had bladder stones for quite some

time, and we think she may have lost her house-training.

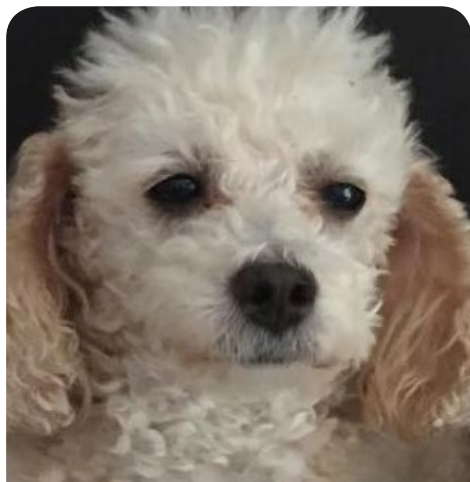
She loves her walks and does not pull on the leash. Daisy is friendly with everyone! She is well-mannered when meeting strangers and other dogs in the street. She also gets along well with her foster parents' dog and initiates play with him, and she is friendly and polite with her foster parents' young grandchildren.

Daisy has a very healthy appetite and, despite her dental work, can still eat dry dog food. She is not interested in balls or other toys but loves spending time with her foster family. She sleeps in her crate at night and will seek it out at bedtime. She is not destructive when left alone and travels well in the car.

COCKER SPANIEL
MEDIUM, ADULT, FEMALE



This sweet girl still has a few hurdles to overcome, but she has a lot of love to give. Can you give Daisy the patient, affectionate forever home of her dreams?



Lucy
TOY POODLE
SMALL, ADULT, FEMALE



Scooby
LAB / HOUND MIX
LARGE, ADULT, MALE



Chica & Arnica
CHIHUAHUA / POMERANIAN MIX
SMALL, ADULT, FEMALE



Phil
YORKSHIRE TERRIER
SMALL, ADULT, MALE



Emma
BEAGLE MIX
MEDIUM, ADULT, FEMALE



Teddy
MALTESE / COTON DE TULEAR MIX
SMALL, YOUNG, MALE



Ben
SHIH TZU / POODLE MIX
SMALL, SENIOR, MALE



Cho Cho
YORKSHIRE TERRIER
SMALL, SENIOR, MALE



Bernard
BEAGLE
MEDIUM, SENIOR, MALE



Winnie
CORGIE MIX
MEDIUM, ADULT, FEMALE



Chili
YORKSHIRE TERRIER MIX
SMALL, ADULT, FEMALE



Jody
CHIHUAHUA MIX
SMALL, YOUNG, FEMALE



Kodi & Bella
YORKIE MIX & POMERANIAN
SMALL, ADULT, MALE & FEMALE



Faith
TERRIER MIX
SMALL, YOUNG, FEMALE

HELP US FUNDRAISE THROUGH BARKBOX!

What is BarkBox? It's a monthly box of dog goodies that arrives on your doorstep!

When you subscribe to BarkBox, every month you receive a box in the mail with four or more carefully selected products and presents for your dog – anything from toys and all-natural treats to hygiene products and the latest gadgets!

And when you give to your dog, you can give to our dogs too. Use code **SPEAKING OF DOGS** at checkout, and the rescue will receive a \$15 donation from BarkBox. Plus, you'll receive 10% off the price of your subscription!

Visit www.barkbox.com to find out more and get started.

FURRY FRIENDS 5K

Speaking of Dogs Rescue is proud to be a part of the Furry Friends 5K run/walkathon circuit. These important fundraisers help us help needy, homeless dogs, including the wonderful dogs in our Forever in Foster program.

But it's not just the dogs who benefit! These races are very well organized and are always a fun day. Racers can walk with or without a dog, and all activity levels are welcome. You can even join as a team!

This year we will be participating in the Oshawa event on June 7th.

To find out more about this year's Furry Friends 5K, please visit <https://www.furryfriends5k.ca> and, of course, keep reading the monthly Speaking of Dogs newsletters to learn all of the exciting developments!



WALK WITH RESQWALK!

ResQwalk is a free mobile app that allows you to raise money for Speaking of Dogs Rescue while out for your regular walks!

I'll you need to do is download the app to your iPhone or Android phone and track your walks (with or without your dog). It's free. It's easy. It can help the amazing dogs in our program find their second chance at life and love.

Once you've downloaded the app, please remember to mark Speaking of Dogs Rescue as your favourite rescue!

For more information, you can visit bestfriends.org/resqwalk/faq.

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Be honest with yourself and the rescue

It's natural to want to put your best foot forward, but honesty is the best policy. If you sometimes work long hours or aren't confident about dealing with certain behaviours, don't be afraid to say so to the adoption coordinator. It can also be tempting to help the dog who seems most in need, but you won't be helping anyone if you're unprepared and overwhelmed.

What might be right for some might not be right for you

Well-meaning family and friends may want to steer you to dogs of a particular breed or age, but try to focus on finding the right dog for your family and lifestyle, including your current pets. The adoption coordinator, the resources provided here, and this newsletter's

trainer articles are good sources of fact-based information.

Be open minded

You may well have a particular breed, size, sex, age, or colour in mind, but try to stay open minded. Sometimes the right dog is the one you least expect!

Don't overlook the seniors

Many think you can only form a lasting connection with a puppy or young dog, but there are thousands of happy families out there who beg to differ! Many senior dogs are active and up for adventure, and all are ready to settle in and feel the love – and give all that love back and then some.

Consider fostering

If you're unsure about what kind of dog might best suit your family, consider fostering. You'll have the opportunity to live with different dogs and gain incredible insights – and help dogs in

need. Meet-and-greets are invaluable, but spending time with some "right" dogs (and even some "wrong" ones) will help you recognize your perfect match when he or she comes along. Fostering is a very rewarding experience, and if you adopt a dog-friendly dog, you'll likely want to keep being a foster family.

Resources

- "What's the Benefit to the Dog? What to Consider Before Getting a Dog" by Dr. Sophia Yin
- The Comprehensive Guide to Adopting a Pet by Petfinder
- Meet Your Match: Ten Tips for Choosing a Shelter Dog by Karen Pryor Clicker Training
- Foster a Dog with Speaking of Dogs Rescue
- Speaking of Dogs Rescue Adoption Process

Share the Love this Valentine's Day!



Although we have a partnership with a doggy daycare, we do not have a physical shelter; our dogs are in-home fostered by caring, loving volunteers. If you're looking for a way to spread some love this month, consider donating new or gently used items for our wonderful foster dogs.

We are always in need of

- Gas gift cards
- Global Pet Foods or Pet Valu gift cards
- Kong or other treat-dispensing toys
- Canned and dry quality dog foods
- Martingale collars
- Kuranda beds
- Thunder Shirts

Bits & Bites

Simply click on a summary to be whisked away to the internet page where you can read the full story.

- Ever wonder why our dogs are micro-chipped before they're put up for adoption? Check out this article that explains the many benefits of micro-chipping.
- TVO's The Agenda with Steve Pakin recently had a segment on Ontario's new animal protection force. You can view the video online.
- Super-smart Vango alerted savvy pet store staff to his own dog-napping!
- The Toronto Humane Society has timely and sensible advice about pets and the coronavirus.
- There's no such thing as a micro or teacup pig. A cute little piglet can be difficult to resist, but make sure you're well informed about pig ownership before you proceed with an adoption.



THE 2020 DIRECTORY IS HERE!

The Province of Ontario Breed Specific and All Breed Rescue Contacts 2020 directory is available for [download](#).

Big thanks to all of the hard-working volunteers who helped gather information, format and design: Kathy Bruce, Ian Houston, Mari-Anne McCleary, and Cathy Vandergest.

Thanks also to all the rescuers who are part of the directory and care for – and about – dogs in need year after year.

To: Speaking of Dogs Rescue
From: Laura and family
Subject: Sarabi

Dear Speaking of Dogs Rescue,

Sarabi (Bibi, as we call her) is great! Sarabi fit into our family so well, and within a week or so it seemed like she had been with us for years.

She's never had any behavioural issues at all. She's possibly the sweetest dog in the world and has been easy to train. Our bulldog's nose was out of joint for a few weeks, but Sarabi really didn't care, so he gave up. Now they are very much a team and always go where the other is and occasionally play together.

Initially when we called our bulldog in a big voice she would cower and become nervous; she took time to trust my husband, but thankfully, within the last few months, she's come to realize that he isn't going to hurt her and now seeks his affection, which my husband is ecstatic about.

She's amazing with our kids, especially our 9-year-old who gives her so much love and attention; Sarabi is stuck to me at



all times, a momma's girl and will even bark for me to move if she can't squeeze onto the couch with me. She's a total cuddle-bug and can't get close enough (and I love it!).

On the health front, Sarabi has been to the vet quite a bit over the last year to monitor her pre-existing conditions, which the rescue made us aware of. Our vet loves her, our groomer loves her, my nieces, nephews, and kids' friends all love her. Without sounding overly dramatic, she really is the perfect dog.

Happy Tails

JANUARY ADOPTIONS:

A big thank you to our foster parents and our new adoptive guardians for helping give these loving dogs a second chance.



Banjo



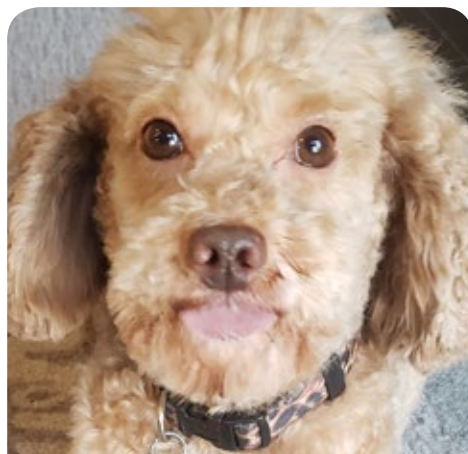
Betty



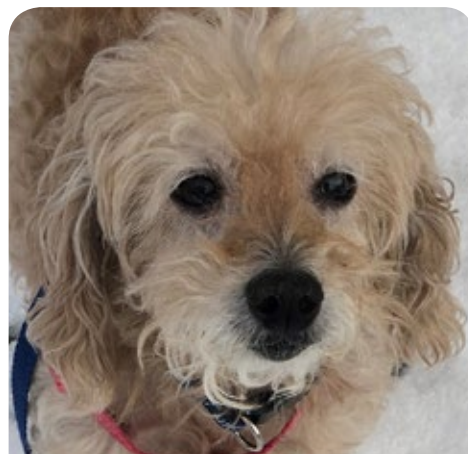
Daisy (shih tzu)



Jewel



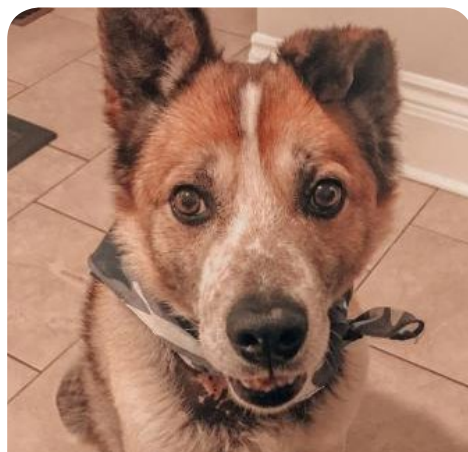
Jub Jub



Lucy Pancake



Ocean



Whiskey



Zoey

In Memoriam



Mack

LOVED BY CAROL K.
ADOPTED MARCH 2017
PASSED DECEMBER 2019



Simba

LOVED BY CAROL L., FAMILY AND FRIENDS
ADOPTED MAY 2019
PASSED JANUARY 2020



Lucy

LOVED BY THE AHIER FAMILY
FOREVER-IN-FOSTER
PASSED JANUARY 2020



Clem

LOVED BY THE ROZDZILSKI FAMILY
ADOPTED AUGUST 2016
PASSED NOVEMBER 2019

In Memoriam



Rufus (aka Dave)

LOVED BY NICO AND FAMILY

ADOPTED AUGUST 2017

PASSED JANUARY 2020