

Saving just one dog won't change the world... but, surely, the world will change for that one dog...

Can My Dog Say Hi?



Allowing dogs to say hi on the street is something that is deeply embedded in pet dog culture, and many people think that a new puppy has to meet every dog they pass! However, this often results in frustration if the dog feels they can't say hi fast enough, and greetings can become wild and rude.

Let's have a look at some of the problems that can arise and how to mitigate these risks while still allowing your friendly dog the social contact they desire.

Set Expectations to Avoid Frustration

When dogs experience a sense of energized arousal and either restrained or not having their expectations met, they can become frustrated. If dogs have been allowed to greet everyone through puppyhood, they don't expect that, as

teenagers, they will be ignored, pulled away, or even corrected for showing that same interest. It's not unusual for this frustration to be expressed as barking, pulling hard on the leash, and lunging at other dogs. For some dogs, this looks almost like aggression!

If you have a young dog, the best thing you can do is set expectations right away: show them that saying hi is something that can happen but that there are many situations where you pass by potential social interactions without stopping to greet. The expectation you set is that the world can pass by without your dog being able to leap into the middle of things – unless you indicate otherwise!

Imagine two boxes. One box is "Social Time," and the other box is "Walk Time."

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OCTOBER 2021

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.

Tyson

YORKSHIRE TERRIER MIX
SMALL, ADULT, MALE

FEATURED DOG:

Tyson is an approximately 9-year-old Terrier mix who weighs about 15 pounds. He came to us from a Toronto area shelter. His previous owners surrendered him for nipping at their grandson, who is a toddler.

His foster parents do not have any toddlers and have not experienced any nipping. Tyson has proven to be an affectionate and engaging little dog who likes to play, go for walks, and is housetrained.

Tyson is also very treat motivated! He knows basic commands, loves belly rubs, and is good with other dogs. He's friendly with the other dogs at his foster home but does require personal space for eating. He doesn't like to be disturbed when he's eating and is fed separately. When he's finished, he may try to get the other dogs' food, but he's easily re-directed.

Tyson loves to play chase and attempts to play fetch, which is a work in progress. At night he sleeps curled up and cozy in bed with his foster parents and sleeps through the night.

The shelter saw a bit of "stranger danger" behaviour, and while the foster parents haven't seen anything overly worrisome, Tyson does take a bit of time to become comfortable with new



people. Once he gets to know you, however, he will follow you around and want to be in your lap for naps.

Tyson is sensitive around his face and paws and was not comfortable with being groomed in those areas. Counter-conditioning those behaviours would help make things easier for him. He is also getting

used to stairs but may require some encouragement.

Sweet boy Tyson may still have a few things to learn, but he loves rewards and will reward you with all the love and affection you could ever want. Can you give him the patient, supportive forever home he so deserves?



Foxy
LABRADOR / BORDER COLLIE MIX
MEDIUM, BABY, FEMALE



Maggie Mae
WHEATEN TERRIER
MEDIUM, SENIOR, FEMALE



Ariel
COTON DE TULEAR
SMALL, ADULT, FEMALE



China
SHIH TZU
SMALL, SENIOR, FEMALE



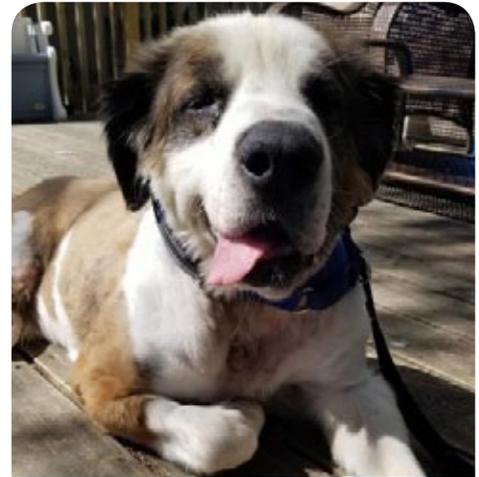
Peek & Boo
BORDER COLLIE / LABRADOR MIXES | MEDIUM, SENIOR, FEMALES
COURTESY POST FOR SOUTHERN ONTARIO SHELTYE RESCUE



Kobi
SPANIEL / POODLE MIX
SMALL, ADULT, MALE



Lily
PUG MIX
SMALL, ADULT, FEMALE



Oden
SAINT BERNARD MIX
X-LARGE, ADULT, MALE



Baker

LABRADOR RETRIEVER
LARGE, SENIOR, MALE



Abbott

COONHOUND MIX
LARGE, SENIOR, MALE



Drake

HOUND / LABRADOR MIX
LARGE, YOUNG, MALE



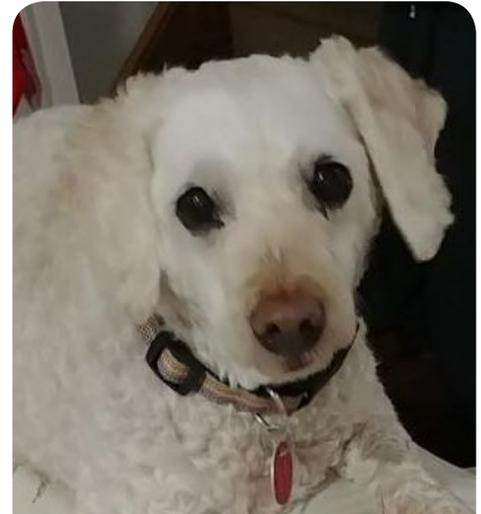
Benz

CHIHUAHUA
SMALL, ADULT, MALE



Bobby Maltese

MALTESE / POODLE MIX
SMALL, SENIOR, MALE



Karma

POODLE / SPANIEL MIX
SMALL, ADULT, FEMALE

WAGS & WIGGLES

Many thanks to Fab Fido grooming salon for their generous donation from nail clips! We are so grateful to our friend Michelle, who has been a supporter since opening up her shop many years ago. Woofs to you and your crew from all the dogs here at Speaking of Dogs Rescue!

Visit Fab Fido for all your grooming needs at fabfidodogspaw.ca.

Ask the Trainer

[...Continued from page 1](#)

Dogs need to be firmly in one box or the other, and there should be no point where one box bleeds into the other, especially the latter into the former. This means that when it's "Walk Time," social greetings are off the table.

You can pick your dog out of that box and put them in the "Social Box" by letting them off-leash where appropriate or using a verbal indication that a greeting is permitted. Most importantly, you're never going to grant this permission if your dog is over-stimulated, pulling, barking, or lunging. Being permitted to greet that dog is deeply reinforcing, and we want to reinforce the right behaviours!

Training Time!

The first step is to cultivate calm in the face of potential social interactions. Keep in mind that these instructions apply only to dogs who are truly friendly and wanting to greet. This can be hard to decipher at times, so consult a qualified trainer or behaviourist if in doubt.

The first half of this equation is establishing the "Walk Time" box. The second half of this equation is teaching your dog how to access the "Social Time" Box with calm behaviour.

Whether you have a puppy, adolescent dog or adult dog already experiencing this frustration, it's critical to keep enough space to prevent a reaction. Whether that reaction involves barking, lunging, staring, or pulling, keep enough space to minimize these behaviours.

Once you have this space, watch for your dog to glance at the other dog. The moment your dog glances, say "Yes!" and feed a particularly tasty treat. We'll call

this "Look Don't Touch." You can then reward looking to you, walking with you, or immediately on that next glance at the other dog. Think of this as paying your dog a "finder's fee" for pointing out dogs around you. If your dog reacts, move your feet and increase distance!

Practice Makes Perfect!

The next step is to arrange to meet up with one of your dog's friends. We want this interaction to be controlled while you and your dog learn the ropes.

Begin with the "Look Don't Touch" exercise, and stay at this point for as long as you need for your dog to stay settled. When your dog is picture perfect, say "Go say hi!" and allow your dog to approach and engage your helper dog.

It is important to keep a loose leash for this interaction. If you're in a safe situation, you can drop the leash and allow your dog to approach off-leash and have your friend do the same. If both dogs are on leash, you'll need to circle around as your dogs circle each other. This means both owners need to move in order to keep the leashes slack and not tangled. Tight leashes and tangled dogs both increase the risk of a bad interaction.

Hello Stanger...

If you choose to allow greetings with unknown dogs, cultivate a little pause by greeting the owner and stopping with your dog. Start the "Look Don't Touch" exercise the moment your dog notices the other dog, and keep your dog engaged while you speak with the owner.

Taking this moment to chat means that you can help your dog settle and ensure that the greeting itself is reinforcing calm behaviour, not a pulling, staring, or barking aroused behaviour. This will also give you a chance to ask the other owner

about their dog and whether they would like to greet, and it will you will also give you a moment to observe the other dog and figure out if they would actually like to greet yours. Additionally, this pause will allow the other owner to say no thank you if their dog doesn't do well with these types of greetings – and your dog will thank you for avoiding that situation!

If everything checks out, you can give your "Go Say Hi!" cue and allow a greeting on leash, as outlined above. With unknown dogs, it can be a good idea to allow a brief interaction, call your dog away, and then reward them well away from the other dog. You can then decide whether to allow another interaction if both dogs seem relaxed.

Give it a try! Remember, the greetings outlined are only for dogs who truly do want to say hi, not for dogs who are ambivalent or unsure about an interaction or dogs with intense reactions. However, all dogs can benefit greatly from the "Look Don't Touch" portion of the exercise.

Learning how to greet politely can be a difficult process for many dogs – and for owners to guide them through – and some may require additional intervention and guidance from a qualified positive-reinforcement trainer. Don't ever be afraid to ask for help!



Emily Fisher, CPDT-KA, CDBC, Scratch and Sniff Canine Services, Guelph, ON

Blackie's Fund

BLACKIE'S FUND DONATION MATCH ALL OCTOBER LONG!

October is Adopt-A-Dog month, and we have been approached by an anonymous donor who has made us an incredible proposal to help celebrate this important time of year: a donation match challenge!

Every donation the rescue receives during the month of October marked "Blackie's Fund" will be matched up to \$5,000!

But the excitement doesn't end there! The rescue is complementing this challenge with a draw! For every donation you make during the month of October marked "Blackie's Fund," your name will be entered into a draw. On November 2nd, we'll spin for a winner who will receive one of our 20th anniversary packs and a \$50 gift card to a pet supply store. Our anniversary packs consist of a Speaking of Dogs t-shirt, a promo memory stick, and an all-purpose tote bag!

Thinking of donating to help our foster dogs? Want to support our Forever in Foster program? There's no better time for your donation to make a difference – a \$5,000 difference!

Donations can be made at www.speakingofdogs.com/donate, or e-transfers can be sent directly to rescueprogam@speakingofdogs.com. Speaking of Dogs Rescue is a registered charity, and a tax receipt will be issued to you.

About Blackie's Fund

The goal of Blackie's Fund is to:



- financially support Speaking of Dogs Rescue programs that help dogs in vulnerable situations;
 - support collaborative efforts among reputable dog rescue organizations;
 - financially support dogs who require immediate medical attention and intervention;
 - support senior dogs who need medical attention and intervention in order to live in caring homes (this may include providing specialized equipment that enhances the health and well-being of the dogs, such as special harnesses for walking).
- Don't delay – donate to Blackie's Fund today!

Speaking of Flashbacks



GIANT YARD SALE!

Saturday, May 21 & Sunday, May 22

58 Dukinfield Crescent
RAIN OR SHINE

FUNDRAISER FOR HOMELESS DOGS

SPEAKING OF DOGS PRESENTS:
Understanding DOLA (Dog Owner's Liability Act)

THIS SEMINAR WILL ANSWER QUESTIONS LIKE:

- What is DOLA?
- What are my responsibilities as a dog owner?
- Can my liability be for my dog's behavior?
- What precautions should I take to keep my dog and others safe?
- Can my dog be insured?
- What is the definition of a "dog"?
- How is a dog held accountable?
- Can you sue for emotional distress of a dog?
- What is a dog's potential for compensation?
- When should I sue for my dog?
- What if my dog bites someone during a break out?

Featuring Kim Smithers, Supervisor, Toronto Animal Services Enforcement & Welfare Response Unit

Tuesday, April 24, 2014
Broadbands Community Centre
110 Midland Street (at Broadbands) Toronto, ON M5R 1A8
11:00am - 1:00pm
Light lunch and refreshments served
\$10.00 (donations)

For an agenda for a night of dog-related events, visit our website: www.speakingofdogs.com. We are always looking for dog-related events to participate in. If you have any ideas, please contact us at info@speakingofdogs.com. We are always looking for dog-related events to participate in. If you have any ideas, please contact us at info@speakingofdogs.com.

Dog Fest MUSKOKA

DATE
22 July 2017
9:30am - 4:30pm
Annie Williams park, Bracebridge, Muskoka

cars4cures

In 2016 and 2017, we were crazy busy! We helped almost 300 dogs during those two years and were also able to organize and attend a great many fundraising events!

In 2016 we participated in pet expos, Dancing for Dogs, the Dog Tales Festival, Furry Friends 5Ks, Party 4 Paws, Woof and Cheese, Woofstock, pet pics with Santa, and also had our annual giant yard sale!

What else happened in 2016? This very newsletter was nominated for a Dog Writers Association of America Maxwell award for best online newsletter! We

also held a Dog Owners' Liability Act seminar hosted by our friend Kim from Toronto Animal Services.

We were just as busy in 2017, but our president, Lorraine Houston, moved from Toronto to Collingwood, which changed the way we transported dogs and, sadly, we didn't have our giant yard sale that year. We did, however, recruit dozens of volunteer drivers to help us get dogs from A to B and, to this day, still have the same amazing team of drivers along with our relatively new partnership with Critter Cabs.

We were able to participate in Woofstock, Dawg Dayz, Furry Friends 5Ks, Muskoka Dogfest, the Scotiabank Marathon, and Yappy Hour in 2017. We worked alongside our friends at SPIN to help with a hoarding situation in the Caledon area. We took six dogs from that hoarding situation on the first day and then another six a few days later.

We are always so blessed to have a veritable village of volunteers and foster parents ready to jump in and help the dogs!









Adoption Update

To: Speaking of Dogs Rescue

From: Kate and Michael

Subject: Rosie

Dear Speaking of Dogs Rescue,

I have been meaning to send you a message for a few weeks now, as Rosie's one-year anniversary of our "gotcha day" was the end of August.

Rosie is the sweetest girl, and we absolutely adore her. She is a fantastic fit for our family and is so gentle and cuddly. She loves to nap snuggled up to her humans.

We took her to a dog behaviourist (for the reactivity you told us about), who did an assessment and advised us to continue to use the methods we

were taught. She loves her walks and rarely reacts now... Every once in a blue moon, but for the most part, she is happy to sniff and check out her neighbourhood – she amazes us!

She goes to doggy daycare during the week for the mornings, and she loves her trail runs in the afternoon. She is a bit of a pool diva – she lies in the pools like she is movie star at the Beverly Hills Hilton.

We brought a golden retriever puppy home at the beginning of July, and she

is incredible with him – they play and romp together.

To say Rosie is in love with her dad is an understatement, and the feeling is mutual.

Thank you for all you to help place dog who need a new start in life. We are so blessed to have Rosie as a part of our family, and she is certainly where she belongs. We are grateful for all you did to facilitate getting her into our home.



Happy Tails

RECENT ADOPTIONS:

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



JR



Ace



Ronald



Jones



Joanne



Gypsy



Sophie



Bella



More Happy Tails



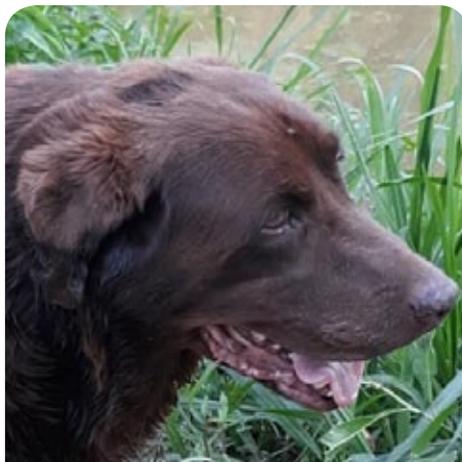
Bear



Maxwell



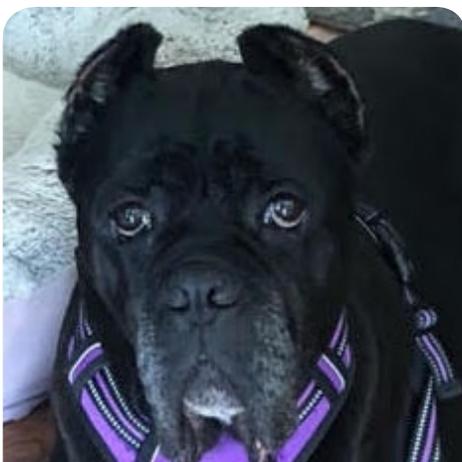
Morey



Millie
FOREVER IN FOSTER



Ben Ben
FOREVER IN FOSTER

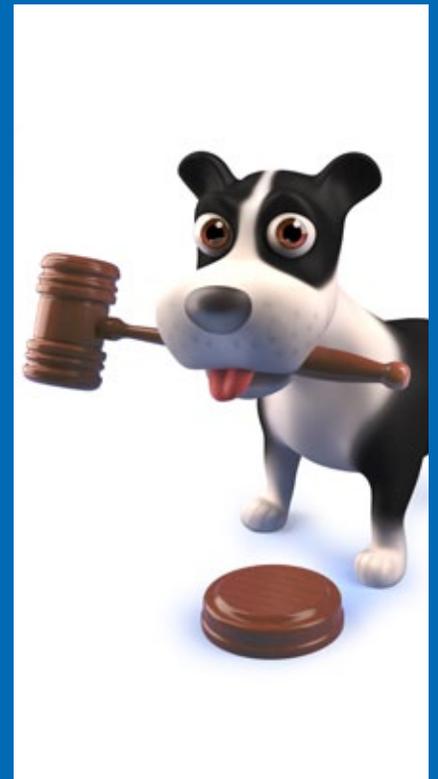


Casey
FOREVER IN FOSTER

FALL IS IN THE AIR, BUT OUR FACEBOOK AUCTIONS ARE ALWAYS IN SEASON!

Speaking of Dogs Rescue's Facebook page not only includes lots of info about all of the amazing dogs we're helping, every week we auction off different items – all for the dogs! Visit our [Facebook page](#) regularly to see what's on the block and to place your bids.

Good luck to all of the bidders, and most enthusiastic wags and wiggles to all of our supporters who have donated auction items.



In Memoriam



Bud

LOVED BY CINDY, BRIAN AND THE ANTHONY FAMILY
ADOPTED OCTOBER 2020



Charlie (aka Coco)

LOVED BY MIKE AND THE WADDELL FAMILY
ADOPTED JUNE 2017



Rex

LOVED BY GISELE AND FAMILY
ADOPTED MAY 2017