

# ALBERTA (AB) HERDING DOG RESCUE FOSTER HOME APPLICATION



*"Fostering a dog is not a lifetime commitment - it is a commitment to saving a life."*

Finding quality foster homes is a struggle for any animal rescue. A foster home could be the difference between life and death to an animal in need. Fostering and sending an animal to its loving forever home is a very rewarding experience.

By temporarily fostering an animal in need you are: freeing up a spot so that the rescue can take in another animal; helping the rescue learn more about the animal so it can be placed in the best home possible; helping your foster get ready for adoption by socializing the animal to a home environment and possibly getting them used to being around other people and pets. Being a foster parent can be challenging but it's gratifying to know that what you are doing makes a huge difference in the life of an animal.

Our goal is, first and foremost, to make sure that our foster dogs will make good house pets for the general public as they are the primary adopters. The observations of our foster families, as to the activities and behaviours that the foster dogs exhibit while in foster care, are invaluable in trying to find the perfect home for that dog. That perfect home may be a working ranch, an active dog sport home or a more laid back pet home.

## Contact Information

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## Family Information

Adults in the home: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Children in the home(include ages): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

All pets in the home (type/breed/age/spayed or neutered/vaccinated): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Do all family members agree to fostering a dog?

Yes

No

Do you (or your spouse) work from home?  Yes  No

If no, how many hours will the dog be left at home? \_\_\_\_\_

When away from home for extended periods (ex: work day, evenings out), will the dog be

crated in house?  left in a restricted area?  left loose in house?

*Please understand, a crate is NOT a punishment but a SAFE place to stay when the dog cannot be supervised.*

*We do recommend that it be used regularly when the family is at home, NOT JUST when you leave the home, as that can create separation or isolation anxiety behaviours that the dog did not exhibit before.*

*We will not condone leaving dogs outside (in a yard or tethered) unsupervised while the foster family is away.*

### **Home Information**

Own?  Rent?  If renting, are you allowed pets?  Yes  No

*(If renting, please provide written permission, including any limitations, from the landlord.)*

Fenced yard?  Yes  No If yes, how many feet high? \_\_\_\_\_

Is the yard secured?  Yes  No If no, can it be secured?  Yes  No

If not fenced, are you willing to build/set up a secure dog run?  Yes  No

Does your home insurance have breed or size restrictions?  Yes  No  Don't Know

If yes, what are they? \_\_\_\_\_

Does your home insurance restrict the number of dogs?  Yes  No  Don't Know

If yes, how many dogs are you allowed? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you aware that if a dog in your care bites another person, you could be sued?  Yes  No

*You need to know that, if you are sued, your homeowner's insurance MUST deal with the claim.*

*However, your policy holder may decide not to offer to renew your policy if a claim is made.*

Are you familiar with your local bylaws?  Yes  No

Do the bylaws restrict breeds?  Yes  No  Don't Know

If yes, which breeds are restricted? \_\_\_\_\_

Do the bylaws restrict the number of dogs on a property?  Yes  No  Don't Know

If yes, how many dogs are you allowed? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Fostering Preferences**

Puppy ( $\leq$  1 year)  Adult ( $\geq$  1 year &  $\leq$  7 years)  Senior ( $>$  7 years)

Dog size:  Small (under 30 lbs.)  Medium (30-60 lbs.)  Large (over 60 lbs.)

Activity level:  Low  Medium  High

Is there a particular dog, currently in our rescue, that you think may be a good match to your home?

Yes (Dog's Name: \_\_\_\_\_)  Don't Know

How much daily time can you commit to spend with your foster dog? (This can include walks, training/classes, just hanging out, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have previous fostering experience?  Yes  No

If yes, with which organization(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have dog training experience?  Yes  No

If yes, please elaborate: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have experience with herding type dogs?  Yes  No

If yes, please elaborate: \_\_\_\_\_

What type of training and/or behaviors are you comfortable dealing with? (Check all that apply.)

- Counter Surfing  Door Dashing  Crate Training  Leash Pulling
- Recall  Inappropriate Jumping Up  House Training  Separation Anxiety
- Barking  Resource Guarding (food, toys, humans)  Car/Bike Chasing
- Herding (kids, other pets, etc)  Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Fear Behaviours (timid, shy, avoidance or flight)  Reactivity (not the same as aggression\*)

\*AB-HDR assesses all dogs in need of rescue prior to accepting them into foster care. We do not knowingly take in dog or people aggressive dogs. If the level of reactivity is high, we will not place the dog in a foster home unless the foster home is willing to work on modifying those behaviours and can provide written references as to their ability to work with reactive dogs.

If our foster dog nips heels (or bicycle tires or moving objects), that is usually a herding or chasing behaviour that needs to be addressed & worked with.

If our foster dog BITES a dog or person, that MUST be reported to us & if a Bylaw Officer &/or Calgary Animal Services need to be involved, please be courteous & truthful. The severity of the bite & the circumstances leading up to the bite are very important as to how that dog will be dealt with by the authorities.

Are you comfortable with health/medical needs such as giving medications, digestive disorders and special dietary needs?  Yes  No  Don't Know

Are you willing to take the training advice\*\*, as provided by AB-HDR or the trainers they recommend?

Yes  No

\*\*We believe in **reward based** training. This does not mean permissive. Corrections, if used sparingly and timed well, can stop an unwanted behaviour. However, rewarding the behaviours we do want is far more productive. Our primary goal is to help these dogs become good family pets first, working/sport dogs if needed.

## Veterinary Care & Information

Do you have a current family veterinarian/vet clinic?  Yes  No

Family Veterinarian: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Vet Clinic: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (street/city/PC): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

If necessary, will your vet clinic invoice ABHDR directly so you are not out-of-pocket?  Yes  No

Are you able to drive your foster dog to vet appointments or pick up supplies?  Yes  No

*AB Herding Dog Rescue's primary vet clinic is the FenVet (Airdrie) or FenVet Beltline(Calgary).*

*When at all possible, regular & emergency vet visits should be made with FenVet (with prior authorization from ABHDR) as they have been very supportive of rescue groups, giving us reduced fees for products & services.*

*ABHDR has an account on file with this clinic & they should invoice us directly for any work done.*

*If the foster home will be integrating the foster dog(s) with the family pets, it is expected that a vaccination/parasite protocol is already in place for their own pets. ABHDR will not cover costs of regular veterinary care for family pets or for injury to persons or pets, or damage to property, as a result of bringing a foster dog(s) into the home when every effort has been made to match the foster family to a foster dog, based on the information provided in this application & the known/identified issues of the foster dog.*

## Food & Supplies

AB Herding Dog Rescue will provide food & some treats/cookies for our foster dogs. We can either arrange to get it to you or arrange it with our store of choice, Rascals Pet Supplies (NE Calgary), to have it available for you to pick up at your convenience. Purchases of food/treats must be authorized and will then be reimbursed.

We cannot authorize the purchase of any other supplies as we rely solely on donations for things such as:

- crates
- bedding
- toys
- brushes, clippers, grooming aids (grooming appointments must be authorized)
- training aids (leashes, collars, harnesses, halties, muzzles, clickers, etc)

We generally have these things on hand so if the foster home needs them, arrangements can be made to get them to you.

We will not authorize the purchase of any classes, seminars, or clinics unless we have the funding to do so. Since our primary concern is appropriate vet care, food, shelter & good house manners, we must ensure that we allocate our limited resources to those necessities.

*If the foster home is willing to cover the costs of necessary items &/or any other accessories, supplies or training, it is greatly appreciated. It would allow us to allocate funds to another dog in need. Any costs incurred by the foster home that is a benefit to the dog will be applied to the adoption fee, should the foster home decide to adopt the dog (see 'Adoptions' section).*

## Adoptions

Can you assist with the adoption process, such as arranging a Meet-n-Greet &/or performing the home visit (home visits are done without the dog)?  Yes  No  Don't Know

If you are approached by potential adopter, please have them email [swineyc@xplornet.ca](mailto:swineyc@xplornet.ca) for an adoption application. We will collect their references and arrange for a home visit. Once those steps are complete, we will put them in contact with you to arrange a Meet-n-Greet. However, the dog **cannot be released** to them at the Meet-n-Greet without authorization. We value your observations as to how the dog interacted with the adopters and their other pets (if any), and we would like to hear about them before we approve that application. We want to be very sure that the adopters are the right match for that particular dog.

If the application is approved, all steps having been completed, we will write up the adoption contract and make a copy available to you, prior to the transfer of the dog. You may be required to get a signature (if it has not already been signed and scanned back to us) and the adoption fee (if a cheque is preferred) and then mailing those items to us.

**NOTE:** Our foster homes always have the option of adopting the dog(s) in their care, before we will consider any other application.

## References

Please attach **3 written (or emailed)** references from friends, family, dog trainer(s), veterinarian(s), or others who can attest to the suitability of your family to the foster dog of interest. Emailed references may be sent to [swineyc@xplornet.ca](mailto:swineyc@xplornet.ca).

**Please fill this area in.** If we do not hear from the persons below within a week, may we contact them directly?  Yes  No

a) Name: _____	E-mail: _____
b) Name: _____	E-mail: _____
c) Name: _____	E-mail: _____

I/We, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby attest to the truthfulness of my/our answers and I/we acknowledge that I/We have read the foster application completely and fully understand the same and agree to abide by the terms and conditions set out therein. I understand that any falsification of any of the above information, or an incomplete application, will be grounds for refusing me/us as a foster home.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ (month, yyyy).

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Signature(s) of applicant(s) that will be providing care & training of the foster dog.

## AB-HDR VOLUNTEER LIABILITY RELEASE FORM

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I, \_\_\_\_\_ (*print name*), hereby acknowledge that I am 18 years of age or older or have completed this application with the permission and assistance of a parent or legal guardian. I understand and agree that submitting this application form does not automatically register me as an Alberta (AB) Herding Dog Rescue volunteer (AB-HDR), and that there may be certain qualifications I must meet, including the acceptance of established volunteer policies and procedures before I begin volunteering.

I acknowledge and understand that as a volunteer of Alberta (AB) Herding Dog Rescue (AB-HDR), I am not covered by Workers' Compensation or any other insurance policy through Alberta (AB) Herding Dog Rescue (AB-HDR), its partners, members or directors. I fully understand that as part of my volunteer work, I may come into contact with animals. Further, I understand that this carries a risk of injury, and that it is possible that I may be bitten, scratched and/or otherwise injured and I accept risk of injury of working with animals.

I fully understand that as a volunteer I may be lifting animals and other potentially heavy items (e.g. food) and I understand that this may cause bodily injury, strains, fractures or other ailments that could cause serious disability and I accept the risk associated with such work.

I am aware that as a volunteer of Alberta (AB) Herding Dog Rescue (AB-HDR), I am acting as a representative of the organization and agree at all times to act responsibly by maintaining a professional demeanor.

I understand that any and all information provided to Alberta (AB) Herding Dog Rescue (AB-HDR) is confidential and I will not share any information without the express written approval of Alberta (AB) Herding Dog Rescue (AB-HDR). Violation of this policy, including theft of any product, will result in immediate termination of this agreement.

I waive all claims to monetary benefits for services rendered as a volunteer worker on a "without compensation basis" for an indefinite period.

I, on behalf of myself, my personal representatives and heirs hereby voluntarily agree to release, waive, discharge, hold harmless, defend and indemnify Alberta (AB) Herding Dog Rescue (AB-HDR) and its owners, agents, officers or employees from any and all claims, suits or causes of action for including but not limited to medical expenses, lost wages, pain and suffering and disability resulting directly or indirectly from any bodily injury, property damage, wrongful death, loss of services or otherwise which may arise in part or in whole out of any activity that occurs during the performance of my volunteer duties, my interaction with any animals, or my use of any equipment or my participation in any manner whatsoever as a volunteer for Alberta (AB) Herding Dog Rescue (AB-HDR).

I specifically understand that I am releasing, discharging and waiving any claims or actions that I may have presently or in the future for the negligent acts or other conduct by Alberta (AB) Herding Dog Rescue (AB-HDR) and its owners, agents, officers or employees. \_\_\_\_\_ (*initial*) \_\_\_\_\_  
(*witness initials*)

Date this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ (yyyy).

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Signature

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Witness

*If under 18, a parent/guardian must sign below:*

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Signature

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Witness