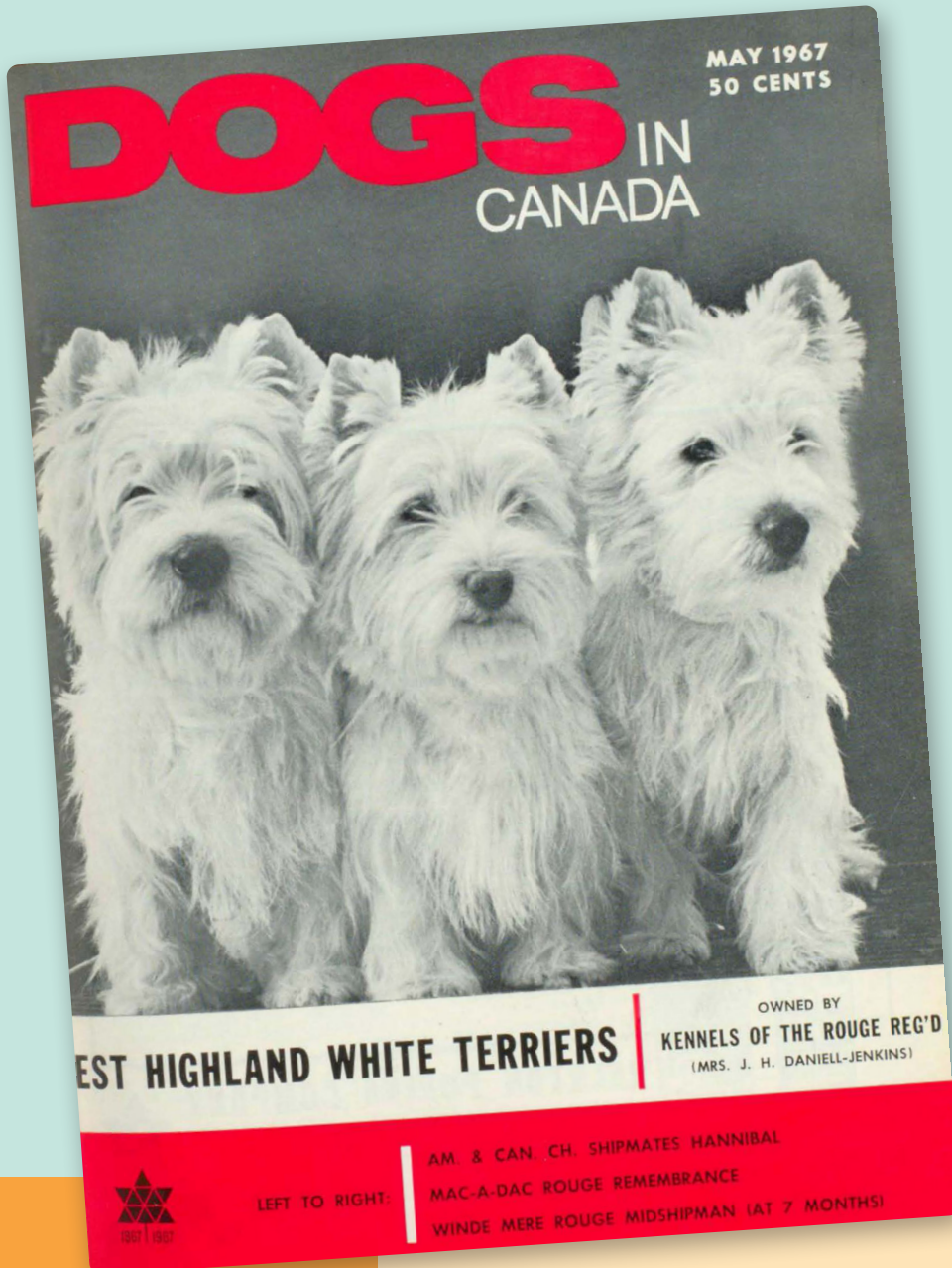




# KENNEL AND BENCH

**MAY 2026**

2026 Tattoo Letter is "P"



From our archives:  
This issue of  
***Kennel and Bench***  
was published in  
May 1967

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LEFT TO RIGHT:  
AM. & CAN. CH. SHIPMATES HANNIBAL  
MAC-A-DAC ROUGE REMEMBRANCE  
WINDE MERE ROUGE MIDSHIPMAN (AT 7 MONTHS)

- CKC Annual General Meeting: June 6, 2026
- CKC Members in the Spotlight Across Canada
- New Event FETCH Launches at CKC July 1, 2026

**PLUS MORE...**



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## CKC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: JUNE 6, 2026

The Canadian Kennel Club is excited to invite all members to attend the 2026 Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Saturday, June 6, from 12 to 4:30 p.m. ET. The meeting will be held in Etobicoke at 5399 Eglinton Ave. West, Suite 103, with the option to attend virtually.

This year's AGM will feature Dr. Andreas Schemel MagVetMed MRCVS, Board Director of the Royal Kennel Club and veterinary surgeon.

In addition to Dr. Schemel's presentation, the AGM will include:

- Member recognition awards
- Updates on CKC's progress and achievements in 2025
- Key reports from the Chair, Executive Director, and other CKC leaders

The meeting will be a great opportunity for members to engage with the CKC leadership, discuss important issues facing the dog community, and contribute to the future direction of the Club.

Agenda highlights:

- Welcome and call to order
- Review of the 2025 AGM minutes
- Presentation of the 2025 Audited Financial Statements
- Reports from the Chair and Executive Director
- Member recognition awards
- New business and open floor discussion
- Closing remarks and adjournment

How to register: To attend in person or virtually, please click the link below to register. We encourage all CKC members to participate and make their voices heard in this meeting.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

## CKC MEMBERS IN THE SPOTLIGHT ACROSS CANADA

CKC members and their dogs were in the spotlight across Canada following the release of the Top 10 Most Popular Breeds in March. Through media interviews, community events, and online features, they helped connect Canadians with the world of purebred dogs, giving the public a closer look at the people and purpose behind them.

Media coverage reached audiences across the country, with features appearing on television, radio, digital platforms, and in print. Stories were shared by major national and regional outlets, as well as local publications in communities from British Columbia to the Maritimes. Highlights included a Global Morning Show segment in Halifax featuring CKC Zone Director Janice Kivimaki, as well as widespread coverage through national distribution channels and regional news networks. CKC representatives also took part in interviews in both English and French, helping to ensure the message reached a broad and diverse audience.

Together, these efforts resulted in an estimated audience reach of 10 to 15 million Canadians, with strong interest from media across multiple regions. Coverage was particularly prominent in British Columbia, Alberta, and Ontario, with additional features appearing in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Quebec, and Atlantic Canada, reflecting the national interest in the Top 10 list.

CKC representation in media interviews included Board and member voices from across the country. Janice Kivimaki (Zone 1 – Nova Scotia & Newfoundland and Labrador), Ramona Bauer (Zone 6 – Ontario North), Sylvain Sirois (Zone 3 – Quebec), and CKC member breeder Nancy McKenzie each contributed to sharing insights on purebred dogs, responsible breeding, and the role of the CKC.

Janice Kivimaki shared that the experience was a valuable opportunity to connect with the public. "It was refreshing to be able to share who we are, what we do, and what we stand for," she said. "The general public is often unaware of who the CKC is, so it was nice to be able to talk about it."

During her interview, Janice noted that there was strong interest in both the organization and her work as a breeder.

"They asked who we were and what we did, and we also spoke about my breed, what to look for in a well-bred dog, and the #1 Labrador Retriever," she explained. "I received a few compliments afterwards about the interview, which was nice to hear."

One of the biggest takeaways for her was the need for continued public awareness.

"What stood out to me is that we need more exposure so the public knows who we are," she said. "That same weekend, I was at our booth at the Sports Expo, and many people thought the CKC was a local dog club."

Ramona Bauer also reflected on the experience of connecting with audiences through media opportunities.

"I've thoroughly enjoyed being a CKC spokesperson," she shared. "I've had the opportunity to speak about breeds, our junior handler program, and the sports that we offer. I look forward to doing more in the future."

This level of visibility is made possible through the collaboration of CKC members, clubs, volunteers, and partners across the country. By sharing their knowledge and experiences, they help ensure that accurate, experience-based information about purebred dogs continues to reach Canadians.

As coverage continues to be shared online, these stories remain an important way to connect with the public and highlight the people and dogs at the heart of the CKC community.

## NEW EVENT FETCH LAUNCHES AT CKC JULY 1, 2026

### What is FETCH?

It is a fun event open to all dogs that enjoy the challenge of retrieving. Most people play ball with their dogs and FETCH allows you and your dog to earn titles with these skills. It is a bonding experience with your dog as well as an opportunity for physical exercise and canine enrichment. FETCH is a pass-fail noncompetitive sport where dogs can earn the Novice, Intermediate, Advanced and Retriever Titles. Titles are awarded based on the dog acquiring 2 qualifying scores under 2 different judges.

### Who can hold FETCH tests?

All interested CKC recognized clubs may apply to hold FETCH tests. FETCH tests may be in conjunction with an event or trial or as a standalone event.

### Who can judge FETCH tests?

CKC licensed judges of any event type with the exception of CGN Evaluators. To become a Fetch judge, individuals must complete the required application and the FETCH online education and test.

The Application to Become a Fetch Test Judge can be found on the CKC website.

All applicants must successfully complete the online training modules for the FETCH Test in the American Kennel Club (AKC) Canine College at their own expense. The certificate must accompany the application to become a judge.

### How do clubs apply to host a FETCH test?

You can apply to host a FETCH test using the Event Date Application for Trials & Tests form found on the CKC Website.

### Please note: Sanction Matches are not required.

To jump-start this program, the CKC is waiving all late fees for clubs applying to hold this event in 2026. However, Event Date Applications and Judging Panel Applications must be submitted a minimum of 60 days prior to the test date(s). A club may hold up to 12 tests per calendar year.

### Where do I find FETCH Detection Rules & Regulations?

The FETCH Test Rules & Regulations are now available online or through the order desk.

[MORE HERE](#)

## **DOGS WHO SAVE THE DAY: MEET MR. MAGOO**

April 28 is National Superhero Day, and at the Canadian Kennel Club, we're recognizing the real-life heroes in our community.

When Alberta resident Ross Schmidt suffered a massive heart attack in December 2022, he collapsed and lost consciousness in an unheated sunroom. With no one else around, help seemed out of reach.



But Mr. Magoo knew something was wrong.

Magoo, a Chesapeake Bay Retriever bred and owned by Ross under the LivingSkies prefix, even knew how to open door handles. He made his way out of the house, crossed the street, and found a neighbour.

Sensing the urgency, he began pulling them toward the home. The neighbour followed, knowing the dogs would not be outside alone unless something was wrong.

Magoo led them directly to Ross.

Emergency responders were called immediately. When they arrived, Ross had only a faint pulse and required defibrillation before being transported by air ambulance for emergency surgery.

Thanks to Magoo's quick thinking and determination, help arrived just in time.

Stories like this are a powerful reminder of the deep bond between people and their dogs, and the extraordinary ways they show up for us when it matters most.

We were blown away by the incredible stories shared by CKC members. This is just the beginning. More heroic dog stories are coming soon.

## DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE REPORT

The following report is of disciplinary action taken by the Discipline Committee at its meeting held on February 22, 2026. All penalties commenced as of April 2, 2026, unless otherwise stated.

Please note that subsequent infractions, not necessarily of the same offence, will carry penalties of increasing severity. Consequently, in those cases where an individual has been found guilty on a separate offence, the penalty will be more severe than for a first-time offender. The reference to the penalty continuing means that the penalty will continue until such time as the provisions of the Animal Pedigree Act, Club's By-laws, rules, regulations, policies or procedures have been satisfied.

### **Hassan Allahmoradi, ON, Member**

(Complainant: CKC)

Warned

Failed to provide a certificate of registration within 6 months of the date of sale but was provided at the time matter was heard.

### **Roechelle Ballantyne, AB, Member**

(Complainant: CKC)

Terminated membership for 3 years.

Failed to abide by the Code of Practice for CKC Member Breeders. Engaged in the breeding and selling of non-purebred dogs. Acted or performed in a manner which may be deemed as contrary to the basic principles and Objects of the Club and/or in the best interests of the Club and its members.

\$250.00

### **Mohamed Chakroun, QC, Non-Member**

(Complainant: CKC)

Deprived 90 days and continuing.

Failed to provide a certificate of registration within 6 months of the date of sale.

\$250.00

### **Marie-Ève Chiasson, QC, Non-Member**

(Complainant: CKC)

Deprived 180 days and continuing.

Failed to provide a certificate of registration within 6 months of the date of sale.

\$250.00

### **Tracy Edwards, AB, Member**

(Complainant: CKC)

Terminated membership for 3 years.

Engaged in the breeding and selling of non-purebred dogs. Acted or performed in a manner which may be deemed as contrary to the basic principles and Objects of the Club and/or in the best interests of the Club and its members.

\$250.00

### **Amanda Hartley, AB, Non-Member**

(Complainant: CKC)

Deprived 1 year and continuing.

Failed to provide DNA parentage testing.

\$250.00

### **Karine Ianniciello, QC, Non-Member**

(Complainant: CKC)

Deprived 90 days and continuing.

Failed to provide a certificate of registration within 6 months of the date of sale.

## DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE REPORT

**Tracey Reid, ON, Non-Member**

(Complainant – CKC)

Deprived 1 year  
and continuing.

Failed to provide a certificate of registration within 6 months  
of the date of sale.

\$150.00

**Alissa Stetson, ON, Member**

(Complainant – CKC)

Terminated membership  
for 3 years.

Engaged in the breeding and selling of non-purebred dogs.  
Acted or performed in a manner which may be deemed  
as contrary to the basic principles and Objects of the Club  
and/or in the best interests of the Club and its members.

\$250.00

**Whitney Weston, SK, Member**

(Complainant – CKC)

Terminated membership  
for 3 years.

Engaged in the breeding and selling of non-purebred dogs.  
Acted or performed in a manner which may be deemed  
as contrary to the basic principles and Objects of the Club  
and/or in the best interests of the Club and its members.

\$250.00

**Jordan Zehr, ON, Member**

(Complainant – CKC)

Terminated membership  
for 3 years.

Engaged in the breeding and selling of non-purebred dogs.  
Acted or performed in a manner which may be deemed  
as contrary to the basic principles and Objects of the Club  
and/or in the best interests of the Club and its members.

\$250.00

## REPLACEMENT APPEAL COMMITTEE REPORT

The following is a report of a decision reached by the Replacement Appeal Committee at its meeting held on April 11, 2026.

**Appellant: Kristi Schenk (CKC Member)**

**Respondent: Maria Soto**

Replacement Discipline Committee's Findings:

Directed that the complaint be dismissed.

Replacement Appeal Committee's Findings:

Found in part for the Appellant, Kristi Schenk in four of the alleged violations and the decision to dismiss for these sections be overturned. The Replacement Appeal Committee directs that for Section 7.2(g) of the Club's By-laws Maria Soto be warned. Maria Soto is also reprimanded for violation of the Code of Ethics for Judges Bullet #8 and Chapter 7, of the Policy and Procedures Manual, Section A(3). In addition, Maria Soto is reprimanded for violating Chapter 7, of the Policy and Procedures Manual, Appendix 1, Bullets #1, 2, 3, & 4 and the Replacement Appeal Committee levied administrative costs against Ms. Soto.



## CANADIAN KENNEL CLUB MISSION STATEMENT

### Who We Are

The Canadian Kennel Club (CKC) is the primary registry body for purebred dogs in Canada and currently recognizes 187 breeds. As a non-profit organization, the CKC is dedicated to encouraging, guiding, and advancing the interests of purebred dogs and their responsible owners and breeders in Canada and promoting the knowledge and understanding of the benefits which dogs can bring to Canadian society.

The CKC is incorporated under Animal Pedigree Act, a federal statute under the auspices of the Ministry of Agriculture. The organization includes approximately 20,000 individual members and over 700 breed clubs across Canada. The Club registers purebred dogs, regulates dog shows and performance events, and speaks out on major issues concerning dog ownership and the health & welfare of dogs across Canada.

### Mission

As the prime registry of purebred dogs in Canada, our purpose is to serve our members and the public with education, support, guidance and sanctioning of events for all their canine endeavours. Our goal is the preservation of purebred dogs and the health, well-being and enjoyment of all dogs.

### Vision

The CKC with its members, will be the definitive authority in Canada for purebred dogs, and an advocate for all dogs, setting the standard for the preservation of breeds and continuous improvement of health, wellbeing and enjoyment of purebred dogs.

### Values

**Passion:** We are dedicated to purebred dogs with the belief in the value of dogs as an integral part of our lives, our society and the contributions dogs brings to our humanity.

**Preservation:** We are committed to the preservation of breed characteristics while producing healthy well-socialized dogs, with a commitment to continuous improvement and well-being of purebred dogs.

**Knowledge:** We educate and expand public awareness of the contribution purebred dogs bring to society. This includes the vast array of activities and opportunities for purebred dog enthusiasts... as well as a commitment to the principles of responsible breeding practices and responsible dog ownership.

**Commitment:** We protect and enhance the interests of our members, breeders, associated clubs and the public, supporting them with openness, honesty and compassion.

**Integrity:** We uphold the integrity of our registry, the high standards of governance and management of the Canadian Kennel Club.

AN INFORMATION SUPPLEMENT FROM THE CKC

# KENNEL AND BENCH