



Newsletter

March 2018

250-758-3908

Birthday Dogs

What makes our classes different?

People often wonder what makes our classes different from other classes. We teach the dogs to make better choices. We set dogs up to learn to offer behaviours that anyone would be glad to see in a dog, without having to constantly remind your dog. We want to reward dogs for being good dogs in their everyday lives.

- Focus on teaching dogs default behaviours that they do not need to be told to do, but instead will learn to offer without prompting.
- Strengthening skills for attention, calmness, social skills around people and dogs, impulse control, and preparation for life as it happens.
- Using positive reinforcement to build happy, confident dogs who know what they need to do.
- Certified instructors who attend ongoing education seminars and use scientifically proven methods to help you and your dog communicate and build a better relationship. Our instructors are lifelong learners who want to share their knowledge with you.
- Integrated learning with our Playskool program allows your dogs to learn and play with consistency in training both at home, at classes and at skool.
- Our wide variety of classes includes training for good manners, behaviour modification, scentwork, rally



obedience, agility, show handling, Canine Good Neighbour test prep, loose leash walking, recall, confidence building and much more.

- Our classes are 45 minutes in length, once per week for 4 weeks, except our ICU program which is 4 weeks on, 1 week off and 4 weeks on again.
- We prepare our course materials to include notes, infographics, videos and other resource links to help you see and practice your materials away from the classroom and help you review down the road.





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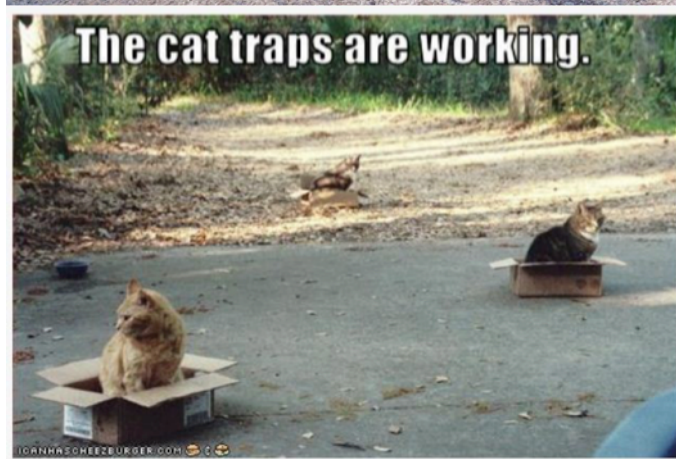
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101 Games with a box

This game is a great one to play with your dog or cat! It allows them to explore something new, and get rewarded for trying new and different things!

<https://www.clickertraining.com/101-things-to-do-with-a-box>



HOW TO CATCH A CAT 101.

Step 1: Get a box.

Step 2: You now have a cat.



HOW TO CATCH A CAT





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At what age should you start training your dog?

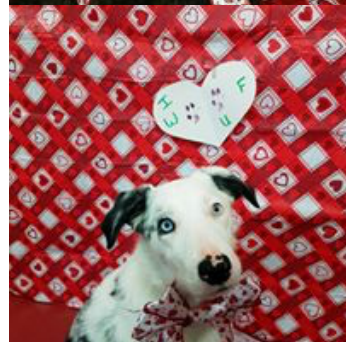
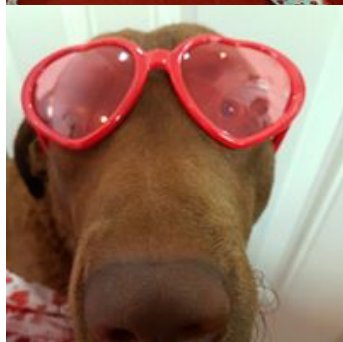
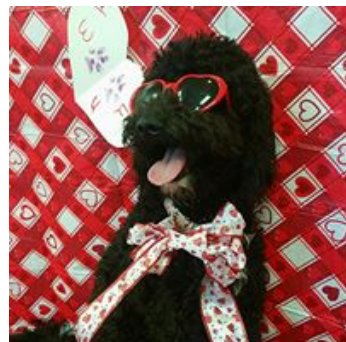
The moment you get your new dog home training has begun. Each experience will help your pet learn and grow. Start right away by reinforcing things you like, so that your dog is more likely to repeat those things. This applies to young pups and rescue dogs alike! Being brought into a new home environment allows us to set the rules and shape the dogs future through training.

Keep in mind that dogs are really good at single event learning, especially at a young age. This means that one bad experience can really put them off for a long time, maybe even for life. Conversely, one great experience can have the same lasting impression! So make sure you choose carefully what to expose your pup to.

Dogs go through various phases of growth and learning, for example 8 week old pups only see things up close and don't process the blurry further away things as well. Dogs at 4-6 months often find they don't need to listen and will test the limits as they discover independence! Even though it seems like your dog doesn't remember any of its earlier training, don't worry! You will be amazed how that early learning will resurface as long as you keep working consistently.

Remember that dogs will continue to learn and grow their entire lives. It is important to provide them with mental stimulation as well as exercise.

Valentine dogs



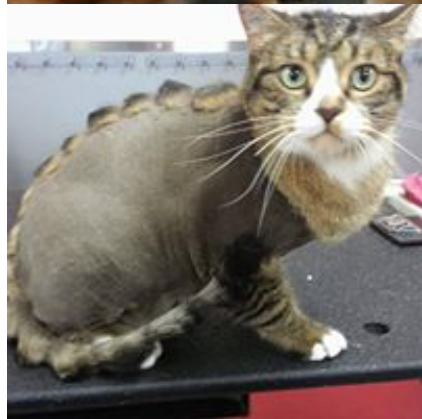


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It's a "Golden" moment!



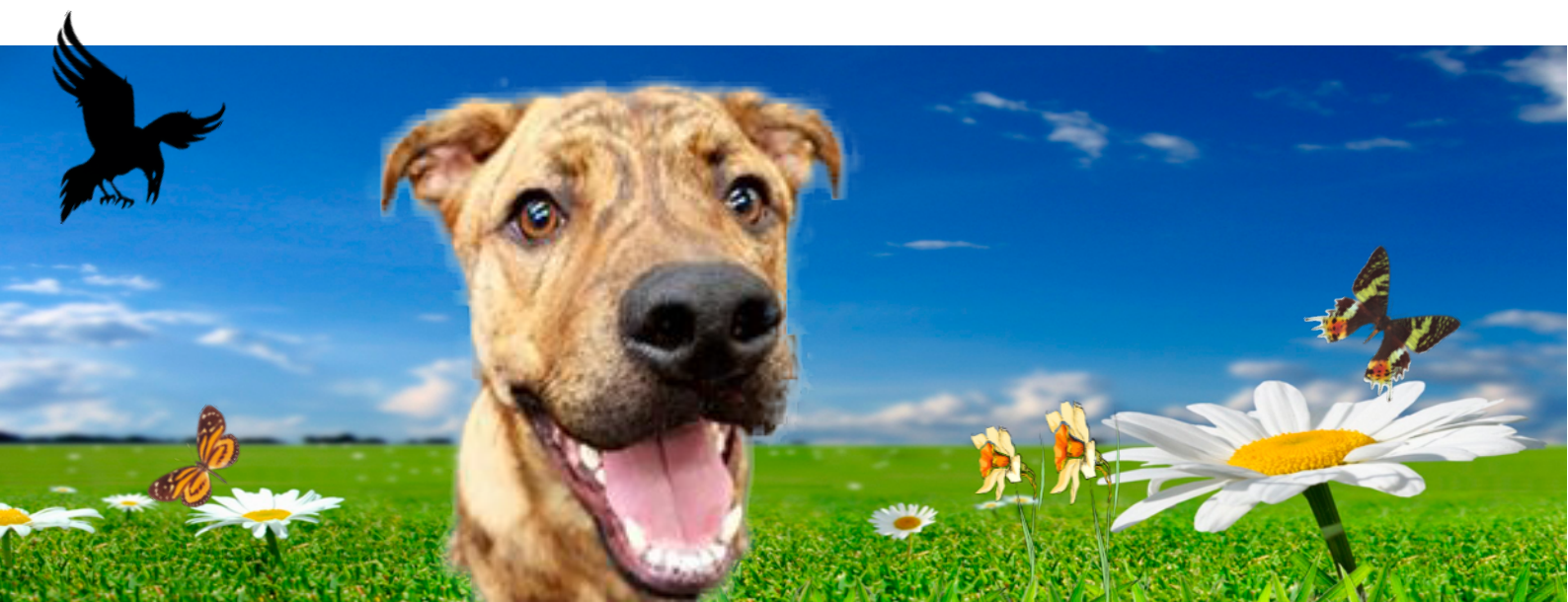
Stegocattus??

What is boundary training?

Boundary training is a really great skill for dogs to have. A boundary can be defined as a doorway, gate, fence, dog bed, crate or any other space you determine. We often start working either with crate games or on a raised dog bed. These types of boundaries make it easy to see if the dog is following the rules. For example, we can tell the dog is breaking the plane of the door when it sticks its head out. Or, with a raised bed, we can easily tell if they are staying on or getting off. With other boundaries like a mat it is easy for part of the dog to spill over the side. If it's ok for one foot to be off the side, why not two or more right? Dogs do really well with black and white criteria, grey zones make training very difficult! So make sure you know what you want and you will both have greater success!

Crate games is a series of training made popular by trainer and world renowned dog agility competitor Susan Garrett more than 10 years ago, and still holds great value for all of us training our dogs today! You can check out Susan's intro video here https://youtu.be/ebjBo_spgG0 and check out other YouTube videos of people teaching their dogs how to play.

Boundary games have been made popular by trainer Lauren Langman and vet behaviourist Tom Mitchell based in the United Kingdom and their company called Absolute Dogs. You can check out more about training your dog to play boundary games in their free e-book which you can grab here <https://game.absolute-dogs.com/boundary-games->





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What to look for in a boarding facility or pet sitter?

When thinking about holidays or having to go away on a trip without our pets we have to consider who will look after them. Here are a few things you should think about.

1. Where will your pet be happy? For example, some dogs love to socialize with other dogs and would do well in a kennel environment, some dogs are more anxious and do better one on one with a pet sitter and others still only do well in the comfort of their own home.
2. Who is the best person to look after them? Someone they already know, someone who is most knowledgeable about animals and health and behaviour or are they happy with anyone?
3. How much exercise does your pet need? Do they like to go for hikes and play dates? Will someone take them out or will a dog walker come?
4. Does your pet have any medical concerns? Do they need scheduled medication given at particular times? Are they able to be in a low stress environment?
5. Would you be happy staying in the environment where you are leaving your pet?
6. Will your pet need any grooming or other treatments while you are away?

7. Will your pet care provider communicate with you during your absence? Many will share pictures or videos of your dog during their stay.

Here are a few things to add to your checklist for when you go away:

- Keep in mind that many pet care professionals want what is best for your pet. Many will do a meet and greet to ensure that your pet will be comfortable in the environment or interacting with them.
- Make sure that your vet has your credit card on file before you travel should anything come up and need care to make it easier to ensure proper care for your pet.
- Many pet sitters book up in well in advance, plan ahead!
- Pack some tasty snacks for your pup in case they need a little motivation to eat.
- Pack something that smells of home like a toy or blanket.





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5 Tips for Coat Changeover

With so many longer coated dogs out there these days we see a lot of people who are overwhelmed when their dogs coat suddenly starts to matt and seems to be impossible to keep up with. Coat changeover is something that we see most commonly in dogs 10-14 months of age. During this time many doodles, poodles, havanese, and other long coated breeds go through a texture change in their coats that seems to lead to endless matting.

Even if you brush and comb your dog daily it can be hard to have success keeping the coat at a longer length during this stage of the dogs life. Many people will elect to keep the dog's coat shorter during this transition so they don't have to spend every day brushing and combing.

If you are committed to keeping your dog's coat at a longer length there are several things you can do to help.

1. Train your dog to relax on a raised surface to make the brushing and combing process easier on both of you.

2. Buy good tools! Not all tools are created equally, buy good quality tools that work appropriately in your dog's coat. You might need a few different tools like a firm slicker brush, a pin brush, a comb, and a matt breaker. Check out brands like Safari or Miller's Forge.

3. Brush your dog every single day. Sometimes you will have to do it more than once. When my dogs were younger I dedicated a few minutes just

before going to bed each night to sit with them and brush them. All it takes is a few minutes if you stay on top of it.

4. Book regular brush out appointments at the groomer. This way they can make sure you aren't missing any areas and stay on top of any potential problems. During this transitional time you may want to go in for a brush out every 2 weeks on top of your daily maintenance. If the groomer says you are doing well space out your brush out appointments a little further.

5. Watch this video on how to brush with a technique called Line Brushing. Even though she is working on a show dog, this same technique applies for any dog with a longer coat. <https://youtu.be/pWXD8vaRL0A>





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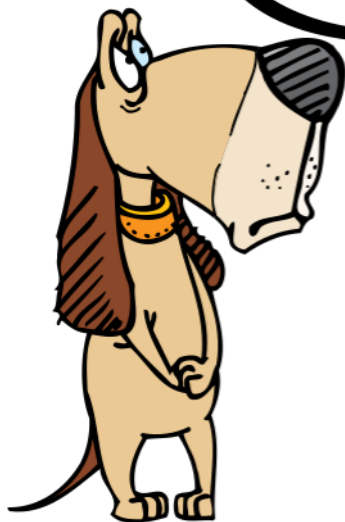
Body Language

Body language provides the keys to understanding how your dog is feeling. It is the best way for us to learn to speak dog. Here is a link to a great video on body language by Dr. Marty Becker:

<https://youtu.be/OriOwndPzCM>

Or check out this awesome infographic by artist Lili Chin!

My body is my temple.
I sure hope "my" owners
can "read what I need"!



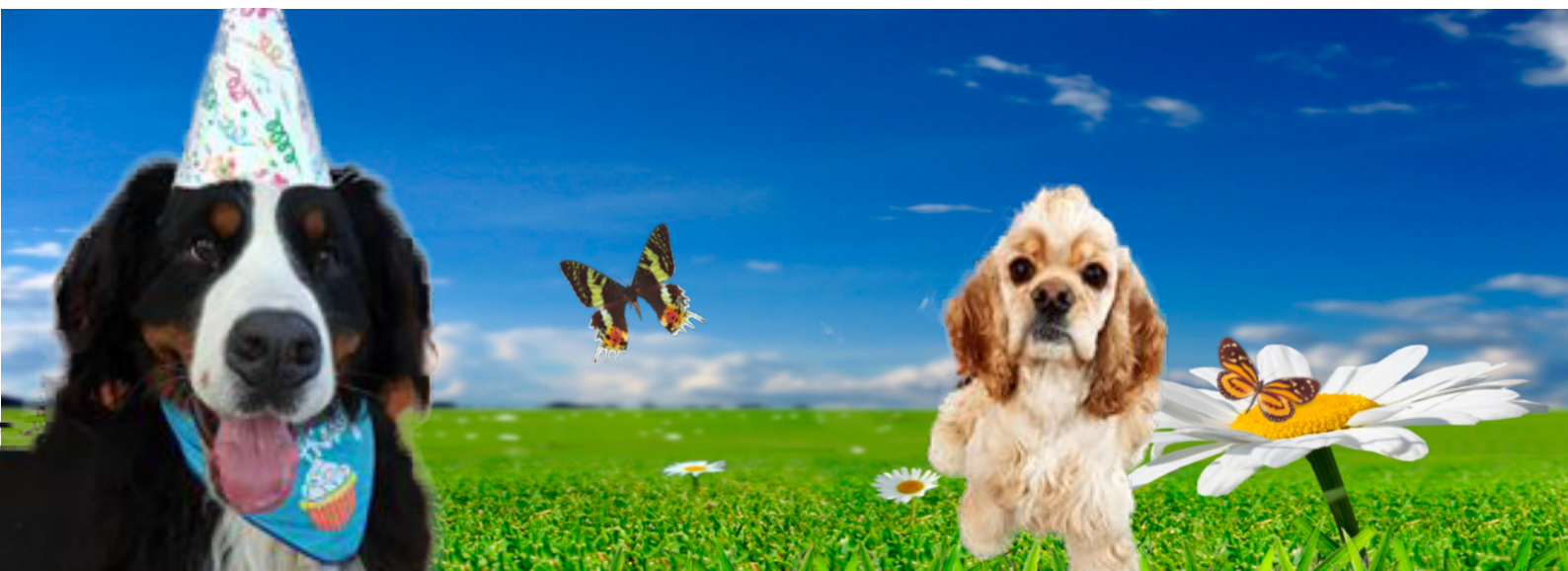
DOGGIE LANGUAGE

starring Boogie the Boston Terrier



© 2011 Lili Chin www.doggiedrawings.net

Lili





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Feeding a raw diet to your pet.

www.nanaimopetservices.com

nanaimopetservices@gmail.com

A summary of the most common questions and answers about feeding a raw species appropriate diet to your dog or cat:

Why would I switch to feeding raw?

Replacing kibble, and with it starch, leads the way toward healthier gut bacteria, balanced blood sugar and a better endocrine system. Raw is easier to digest, is very palatable, and each ingredient is free from hormones, additives, antibiotics as the meat is sourced directly from human food grade animals. Veggies and fruit, if added, are also fresh human grade.

What changes will I notice in my pet?

The first obvious change is the stool volume and consistency will change. The stool is firm, decomposes quickly without mold forming, and does not smell. Often dogs that had frequent bouts of gas will no longer have this problem. Over the period of two to 6 weeks, your pets energy level will balance out, over excitable dogs may become more settled, lethargic dogs may regain a bounce to their step. The pets coat will increase in health which you will notice in softer hair and glossier coat, less dander and flakes.

How much would I feed my pet?

Adult dogs require about 2 % of their ideal weight in food a day. Pups around 5 % of their current weight. This means a 50 lb. active adult dog would need 1 pound of raw food a day.

Where can I read more about benefits?

<http://www.dogsnaturallymagazine.com/why-feed-raw/>





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How much does it cost?

Just like for your meat products, prices vary. For one pound of raw pet food meat you can pay \$1.50 to \$2.50. For more specialized and exotic proteins the cost can be 2.50 to \$4.50 per pound. The best prices for quality products, some of which are locally sourced, are available through Nanaimo Pet Services. Your butcher may also have a small line of products.

What kind of meat should I give?

It is very important that you make well informed decisions when it comes to feeding. Dogs thrive on a variety of meats. Bone in products such as Turkey, Chicken or Duck ground carcass or backs and necks should cover 60 % to 90% of the diet. Raw Fish can also be added. Muscle meat such as Beef, Pork and Elk in addition to about 5 % organ meat would complement the diet.

Cats are obligate carnivores, they are unable to digest plant matter. For them feeding a proper raw diet means no veggies or fruits added, no grain, rice, potatoes etc. They do require a good calcium phosphorus balance, which can be naturally achieved by regularly feeding bone in products such as ground chicken, turkey or duck carcass or whole ground raw fish. Cats also need taurine, which is naturally provided when feeding organ meat such as heart (beef, Turkey, Chicken)

Why would I feed veggies and fruits?

Dogs are able to process some fruits and veggies, provided they are pre-digested by fermenting, or by pulverizing (blender or juicer). Some people do, some do not add veggies and fruit, and it is a personal preference.

Do I need to give my dog supplements when feeding raw?

If you feed according to the whole prey model, meaning all parts of the prey animal are used in the raw food, it is not necessary to supplement. Since most commercial raw pet foods are made of parts of the prey animal, most people do supplementation in the form of: Salmon or Fish body oil, Vitamin C (dogs only), Kelp finely ground for trace minerals. Dogs, particular female dogs, can benefit from Primrose oil.





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What treats can I give when feeding raw?

Healthy options are: dehydrated liver, heart, lung, real Cheese, organic no sugar , no artificial sweeteners added peanut butter, dehydrated banana slices (not store bought) dehydrated zucchini or apple slices, pieces of celery, carrot, fresh apple, pear, banana etc. The goal is to prevent grain products or excess starch to enter your dog's digestive system.

The dates and products available for our raw food orders can be accessed in the following link:

<http://www.nanaimopetservices.com/raw-food1>

To find out what is going on at Nanaimo Pet Services, click the link below to go to our "Events Page".

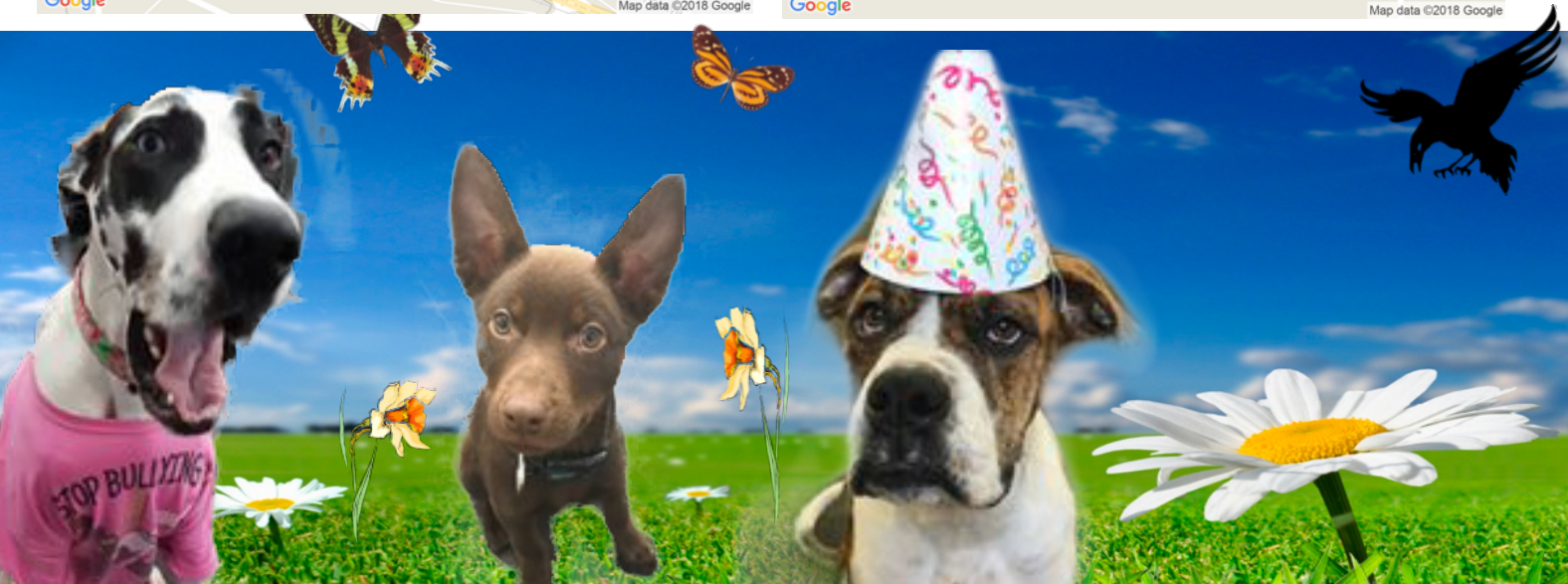
<http://www.nanaimopetservices.com/events-list>

**Where you can
you find us.**

4512 Wellington Rd., Nanaimo, B.C.



2723 Cedar Rd., Nanaimo, B.C.





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Upcomming events:

Classes starting week of March 19th:

- Agility
- Good Manners (Nanaimo & Cedar)
- Rally Obedience
- Urban Agility & Real Life
- ICU-Behaviour Course
- Movie Tricks

Book Online

CGN Test Friday March 23rd 2018:

- Canine Good Neighbour Test at Nanaimo Pet Services (indoor and out)
- Evaluators: Bernadette and Linda van Klaveren
- For more info on CGN check out the CKC (Canadian Kennel Club website) www.ckc.ca
- \$25 for class dogs \$30 for others

Book Online

Classes starting week of April 23rd:

- Agility
- Good Manners (Nanaimo & Cedar)
- Loose Leash Walking
- Rally Obedience
- Urban Agility & Real Life
- ICU-Behaviour Course
- Movie Tricks
- Scentwork

Book Online

CGN Test Friday May 25th 2018:

Canine Good Neighbour Test at Nanaimo Pet Services (indoor and out)
Evaluators: Bernadette and Linda van Klaveren
For more info on CGN check out the CKC (Canadian Kennel Club website) www.ckc.ca
\$25 for class dogs \$30 for others

Book Online

