



Welcome to Your Happy Dog Coach

Beyond Sit, Stay & Heel



Hello! I Lori-Lee (sometimes Lee but **never** Lori) and I am so excited to be part of your journey.

The first thing you need to know about me is that I do things a little differently than the typical old school dog trainer.

I don't really "fix" behaviors... I look to understand them, figure out the cause, and help to meet all of your dogs' needs, focusing on bridging the gap between what your dog instinctively needs and what we expect from them in our human world.

My goal is to empower you with evidence-backed, welfare focused methods that foster understanding, not just obedience. We will work together to create a happy, cooperative, and well-adjusted companion.



After learning more about dogs from my own trainer, I moved here and didn't find someone who could meet my expectations.... So I became the trainer I would trust myself.

You see, after adopting my own rescue dog, Kitchi, in 2020, I discovered that traditional training methods were not only ineffective but harmful to her confidence and damaging to our relationship. Seeing the "wild west" of unregulated training, I dedicated myself to doing better.

With specialized certifications (that you won't find anywhere else in the area) and continuous education, I prioritize not only the emotional & physical well-being of every dog, but their total welfare.

My Core Credentials:

- **Family Dog Mediator (FDM):** Certified by Kim Brophey's LEGS® Applied Ethology Course.
- **Fear Free Certified Professional Trainer (FFCP-T):** Specializing in reducing fear, anxiety, and stress.
- **Professional Pet Dog Trainer (PPDT):** Good Dog Academy.
- **Specialties:** Aggressive Dog Master Course (Michael Shikashio), Certified Bite Prevention Educator (Doggone Safe), and Canine First Aid.

Evidence-Based, Relationship-Focused

I believe that training should be:

- **Choice Based:** I never use punishment-based methods. Dogs learn best when they feel safe, heard, and encouraged. Giving them choice is incredibly important to securing those long lasting skills you want to see.
- **Science-Based:** Every technique is rooted in canine behavioral science and ethical ethology. You can learn more in the Studies and Research section of my resources.
- **Rooted in Relationship:** Trust and effective communication are the foundation for a happy life with your happy dog, so we focus strongly on building that bond.
- **Customized for YOU:** No two dogs are the same, and no two guardians have the same goals. I tailor every plan to your dog's unique personality, breed tendencies, and your daily lifestyle.



YOUR Success Guide

What to Expect while Working With Me

Because I focus on relationships and understanding, our sessions will include a lot of discussion between the guardian and myself. While we will certainly be working directly with your dog, a significant portion of our time is spent "translating" what your dog is trying to tell you.



Here is what a typical session looks like:

- **Observation First:** We are always watching your dog, observing how they move, how they react to the environment, and how they communicate with others.
- **Lots of Real Talk:** I'm not here to give you "quick fixes" or sugarcoat things. We're going to be honest about the challenges, the genetics at play, and what is realistically achievable for your specific lifestyle and your dog's unique needs.
- **The "Why" Behind the "What":** Instead of just correcting a behavior, we will pause to discuss the L.E.G.S. factors influencing it. Is this a genetic drive? An environmental trigger? Or a physical need?
- **Hands-On Coaching:** I will coach you through specific techniques and handling skills. My goal isn't for your dog to listen to *me*. It's for them to build a deep bond and connection with you.
- **Real-Time Adjustments:** Because we prioritize emotional safety, we may pivot. If your dog is over-threshold or stressed, we stop, assess, and advocate for their well-being before moving forward.
- **Open Dialogue:** I encourage you to ask "Why?" frequently. The more you understand the science and emotion behind my suggestions, the more successful you will be when I'm not there.

THE PARTNERSHIP

Scheduling & Policies

To ensure we maintain momentum and respect everyone's time:

- **Scheduling:** Packages must be completed within three months of purchase to ensure continuity and consistency.
 - **Cancellations:** Life happens and nobody understands that more than a homeschooling mom and military spouse. I'm as flexible as possible with reschedules as there may be times I, too, will need to reschedule. Let's just both be respectful of the other and give as much notice as possible.
 - **Payments:** Due at the time of booking to confirm your spot.
 - **EMT:** contact@yourhappydogcoach.ca
 - **Cash/Cheque:** Accepted at the first session.
 - *Note: The second session will not take place until the minimum requirement of three sessions is paid in full.*
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THE PREP CHECKLIST

Session Needs

- **The "Good Stuff" (Treats):** Because we've learned what types of treats are of high value to your dog through their SEARCH Experience, we'll know what they'll work the hardest for, and we'll stock up on those!
- **The Gear:** A well-fitted harness or flat collar, and a standard 6ft leash. *(Please, no retractable leashes, prong, choke, or shock collars).*
- **The Space:** A quiet area with minimal distractions will be needed to start. As your dog gets better at the skills they're learning, we can add in distractions, distance, and duration.
- **Your Notes:** You are welcome to email me, send me videos on Facebook Messenger, or text me at any time with questions, concerns, or needs of clarification.

I always aim to get back to you within 24 hours of receiving your notes and questions.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Free Resources & Support



I want to help as many dogs as possible. Explore my free resources on the website:

- **Articles:** Written by me, based on real scenarios I encounter in our community.
- **Training Library:** Curated, humane video tutorials.
- **Recommended Reading/Podcasts:** The best in the industry.

Community Partners: I happily collaborate with local ethical dog professionals such as the ones listed here to ensure we have a full support network and are making the best plans for your dogs needs.

- [Brooklyn Adventure Dogs](#) - Sara Barter Certified Separation Anxiety Trainer, Karen Prior Academy Certified Training Partner, Victoria Stillwell Academy Certified Dog Trainer
- [Paws in Harmony Dog Training](#) - Kylie Dixon - Diploma in Canine Behavioral Science and Technology + Accredited Dog Trainer through the International Association of Animal Behavior Consultants
- [Companion Theory Dog Training](#) - Diploma in Dog Obedience Training through ICS Canada, and Professional Canine Sensory Room Practitioner

CONTACT & DATA TRACKING

Because we do things a little differently here at Your Happy Dog Coach, we also do our training logs a little differently. We will focus most on their needs, while also heavily paying attention to all of the ways they communicate.

Section 1: Focusing on Rest, Relaxation, and Recovery

- **Deep Sleep Hours** (approx)
- **Signs of Relaxation** (Sighing, belly up, floppy ears)
- **Recovery Time** (How long to settle after a walk or training session?)

Section 2: The Advocacy Log (Consent & Agency)

Here is where we track "conversations" (which are more important than commands or cues).

- **Did I offer a choice today?** (e.g., Left or right at the fork in the trail?)
- **Did I listen to a "No"?** (e.g., Dog moved away from the brush; I didn't force the groom.)
- **The "Look at That" Moment:** (Did we see a trigger and successfully disengage without a "correction"?)

Section 3: The "Trigger" Context

This is where we learn to spot the difference between your dog being "stubborn" or "bad" and understanding their behavior.

- **Behavior Noticed:** (e.g., Alert barking at the window)
- **The Likely "Why":** (e.g., UPS truck? Overtired? High wind today?)
- **My Response:** (e.g., Acknowledged the bark, moved him to a quiet room, gave a lick mat.)

Training isn't about 'replacing' a dog's instincts because their instincts are there for a reason. It's about understanding the **need** behind the instincts that cause the behavior, and then meeting those needs so that your dog is fulfilled and the unwanted behaviours are redirected to more acceptable ones.

Always Remember: I'm Here To Support You!

It is my goal to help you feel successful in your training with your dog so please send me a text or email with updates between sessions! I love knowing how you're doing, and I'm happy to provide guidance virtually to keep the momentum going.

- **Email:** contact@yourhappydogcoach.ca
- **Phone:** 902-600-5511
- **Hours:** Tue - Sun | 10 AM - 8 PM