

Lucky's Tail

Early August 2023



Greetings and pup-utations from me ~ your new fur-end Lucky! How are you? Paw-sonally, I'm doing great ~ especially now that my grown-pup teeth have mostly come in! I can't believe how irritating losing my little teeth has been... I think it made my poor humans a bit bonkers too because my best pain reliever was taking the roll of toilet paper off the holder and running away with it so I could tear it into shreds! Mom said it sure was a big mess when I did get a hold of one so I think she is almost as happy as I am that those pains are over!

Before I get too far into my letter I should tell you that I have landed in a really great Puppy Raising home and I'm super happy about that. Coming from a band of 9 brothers it has been nice to get some tail wagging room and not have to use my squiggly-ness to get in front of a food dish! Now I just have to politely wait for the whistle to blow and that's a more relaxed way to enjoy my kibble! It was a little weird to be the only pup-in-the-house at first, but mom and dad know lots of dog people and make sure I meet new fur-ends all the time. Like when we puppy-sat my first new pal Wally. That was pawsome ~ he's almost as good at playing Tug as I am and when he's not available mom never has a problem finding another fun pup!

So, my neighbourhood in Calgary is pretty great and there are lots of kids on the street who I can pet and practice my polite greetings with AND there is a beach close by with lots of different activities to enjoy. I also love my new house, my new humans and my training classes so I guess I was well named ~ because I feel Super Lucky ~ like I won the Puppy Training Sweepstakes! I even look like Super Lucky when I wear my BCAGD vest because it's very Super Hero-ish don't you think?

Mom says my basic commands "came very easily" for me! Gosh, I'd like to think it's because I'm kind of a genius but honestly ~ 'sit', 'down', and 'stand' seemed pretty natural! LOL...

I can't take total credit for learning all the basics by myself! I did have to get the hang of 'close' and 'touch' ~ but those were pretty easy. To be truthful, I have found 'leave it' and 'quiet' to be harder to master. Like mom says ~ I do these things great in class when I'm expecting them ~ but it's not the same in the real world and we are working on stopping my 'affection for barking' in the yard and at parks and my desire to scavenge for tasty bits on the grocery store and mall floors! My Training Instructor, Sandra, has been 'very pleased with my progress over the past month' and is happy that my behaviour outside class is starting to match my inside class efforts! She says my loose leash walking is 'looking fantastic' (Yay!) and that I have a good connection with my handler. She has noticed that I like to walk nice and slow to take in all the sights and smells ~ but I think that will come in handy when I become a Guide or Service Dog don't you?



Also, being slow on my walks lets me really observe what's going on in the world and I tell ya ~ it's a fascinating place! Mom says I'm super inquisitive which would explain why I jumped into the washing machine to check it out! Don't worry ~ it wasn't going at the time although the dryer looks like it would be a pretty good ride if it was on the Fluff Only cycle! Have you ever tumbled around in one of those machines? I'd love to hear about it if you have ~ so let me know, okay?!

One of the special things I do that mom likes is my winking! You can almost see it happen in my lake photo, but I do it so fast she hasn't captured it on film yet... Of course, it usually happens when we are sharing a funny moment so she's too busy enjoying herself to think about pictures! And that's just fine with me because I love my moments with my mom and dad and just hanging out. Our days are fun and busy, but we always have some happy relax time between errands and training and that is probably my best favourite. Something that is my parent's best favourite is that I can now quietly lay on my mat while they are eating! At first, I wanted to sit at the table with them...No! and then I tried sitting on the floor right beside them and staring hopefully...No! So now I just relax and

think about my day and all that I've accomplished while they enjoy their meal...this seems to be working for everyone and sometimes I even have a nap ~ unusual for a puppy, right?! 😊

Sigh... my life is so good! I feel so lucky because obviously I am ~ LOL... but also because I get to share my adventures and training journey with You! My brother Archie and I were the quickest in our litter to learn the alphabet ~ because we wanted to be able to know our names ~ so we didn't get mistaken for one of our brothers! Once we got our ABC's learnt we both got to be on the Puppy Writing Program...Archie is in Vancouver, but I got to come to Calgary ~ because, of course, I am Lucky! And I am also happy and excited that you are part of my team and supporting me while I learn my future working dog skills ~ that makes me feel another 'L' word which is probably my most best favourite of all...*sigh*...LOVED!

So, thank you! I can't wait to keep living and learning and feeling the love! I know I'll have lots of great stories to share in the New Year ~ have you heard about snow?!? Wally tells me it's big fun for a pup and I'm super looking forward to it and I bet you are too! Next time we chat I'll let you know if it's all it's cracked up to be ~ and remember you promised to let me know if you've ever gone for a spin in the dryer!

All my best and favourites to you.

Love, your pup,

Lucky

