



# NOSA Fact Sheet

August, 2005

Sidney, British Columbia

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## TRAINING DOGS IN SIDNEY AND NORTH SAANICH FOR OVER 50 YEARS

### **North Saanich Dog Obedience Training Club tops 16,000 registrations**

- The North Saanich Dog Obedience Training Club – or NOSA, for short – is the third-oldest dog club in Capital Regional District (after the Victoria City Kennel Club and the Greater Victoria Dog Obedience Training Club).
- From its 1947 origins as a private club, NOSA offered its first lessons to the public beginning June, 1954. Obedience lessons were held in a variety of places before NOSA made Sidney's Sanscha Hall home four years later.
- NOSA is Sanscha Hall's oldest, continuous tenant (47 years). It was among the first community groups to use the facility when it opened in 1958.
- More than 4,500 dogs have gone through NOSA's beginner training programs at Sanscha Hall. As many dog owners remain with the club in order to go on to more advanced training levels, NOSA estimates it has handled over 16,000 registrations over the years.
- On any given Thursday evening between September and June, about 90 people and their dogs train with NOSA at Sanscha Hall.
- NOSA's instructors have a total of over 200 years of teaching experience: each instructor has at least 10 years experience; with six of the 11 instructors having over 25 years experience each. All volunteer their time and efforts to this community organization. There is no paid staff.
- NOSA instructors not only show dog owners how to train their pets; they also teach and promote responsible dog ownership among our members and the community alike.
- NOSA also has a second component: it's also a competition club, staging five obedience trials every year. Over the years, NOSA members have placed in Canadian Kennel Club national obedience rankings.
- NOSA is one of only four dog obedience clubs in the Capital Regional District sanctioned by the Canadian Kennel Club to stage licensed dog obedience trials.