

ELKHOUNDS - A GREAT BREED

MIA: One of the Premier Female Elkhounds In Canada Doing her part to ensure a bright future for Elkhounds

One of the most powerful females in the industry today is Mia.

- The true measure of a breeding female is not just what she is but what she passes onto her offspring
- Take a look through this newsletter to see some of the finest Elkhounds you'll ever see and you'll come to appreciate the quality Mia passes on.
- Elkhounds are an ancient breed, Mia continues to pass the solid sought after traits of her ancestors that have made this breed so enduring.
- Litter of 6 October 25th, 2008
- Litter of 10 April 25th, 2009



Elkhound loyalty is legendary, they have a strong pack instinct and bond with an owner better than almost any other breed.

Elkhound history is fairly well documented to extend back 4000 years. These dogs have been companions and working members of families for centuries. The existence of a breed unchanging for so long is clear proof that this breed has many desirable traits, few if any problems and a loyalty beyond compare.

Elkhounds are stable and healthy, making them a terrific family companion. Mia is a true picture of this stability, this strength, and the loyalty of this truly great breed. Her pups clearly represent to anyone that Elkhounds are alive and well in Canada.



Elkhounds typically average 8 pups per litter - healthy females will cycle on a six month window - as you can see from the litters dates Mia is exactly to the day six months litter to litter. This is a prolific and outstanding female.

A Tale Of Two Brothers

TWO ELKHOUND MALES, KONA AND BRUIN MAKE A NEW HOME IN MACKENZIE BC.

There are few things better than having an Elkhound, however, owning two is one of those things, and two siblings, Brothers no doubt, is the ultimate:

- Two dogs work each other by playing and play-fighting which improves overall health of both.
- Keeping each other company and providing companionship at all times improves stability of both.
- Russ and Holly also have twice the costs and twice the work to care for them and I respect them for that. It's a big commitment, but truly worth it.
- These photos say a million words, these big guys are happy, content and magnificent Elkhounds.

Russ and Holly are in an elite group of Elkhound owners, there are very few people in the world who have a set of brothers. It's fairly well known that two dogs live longer together than if kept individually, and two dogs the same breed work better together, however the very best combination is brothers or sisters. Kamia Kennels will try to promote the placement of brothers or sisters if possible to encourage and enhance the dogs quality of life, not to mention the enjoyment for the owner. You could look at Elkhounds the world over and you would never come across a better pair than these two big fellas; Kona and Bruin. Hats off to Russ & Holly.



Visit the Kona and Bruin page on Kamia Kennels with write-ups and photo galleries

<http://www.kamiakennels.ca/Kona-Bruin/kona-bruin.html>

*Kona and Bruin : Male Elkhound Brothers
 Born April 2009 - Latest Photo's October 2009
 Our Thanks to Russ and Holly for the care and attention they give these two and for sharing with us the photo's and stories, we truly appreciate watching them grow.*

OUTSTANDING FEMALE ELKHOUNDS TEGAN & NIKA

Tegan at home in Kelowna



Tegan is pictured at left, Tracey and Dennis are providing a fine home for her. We were so excited for them when we met in Williams Lake, they had drove up to meet us. Tracey and Dennis are young and active with hiking, camping and many other outdoor activities and a strong female like Tegan is the ideal companion. Female Elkhounds are very powerful, they are well built for rigorous activity, muscular & compact, strong and agile. They are alert and aware, a close bond to instincts from long past still present makes them an excellent watch dog. Our sincere thanks to Tracey and Dennis for taking such good care of Tegan and keeping us posted as she develops into a beautiful female, they are a great couple.



Shelly and Brett Putland shown, middle left and lower left arrive home with Nika after a long but very happy drive. *“we arrived home after 26 hours, the trip was great and Nika traveled absolutely amazing, no problems whatsoever”*
Brett and Shelly

Nika arrives in the Yukon



Nika was the largest pup of the litter, a dark female, very calm and stable. Shelly and Brett arrived to pick her up and to see her walk over to Brett, climb into his lap and settle in was truly amazing. We had selected Nika for them, however as Brett stated so well: *“Nika selected us”*.

Bonds between dogs and owners have been written about for centuries, this is exactly how those great stories continue.

We are so pleased for Shelly and Brett and Nika, it's always a great pleasure to see the satisfaction and enjoyment you can get from having a dog, and also the instinct of the dog when it knows it's home.

There were 7 top quality females in the last litter, all even sized, very stable pups with great temperaments. Female Elkhounds make a terrific family pet, yet are a full working dog if the opportunity exists. We will be featuring more of those females shortly.

Caring For Your Elkhound

Benefits of Feeding A Raw Diet Long Live The Elkhound

Elkhounds, like all dogs do the best on raw diets, of primarily meat protein, with no grains. All dogs have a very acidic digestive system that can metabolize meat-based protein very efficiently, and turn it to a super energy source.

Proteins don't affect the blood sugars of your Elkhound like grain based carbohydrates can, and protein is the primary fuel for energy and is not stored as fat like carbohydrates would be.

A Lean Dog Is A Healthy Dog - A dog rarely will store much if any fat on a non grain based diet.

In order to supply all the nutrients required for healthy bones, skin and coat condition, fresh or unprocessed fish is an excellent way to supply the Omega-3 essential fatty acids.

All types of meat like fresh chicken, turkey, beef, lamb and more are loaded with amino acids, vitamins and minerals that dogs require for building strong bones and maintaining active healthy immune systems. Some berries, some root vegetables, given free choice to your dogs with allow them to get a nice



balance. Corn and Wheat are the primary ingredients in processed dog food, these are linked to all sorts health problems for your Elkhound, the starch content is going to

contribute to obesity as dogs have limitations on digesting these. It's best not to feed any grains, this is an ancient breed, grains were not used in the diet of this breed, or for that matter most breeds for the entire history up until say 60 or 70 years ago.

Elkhounds are designed for a raw diet, when we put out a full half chicken for Takoda and watch him eat it's fascinating. He'll take that drumstick attached to the back and turn it into licorice in seconds. These dogs have powerful jaws designed for centuries to eat a raw diet.

Never feed cooked bones - they become brittle always feed raw, your dog will love it, his teeth will stay super clean, they can bite through most bones with little effort. We like to feed rib bones, however all bones are good. Don't forget to feed the berries and allow your dog to get access to grasses and plant root areas, they will get certain nutrients they need from those as well. Our dogs will sit right up at the berry trees and eat just like a bear, we pick all the berries they can't reach and freeze them for winter feeding.

*Tora - Nov 14th
42lbs - 20" high
just over 6 months*



Don't forget the berries, grasses and plant root areas - also be sure to feed some Tripe in between as well, it's a way for them to be presented with as close to a natural diet as possible as it contains many enzymes and beneficial bacteria.

GREAT GREY DOGS

Tegan - Norwegian Elkhound Female 7 Months Old



Tegan - Norwegian Elkhound Born April 25th, 2009

Mia and Takoda went way back in the DNA archives for Tegan, she could just as easily be standing in Norway 1898 as she is standing here in BC, Canada in late fall 2009. When the early Norwegians first began to document their great grey dogs and begin to create a standard by which to measure, they could have used Tegan. When we describe a Norwegian Elkhound we might just as easily send this photo, a great dog, right in her natural instinctive element.

Tracey and Dennis spend time outdoors with Tegan, they wanted a powerful companion dog, yet a sociable friendly female that would do well with other people and groups when camping and around home. They wanted a dog known for longevity, they are a young couple, Elkhounds are perfect as they are known to live long healthy lives.

You can just tell Tegan wants to go hunting, she has instincts to hunt that go back way back. When your out in the back country, there are few if any dogs I would rather be with. These dogs are air scent dogs, very aware, and if there is a potential problem, bear, cougar it doesn't matter, this is the dog that will let you know and this also is the dog that will come between you and the threat. This is a courageous dog, known for it's fearless nature, an excellent wilderness hiking dog, yet completely suited to home life on the ranch. This is a versatile breed.

I thank Tracey and Dennis for sending these photos, and be sure to check out Tegan's page on <http://www.kamiakennels.ca> .

"A person couldn't improve on this young female, she has terrific confirmation, her size and structure are ideal, her gaze and expression just outstanding. Her coat and color could not be better. As a breeder of quality Elkhounds, it's a great day indeed when you get a new photo of one of your pups and she has grown into an outstanding female such as Tegan." Merv Carlson

Ancient Northern Dogs

Instincts are preserved in Elkhounds today



Instincts in a dog are a very interesting thing to see and be aware of. Elkhounds have traits and instincts developed over centuries that come from earlier primitive times. Take Pack Instinct, it is very strong in Elkhounds. This instinct was a survival instinct in earlier times, today it serves as the basis for the extreme loyalty of the breed and also the underlying reason this breed of dog is such an excellent watch dog, and why this breed tends to be somewhat aloof at times to individuals outside the so called “pack”.

Elkhound breeders by default keep this instinct strong by sheer environmental location. Most Elkhound breeders are in the Northern regions, and in many cases close to natural areas which allow the Elkhound the ability to connect and preserve this natural instinct. Basically it hasn't been bred out of them. Their use as a companion, watch and hunting dog is well documented, what's very interesting is that in the Scandinavian countries, hunting with them is still widely popular, and a true champion needs to be able to hunt, and has to prove he can.

Here at Kamia Kennels we feel we try our best to preserve these qualities in the breed and work toward following old World principles to ensure the breed is strong for many centuries to come as well.

“I couldn't think of a better way to spend a day, than in the Canadian Rockies with my daughter Ashten and our great dogs. I am taking a break here with Takoda, my loyal companion, and our young female Tora.” Merv Carlson

ELKHOUNDS - A GREAT BREED

LEXI: We are very proud of Lexi, she is a perfect example of a proud, dominant young female, very stable, friendly and a terrific companion.

Lexi is pictured here with her owner Lynn Bowes, Lexi and Lynn have a terrific bond.

Lexi was the first female pup at Kamia Kennels.

She is just over 10 months old in these photos, she is slightly larger than Mia, about an inch taller and longer, with solid muscling and very well balanced.

This is an alert female with all of the dominant characteristics of an Elkhound, yet with the compassion and companionship that makes them so well rounded.

Lexi brings out the best of Takoda and Mia, she has a tremendous coat, her confirmation is excellent, she is stable, definitely not scared of anything, very alert and just a true pleasure to be around. Lynn and Lawrence have done a beautiful job with her.

Lexi is a prime example of why the Elkhound is so sought after as a companion. Females like this truly illustrate why they make great companions, but gender doesn't really matter. A strong agile female like Lexi is up for any activity, they are dominant females, they stand their ground, yet truly can respect a respectful handler. There is no better companion.

Lexi shows the best of these dogs, the great stance, the balance, the alert posture and gaze. She carries her black tipped tail proudly curled, ears up and pointed. Her bone structure is nice and thick, feet are well shaped, you couldn't ask for a better female. Watching Lynn interact here with Lexi was a real pleasure for us, we could see the strong bond they have.



*Be sure to view all the updates and photo's of Lexi online at Kamia Kennels
<http://www.kamiakennels.ca/Lexi/lexi-returns.html>*

Outstanding Female Elkhound

NIKA: Whitehorse, Yukon, Swedish Elkhound Snow Dog 7 Months Old

Every quality you want in a Northern Swedish Type Elkhound female is evident in Nika.

The history of the Elkhound goes back thousands of years, the regions varied from the Coastal areas of Norway, up through the Northern regions of Sweden and throughout the Scandinavian countries. The Elkhound has distinct types, and the "Norrländ" or early Swedish Elkhound developed from an environmental aspect. The taller, longer Elkhound was required because of exactly what you see surrounding Nika, snow.

All Elkhounds are the same genetic pool, with the old World breeders selecting traits that excelled by region, deeper snow areas meant taller and longer dogs were selected.

Nika is pictured here in Mid November, 2009 at 7 months and is a beautiful representation of what the old breeders were after. This my friends is a beautiful dog.

Nika exhibits all the traits that represent why the Vikings so loved their dogs. Shelly and Brett have a beautiful female well suited to life in the Yukon and they have provided an environ-

ment and level of care second to none and have allowed Nika to fully develop to her true potential, and we commend them and thank them for providing such a quality home for Nika.

You can see the power in the loin and stout limbs, the deep chest, extending below the elbow for great lung capacity. Her stance is perfect, nice strong straight back, with her tail curled.

Nika has what all breeders look to see in a quality dog, the keen expression, deep brown eyes well protected. The straight nose with excellent muzzle that is exactly the same length as the skull. The ears are well shaped and well placed with a very nice erect stance. Nika's traits lean back to a time many centuries old.

Nika is exactly what you would have seen 3000 years ago in Northern Sweden or Finland, or for that matter she is exactly what was exhibited in 2009 by a breeder in the Tuusniemi Group Show in Finland. "Gaia" the best in breed at that show looks identical to Nika and has nothing on her. Put the two pictures side by side and you'll think they are twins.

As you are all well aware, I am partial to my big fella, Takoda, and when I see his traits alive and well I am smiling, no doubt. Shelly and Brett have a beautiful dog and I am truly envious.



Northern Canada, Mid November, Whitehorse, Yukon 2009

Thank You Shelly and Brett - It is fitting that Nika ended up in the Yukon, developed over centuries to excel in the deeper snow, here she stands to show off why.

ELKHOUND MALE LOKI-BEAR

LOKI-BEAR: Wow, was I impressed when ole Loki-Bear jumped out of the truck when Darlyne and Les pulled into the drive.

One of my favorite pups was Loki-Bear, he spent a bit more time with us than most and we grew attached before he left.

Darlyne and Les have an outstanding young male. He is a very pleasant guy, very nice to be around.

- This is a large Elkhound Male
- He is solid and very broad throughout
- Loki-Bear was strong right from a pup, this carried through
- His coat is truly amazing, it's deep and thick and carries well down his legs and belly, this dog is made for the snow
- This guy has manners, he is pleasant, yet

hang on if he wants to go somewhere, he is strong.

- This is what people think about when they are talking about Elkhounds
- Ears pointed and narrower at the top than the width at the base, tall and well placed.
- Loki-Bear has the highly prized mascara line extending from the eye corner out
- Look at those paws, there is a dog that can hunt for days
- Lung capacity and power in spades
- He is obedient, Darlyne and Les, long time Elkhound owners have a true companion in Loki-Bear and it clearly shows.



Be sure to visit the Kamia Kennels site to see the current updates for Loki-Bear.
<http://www.kamiakennels.ca/Loki-Bear/loki-bear.html>

TAKODA - REDEFINING LOYALTY

TAKODA: One of those dogs who would give his life for mine, he would protect me or our family at all costs and not hesitate for a second.

Elkhounds are known throughout the world for their fearless nature.

Takoda takes his role and his heritage very serious indeed. Takoda is a true protection dog, a 1 in 1000 the old trainers say. A dog that in the most dire of times, when push comes to shove, is a dog that will stay and fight, he is more bite than bark if you will, although he does have a nice deep bark.

He is truly loyal, the friendliest companion, he will come on his own accord day or night to greet me, it could be midnight on a cold winter night he'll still make the trip out to see me if I come home late, it never matters to him, he is there to say hello to me no matter the time, no matter the weather.



Takoda is large by Elkhound standards, very strong, carries zero fat, a very dominant dog. He is extremely well balanced and passes his great qualities through to his pups. Takoda is exactly the same height as he is long, he is as deep from top to bottom brisket as brisket to ground. He is very fast. He has a nice thick muzzle, great teeth, and excellent straight nose, all of which he passes to his pups. His great coat combines well with Mia, just take a look at Nika, Kona, Bruin, Lexi, Loki-Bear or any of the pups, it's unmistakable his muzzle, his size, and the great muscling and structure of Mia work very well together.



We don't socialize Takoda on purpose, his job is to protect our family and the pups and to treat everyone else as a stranger or potential threat. He excels in this role, as dominant Northern dogs pack instinct is strong, thus they make excellent watch dogs and protection dogs.



Bruin



Kona



Takoda
and a few of his boys



Bosco



Koda



Shadow



Loki-Bear

Lexi



Tora



Mia

and a few of her girls



Tegan



Nika





TORA: Getting ready to step in as a new breeding female at Kamia Kennels



In Tora's mind she is top female now, but only until she tries to muscle out her mother, Mia has her hands full with this independent young image of herself, same size, same weight, and full of energy, but Mia knows she is top dog & doesn't hesitate to let Tora know it. Tora will be our next breeding female and we are very excited with her development and potential, inquiries into her first litter are already coming. The pups from Tora will be outstanding & we'll keep you posted, you can review more on Tora the website.

A HUGE THANK YOU FROM US

Thank You to all the families that put their confidence in our breeding program to provide their families with new loyal companion dogs.

A special thank you as well goes out to Russ and Holly for sharing so much on Bruin and Kona, Lynn thank you, it was so great you came by with Lexi, Darlyne and Les, we really enjoyed our visit with you both and Loki-Bear. Tracey and Dennis, we very much appreciate the updates and photos on Tegan, and up North, Shelly and Brett, thank you both for keeping us in touch with Nika.

We have many others to thank as well this summer we had a great visit with Shadow as Cathy met with us in Red Deer, Carrie has been keeping us posted on Koda, Dan sent some great things about Loki and many more, thank you.

We will be touching base on some of the other pups upcoming, we are excited to hear more on Tula and Sophi, out in Creston, and Kerry has sent some news on Reba but we'll get some updates hopefully on her ranch life down in Waterton. Lindsay has provided some updates on Bosco, I am excited to hear more on that big guy. There are more and we'll be reaching out shortly to keep everyone posted. It's been a great time and thank you.



WWW.KAMIAKENNELS.CA

Ashten with Koda and Shadow Jay with Lexi
Marlene with Niko and Loki Merv with Takoda, Mia and Loki-Bear