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# **International Collaborative on Extreme Conformations in Dogs**

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## **Aims and Activities**



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# International Collaborative on Extreme Conformations in Dogs

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is an international multi-stakeholder group committed to

***promotion of healthy conformations (body shapes) in dogs.***



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# International Collaborative on Extreme Conformations in Dogs

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- **We as**
- ***Breeders and owners***
- ***Veterinarians***
- ***Well-fare organisations***
- ***Authorities***

***are stronger together***



**Was established after the 1st Dog Health Workshop in Stockholm 2012**

*with the aim to bring stakeholders together*



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# International Collaborative on Extreme Conformations in Dogs

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Was established after the 4th Dog Health Workshop in Windsor 2019

*with the aim*

*to enhance establishment of and bringing together **national stakeholder groups** to counteract extreme conformation*



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## Our Mission

As a **global multi-stakeholder group**, ICECDogs will work together with our members and collaborators to minimize welfare issues resulting from extreme conformations in dogs by seeking out and applying evidence-based canine and human approaches.



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## **OUR Vision**

A world where no dog experiences health-related welfare problems attributable to having been selectively bred for an extreme conformation.



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## OUR focus

The current focus is **to support national/regional multi-stakeholder groups** engaged in the issues raised by extreme conformation in dogs and to act as a leader in the development and dissemination of policy and guidance on minimizing extremes of conformation and promoting moderate, healthy conformation in dogs.

# EXTREME CONFORMATION

*“describes a physical appearance that has been so significantly altered by humankind away from the ancestral natural canine appearance that affected dogs commonly suffer from poor health and welfare, with negative impacts on their quality and quantity of life”*

# Members/Members “to be”

Representing true national “multistakeholder” organizations

## Affiliated Organizations

We are developing a **network of partner organizations** that, while not multi-stakeholder groups, are stakeholders internationally or in their home countries and are engaged in the issues we are addressing. We will maintain communication with our partner organizations and will collaborate on specific issues with these organizations from time-to-time as appropriate.

## Expert Panel Members

We are currently developing a **panel of experts on Extreme Conformation** to advise and assist the ICECDogs on specific topics and issues. Members of the expert panel are knowledge leaders in specific areas or a number of areas related to one or more aspects of the Extreme Conformation issue, and would be expected to contribute their knowledge and expertise from time-to-time to assist the ICECDogs.



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## Working by

- Regular virtual meetings
- Participation in "relevant activities"



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works from the position that

*“Maximizing good health, welfare and temperament overrides all other considerations for dogs.”*

# Members

**Australia:** Australian Brachycephalic Working Group

**Austria:** Qualzuchtkommission (Commission for the Implementation of the Ban on Extreme Breeding) in Austria.

**Finland:** Finnish Kennel Club, Finnish Veterinary Practitioners Foundation Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Finland

**Canada**

**Germany:**

**Ireland:**

**New Zealand:** New Zealand Veterinary Association

**Sweden:** Swedish Collaborative Committee on Canine Health and Welfare

**United Kingdom:** UK Brachycephalic Working Group -

**United States of America:** UC Davis/HSVMA)

# Activities

- Establishment of national multistakeholder groups
- Promoting  
    ”wise legislations ”

**Screening and breeding programs**

**RFG**

**Other**

**Breed Specific Instructions / Breed Watch**

- Position Statements / press releases
- Involvement t in the Choose Health Coalition

# Position Statements

**July 12, 2024:**

**International Guidelines on the Use of Imagery of Dogs with Extreme Conformations in Advertising.**

- Read the statement: [here](#)
- [PDF version \[pdf\]](#)
- [Download Position Statement Infographic](#)

**July 17, 2025:**

**Noisy breathing in brachycephalic (flat-faced) dogs at rest or light exercise is never normal.**

- Read the statement: [here](#)
- [PDF version \[pdf\]](#)
- [Download Position Statement Infographic](#)

# Board members

**Monique Megens**

**Dan O'Neil**

**Åke Hedhammar**

**Paul Eckford**





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## **International Collaborative on Extreme Conformations in Dogs**

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ICECDogs appreciates the ongoing financial support of





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Please join and contact us at

<https://www.icecdogs.com/>