**Four Heroic Pets**

(Manipulated Article, adapted from Andrea Karr & Stacy Lee Kong)

<http://www.canadianliving.com/life-and-relationships/pets/article/4-unbelievably-heroic-stories-of-dogs-that-will-make-you-want-to-hug-your-own-pooch>

**S**

**ixth sense**
Late one evening, Matthew Church returned from a bike ride complaining to his wife, Patricia, of pain in his shoulder and elbow. She gave him two Aspirins, and he went upstairs to watch TV while Patricia read by the fireplace downstairs, the family's dog, Zola, at her feet. Moments later, Patricia heard a noise from upstairs. She would have ignored the noise, but Zola began to bark and growl at Patricia. Confused by Zola's behaviour, Patricia followed the dog upstairs, where Matthew was lying on the floor. He wasn’t breathing, but because of Zola's instincts, the ambulance arrived in time to restart his heart and save his life.

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**isky business**
Raya, a five-year-old black dog, loves hunting with her owner, Brent Cote, and his mother, Trudy. On a warm fall day in 2015, one such hunting trip turned out to be much more exciting than usual. They'd been hiking for several hours when dusk fell and they began making their way back to their car, walking along the edge of the forest. Out of nowhere, a bear showed up and charged toward the family in an effort to protect her cub. Raya jumped in front of Brent and Trudy, barking and growling at the bear. The mom and her cub were forced to leave. Because of Raya's courage, the three of them were ok.

**G**

**ood company**
Port Alberni, B.C., Kayla Aolick says that her dog, Shadow, helped her become independent. Kayla has epilepsy, the effect of a brain tumour that was removed when she was 11, when she was so bad that she couldn't go anywhere alone. But since the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides brought this seizure-detection dog into her life four years ago, things have been very different. Shadow tells Kayla when a seizure is coming on. With Shadow around, she and her family don't worry as much about what will happen if a seizure strikes; they know he'll let Kayla know, get her mom or even push her medical-alert button, if necessary. From taking cooking classes to running errands alone, Kayla can finally live a more independent life.

**B**

**rave heart**
Toronto Police Service Canine Unit Const. Steve Balice rarely goes anywhere without his police dog, Lonca. One November evening, the two of them were at the back entrance of a residential address, while the rest of the Emergency Task Force entered through the front door. Const. Balice saw an armed man running from the building, heading toward the officers out front, so he shouted numerous warnings before finally releasing Lonca to bring the suspect down. The man started to hit Lonca in the face with a sword—but he didn't let go until the suspect finally surrendered. Though bleeding, Lonca helped Const. Balice catch a second suspect before being going to the veterinary hospital. The suspect who attacked Lonca was the first in Canada to be charged under Quanto's Law, a piece of legislation which protects law-enforcement animals, military animals and service animals.

