



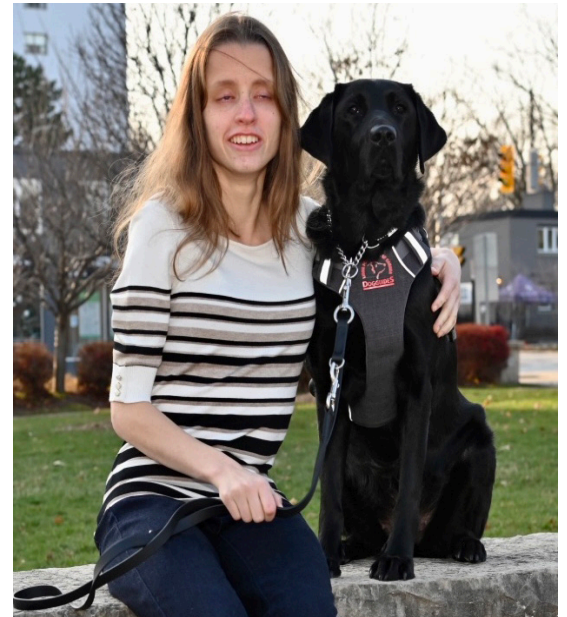
June
2023



LFCDG Celebrates Accessibility Week

From Sunday, May 28th until Saturday, June 3rd, Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides (LFCDG) has been celebrating National Accessibility Week. With 6.2 million of Canadians living with a disability, creating a world that is accessible to all is essential. Dog Guides aid in accessibility every day, whether it's opening a classroom door for a teacher or a student with a disability to alerting to the sound of a fire alarm for someone that is deaf or hard of hearing, the skills that Dog Guides learn make life more accessible for people living with a wide range of disabilities.

"One of the things I appreciate most about Destiny is the freedom and independence that she gives me to navigate the world safely and with confidence. She allows me to live my life on my own terms. With Destiny, I can go places and do things that I would not be able to do on my own." - Nikita & Destiny, Canine Vision team



Happy Pride Month

Happy Pride everyone! Encouraging you to be proud and inclusive of all this month and every other month!

Check out Facility Support Dogs Jaz and Marielle sporting some colourful accessories!



Thanks for joining us for the Pet Valu Walk for Dog Guides!

A HUGE thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Pet Valu Walk for Dog Guides. This year's event had over 200 walk locations across the country, and so far over \$738,259 in donations have been raised in support of Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides from the walks. Remember, any walk donations received by June 30th, 2023 will count toward this year's walk totals, so there's still time to get those donations in at www.walkfordogguides.com.

Thanks very much to all of our Walk Organizers and their teams across the country for all of their dedication and support of the [Pet Valu Walk for Dog Guides](http://www.walkfordogguides.com).



Pawtners in Success - Pet Valu

To fulfill our mission and support Canadians from coast to coast, it takes a village and we are grateful Pet Valu is part of our village.

LFCDG shares a very successful national partnership with the Pet Valu family of stores across Canada. Since 2014, they have been supporting LFCDG every step of the way. Through Pet Valu's charitable branch, Companions for Change, they are the national feeding partner of LFCDG by providing their premium line of Performatrin® and Performatrin Ultra® food for all of our puppies, breeding dogs and Dog Guides in training.

They also sponsor our national [Pet Valu Walk for Dog Guides](#) fundraising event, which takes part in over 200 communities across Canada. With their support, 100% of proceeds support the seven Dog Guides programs, enabling LFCDG to assist more Canadians. Many of the Pet Valu family of stores across Canada get involved with the walk by hosting, supporting their local walk or registering a team.

Additionally, over 175 Dog Guide teams and counting have been sponsored by Pet Valu, through the Companions for Change fundraising initiatives. These include Pet Appreciation Month in June, Companions for Change month in October and a "give-what-you-can-" calendar in December, with all proceeds going towards Companions for Change initiatives including LFCDG.

Partnerships make us stronger and we cannot thank Pet Valu enough for their commitment and dedication as a pawtners in success!



A Big Thank You to the Oakville McDonald's Locations!

Thanks so much to the Oakville McDonald's locations for once again including Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides in McHappy Day! It was a fantastic day that created a lot of awareness in the community and generated donations for LFCDG.



Upcoming LFCDG Events to support

Oakville Ride for Dog Guides – Saturday, June 24, 2023

Join us on Saturday, June 24 for the Oakville Ride for Dog Guides. This motorcycle ride starts at our Head Office in Oakville and then continues on a scenic ride with 3 poker run stops along the way before ending at our Breeding Facility in Breslau. The event includes prizes, a raffle, a BBQ lunch and the opportunity to meet some Future Dog Guide puppies. If you'd like more information or would like to register, please visit: www.dogguides.com/ride

Sparky's Dog Days of Summer

Summer is almost here and that means that Sparky's Dog Days of Summer are back. We will once again be partnering with Oakville Fire and Panago Pizza at splash pad locations throughout Oakville on Wednesday evenings during the summer. We'll be selling pizza, drinks and chips, and LFCDG will receive all of the proceeds from these events. We had a great time participating in these events last year, and we can't wait for this year's! Here is the full schedule of dates and locations:

July 5th, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM – Wynten Way Park

July 12th, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM – Sixteen Hollow Park

July 19th, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM – Neyagawa Park

July 26th, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM – Valleybrook Park

August 2nd, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM – Fowley Park

August 9th, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM – Valleyridge Park

August 16th, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM – Forster Park

If you're interested in volunteering to help at any of these events, please contact Jennifer Boyd at events@dogguides.com



Become a Day School Sitter to Help Dog Guides in training Graduate with Honours

Help give our dogs the greatest opportunity to succeed by becoming a Day School sitter!

When in formal training at LFCDG, Dog Guides will stay overnight in our kennels and be looked after by staff. Most of our dogs are able to adapt and enjoy sharing a space with other roommates, but not all thrive in this environment. Some dogs may exhibit signs of stress in the kennel environment, which can negatively impact their training. To ensure all our dogs are at their best, we created our day school program, which was featured on [City TV](#).

We are looking for reliable sitters who can give the in-training dog a break from kennel. These volunteers would drop off the dogs to our training facilities in the morning and pick them up at the end of the day throughout the week. The sitters would also look after the dogs on weekends and statutory holidays.

We are currently looking for sitters who live close to our Oakville and Breslau (Guelph region) facilities. Please visit [Specialty Sitter Volunteer Program - Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides](#) for more information and to apply.



Become a Foster Family

We're currently looking for fosters that live in Toronto, Mississauga, Oakville, Burlington, Hamilton, Niagara, Kitchener and Guelph. visit [Foster Puppy Program](#) to apply.



Adopt a “Career Changed” Dog from LFCDG

Not all our dogs are meant to be working Dog Guides, and that's okay! Some dogs may not have the right personality, health or temperament for a life as a Dog Guide. Regardless, our Career Changed dogs make wonderful, loving pets and we have a few that are currently up for adoption. Visit our [website](#) to view those that are up for adoption.

Thanks to her adoptive parents, Sophie is now living her best life!

“Sophie is our fourth poodle and our first Career Changed pet. The Lions Foundation staff were clear on why she was not suited as a Dog Guide - high energy and, as they said, ‘prey drive’- she’d rather chase squirrels and rabbits. Her spirit and active curiosity were recognized by the trainers who recommended she be adopted out to a family early in the process rather than continuing in her Dog Guide training program. Sophie’s foster parents and trainers had done a wonderful job of raising a sweet furry friend. The Lions Foundation’s adoption process took care to ensure their placement was a good fit for the dog and the family. Our house, once again, is filled with joy, wonder and love. Dogs are miracle-workers.” -Bruce and Barb Norman



Grant Recognition

We would like to recognize the following donors for their contributions to Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides

- Beaty Family Foundation (a fund held within the Oakville Community Foundation)
- James and Barbara Snow Family Foundation (a fund held within the Oakville Community Foundation)
- The Sam & Margaret Charitable Trust for Dog Guides (a fund held within the Oakville Community Foundation)

Pawsibilities Grant Recognition:

- Hodgson Family Foundation
- Canadian National Autism Foundation

Leaving a Legacy at LFCDG

If someone were to ask “how do you want to be remembered?”, what would your answer be?

We want to inspire you to think about your legacy, and how to support LFCDG for many years to come. Here are three steps you can take today:

- 1. Identify your goals.** What kind of difference do you want to make? You can visit our Will Power page to see how a gift in your Will could be used, and calculate your future impact after family is taken care of.
- 2. Talk to your family.** A discussion around a shared legacy is a powerful way to bring loved ones together. It can become a bond-building exercise, a way to create lasting memories.
- 3. Speak to an expert.** A financial advisor can help you realize the full potential of your future gift and the tax benefits involved. You can find an advisor in your region using Will Power’s advisor finder. Visit [Add a Gift to Charity in your Will and Still Support Loved Ones - Will Power for more information and helpful resources.](#)

Please contact Julie Jelinek at jjelinek@dogguides.com or (905) 842-2891 Ext. 223 to discuss how leaving a gift in your Will can be powerful tool for change.



Clients Encouraged to Share Stories for New Book

Former CBC radio producer Cate Cochran is looking for stories to share in her upcoming book "How My Dog Saved My Life." Her book will feature tales of dogs that have rescued their owners from grave injury or almost certain death; dogs that protect owners and keep them safe (i.e., service and guide dogs); and companion dogs (to people with mental and/or emotional and/or physical disabilities) that have a profound impact on the wellbeing of their owners.

If you would like to contribute to her book, Cate can be reached at howmydogssavedmylife@gmail.com or 416-795-9781.

Litter Updates

We are pleased to announce the arrival of 22 new LFCDG puppies. Welcome to the Dog Guide world little ones!

- Y Litter: Jillie & Ion – 4 puppies born on April 16, 2023
- Z Litter: Blaire & Ollie – 5 puppies born on April 19, 2023
- A Litter: Heather & Bravo – 4 puppies born on April 26, 2023
- B Litter: Helene & Calder – 8 puppies born on April 30, 2023
- C Litter: Tacoma & PAWS Odin – 1 puppy born May 2, 2023



Would you be interested in helping us raise these little pups?

Visit [**Foster Puppy Program**](#) to apply.