





# A Letter from your Lions Liaison

152 Wilson, St. Oakville, ON L6K 0G6 905-842-2891 800-768-3030 TTY: 1 (905) 842-1585

**Contact Us** 







Though you wouldn't know by the weather, spring has sprung. For LFCDG, that means our favourite, and busiest time of the year. The buildings are bustling with puppies being born, future Dog Guides being trained, and clients receiving their new Dog Guide. We also have many fun and exciting events. So, wherever you are, and however you can, I hope you will be a part of our world for a wonderful spring.

#### **Danielle Rosenblum**

Community Partnerships Manager



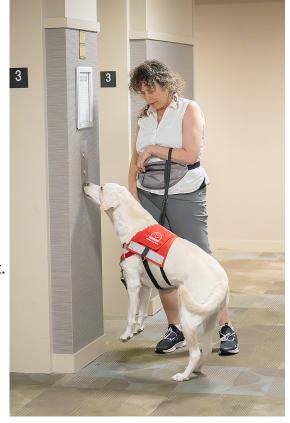


# The Path to a Perfect Match: A Client's Journey

Our mission is to empower Canadians living with disabilities to navigate their world with confidence and independence by providing Dog Guides at no cost to them and supporting each pair in their journey together. We exist to serve individuals, our fellow Canadians, through Dog Guides. Making the decision to get a Dog Guide can be a no-brainer for some, while for others it takes time, but it is never a decision to make lightly. And that is just the first step in the journey to receiving a Dog Guide.

When there is adequate space in a program, individuals will learn everything they'll need to know to help decide if they should move forward with this journey. When the Waitlist opens, a potential client will submit an Expression of Interest.

Next, is the Application phase, to gather all relevant information and provide a holistic view of the individual's needs and expectations. An in-home assessment gives us a chance to learn more about the applicant and the environment a Dog Guide may eventually live in. Once the assessment is complete, the applicant's profile will be presented to our Admissions Committee who will review the



application and home assessment to determine if we are able to train a Dog Guide to meet their needs.

Once admitted, Client Services works with our Program Instructors to determine what type of dog that would best meet the lifestyle, activity level and the unique needs of their medical or physical disability. Matching just the right dog to each client can take time, but it's one of the most important aspects of the journey.

Once a Dog is identified, the individual is invited to our training facility in Oakville for anywhere from 10 to 21 days to bond and train with their new Dog Guide. The Foundation covers all costs for travel, accommodation, and meals.

The new team then goes home, and with ongoing support, they begin a lifelong relationship, and a future that is brighter, and full of new possibilities.

### **Your Support Means So Much**

#### Sensory Room - \$5,000

We are looking to create a sensory room at the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides. This will offer an invaluable resource that supports the well-being, learning, and emotional regulation of our clients and staff. This room will enhance the overall experience of our clients while staying at our facility. It will foster a more inclusive and effective training where they can thrive, feel empowered, and succeed in their journey with their service dogs. Our plans include ensuring the room is accessible and beneficial for a wide range of people, including clients and staff. The purpose is to encourage mindfulness, relaxation, and emotional regulation.

Contact Danielle (<u>drosenblum@dogquides.com</u>) for more details if you want to support.

#### **Enrichment Program - \$15,000**

Training to be a Dog Guide is hard work. It takes many months, and lots of effort, energy, and concentration. We treat our future Dog Guides with the utmost care and respect. We place a strong emphasis on their continuous development and well-being. As part of this, we have a Dog Guide enrichment program, managed by our incredible instructors and dedicated volunteers. The purpose of this is to reward our dogs for the enormous efforts they put in each and every day. It also supports their learning, as giving them time to play and be stimulated in a non-structured way refreshes them and helps them to relax, so when they are learning, it is at a higher level. Dogs are provided toys in a safe play area, which they can use to interact with other dogs and kennel staff and volunteers to play, let loose, and reset. They also have toys in their kennel to help them when having down-time and unwinding. This program has shown tremendous success in the learning and disposition of our future Dog Guides.

Contact Danielle (drosenblum@dogquides.com) for more details if you want to support.

### **Scholarships**

Since July, we have had 82 new Dog Guide teams graduate from Dog Guide University, with an anticipated 33 more to come, by the end of June. What it takes to fund this work, from breeding, to raising, training, and follow-up, comes to \$35,000 over a lifetime. You can help by contributing to the Dog Guide Scholarship Program and covering a portion (or all) of the costs.

### **Puppy Pals**

This year, 135 puppies were born. Every puppy has the potential to become a future Dog Guide, and we want to give them the best start possible. By contributing \$10,000 and becoming a Puppy Pal, your gift will play an integral part in covering these costs.

#### **Legacy Giving**

Thinking about the end of life isn't easy, but making a difference is something we all value.

Bequests play a crucial role in supporting LFCDG, and we are deeply grateful to those who have included us in their wills. By leaving a gift in your will, you create a lasting impact, helping to improve the lives of people with disabilities for years to come.

If you're considering a charitable bequest, we encourage you to consult a financial planner. We've partnered with WillPower, an online resource designed to inspire Canadians to rethink charitable giving and empower them to create positive change through their wills. Watch a testimonial from Legacy donor and client, Karen on the LFCDG profile page, as she shares why she chose to pay it forward.

For more information on leaving a gift in your will, please email Jane Leaver at <u>jleaver@dogguides.com</u>.

# **Looking Ahead**

#### **Virtual Dog Guides Info Session**

For any clubs who would like to attend a virtual info session to learn more about Dog Guides, please contact Danielle at <a href="mailto:drosenblum@dogguides.com">drosenblum@dogguides.com</a> to receive the invite and link. The upcoming times available are:

• May 14 (Wednesday) at 5:00 pm EST

### Don't Run, Walk...For Dog Guides

Help create Brighter Futures full of Countless Possibilities. Join our national walk for its 40th anniversary year. There are many ways to participate, from organizing a Walk, to volunteering, fundraising, walking, or attending an exciting community event.



If you have any questions or need assistance, don't hesitate to reach out to Anna Harris, our National Event Coordinator, at: <a href="walk@dogguides.com">walk@dogguides.com</a>



#### **Fellowships and Memberships**

Celebrate the incredible Service of a fellow Lion with one of the many Fellowships or Memberships available. You can learn about all of them on our website and purchase them <u>online</u>.

#### **Memorial Forest**

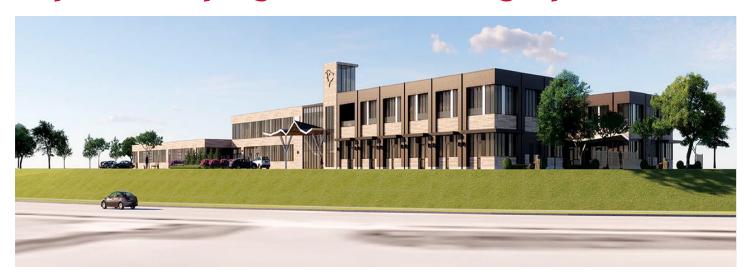
Dedication Service in Breslau, Ontario: Saturday June 14, 2025

Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides Memorial Forest is located on the grounds of the Dog Guide training centre and breeding facility in Breslau, Ontario. The Memorial Forest program has generated great interest among the Lions' family and Dog Guide supporters. As such, the forest will continue to flourish for future generations and assist funding Dog Guides to help change lives.

The cost of planting a tree is \$350. Trees can be purchased online at: <a href="Memorial Forest Order Form">Memorial Forest Order Form</a>
For more information please visit our <a href="website">website</a> or contact Danielle at <a href="memorial drosenblum@dogguides.com">drosenblum@dogguides.com</a>.



# Capital Campaign/New Building Update



Standing on-site as steel beams rise skyward, it's clear: this isn't just a building — it's the foundation of futures changed with LFCDG's new national training school. The underground parking structure has been completed, and construction is now reaching new heights. The vision of a world-class Dog Guide training school is taking shape with each beam and bolt, thanks to the expertise of Turner Construction. By Spring 2026, the school will be ready to welcome Canadians for training with their new Dog Guide.

The Dog Guide training school is designed to be fully accessible, ensuring every client can train and live with ease, comfort and independence while on site. With the goal of meeting the Rick Hansen Foundation Gold Accessibility Standard, the building features a barrier-free design, wide hallways, and this thoughtful design will create a welcoming, supportive environment — helping clients and their Dog Guides focus on building life-changing partnerships.

### **Naming Opportunities for Lions Clubs**

Lions Clubs have been instrumental in bringing this vision to life — and there's still time to leave your mark. Naming opportunities are a chance for your club's generosity to live on for generations, recognized in an important space.. Join the hundreds of Lions Clubs already supporting this extraordinary project. There are still a few naming opportunities left!

Together, we're building more than a school — we're building hope, independence, and a lasting impact.

To schedule a presentation or learn more, please contact <u>thedifference@dogguides.com</u> or call 1-800-768-3030 Ext. 202.

#### Celebrating the Impact of District A-15 and LCIF

The Lions of District A-15 — supported by a Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) Matching Grant of \$205,000 (CDN) are helping turn the Difference Campaign's vision into reality. Their contribution is supporting the building of the purpose-built Seizure Response classroom and training area in our new Dog Guide training school.

District A-15's leadership and LCIF's partnership represent the very best of what Lions can accomplish together. We are proud to recognize the generosity of LCIF and can't wait to see the impact for years to come.





# Thank You for Your Generosity

(Donations January through March)

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Penetanguishene Lions Club

Uxbridge & District Lions Club

Winsloe Lions Club

Hamilton Central Lions

London Central Lions Club

Mosborough Busy Busy Lions Club

Green Capes Trust Foundation

**Arnprior Lions Club** 

Shawville Lions Club

Bracebridge Lions Club

Ripley & District Lions Club Inc.

Sheffield Lions Club Inc.

Tiverton & District Lions Club

Wiarton and District Lions Club

Owen Sound Scenic City Lions Club

**Quesnel Lions Club** 

Pike Lake Minto Lions Club

**Kensington Lions Club** 

Carbon Lions Club

West Hill Highland Creek Lions

River John & District Lions Club

District N-2

Jordan Lions Club

Orangeville Lions Club

Lakefield & District Lions Club

Chatham (ON) Lions Club

Dunsford & District Lions Club

Summerside (PE) Lions Club

Ramea Lions Club

Belwood Lions Club

Washago Lions Club

Tiny Township Lions Club

**Broughton Lions Club** 

Bryson Lionettes Club

District A-15

Lions Club of Oakville Inc.

Pembroke-Petawawa Lions Club Inc.

**Erickson Lions Club** 

Bawlf & District Lions Club

Kenton Area Lions Club

Barrhaven Lions Club

Shoal Lake Lions Club

Binscarth & District

Lions Club

Rivers & Area Lions

Club

Rossburn Lions Club

Inc.

Brandon Wheat City Lions Club Inc.

Oak Lake & Area Lions Club

Hamiota Lions Club

**Dauphin Lions Club** 

Stonewall & District Lions Club Inc.

Gilbert Plains & District Lions Club

Austin & Area Lions Club

United Towns Lions Club

Lions Club International N-1

Ayr-North Dumfries Lions Club Bowsman & District Lions Club

Swan River Lions Club Inc.

Wawanesa Lions Club

**Brandon Lions Club** 

Sandy Lake Lions Club

Russell & District Lions

Club

Minnedosa Lions Club

MacGregor Lions Club Inc.

Spryfield Lions Club Inc.

Central Saanich Lions Club

St. Martins & District Lions Club Inc.

Toronto Central Lions Club

CLOSED - Cole Harbour Lions Club

Red Lake District Lions Club

Atikokan Lions Club

East St. Paul Lions Club

Nanoose Bay Lions Club

Pittsburgh Township Lions Club

Ste Anne Lions Club **Vermilion Bay Lions** Club Kenora Lake of the **Woods Lions Club** Winnipeg West Lions Club **Dryden Lions Club** Lynden Lions Club Beausejour Lions Club Calgary Heritage Lions Club West St. Paul Lions Club Warwick Lions Club Gabriola Island Lions Club Olds Lions Club Beiseker Lions Club Oyen Lions Club Windermere & District **Lions Club** Parksville Lions Club Killaloe & Area Lions Club Inc. **Kootenay Lake Lions** Club Lambeth Lions Club Chicoutimi Lions Club Inc. Prince Edward County Lions Club

**Oro District Lions Club** 

Mississauga Cooksville Lions Club **Lucan District Lions** Club York Lions Club **Mount Albert District** Lions Club Berwick & District Lions Club Flin Flon Lions Club Waskada Lions Club Inc. Plumas Lions Club Crystal City Lions Club **Boissevain Lions Club** Shelburne & District Lions Club Inc. Seaforth Lions Club Inc. Mississauga Central Lions Club Moncton Lions Club Simcoe Lions Club **Knowlton Lions Club** Inc. Badger's Quay Lions Club **Woolwich Community** Lions Club **Burford Lions Club** Cedar Lions Club District A-711

Wyoming Lions Club

Magnetawan Lions Club Vernon River Lions Club Calgary Southridge Lions Club **Turtleford & District** Lions Club Tracadie Lions Club Inc. Sarnia Lions Club Winnipeg Lions Club Rockwood & District Lions Club **Eckville Lions Club** Vimy & District Lions Club Blyth Lions Club Inc. **Beaver Valley Lions** Club Thompson Lions Club Thessalon Lions Club Selkirk & District (MB) **Lions Club** Repentigny Lions Club Inc District A-2 Charities Inc. St. Agapit Lions Club Inc.

Woodstock (ON) Lions

Lakeville Lions Club

Nanaimo Lions Club

St. Apollinaire Lions Club Inc. **Edmonton Millwoods** Breakfast Lions Club **Edmonton South Edmonton Lions Club** Georgetown (ON) **Lions Club** Club Lions de Trois-Rivieres Inc.

Club

Capital Campaign	Tillsonburg Lions Club	Cudworth Lions Club	Petrolia Lions Club Inc
Bracebridge Lions Club	Moncton Lions Club	Stoney Creek Lions	Port Aux Basques Lions
Granby Lions Club	District 19-A	Club Inc.	Club
Club Lions St-Romain Inc.	South River Lions Club  Drummondville Lions	Pincher-Cowley Roaring Lions Club	Portage La Prairie Lions Club
Lafleche District Lions	Club	Devon Lions Club	Prince Edward County
Club	New Germany & Area	Cowley Lions Club	Lions Club
Norwood Lions Club	Lions Club	Pincher Creek Lions Club	Quispamsis Island View Lions Club Inc Rapid City & Area Lions Club
Navan Lions Club	Newcastle (ON) Lions		
Burlington Lions Club	Club	Ste Marie de Beauce Lions Club	
Middleton & District Lions Club	Riviere Du Loup Lions Club Inc	Annapolis Royal Lions	Red Lake District Lions Club
Woodville & District	Matane Lions Club Inc.	Club	Ripley & District Lions Club Inc.
Lions Club	Placentia Lions Club	Morrisburg & District Lions Club	
Winchester Lions Club	Lynn Valley Lions Club	Welland Lions Club	Riverview Lions Club
Inc	Grande Riviere Lions	Orleans Lions Club Inc.	Inc.
Piapot Lions Club	Club	Surrey Central Lions	Riviere-Au-Renard
Esquimalt Lions Club	Oshawa West Lions Club Inc.	Club	Lions Club
Tiny Township Lions		Pefferlaw District Lions	Sept Iles Lions Club Inc.
Club	Fort Qu'Appelle District Lions Club	Club	Sorrento Lions Club
Harbour Breton Lions Club	Musquodoboit	St-Elzéar Lions Club	St. Albert Host Lions
Corner Brook Lions	Harbour & District	Ville St Georges Lions	Club
Club	Lions Club	Club	St. Anaclet De Lessard
Conne River Aosamiajij	Conception Bay South Lions Club	Fort MacLeod Lions Club	Lions Club
Miawpukek First			St. Apollinaire Lions
Nations Lions Club Paradise Centennial Lions Club		Green Bay South Lions Club	Club Inc.
Wawanesa Lions Club		Townsend Lions Club	St. Elias Lions Haines
Lions Club		Oro District Lions Club	Junction
Pembroke-Petawawa Lions Club Inc.	Paia Varta Daningula		St. Mathieu Lions Club Inc.

Lions Club

Lions Club

St. Pascal Lions Club Inc.

Ste Blandine Lions Club Inc.

St-Lambert Lions Club Inc.

Stoughton Lions Club

Sudbury Lions Club

Thorsby Lions Club

Toronto Hong Kong Lions Club

United Towns Lions Club

**Unity Lions Club** 

Vegreville Lions Club

Ville St Georges Lions

Club

Windthorst Lions Club

Woodville & District

Lions Club

### **Scholarships**

Carmangay Lions Club Inc.

Kelowna Okanagan Mission Lions Club

Linwood & District Lions Club

Fenwick Lions Club

Mossleigh Lions Club

Chippawa Lions Club

South Brant Lions Club

Virden Lions Club

Tillsonburg Lions Club

Simcoe Lions Club

Oak Ridges Lions Club

Minnow Lake Lions Club

Ridgeway Lions Club

Paradise Centennial Lions Club

District N-4

Portugal Cove St. Phillips Lions Club

Clarenville Lions Club Inc.

Claresholm Lions Club

Fort Langley Lions Club

Chilliwack Stellers Jay Lions Club

Agassiz Harrison Lions Club Chilliwack Mount
Cheam Lions Club

Langley Lions Club

Galt Cambridge Lions Club Inc.

# Fellowships and Memberships

Vancouver Fraser Lions Club

Flin Flon Lions Club

Waskada Lions Club Inc.

Smoky Lake Lions Club

Chippawa Lions Club

Fenwick Lions Club

St. Anaclet De Lessard

**Lions Club** 

Riviere-Au-Renard

**Lions Club** 

Sept Iles Lions Club

Inc.

Wellesley & District

Lions Club Inc.

Club Lions Grand

Paspebiac

La Pocatiere Lions Club

Mont Louis Lions Club

St. Pascal Lions Club Inc.

Longue Rive Portneuf Lions Club

Grande Riviere Lions Club

Richmound Lions Club

Goulds Lions Club

Alberni Valley Lions

Club

District A-12

Minnedosa Lions Club

Oakwood & District

**Lions Club** 

Mount Pearl Lions Club

La Tuque Lions Club

Inc.

King Lion Rene Pitre

Lethbridge West Lions

Club

Pubnico Area Lions

Club

**Trenton Lions Club** 

**Lindsay Lions Club** 

Londesboro Lions Club

Bethune & District

Lions Club

Formosa District Lions

Club

Peterborough Lions

Club

Markham Lions Club

Arnprior Lions Club

Thamesford Lions Club

Fort Saskatchewan

**Lions Club** 

Port Perry Lions Club

Stratford Lions Club Inc

Perth Lions Club Inc.

**Esterhazy Lions Club** 

Petrolia Lions Club Inc.

Club Lions Les Amis de L'Arche Chaudiere**Appalaches** 

Lions Club of Tring-Jonction, St-Frédéric,

St-Jules, and St-Séverin

Farnham Lions Club Inc

Bonavista Lions Club

Kingston (NS) Lions

Club

Simcoe Lions Club

District A-15

Parkdale Sherwood

**Lions Club** 

**Greely Lions Club** 

Toronto Kaiteur Lions

Club

#### **Memorial Forest**

Newcastle (NB) Lions Club

Georgetown (ON) Lions Club

Nashwaaksis Lions Club Inc Parkdale Sherwood Lions Club

**Brighton Lions Club** 

Magnetawan Lions

Club

St. Jacobs Lions Club

Toronto Kaiteur Lions Club

Deep Brook Waldec Lions Club

**Atwood Lions Club** 

### **Contact Us**

We always love hearing about what your clubs, zones, and districts are up to, and we'd be thrilled to share any highlights in our e-newsletter. We're talking stories, messages, club milestones, in memoriams, and anything else you'd like to feature. You can easily submit it online through our <u>intake form</u>. Follow us on social media at <u>Instagram</u>, <u>Facebook</u> and <u>LinkedIN</u>, and sign-up for our monthly newsletter to keep up-to-date on all things Dog Guides.

For further questions and additional support, please contact your Lions Liaison:

#### **Danielle Rosenblum**

Community Partnerships Manager

drosenblum@dogguides.com

Phone: 905-842-2891 Ext. 300

Visit and follow us at:

https://www.dogguides.com

This newsletter is meant for all Lions, so please share freely within your network.

If you know of a club that is not receiving updates from LFCDG, please let us know.