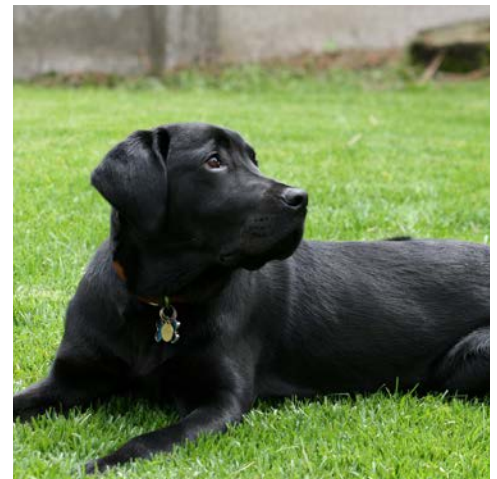
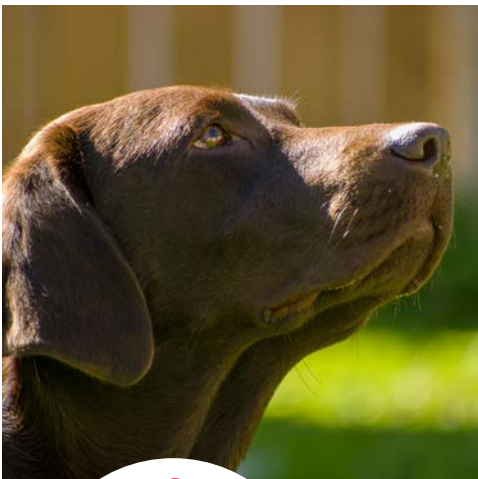


SIDE *by* SIDE

Spring/Summer 2024

Volume 39, Number 1



We provide *freedom* to Canadians

Registered Charity #10684 6819 RR0001 • guidedogs.ca



Follow Us!

Instagram

@canadianguidedogs

Facebook

@CanadianGuideDogsfortheBlind

Twitter

@CDNGuideDogs

guidedogs.ca

info@guidedogs.ca

Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind

4120 Rideau Valley Drive North,
PO Box 280, Manotick, Ontario
K4M 1A3, Canada

Tel.: (613) 692-7777
Fax: (613) 692-0650
Email: info@guidedogs.ca

Founding and accredited member of
International Guide Dog Federation.

Accredited member of Assistance Dogs
International.

Member of Canadian Association of
Guide and Assistance Dog Schools.

Member of Council of North American
Guide Dogs Schools.

Registered Charity #10684 6819 RR0001

Board of Directors

Edward K. Mann	Chair
Mary Jane Binks	Vice-Chair
William Wolfenden	Treasurer
Brian Scott	Secretary
Shane Bennett	Director
Robert Meredith	Director
Donna Tessier	Director
Jane E. Thornton	Director

Side by Side Vol 39 #1, Pg 2

PUPPY WALKERS WANTED



Help provide a canine companion with a loving home for 12-18 months before entering formal training to become a guide dog.

Visit guidedogs.ca/puppy-walking for more information

READ SIDE BY SIDE ONLINE

Help save on printing and postage costs. The latest edition and past issues of Side by Side are available on our website at guidedogs.ca. New issues are posted in May and October. If you wish to read Side by Side online, please contact us to be removed from our Side by Side mailing list. Whether it's in print or online, be sure to read Side by Side twice per year to stay up-to-date about Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind. ■

(613) 692-7777 ■ info@guidedogs.ca

Cover Photo: CGDB Dogs & Pups

Printing: The Printing House

CLIENT PROFILE – BRUCE MACDONALD



Bruce MacDonald, a retired 64-year-old IT Specialist, first came to Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind 34 years ago, in 1990. He was dealing with vision loss from a degenerative eye disease, and he had heard from friends and family that had had good experiences with guide dogs. "At the time, Canadian Guide Dogs was relatively new, but I had heard good things about the school, so I applied and was accepted," Bruce recalls.

As Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind celebrates its 40th Anniversary, Bruce is now teamed up with Thor, his fifth consecutive guide dog from CGDB. He says that it is the quality of the working dogs and the positive experiences that he has had with the organization that has kept him coming back to CGDB.

"The staff at Canadian Guide Dogs are professional and personable and highly knowledgeable," Bruce says. "The aftercare program at CGDB, which includes regular visits from a trainer, is likely one of the best in Canada - if not North America."

Together with Thor, Bruce maintains an active lifestyle. A typical day might include a couple of 30-40-minute walks, to take care of daily errands or meet friends for coffee. They also try to hit the gym several times each week. Bruce tells us that Thor likes to get out for the occasional free run at their local service dog paddock, too.

"Having a guide dog means the world to me," says Bruce. "It provides a sense of confidence in my mobility and allows me to walk briskly both in familiar and unfamiliar surroundings, which is beneficial for my physical and mental health."

Navigating the streets of Halifax, where Bruce resides, has changed a lot over the years. Since the '90's, Bruce believes that the general public has become much more aware of service dogs, and as there are more guide dog users around, he feels

that people are more educated on how to interact with guide dog teams. He also notes, however, that, "The amount and speed of traffic in the city has increased, but with a reduction in the patience on the part of drivers."

Another difference that Bruce has noticed over the decades is an increase in technical aids for navigating as a blind person, including improvements like audible traffic signals at crosswalks and personal GPS systems. "GPS is useful in new locations," he says. "I've used it along with my guide dog, and it's worked out well."

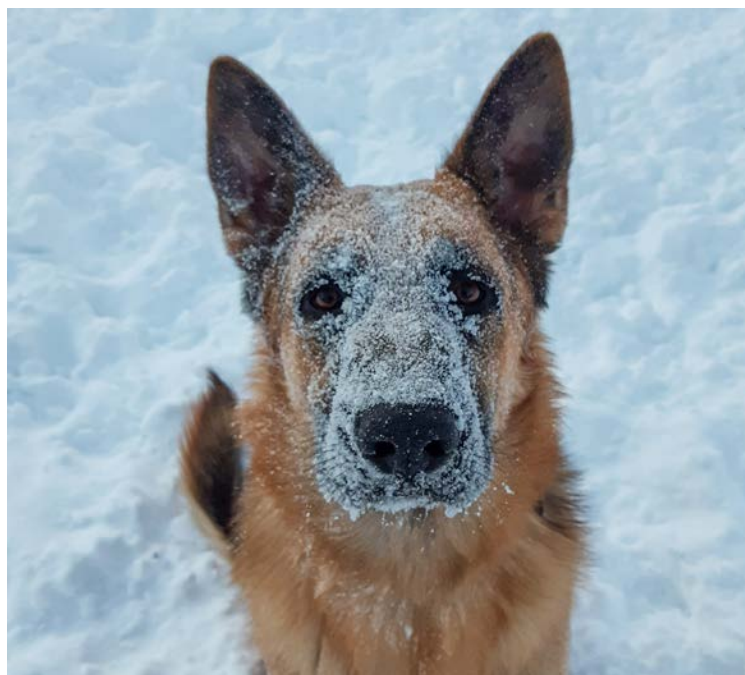
While perhaps useful for wayfinding in unfamiliar parts of the city, it is the final leg of the journey where Bruce says that having a guide dog makes the real difference. "I'll use the GPS to get me close to a store, for example, but I rely on my guide dog to find the correct door."

In February of this year, the city of Halifax was pounded by multiple Nor'easters that left the city buried in heavy snow. Luckily for the pair, Bruce found that Thor excels at dealing with the harsh winter weather on Canada's east coast.

"Thor's cautious such that he's reluctant to have me climb over large snowbanks," he tells us, "But he's also willing to allow us to go over lower snowbanks when the situation is right. He's not too cautious but he's not too reckless, either."

As useful as GPS, and other technologies may be, he points out that they can't help you navigate around sudden obstacles or through Halifax's snowbanks, yet. Bruce doesn't foresee a time where technology will ever fully replace a guide dog, or even a white cane. "I don't have a very good crystal ball," he insists. "But I think there will always be situations where a cane or guide dog are more advantageous."

When it comes to navigating the ever-changing streets in Canada's towns and cities, guide dogs, with their ability to adapt to weather and new obstacles, provide a sense of freedom for their users. "My guide dog helps me function independently," Bruce says. "Whether it's getting on a plane, bus, or train to travel across the country, or to simply go around the corner to the drugstore. Having a guide dog enhances my life immensely." ■



PUPPY WALKING PROFILE – AKSHAY JOSHI



“Work first brought us to Ottawa in January 2020,” says Akshay Joshi, a volunteer Puppy Walker for Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind. A software developer by trade, he works to help transit agencies improve the accessibility of their services to the public.

“With little connection to the Ottawa area, my wife Taylor and I were looking for ways to be a part of the community during COVID,” he says. “Becoming a volunteer for CGDB seemed like a natural fit.”

As newcomers to the city, Akshay and Taylor have relished the opportunity to explore all that the region has to offer while helping to foster Canadian Guide Dog’s puppies. First with Keegan, and now with their current puppy, Holly, the couple has enjoyed taking

advantage of the National Capital Commission Trails, visiting local museums, and finding hidden gems in the city’s burgeoning culinary scene.

It was on one of these walks around the city with his first puppy, Keegan, that Akshay would propose to his partner, Taylor. Keegan would eventually go on to fulfill the role of Ring Bearer during the couple’s ceremony, as well.

“We weren’t sure how Keegan would fare during the wedding,” Akshay recalls. “He proved us wrong, though; showing what 12 months of CGDB training could do. Dressed in his best, he successfully bore the rings down the aisle - even with a room full of people staring at him - showing that he was meant to be a working dog.”

According to Akshay, his favourite thing to do with the puppies is to go on adventures together. “No matter what we are doing, our puppies are always ready to go; always ready to try something new.” He tells us that Keegan hiked the Fundy Coast in New Brunswick with the couple, loved navigating the busy streets of Toronto and catching live performances at their local theatres.

With their latest CGDB puppy, Holly, Akshay says he loves revisiting some of his favourite spots in Ottawa. It is a joy to experience it all again for the first time, through Holly’s eyes. Though the intrepid puppy enjoys exploring with the couple, Akshay says, “Holly can be a little timid when facing a new situation for the first time, so we find it is always a good idea to have kibble on hand.” He cautions new volunteers, however, saying “Just be sure to check your pockets before doing your laundry!”

“Keegan and Holly have been there for us during the highs, and the lows,” Akshay reflects. “The puppies that come into our lives really do become a member of the family. They become a part of your story.”

For Akshay, he believes this is why saying goodbye to the puppy when it is time to go in for training can be difficult, and why some might have difficulty with the thought of volunteering.

Explaining how he keeps the goal of the program in focus, Akshay says, “I like to think that these puppies have a greater calling in life: Helping others who can benefit from their love; as their guide, friend, or adventure buddy.”

With Holly at their side, Taylor and Akshay are looking forward to planning a summer trip, this year. For Akshay, there is so much more to explore. As he tells us, “There is always someone new to meet and exciting things to see!” ■

We’re Searching for VOLUNTEERS

You can help us anywhere in Canada!

A flexible volunteer opportunity for individuals, families or service clubs. Contact us to get more information on how you can help in our Donation Dogs Program.



Contact us at (613) 692-7777 or info@guidedogs.ca



CANADIAN GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND

We provide *freedom* to Canadians

Operating solely through donations since 1984. Thank you for your support.

Monthly Pre-authorized Debits - Arrange for automatic monthly withdrawals from your bank account on the 1st or 15th business day of the month. You'll need to complete a PAD agreement - email donations@guidedogs.ca to request this agreement. A tax receipt will be issued at the end of the year for the total amount donated.

Monthly Credit Card Donation - Phone our office at (613) 692-7777 to set up a monthly donation on the 1st or 15th of each month. We accept Visa, Mastercard and American Express. A tax receipt will be issued at the end of the year for the total amount donated.

Online Donation with The Royal Bank (RBC) - This is available only to RBC clients at this time. Select Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind as the Payee and enter donation amount. You must have your Individual Donor ID which can be requested by email at donations@guidedogs.ca by giving your name and address, or by phoning our office at (613) 692-7777 and speaking to someone in our Donations Department.

Cheques/Money Order - Make payable to Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind. Cheques and money orders can be mailed to PO Box 280, Manotick, Ontario, K4M 1A3.

Cash - Donate in person at our National Training Centre 4120 Rideau Valley Drive North, Manotick, Ontario.

Online Donation via Credit Card - Visit our website at guidedogs.ca. You can donate using Visa, Mastercard and American Express. A tax receipt is issued immediately and emailed to you.

Gifts of Shares, Stock Options, Life Insurance, Bequests, Wills, Capital Property - Please call us for more information or have your legal or financial representative contact us at (613) 692-7777.

I would like to support Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind (Registered Charity No. 10684 6819 RR0001)

I have enclosed a cheque in the amount of \$_____.

I would like to make a one-time donation of \$_____ charged to my credit card.

I would like to make a regular contribution of \$_____ charged monthly to my credit card.

Credit Card No. _____ Expiry date: _____ / _____

Type of Card: Visa Mastercard AMEX CVV: _____

Mr. / Mrs. / Ms. / Miss / Dr. (Please circle preferred salutation)

First Name: _____ Surname: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Please send donations to:

Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind
4120 Rideau Valley Drive North PO Box 280
Manotick, Ontario K4M 1A3
(613) 692-7777

Donate online at guidedogs.ca

CANADIAN GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND GIFT SHOP

You may call and order by phone. If you live in the Ottawa area and would like to pick up your order, we'll assemble it and waive all shipping and handling fees!



Christmas Cards – CGDB Labrador Brothers

(package of 10 cards with envelopes, Inscription reads: Season's Greetings/ Meilleur voeux)

\$14.00 x ____ = \$ _____



40th Anniversary T-shirt

Preorder for shipping on July 1st

S ____ M ____ L ____

XL ____ XXL ____

\$25.00 x ____ = \$ _____



Golden Retriever with Blue Sky Notelets

(package of 10 cards with envelopes)

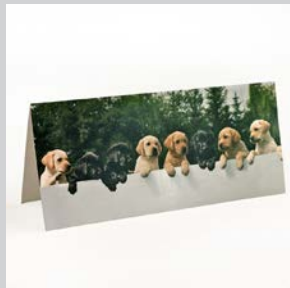
\$12.50 x ____ = \$ _____



Assorted Christmas Cards

(package of 10 assorted cards with envelopes)

\$12.50 x ____ = \$ _____



Notelet 8 Puppies

(package of 10 cards with envelopes)

\$12.50 x ____ = \$ _____



Dog Tag*

With your choice of colour, customize your ID tag with up to 4 lines of text on each side

Black ____ Blue ____

Red ____ Pink ____

\$10.00 x ____ = \$ _____

*Shipping included in the price

Custom Text

SUBTOTAL

\$ _____

ADD 25% SHIPPING & HANDLING

\$ _____

DONATION

\$ _____

TOTAL

\$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Card Type Visa MC AMEX **Expiry** mm/yy _____ **CVV** _____

Name on Card _____

Card # _____

*Items may not be exactly as shown. All prices include taxes. Visit our online gift shop at guidedogs.ca for these and a larger selection of merchandise. Curbside pick-up is available. Call us and order by phone and we'll assemble your order and have it ready for you at our National Training Centre.



The 2024 École Montfort Popcorn Fundraiser Project

Grade 5 students at école élémentaire catholique Montfort, along with their teacher M. Pierre Cyr, recently concluded a project in collaboration with Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind, as part of their curriculum on active, positive, and effective citizenship.

"In grade 5 social studies, citizenship education is an important facet of students' overall education. Students learn the key characteristics of responsible and active citizens who participate in their community for the common good," Pierre explains.

The students welcomed Jen and her guide dog on their classroom's podcast, so students could learn about the impact of having a guide dog and what they can do. They also welcomed CGDB puppy-walking volunteer, Diane, and puppy Sophia, at a school

assembly to hear about the path a puppy takes to become a guide dog.

In addition to learning about our organization and the role guide dogs play in our society, the students also led a 3-month long fundraising project, selling popcorn at their school to benefit CGDB:

"We are proud to announce we collected over \$1,200 dollars with our popcorn sale to donate to CGDB. We want to thank Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind for giving us this opportunity. CGDB makes a real difference in the world. The professionally trained dogs they provide to many Canadians bring greater mobility and independence to those who need it.

We are grateful we were able to work together to shine a light on this wonderful cause and we hope to inspire other people to join our efforts. Together, we can make a difference."

M. Pierre Cyr & the grade 5 students from école élémentaire catholique Montfort



2025 CALENDAR PHOTO COMPETITION



Winslow, our 2024 "Cover Dog"

Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind is now accepting photo submissions for our 2025 calendar.

Please keep the following guidelines in mind before submitting your photos:

- Photos must be of a dog active for Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind; puppy walking, breeding, working (no retired or career change dogs please).
- Photos must have been taken between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024.
- Photos must be generic – no names, people, toys, harnesses, training jackets, date or time stamps.
- Only high-resolution* photos will be accepted. Please set your camera or device to its highest quality setting and send us the original sized photo.

Landscape photos only please

*A resolution of 300dpi is usually necessary for printing

If your photos are lower resolution, please ensure they are at least 3MB in size.

Photos submitted for the competition become the property of Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind. Photos should be submitted by email to events@guidedogs.ca by June 30, 2024 or shared via DropBox. Please send the dog(s) name with all photos. Winners will receive a complimentary copy of the 2025 calendar. ■

PUPPY WALKING AND BREEDING PROGRAM

The following litters were born.

Cece (BLB) bred to Rufus III (YLM)
Lady III (GRB) bred to Orion II (BLM)

BLB – black Labrador, bitch
YLM – yellow Labrador, male
GRB – golden retriever, bitch
BLM – black Labrador, male

A sincere thank you to puppy walkers whose dogs have completed the Puppy Walking Program and breeding stock boarders whose dogs have been used for breeding.

Neil Baxter, Tina Bernier, Farrar Brodhead, Gail Brooker, Stephanie Ferrand, Martin Foxhall, Tamara Glanville, Chris Glendinning, Beverley Hamblin, Janice Hickman, Denisa Horak, Jamie Kapustiak, Thomas MacKinnon, Kathleen Ramsay, Claire Reed-Cassels, Michelle Rich, Maureen Running, Sylvia Sirett, Jessie Thornton, Janet Tobio, Adrienne Zelenka ■



OBITUARIES AND GUIDE DOG MEMORIAL TRIBUTES

Our People...

Ann Barlow, an avid quilter, and member of the Telecom Pioneers was a valued member of Canadian Guide Dogs Guider program in Red Deer, Alberta. Ann will be lovingly remembered by all of her family and friends.

Heather Skuce, a successful entrepreneur and realtor, was the National Chair of Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind for several years. Her work with CGDB helped to ensure that a long line of puppies found their purpose working as professionally trained Guide Dogs. She will be remembered fondly by her family and friends.

Ted Fenwick, an engineer with Northern Electric and Northern Telecom, was also an accomplished painter and a member of Manotick Art Association. He was a valued and active volunteer for Canadian Guide Dogs for many years, and will be greatly missed.

Our Dogs...

Wills, former Guide Dog and beloved member of the Piercey family, sadly passed away at the age of twelve on May 31st of this year. Carole and Ken were Wills' Puppy Walkers and gladly adopted him after his retirement. Always gentle and compassionate, Wills had a good life and will be truly missed.

Submitted by Carole & Ken Piercey

Hayes, beloved golden retriever, passed away surrounded with love at home in February 2023, just shy of his 15th birthday. For 8 years he was Ron's devoted & steadfast guide. To the Langdons, his puppy walkers and retirement family, he was a loyal friend and cherished member of their hearts. Hayes, with his dignified charm, will be missed by all of those who knew him.

Submitted by Katherine Langdon ■

Only submitted tributes are published. Please limit to 25 words.

Submissions may be sent to Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind, 4120 Rideau Valley Drive North, PO Box 280, Manotick, ON, K4M 1A3; or by email to info@guidedogs.ca.

FUNDRAISING LOTTERY SUPPORTING CGDB – WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CATCH THE ACE

Catch the Ace is a progressive lottery – meaning that the weekly prize and the Jackpot grow every single week that the game is played. Each week tickets are sold – at our partnered retail locations and online - for \$10.00 each, tax included*.

For each ticket sold at our retail locations or online, CGDB earns a donation. A full list of our locations is available on our website along with links to purchase your tickets online, if you prefer.

To support Canadian Guide Dogs, you must purchase the tickets from one of our retailers OR select Canadian Guide Dogs from the drop-down menu (pictured below) when purchasing online at the Kin Club of Russell website.

I would like the Kin Club to donate their portion of the lottery proceeds to the following charity *

- ✓ Please choose a beneficiary
- Distribute lottery proceeds amongst ALL charities
- Breast Cancer Action (Ottawa)
- Canadian Guide Dogs For The Blind**
- The Good Neighbour's Food Bank (Russell Township)
- Kin Club of Russell's Storage Centre for Local Service Clubs and Charities
- Fondation Valoris Foundation (Youth Wellness and Leadership)
- WDMH Foundation (Winchester District Memorial Hospital and Dundas Manor Long-Term Care Home)
- Youth Sporting Equipment (Russell Township)

Every week, there is a prize draw on Sundays at 3:15 PM. The ticket(s) you have purchased are only good for that week's draw. In order to be eligible to win the weekly draw, you must purchase a ticket every week!

How The Lottery Works:

At the start of the lottery licence, the game began with a standard deck of 52 playing cards, which were placed individually into 52 envelopes.

The envelopes were sealed, shuffled, and then numbered from 1 – 52. The envelopes were then placed into a locked case.

Each week, the tickets go on sale following the draw Sunday afternoon and are available for purchase until the following Sunday morning – online sales finish at midnight on Saturday, however.

Only one ticket is drawn on Sunday afternoon each week, and the owner of that ticket wins the weekly prize!

The numbered envelope, which was written on that winning ticket, is then opened. If the envelope chosen by the weekly winner contains the Ace of Spades, that individual wins the overall jackpot – on top of the guaranteed weekly prize - and the game/lottery is then finished.

If the Ace of Spades is not in the selected envelope, the playing card that is inside that envelope is destroyed. That envelope number is then removed from the game, thereby reducing the number of envelopes left to choose from by one.

The overall jackpot grows each week that the Ace of Spades is not found. As the game progresses, the jackpot grows faster and the odds of the weekly winner winning the overall jackpot increases, as the available envelopes are reduced!

Visit www.guidedogs.ca/2023/10/16/catch-the-ace-lottery for more information about Catch the Ace and to purchase your Catch the Ace tickets, today!

(*Participants must be 18 years of age or older; participants must be physically located in Ontario at the time of purchase, whether purchasing in-person or online.)

2023 VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind is very grateful to our volunteers, whose tireless efforts contribute to the success of our organization. Congratulations to the following volunteers who marked milestones in 2023:

5 years of Puppy Walking

Tina Bernier, Ottawa ON • Dina Tarasevich, Kanata ON • Claire Todd, Ottawa ON

5 years of Volunteering

Sarah Armstrong, Wellington ON • Kristie Babiar, West Hill ON • John Boyd, Thunder Bay ON • Farrar Brodhead, Ottawa ON • Kathleen Clancy, Ottawa ON • Donna Cole, Ottawa ON • Heather Dionne, Ottawa ON • Martin Foxhall, Cobourg ON • Sheldon Jacob, London ON • Victor Kampela, Thunder Bay ON • Carrie King, Westport ON • Richard Lajeunesse, Ottawa ON • Judith MacDougall, Chelsea QC • Cheryl McHardy, Nepean ON • Tim Nason, Spencerville ON • Katrin Nicholson, Nepean ON • Joe Switzer, Nepean ON • Dave Webster, Nepean ON • Kathleen Young, Pickering ON • Junrong Yu, Nepean ON • Adrienne Zelenka, Ottawa ON

10 years of Volunteering

Barbara Annas, Ottawa ON • Judy Chretien, Port Hope ON • Tanya Doucet, Sydney NS • David Green, Nepean ON • Sophie Lauro, North Saanich BC • Barbara Pearce, Peterborough ON • Vickie Reynolds, Brockville ON • Ted Stillar, Whitby ON • Janet Tobio, Arnprior ON

15 years of Volunteering

Barry Bourassa, Ottawa ON • Lise Bourassa, Ottawa ON • Maria Buchanan, Edmonton AB • Sharon Farndon, Kingston ON • Jennifer Laird, Harrowsmith ON • Connie Lattanzio, Pierrefonds QC • Mary Meisner, St. Catharines ON • Jenny Mills, Sherwood Park AB

20 years of Volunteering

Craig Aucoin, Pictou NS • Bob Court, Calgary AB • Johanna Cutts, Carp ON • Merrill Cutts, Carp ON • Jim Garrah, Gananoque, ON

25 years of Volunteering

Marg Allen, St. Catharines ON • Nicole Boudrias, L'Orignal ON • Hugh Saunderson, Ottawa ON • Val Saunderson, Ottawa ON

30 years of Volunteering

Joyce Acciaroli, Red Deer AB • Earl Hilton, Bracebridge ON • Stan Mills, Lethbridge AB • Debi Weldon, Vancouver BC

35 years of Volunteering

Roy Grogan, Ottawa ON ■

CANADIAN GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND EVENTS

Past Events



Guide Dog Ride – September 10

This year's 35th edition of the annual Guide Dog Ride was a rocking good time! Despite some wet weather along the route, the event was a success, and we were very excited to feature a performance from local rock band, Bridges, who performed live on our back patio to kick off the BBQ following the Ride. Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind would like to thank the volunteers and riders that come back to CGDB every year ensuring the legacy of the Ride continues. ■

Ladies Captain's Challenge at Carleton Golf & Yacht Club – September 17

Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind was excited to be the charity of choice for the Carleton Golf & Yacht Club's first-ever Ladies Captain's Challenge. CGDB volunteers were on hand at the course to help with some fun games and activities before the round began, and afterwards for a meet-and-greet with the golfers. Thank you to Judy, Emma, and the staff and volunteers that helped make this event a success! ■



Carole Giguere and her guide dog, Kobe.

Keller Days at Elmwood School – October 11

Elmwood School, an independent day school for girls, invited Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind to join them at their annual Keller Day's celebration, hosted by the students of Keller House, which is named after Helen Keller. CGDB was honoured to join Ceili, the Head of Keller House, and

the House's students at an assembly for the student body, which featured a volunteer speaker from CGDB. ■



Vic Dohar, the Fall Art Show Director, and Debbie Cunningham, Artist of Stonebridge Chair, presented Jane Thornton with a donation from their Fall Art Show, held at the Cedarview Golf & Country Club.

Artists of Stonebridge's Paint the Town - October 20-22

Each year, The Artists of Stonebridge host their Fall Art Show & Sale at the Cedarview Golf & Country Club. We were very pleased to have been selected as one of two charities, chosen each year as beneficiaries of funds collected at the event. We are thankful for our friends at The Artists of Stonebridge and look forward to next year's event. ■



Posing by the start of the Kinderwood Trail at Kemptville Dollars for Dogs, are some of the walkers and volunteers.

Kemptville Dollars for Dogs – October 22

As part of our Dollars for Dogs Neighborhood Walks initiative, local volunteers from Kemptville helped to organize the first annual Kemptville Dollars for Dogs Fundraising Dog Walk. Held on the grounds of the picturesque Ferguson Forest Centre, next door to their dog park, walkers were treated to a brisk walk amongst the trees – and despite the chilly weather, everyone in attendance couldn't help but be in good spirits. ■

Catch the Ace – First Draw November 5

On Sunday, November 5th Canadian Guides Dogs was up and running, trying to Catch the Ace! Each and every Sunday, draws are held as the

pot continues to grow-and-grow – so far it is the fastest growing Jackpot in the lottery’s six-year history! Remember, though: you can’t win if you don’t play! So, purchase your tickets at guidedogs.ca or from one of our local Ottawa-area retail locations and Catch the Ace, today! Ontario only. Full details and list of partner retailers are available on our website or refer to page 9 of this edition of Side by Side to learn more about Catch the Ace. ■

Kiwanis Parade of Lights, Manotick & The Parade of Lights, Stittsville – December 1 & December 2

Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind was pleased to join with local businesses and community groups to welcome Jolly Old St. Nick to town! The Manotick and Stittsville Parade of Lights were well attended, and it was such a joy to see so many smiling faces. ■



CGDB puppy, Gordon, visiting our Place D’Orleans Gift Wrapping station.

Holiday Gift Wrapping at Place d’Orleans – December 8-24

That’s a wrap! For a ninth consecutive year, Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind Holiday Gift-wrappers set up shop at Place d’Orleans throughout the month of December. Our amazing holiday volunteers wrapped presents for shoppers and spread holiday cheer, all while raising funds and collecting donations for Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind. CGDB would like to thank Emma, Eleanor and the staff at Place d’Orleans for their continued support. ■



Raffle winner, Laura Simpson, receives her prize from Jane Thornton.

WestJet Gift of Flight Raffle – December 30

At 10:00 AM on December 30th, the winner of the WestJet Gift of Flight Raffle was chosen – Laura Simpson, of Galetta, Ontario! Laura was very excited to take a much-needed vacation and Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind wishes her all the best on her travels. ■

Upcoming Events

International Guide Dog Day – April 24th

This year, Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind will once again be teaming up with Maverick’s Donuts and Morning Owl Manotick to celebrate International Guide Dog Day with some sweet promotions! Check the Events section of our website for more details. ■

Dollars for Dogs – May 26th

Our annual fundraising dog walk, Dollars for Dogs, makes its return to Andrew Haydon Park in Nepean, on Sunday, May 26th. This year marks the 40th Anniversary of Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind and for Dollars for Dogs. We hope to see you all there to help us celebrate with your best canine friends! ■

Neighborhood Walks: Dollars for Dogs Kemptville – September 2024

The second annual Kemptville Dollars for Dogs is in the works, for this September. If you live in Kemptville or the surrounding areas and are interested in attending, sponsoring, or helping with the Walk, please send an email to events@guidedogs.ca. ■

Can’t make it to either Dollars for Dogs Walk? Start your own Neighborhood Walk in your local community! Contact us today for more information and help in organizing your own fundraiser. ■

HEAD TO GUIDEDOGS.CA AND CLICK ON THE EVENTS TAB FOR MORE INFO. ■

Did you know you can donate your AEROPLAN points?

CGDB can use your donated points to get our guide dogs to Canadians in need all across the country!



Visit bit.ly/cgdbaeroplan to donate points today!

CGDB needs your help! We are getting low on Aeroplan points. These points help us bring our clients from across Canada and train with their guide dogs and allows us to support our clients nationwide with any after care needed. Please donate your Aeroplan points to us today by visiting bit.ly/cgdbaeroplan.

Thank you! to the following businesses that have donated goods or services to CGDB:

Boehringer Ingelheim (Canada) Ltd.

Merck Canada Inc.

Nestlé Purina PetCare

Elanco Animal Health Canada

National Alternate Media

Ren’s Pets

Fairmont Hotels

Pet Pal Products Inc.

The Newsletter of Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind

4120 Rideau Valley Drive North, P.O. Box 280
Manotick, Ontario
K4M 1A3

Tel.: (613) 692-7777
Email: info@guidedogs.ca

CANADA		POSTES
POST		CANADA
Postage paid		Port payé
Publications Mail		Poste-publications
40010988		

To:

Now Available



2024 Christmas Cards

Inscription Reads: Season's Greetings/Meilleurs voeux

Cost: \$14.00

(applicable taxes included for a package of 10 cards with envelopes)

Order form on Page 6

