

# BC & Alberta Guide Dogs Annual Report 2016/2017



BC & ALBERTA GUIDE DOGS

## Message from our Chair & CEO



Rupert Bullock, Chair & Treasurer

BC & Alberta Guide Dogs is proud to be a member of two very important International Organizations, the International Guide Dog Federation (IGDF), and Assistance Dogs International (ADI). Accreditation with these organizations is conducted every five years and involves a representative from each organization sending an assessor from their accreditation committee to visit us on site. They review policies, procedures, breeding, raising and training of our dogs and also staff and client training. We are very pleased to announce that we have successfully completed our 2017 accreditations and continue as members in good standing until 2022. Congratulations to our professional team, graduates and volunteers that participated in this process. Well done to all.

As accredited members of ADI and IGDF, in British Columbia we are acknowledged under the "Guide Dog & Service Dogs Act" and in Alberta under the "Blind Persons Rights Act" and the "Alberta Service Dog Act" as recognized training facilities. Having successfully passed our re-accreditations we have retained the rights and privileges that we enjoy under this legislation, assuring the rights of public access for our graduates, training staff and volunteers.

As an organization, we have a long history of assisting other similar organizations. This year we sent two puppies to a Guide Dog School in Hungary with hopes that the puppies will play a role in the launching of their breeding program once they are adults. We have also, on an adhoc basis, been supplying adult dogs to Vancouver Island Compassion Dogs (VICD). Earlier this year the Board agreed to supply all the dogs that VICD requires for their Veterans from our own breeding program on an ongoing basis. With this partnership, VICD hope to expand their program to take on 24 new Veterans for training next year vs 12. This has been a very positive partnership with wonderful outcomes.



William S. Thornton, CEO

On our own training programs, we recently graduated our 125th Guide Dog Team and 41st Autism Support Dog Team. Keeping us on track for our 220th Team Graduation by 2020.

As you will see in the financial information provided in this annual report, revenue for the year ended June 30th, 2017, amounted to \$1,645,888, up \$184,280 (12.6%) from last year. Expenses were \$1,629,130 up \$58,188 (4%) from last year. This gives us a modest surplus of \$16,758. If anyone would like more details or a copy of the audited financial statements, please contact Bill Thornton.

As we move forward as an organization, from time to time, we experience change. At the completion of this year's AGM Verne Blyth and Rupert Bullock will be standing down after serving for 14 years and 8 years respectively. Both have enjoyed serving on the Board and will be continuing with the organization as volunteer puppy trainers. We are putting together a strong slate of individuals to stand for election at our upcoming AGM in December.

Once again, on behalf of the Board, our thanks to all our donors, supporters, volunteers and staff, as we look forward to the coming year. We trust that you all remain proud of the achievements of your organization. Thank you for your support.

### Board of Directors

Chair: Rupert Bullock, B.Comm.  
 Vice-Chair and Secretary:  
 Tammy Winters (Alberta)  
 Treasurer: Verne A. Blyth  
 Director: C. Wayne Reeves, B.S.Arch  
 Director: Kevin Redmond  
 CEO: William S. Thornton, GDMI

FRONT COVER  
 Photo Credit: Tyler Garnham

### Advisory Board

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BC & ALBERTA GUIDE DOGS

MEMBER OF:



## Thank You From our Patrons

### A Message from our Patrons, Leah & Howie Meeker, CM

Over the past 20 years we have had the unique privilege of being the Patrons of BC & Alberta Guide Dogs. We have participated in every Golf for Guide Dogs Tournament and watched the organization grow to what it is today with amazing staff, volunteers, donors and supporters. To date, we have graduated 125 Guide Dog Teams and 41 Autism Support Dog Teams. These life-changing dogs have provided companionship, independence, mobility, safety and confidence to recipients, free of charge - what a wonderful legacy! To everyone who supports this amazing charity, thank you! We will continue to do what we can to further the expansion of BC & Alberta Guide Dogs and keep reducing our waitlist of deserving individuals.

- Leah & Howie Meeker, CM



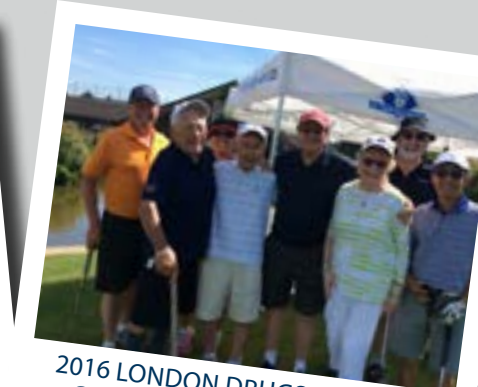
### Our Mission

The mission of BC & Alberta Guide Dogs is to meet the demand for professionally trained Guide Dogs and Autism Support Dogs for citizens of British Columbia and Alberta, at all times meeting or exceeding international standards as established by the International Guide Dog Federation and Assistance Dogs International.

## Our 2016/17 Special Events



2016 DELTA TRIVIA NIGHT  
 RAISED \$18,000!



2016 LONDON DRUGS GOLF FOR  
 GUIDE DOGS RAISED \$37,000!



2017 TIES & TAILS AUCTION  
 & GALA RAISED \$55,000

Thank you to all the volunteers, attendees, donors and sponsors who made our Special Events a great success this past year! We appreciate all the kind and generous support from our community. Our events make a substantial difference in reducing the waitlists for Guide Dogs and Autism Support Dogs!



# Community Support 2016/2017



KITS4KIDS  
\$15,000 DONATION



ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR, OAK BAY CHAPTER  
\$30,000 DONATION



RUNGO DASH FOR DOGS  
\$16,000 DONATION



TELUS VICTORIA COMMUNITY BOARD TEAM DONATES \$10,000!



FIRST WEST FOUNDATION  
\$1,000 DONATION



MISTER BLAKE FOUNDATION  
\$5,000 DONATION



TEAM TELUS CHARITABLE GIVING PROGRAM \$4,186.68 DONATION



RCMP NATIONAL PUBLIC SERVICE WEEK \$1,606.30 DONATION



BC MASONIC FOUNDATION  
\$3,000 DONATION

We are grateful to all of the individuals and businesses that choose to support us throughout the year! Your generosity helps provide Guide Dogs to blind/visually-impaired individuals and Autism Support Dogs to children with autism and their families!

# Making a Profound Difference

## Kaya & Autism Support Dog Dianne

Just before her third birthday, our daughter Kaya was diagnosed with autism. We knew very early on that there was something different about Kaya but no-one could tell us what it was. She wasn't growing on the same scale as other kids her age, and had no speech, plus she was born with other physical difficulties. Outside of her challenges, Kaya is a funny, happy girl, and just loves animals, especially dogs. After hearing about Autism Support Dogs, we knew we had to apply for Kaya. This past February, we got the phone call we had been waiting for. Dianne became part of our family. While we are all thrilled, Kaya was over the moon. "She's my best friend" she kept saying, over and over, and still does. The difference we've seen in Kaya has been nothing short of amazing. Kaya has been much calmer since Dianne's arrival, but of course she still has her times where she's upset or frustrated, and when she's having a tantrum or meltdown, Dianne always comes to Kaya. Because of Kaya's low muscle tone, she never liked going for walks. That has all changed with Dianne. Kaya loves taking Dianne for walks. Kaya is genuinely proud to walk with Dianne. It is so amazing how Kaya who doesn't express her feelings very often calls out "I am so happy!" "I am so happy I have Dianne" and so are we. There are no words to express our feeling of joy and gratitude to BC & Alberta Guide Dogs for having Dianne in our family. We especially want to say a huge thank you as well, to all the puppy sponsors, raisers, boarders and our amazing trainers, Nic and Laura. Their support, patience and love made this wonderful 4 legged miracle happen for our family.



## Tamara & Guide Dog Bruce



Bruce is my third Guide Dog from BC & Alberta Guide Dogs. I first started working with a guide dog 17 years ago, when I was just 15 years old. I was a bit nervous about being matched with Bruce because my first two dogs were very typical, overly energetic labs. Bruce is a border collie golden retriever cross, and his personality is the extreme opposite. He is calm, sensitive, and ridiculously cuddly. I thought I would tire of his "Mama's Boy" tendencies quickly, but I am pleased to report I have fallen madly in love with this boy and am beyond thrilled to have him cling to me wherever we go.

Bruce is a superstar when it comes to navigating the chaos of my daily commute, and he is a much more patient shopping companion than my husband! When we get home at the end of the day, Bruce has a tiny Chihuahua cross named Fergie to relentlessly put him in his place and steal his bone.

Growing up in a town that is much smaller than the city that I live in now, I can honestly say that BC & Alberta Guide Dogs has played a massive role in my access to independence and the incredible action-packed life I feel so lucky to be living.

Thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for all that each of you do to make this happen.

For full stories, please visit our website: [bcalbertaguidedogs.com/dogblog](http://bcalbertaguidedogs.com/dogblog)



# Financial Highlights 2013-2017

## British Columbia Guide Dog Services Financial Highlights As at June 30, 2017

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
<b>Results for the year:</b>					
Revenues	1,645,888	1,457,554	1,564,960	1,174,929	1,591,777
Fundraising activities expenses	267,190	315,538	236,511	217,104	209,583
Training/client services expenses	1,171,519	1,016,794	999,205	934,613	820,188
Administrative expenses	190,421	238,610	190,244	171,161	160,002
Total expenses	1,629,130	1,570,942	1,425,960	1,322,879	1,189,775
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	16,758	(113,388)	139,000	(147,950)	402,002
Transfer to capital fund	2,357	-	118,609	-	-
Transfers to (from) endowment funds	(7,974)	7,500	-	(26,000)	-
<b>Year end:</b>					
Operating/gaming fund cash/investments net of bank indebtedness	(68,763)	38,528	166,185	51,803	128,866
Endowment fund and internally restricted fund investments	69,271	74,745	74,745	185,919	190,853
V. Adams fund cash/investments	1,282,790	1,338,701	1,357,026	1,373,759	1,454,412
Fisher fund investments	98,228	98,228	98,228	98,228	100,000
Capital assets at cost	1,458,385	1,441,282	1,453,755	1,421,014	1,994,098
Bequests receivable	247,000	60,031	-	658,504	176,896
Total assets	3,041,962	2,920,855	2,942,223	3,349,822	3,113,614
Accounts payable and payroll liabilities	102,244	75,963	70,256	56,639	66,146
Mortgage/loan payable	-	-	-	141,949	641,949
Deferred contributions	1,482,435	1,530,704	1,550,424	2,061,172	1,667,505
Net assets	1,248,190	1,228,932	1,321,543	1,232,011	1,379,961

# Thank You to our 2016/17 Donors

**\$50,000 - 149,999**  
 BC Gaming & Enforcement Branch  
 Eldon & Anne Foote Fund -  
 Edmonton Community Foundation

**\$10,000 - 49,999**  
 Ames Family Foundation  
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 Wayne Luck  
 Werklund Foundation  
 William & Carol McKeown  
 William & Linda Thornton

## Wills & Legacy Gifts

We are honoured to recognize the following estate gifts:

- Bernice Gibbeson
- Bette Adlington
- Constance Whittle
- Donald Flood
- Dora Darling
- Dorothy Mitzel
- Elsie May Kenst
- Frederick Stevens
- Helen Rogers
- Jane Galliford
- Janice Canning
- Joan Freeman
- Joan Overend
- Joan Price
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- Olive Round
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- Rhonda Peterson
- Richard Ireland
- Roberta Greig
- Susan Dodd
- Thelma Blackburn
- Tom Merillat
- Ursula Singer
- Victoria Adams
- Walter Sukaroff
- Winifred Wen-Min Yu

THANK YOU PURINA FOR YOUR ONGOING GENEROUS SUPPORT!



A complete set of financial statements audited by Crowe MacKay LLP is available upon request.

And thank you to the many anonymous donors!

# Founding Patrons & Donors

## *Patrons*

Leah & Howie Meeker,  
CM

## *Founding Patrons*

Allard Foundation  
The Arthur J.E. Child  
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Family Foundation  
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Charity  
Victor and Anna Kern  
Foundation

## Bringing People and Puppies Together for Over 20 years!

### BC (GREATER VANCOUVER)

7061 Ladner Trunk Road  
Delta, BC V4K 3N3  
Tel: 604.940.4504  
Toll-free (Canada): 1.877.940.4504  
Fax: 604.940.4506

### BC (VANCOUVER ISLAND)

1027 Pandora Avenue  
Victoria, BC V8V 3P6  
Tel: 250.413.3095  
Toll-free (Canada): 1.877.940.4504

### ALBERTA

Unit 102 4-14th Street NW  
Calgary, AB T2N 1Z4  
Tel: 403.258.0819  
Toll-free (Alberta): 1.877.258.0819

Legal Title: British Columbia Guide Dog Services Registered Charity Number: 89131 1763 RR0001



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[bcandalbertaguidedogs.com](http://bcandalbertaguidedogs.com)

