

Media Release



For Immediate Release:

PADS is awarded PricewaterhouseCoopers Canada Foundation 2008-2009 Team Leadership Grant

January 19, 2008 (Toronto) Pacific Assistance Dogs (PADS) of Burnaby B.C. was awarded a PricewaterhouseCoopers Canada Foundation 2008-2009 Team Leadership Grant.

Two newer members of PADS' development team (Manager of Fundraising and Volunteer Programs, Shelley Grogan and Communications Coordinator, Tara Dong) were chosen to receive several professional development opportunities. This training will build upon their experience in the business sector and equip them for leadership in the specialized not-for-profit needs of PADS.

PADS breeds raises, trains and places highly skilled assistance dogs with persons who have a physical disability or who are deaf or hard-of-hearing. Assistance dogs reduce dependence on others and enhance quality of life. PADS clients are affected by conditions such as multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy, polio and post-polio syndrome, arthritis, spinal cord injuries and partial or complete deafness. Dogs are trained to their utmost potential and then carefully matched by temperament and skill set to client personality and needs. PADS is the only assistance dog school in Canada that is fully accredited by Assistance Dogs International (ADI), and places service, hearing and therapy dogs throughout Western Canada.

As PADS becomes more widely known, the number of people requesting and waiting for an assistance dog has increased dramatically. In response to this need, PADS embarked on an ambitious plan in 2006 to enhance capacity. As we move forward with this aggressive plan during turbulent financial times, a strongly equipped development team will be critical.

PADS was chosen for this award out of nearly 230 applications from across Canada. The support given by the PricewaterhouseCoopers Canada Foundation will have a lasting impact on PADS' future growth.

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