

# Media Release



For Immediate Release:

## PADS needs Puppy-raisers Now!!!

**November 20, 2008 (Burnaby)** Pacific Assistance Dogs (PADS) is about to be flooded with an unprecedented number of puppies looking for volunteer puppy-raising homes. Adorable 8 week old Yellow and Black Labradors (like “Acadia” at right) are entering the program to train as assistance dogs for people with physical disabilities.



Due to the success of our breeding program and the generosity of breeders this holiday season will truly give the gift of independence. With nearly 16 service dog hopefuls entering the program between December 1 and 15<sup>th</sup> – we are trusting that volunteers in our community will come through to raise these little ones. Because our clients live in a variety of living situations we need puppy-raisers with the same variety – sprawling homes or bachelor apartments, pets or no pets, single/married/families, retired or working – people from all walks of life can make a difference. Puppy-raisers are responsible for socializing the puppies for a period of approximately 12 months. Puppies go everywhere their raisers go: work, shopping, school, social events, movies, etc so that the puppy can be exposed to as many situations and environments as possible. Interested parties can find full details at [www.pads.ca](http://www.pads.ca) or by contacting PADS at 604.527.0556.

*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.*

For more information:

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