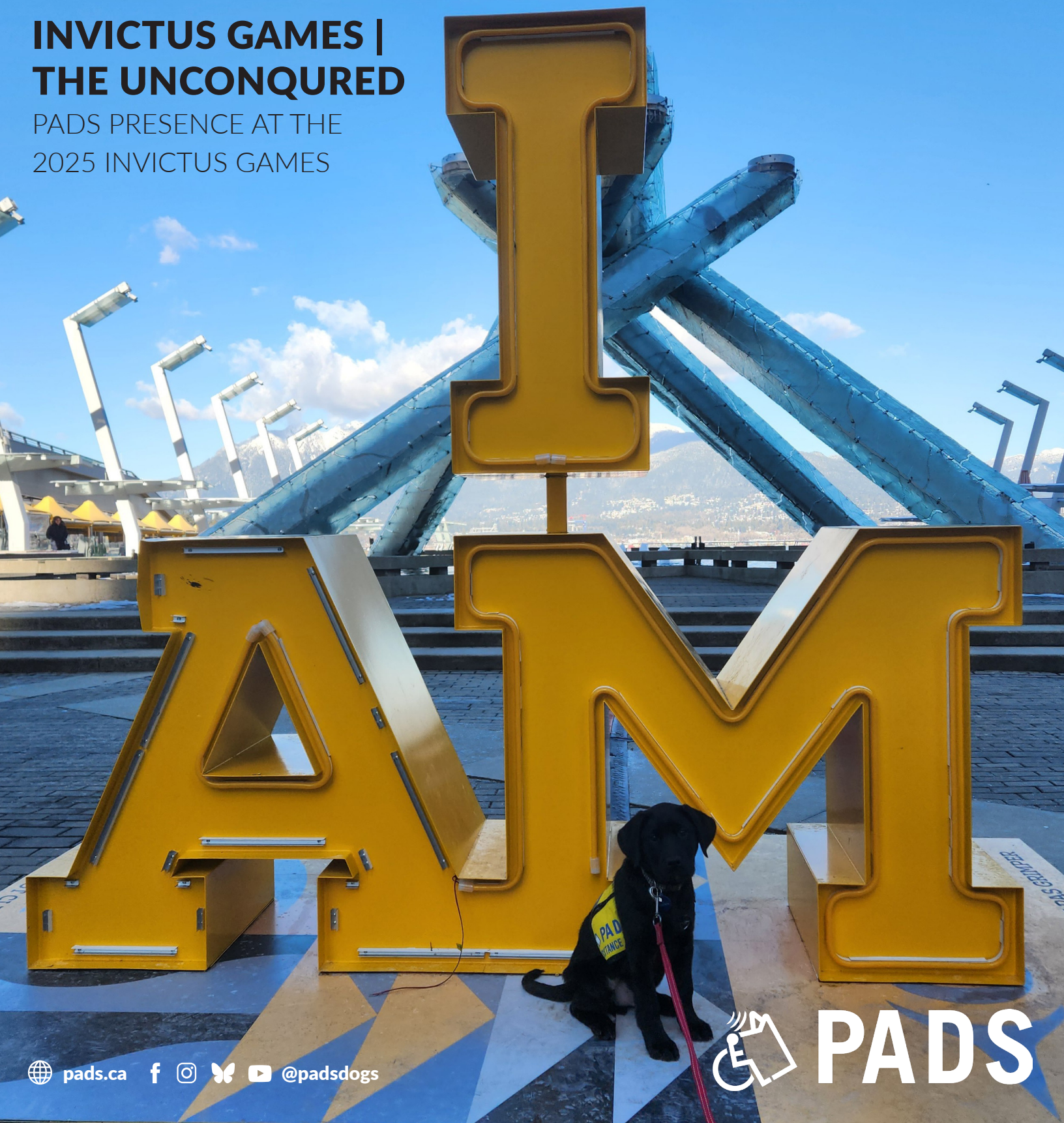


2025

PAWS FOR THOUGHT

INVICTUS GAMES | THE UNCONQUURED

PADS PRESENCE AT THE
2025 INVICTUS GAMES



pads.ca



@padsdogs



PADS

SPRINGING FORWARD

As spring begins to appear on the west coast, it reminds us of the resilience all around us. After a cold, windy and somewhat soggy winter (with many muddy paws) - the growth going unseen has begun to appear. We are springing ahead with wonderful new opportunities.

As I reflect on my first year as Executive Director at Pacific Assistance Dogs Society (PADS), I am filled with gratitude and pride. It has been a year of transition, growth, and deepened purpose.

From day one, I have been inspired by the passion and commitment of this incredible community—our clients, volunteers, donors, partners, and staff—who together make the PADS mission a reality every single day.

This past year, we've celebrated meaningful milestones and faced challenges with resilience and resolve. We strengthened and built new partnerships that are transforming lives—including:

- the incredible **mister Blake** returned to sponsor and name yet another litter of life-changers (page 8);
- a once in a life-time partnership with the **2025 Invictus Games**, serving veterans from around the world (page 4-6);
- a fabulous collaboration with the **Vancouver Whitecaps FC** who are rallying their fans to name, sponsor and raise a litter of future assistance dogs (page 10).
- a wonderful partnership with **Eco Savvy Ventures** who have developed a biodegradable, non-toxic and accessible dog sponge that allows our clients (and pet owners)—regardless of ability—to keep their dogs clean and sweet smelling - the best part is PADS receives a portion of every sale to continue changing lives.

We also invested in the future! Our leadership team attended the **Assistance Dogs International** conference together in March and in April we hosted an all staff retreat for two days thanks to the generosity of our partners at the **Holiday Inn Express at Metrotown**.

Our canine programs have continued to flourish thanks to our dedicated team of staff and volunteers. The work they do each day is incredible and is ensuring that we're placing more life-changing dogs than ever before.

None of this would be possible without you—our PADS village. Whether you've raised a pup, donated to support our mission, shared our story, or cheered on a graduate team, you are part of something extraordinary.

Together, we are building a stronger, more inclusive world, one dog—and one person—at a time.

Thank you for your trust, your support, and your belief in the power of partnership.

With appreciation,



Trevor Broadhead
Executive Director



MISSION

PADS supports people with disabilities and community care providers by partnering them with certified assistance dogs.

VISION

Our clients enjoy life-changing independence and wellness through partnerships with PADS certified assistance dogs.

PADS BOARD

Laura Watson, Board Chair
Kristy James, Vice Chair
Cara Pavlovic, Treasurer
William (Bill) Woodley, Director
Debbie Carver, Director
Lisa Hoglund, Director
Christine Coletta,, Past Chair



COVER PUP

PADS Windsor
Photographer: Caitlin Humber



REFLECTIONS OF INDEPENDENCE

Pacific Assistance Dogs Society (PADS) has been transforming lives since its founding in 1987. Initially, PADS focused on training hearing dogs to assist individuals who are Deaf or hard of hearing, alerting them to important sounds like doorbells, alarms, and their name being called. These highly skilled dogs provided newfound independence and safety to their clients.



Over time, PADS expanded its programs to include mobility assistance dogs, PTSD service dogs, and accredited facility dogs, extending its impact across Western Canada. Despite this growth, the organization remains dedicated to its roots, continuing to train and place hearing dogs.

In recent years, the demand for hearing dogs has increased, and PADS has responded by refining its training techniques and breeding program to produce even more successful placements. In 2024, PADS proudly placed five hearing dogs, a significant increase from previous years. This milestone reflects the dedication of PADS trainers, volunteers, and donors, whose collective efforts continue to change lives, one dog at a time.

Among the remarkable teams from this year's placements is PADS Sequin, who has begun her journey as a life-changing hearing dog. Sequin's training has prepared her to provide essential sound alerts, empowering her

handler with greater independence and confidence. Her success is a testament to the hard work and passion of the entire PADS community. As PADS moves forward, we remain committed to enhancing accessibility and independence for all, ensuring that expertly trained assistance dogs make a lasting difference.

"As I waited to hear about the possibility of having my own hearing assistance dog, I decided I would give back to PADS and puppy-raise; learn about these dogs, learn their commands, see what they could do. In that time with training PADS puppy Rufous, I could see and imagine what a life changing impact these special dogs could have on someone's life."



"What I imagined hasn't been even close to what I am now experiencing with my sweet Sequin. In such a short period of time, this girl has come into my life and provided me with not only the feeling of safety and security in my own home by helping me hear, but she has given me the confidence to stop hiding behind an invisible disability, to try to engage more in public situations, to do things on my own."

She has given me back a sense of independence that I had lost with my hearing, and for that, I will be forever grateful. Not just to Sequin, but to her breeder caretakers, her sponsors, her puppy raisers, her advanced trainers and sitters and to everyone who works, volunteers and supports PADS."

Sequin was whelped by **Jeanine Ziolkoski & Peter Henley**; Puppy-Raised by **Cheryl Wallach** and **Vivianne & Andrew Carroll** her Advanced Sitters were **Sydney Palmer and Derek Walsh**; and her first year Puppy Scholarship was funded by **Rachel Brodland**.

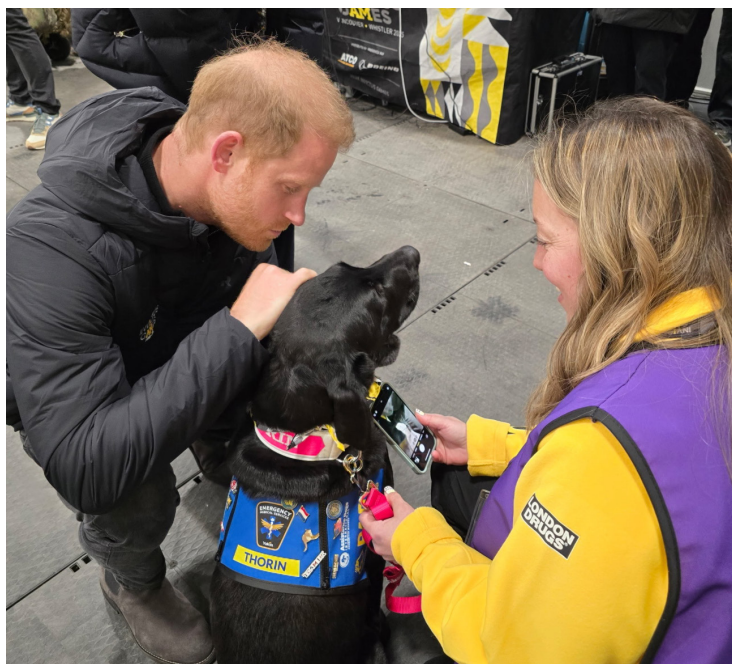
To learn more or to help support our Hearing Dog program, please visit pads.ca/donate



INVICTUS 2025: THE UNCONQUERED

At the 2025 Invictus Games, veterans from around the world gathered in Vancouver and Whistler to celebrate healing and recovery through sport. PADS had the privilege of supporting veterans and their families in a way that only our incredible dogs and their dedicated partners can. What began as an idea grew into a powerful testament to the healing and transformative power of human-animal bonds. The far reaching impact of this collaboration speaks volumes about the difference one dog can make in the lives of so many.

The 2025 Invictus Games were filled with intense emotions and moments of triumph. For many competitors, the road to the Games had been long and difficult, marked by personal battles, physical injuries, and mental health challenges. But throughout the week, PADS dogs were there, offering something that words couldn't: comfort, connection, and a moment of calm in the midst of it all.



Throughout the games, the PADS Canine Psychosocial teams were on hand to provide support when competitors needed it most. During the opening ceremonies the public saw competitors sitting on the floor, finding solace in the presence of a dog. They saw Prince Harry stopping to steal a quick scratch.

What wasn't visible were the quiet, behind-the-scenes moments — like when one competitor, moved by an emotional tribute, sought comfort in a PADS dog in a quiet room, and was able to leave later, stronger and ready to face the next challenge.

Or when one competitor, initially anxious about facing the loud crowds cheering at the bottom of his downhill

ski run, turned to our dogs for support. After speaking with our team, he asked if the dogs could “rush” him at the finish line, giving him a positive focal point to look forward to. The dogs not only helped him compete but allowed him to truly celebrate the experience.

At the closing ceremony, after a long week of competition and physical exhaustion, PADS Thorin was seen working an entire row of competitors (a.k.a. his new best friends!), greeting each one in turn, bringing a sense of calm and comfort to the tired veterans.

IT TAKES A VILLAGE

Our friends at **Boeing** changed the experience of the games forever by bringing their past Invictus experience to Vancouver and Whistler, funding and constructing all the Service Dog areas - from the Puppy Puddle to the “Service Dog Rest Stops” (off leash play area) in the Invictus village. And their support didn't end there. They are also funding the **Invictus PADS Legacy Litter** - these special pups that will be named in honour of the games will leave a lasting impact here in Canada for years to come.



Our friends at **Eukanuba** came along side from the very beginning - supplying our staff and volunteers with gear, clothing and more - as well as dog food and welcome packages for the competitors with service dogs. They hosted a fun activation each day before the games opened with our partners at the **Pan Pacific Hotel** to delight their guests with puppy cuddles.

PUPPY PUDDLE: COMFORT & CONNECTION

This space of joy, laughter, and connection—sponsored by Boeing—was designed as a fun and light-hearted area in the Invictus Village. And it became something far more meaningful.

This area welcomed visitors from around the world. From competitors and their families (who awarded our puppies “Gold” in the snuggle department) to government officials and the public, visitors were able to interact both with PADS puppies and each other in a way that brought comfort, relief, and a shared sense of connection.



PADS garnered significant media attention at the 2025 Invictus Games, highlighting their assistance dogs' vital role in supporting competitors' mental health, well-being, and resilience throughout the powerful international event.

To learn more about PADS Invictus media coverage, please visit pads.ca/invictus

LASTING IMPACT: A LEGACY OF CARE

The emotional and physical support provided by PADS was more than just puppy cuddles. Each PADS Canine Psychosocial team included a highly trained Accredited Facility Dog alongside their client who had training in crisis intervention and psychological support. We heard repeatedly how the dogs made a difference in both the competitors' performance and their mental well-being.

The **Canine Psychosocial Response Team**, which was created specifically for the Invictus Games, intends to become a permanent program at PADS, ready to be activated for future major events, crises or natural disasters. This legacy of the games will enhance PADS' impact for years to come, allowing us to respond to urgent calls and provide vital support when it's needed most.

What happened at the Invictus Games was not just about the dogs; it was about a community of people coming together to support those who have given so much. It was about creating an environment where veterans felt safe, supported, and connected — not only to the dogs but also to one another. And that's what PADS is all about: making a lasting difference, one dog at a time.



“The dogs didn’t need words, they would just find us and sit with us and let us get lost in stroking their fur or their ears. They seemed to have endless patience when we needed a quiet moment.”

Liz Daly, Team Australia

As Iain Bareham from Team UK said, **“The Facility Dog Teams fostered a sense of comfort and connection, bringing competitors, families, and teams together.”**

As we look ahead, we know that our journey doesn't end with the Games. The relationships built, the lives touched, and the stories shared are all part of a legacy we'll continue to nurture.

With each wagging tail and soft nuzzle, the dogs not only helped manage anxiety but also uplifted spirits and boosted morale, ensuring that each competitor could continue pushing forward.

STRONG ROOTS. GENTLE PAWS.

This heartfelt fundraising campaign honors the love and guidance that shape both PADS assistance dogs and the lives they transform. Inspired by **Val Bouey**, a former RCMP officer living with PTSD, and her service dog Vader, it highlights the powerful bond between handler and dog. PADS PTSD Dog Vader is Val's steady partner, offering strength and comfort to her and the clients she supports. Dedicated to the memory of Val's mother, Rose, who deeply believed in PADS' mission, Val is generously matching all donations (up to \$20K) to help place more PADS PTSD service dogs and support the 2026 PADS PTSD Honour Ranch retreat.

Learn more at pads.ca/strongroots



A PROGRAM FOR GROWTH

The PADS PTSD Program was created in response to a growing need: to provide support for first responders, including police officers, firefighters, paramedics, retired RCMP officers and military personnel, whose mental health has been impacted by the nature of their service.

At the heart of this initiative is the belief that a PADS service dog, trained with purpose and placed with care, can provide a vital lifeline, a source of grounding, connection, and unconditional support.

Over the years, PADS has seen firsthand the transformative power of these partnerships. Our clients have reported decreased reliance on medication, increased social engagement, improved sleep, and a gradual return to activities and relationships that once felt out of reach. In many cases, these dogs have helped clients re-engage with life in ways they never thought possible.

This growth and impact would not be possible without the generous support of our donors, including the **Royal Canadian Legion**, whose ongoing commitment has helped ensure the sustainability and success of the PTSD Program.

A NEW PATH FORWARD

Last November, the program welcomed its newest PTSD team: a beautifully matched partnership between PADS Silky II, a highly trained service dog, and Hughie, a 26-year police veteran who retired in 2022. After decades of dedicated service to his community, Hughie has found a new path forward with Silky by his side. Together, they are navigating the next chapter with courage, dignity, and hope.



Hughie & PADS Silky II

Silky II was Whelped by **Tiffany Spenard**; Puppy-Raised by **Jo Towers, and Susan & Brian Sorenson**; Puppy Sat by **Jenet Sun**; Advanced Sitting was done by **Michael McDonnell, and Brandie Litke**; and Puppy Sponsored by **Margaret Karmazenuk**.

To learn more or to help support our PTSD program, please visit pads.ca/ptsd



“Silky came into our home and the transition was so natural it was as if she had been with me for 10 years. After only having Silky for two months, it has been life changing.”

This new team joins a growing network of PTSD graduates who not only benefit from their dogs but often go on to advocate, volunteer, and share their journeys with others. Their lived experience becomes a light for those still finding their way.

CONTINUING CONNECTION

Another exciting milestone is the second annual PADS PTSD Retreat, taking place this May at **Honour Ranch** in Ashcroft, BC. This special gathering brings together clients, their service dogs, and PADS staff for meaningful connection, skill-building, and community building. Focused on strengthening the handler-dog bond and promoting emotional well-being, the retreat has quickly become a cornerstone of our PTSD program, offering both practical tools and powerful peer support.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Craig Longstaff, Executive Director of Honour House and Honour Ranch, for his continued support and partnership in making this retreat possible.

As we reflect on how far the PTSD Program has come since 2018, we are filled with gratitude, for the clients who trust us with their healing, the donors and volunteers who make this work possible.

PLANTING THE SEEDS OF SUCCESS

At PADS, responsible breeding is at the heart of our mission to provide life-changing service dogs. With an ever-growing waitlist, our Breeding Manager, Jackie Clark, carefully plants the seeds of success by planning our litters up to two years in advance. This ensures a steady source of future service dogs, with a strong focus on health, temperament, and suitability for specialized work.

If you’ve been following us on social media, you may have noticed that many of our recent litters have been generously sponsored. This initiative nurtures our program, much like tending to young seedlings that will one day grow into strong, dependable canine companions. Litter Sponsorship ensures that each puppy receives the best possible care, giving them the foundation they need to thrive.

This year, we are incredibly grateful to the incredible **mister Blake Foundation**, the **Royal Canadian Legion BC & Yukon Command**, **Dogtopia Foundation of Canada**, **Doane Grant Thornton Foundation**, **Donner Canadian Foundation**, and **Vancouver Whitecaps FC** for each naming and supporting a class of future superheroes.



Their generosity helps us provide essential early care, socialization, and training; critical first steps on the path to becoming future service dogs.

Raising a successful service dog begins long before formal training. From the moment they are born, these puppies are nurtured in loving environments, exposed to a variety of experiences, and carefully monitored to ensure they develop into confident, well-adjusted dogs. With the support of dedicated volunteers, trainers, and sponsors, each pup embarks on a journey filled with learning, growth, and purpose.

The impact of responsible breeding and sponsorship extends far beyond the early stages of a puppy’s life. Each dog that successfully completes training will go on to provide independence, support, and companionship—whether it’s assisting a person with mobility challenges, supporting a veteran with PTSD, or providing comfort in a facility setting. Every contribution to our breeding program is an investment in transforming lives, one dog at a time.

Thanks to our incredible supporters, these little seeds of hope will grow into fully trained service dogs, ready to change lives. Their journey begins long before they meet their future client, and every contribution helps cultivate success.

By supporting responsible breeding, we are investing in the future, one well-planned litter at a time.



The mister Blake Litter arrived in September 2024, and was whelped by Ruth & Ron Wiens.



Brentwood



Burt



Everest



Lucille



Milos



Risq



Rita





Daisy III



Honey IV



Juno II

The Dogtopia Foundation of Canada Litter arrived in November 2024, and was whelped by Brad & Laresa Neufeld.



Kiara II



Libby II



Meadow II



Windsor




Coola

The Royal Canadian Legion BC & Yukon Litter arrived in February 2025, and was whelped by Ryleigh Jacobs & Caleb Vanderleek.



Major



Pip



Sarge II



Valour II



The Donner Canadian Foundation Litter arrived in February 2025, and was whelped by Annika Treffner.



Belle IV



Donner



Donora




The Doane Grant Thornton Foundation Litter arrived in March 2025, and was whelped by Sandra Koziol.



Doane



Goose II



Grant



Harvey



Shelby II



Shyloh

VANCOUVER WHITECAPS FC LITTER

The Vancouver Whitecaps FC has long worked to unite and inspire, fostering connection, inclusivity, and diversity by harnessing the joy of soccer. PADS is proud to partner with the club to further this work - while creating connection, inclusivity and diversity through our life-changing assistance dogs.

At every Vancouver Whitecaps FC weekend home game, the joyful presence of PADS dogs and their volunteer Puppy-Raisers represents more than a crowd-pleasing moment; it reflects a deeply rooted partnership built on community, connection, and shared purpose.



The **Vancouver Whitecaps FC Litter** sponsorship is a celebration of family in all its forms: the pups we raise, the community who train them, and the lives they go on to change.

These puppies trace their roots to our **Okanagan Puppy-Raising Program**, where both of their parents were lovingly raised by local volunteers. Their mother, PADS Athena, was raised by Elaine Mori and Charlotte Jenkins Collingwood, while their father, PADS Steller, was raised by Paul Lindquist. The Okanagan region has long played a vital role in PADS' story, thanks to a small but mighty community of committed raisers, including longtime volunteer Liz McLean.

Liz's late husband, Neil, was a passionate Vancouver Whitecaps fan and PADS Puppy-Raiser. Neil often brought puppies to games, spreading joy and awareness. Though he lost his battle with cancer, his legacy lives on through Liz's continued dedication to PADS.

Together, PADS and the Whitecaps FC foster a culture of inclusion, belonging, and hope — proving that whether through soccer or service dogs, the power of community is life-changing.



A TEAM EFFORT

Raising and training these future heros truly takes a village, and you can join the team supporting their journeys.

Learn more at pads.ca/whitecaps

The Vancouver Whitecaps FC Litter arrived in February 2025, and was whelped by Ruth & Ron Wiens.



NURTURING A MORE INCLUSIVE FUTURE

In 2021, Campus Canines founder, Alina Cirlova and her puppy-in-training Fleetwood had a chance encounter with two UBC students—Adele and Inez—who would become the first official puppy-raisers of AMS (Alma Mater Society) Campus Canines. This fateful encounter has blossomed into one of UBC's most impactful student clubs. In just 4 years it has grown from just a few passionate individuals to a vibrant community of over 100 members dedicated to raising and training life-changing assistance dogs in partnership with PADS.

Adele and Inez were instrumental in helping Alina launch what would become a transformative movement on campus. Fast forward to today, and nearly two dozen Campus Canines have been raised, with PADS Loki II (raised by Adele) holding the distinction of being the first graduate from the club.

This past year alone saw the club's largest roster yet, with ten active puppies and numerous alumni dogs making their mark. But Campus Canines isn't just about adorable pups, it's about advocacy, education, and community.



"Not only have I felt the impact of this club ripple across the wider UBC community, but also in my own life. The collective community we have created is unlike any other I have been a part of. It's what separates us from other organisations, because there is no blueprint for the milestones we've passed, the initiatives we've created, and the achievements we have made. I don't think there is a single person who can say that our club isn't one of a kind."

Adele Lo, AMS Campus Canines President

Over the past year, the club has hosted 20+ lecture presentations, collaborated with more than 10 campus groups, and co-led accessibility and disability justice events with the Disability Affinity Group. Their outreach efforts were so popular that the team had to limit event bookings to avoid overwhelming their four-legged ambassadors.

Their dedication has not gone unnoticed, AMS Campus Canines was recently shortlisted for the AMS Inclusive Excellence Award, recognizing their impact on accessibility and inclusion at UBC.



For many, including Adele, the club has been life-changing: a place of growth, belonging, and purpose. As she passes the leadership torch to Inez, Campus Canines stands as a shining example of what can happen when passion, purpose, and puppies collide. And this is only the beginning.



GROWING TOGETHER: STAFF RETREAT

Thanks to the generosity of the Holiday Inn Express at Metrotown, the PADS staff gathered for a two-day retreat focused on connection, collaboration, and rejuvenation. We engaged in meaningful discussions, energizing team-building activities, and shared plenty of laughter—strengthening our bonds and recharging for the impactful work we do together.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Holiday Inn Express Metrotown for graciously hosting our spring retreat. Your warm hospitality and commitment to creating a welcoming, inclusive space made our experience exceptional.

We are especially grateful for your ongoing support of the PADS mission and the thoughtful way your team



removes barriers and champions accessibility. Your dedication to community, and your willingness to learn and grow with us, speaks volumes. It's clear that your partnership with PADS goes beyond accommodation—it's a shared commitment to building a better, more inclusive world. Thank you for standing beside us in this work.



“One of the values that we strive to uphold at the hotel is a commitment to our community. This includes providing support to organizations that make life better for residents of our community.”

Our relationship with PADS grew from there. As a hotel, we also work to remove barriers that our guests may have in using our facilities. PADS helps us to understand some of the challenges and provides training for our team to recognize and accommodate where possible.”

Scott Johnson, General Manager



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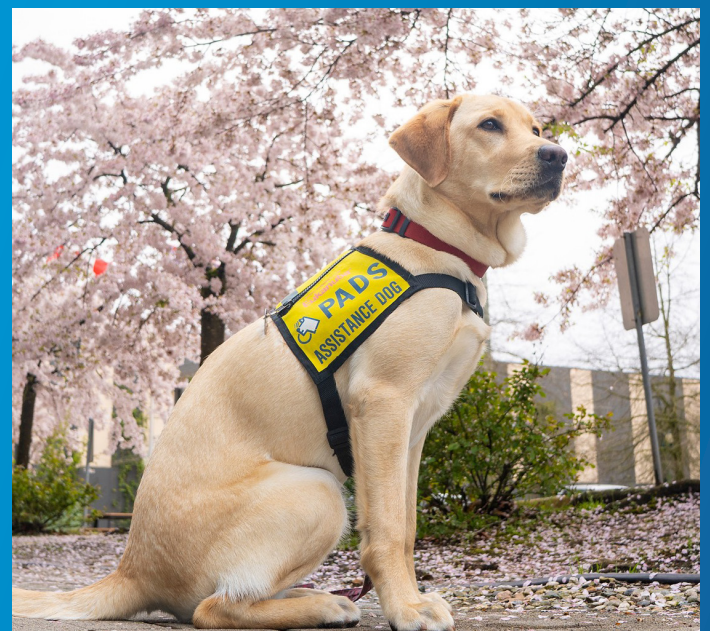
ONLINE

f @padsdogs

🌐 pads.ca

REGISTERED CHARITY

89225 2347RR0001



PADS Mozza
Photo credit: Bill Ng