



# BC & ALBERTA GUIDE DOGS

GUIDE DOGS • AUTISM SERVICE DOGS • OSI-PTSD SERVICE DOGS

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A Division of BC Guide Dogs

## Welcome to BC & Alberta Guide Dogs Puppy Sponsorship Program

BC & Alberta Guide Dogs is delighted to present Scholarship Puppy ~ **Oreo!** Born on November 10<sup>th</sup> to happy couple Bertie and Finn, Oreo was originally introduced to BCAGD sponsors as *Santa's Pup* and enjoyed the extra attention ~ even though his eight littermates would josh him because he liked to wear a Christmas bow on his head! Brothers Darren, Brent, and Zephyr and sisters Rosie, Ginger, Sandy, Desch, and Quinn also liked to tease him a little because of the unusual marking on his fur across his right ear ~ but it was all in fun and this adorable pup is proud of what makes him stand out from the crowd.



Named by the son of our intrepid Calgary Puppy Trainer, Oreo has already shown himself to have a super sweet disposition and loves to be handled

(and cuddled) by humans and pups alike. This is fortunate for everyone concerned because this little furball will be Puppy Raised in two different homes over the next two years. Oreo's first human family will host him for the next several months through his foundations training. These longtime volunteers of BCAGD live in the Delta area and were excited to introduce the little pup to their mature Labrador ~ Penny ~ who just happens to be Oreo's actual grandmother on his dad's side! Oreo has already shown a keen interest in everything Penny does and his humans report that she is more than willing to show him 'the ropes' and how to be a good dog. The married couple have lots of time to spend with Oreo and are happy to share in his development with their grown daughter who has Puppy Raising experience as well.

Once he's a little older, Oreo will transition to being raised and trained by his second human family who are also experienced puppy wranglers ~ so he's sure to get a lot of excellent care and a variety of socialization opportunities which are so important to a pup's success!

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Oreo's early training will familiarize him with crowds, elevators, escalators, construction activity, and public transit wearing his **BC & Alberta Guide Dogs Puppy in Training jacket**. This jacket will gain Oreo access to anywhere humans can go. He will learn to stop and sit at every curb, staircase, and door. He is also learning to ring a bell when he needs to go outside and wait for a whistle to be blown before he eats his meals. This is all part of the discipline training necessary to establish good behaviors from the start.

Oreo will also attend weekly obedience classes with other puppies in the training program and regular one-to-one training sessions with BC & Alberta Guide Dog's Training Instructor. We recognize that each puppy has its own personality and talents and not all pups are suited for a career as a Guide Dog, Autism Service Dog, or OSI-PTSD Service Dog. Should Oreo not move forward in our training program, we will place him in a forever home that positively benefits his needs and the recipient's needs. We will then transfer your sponsorship to another puppy, often a sibling or a puppy of a similar age.

We look forward to sharing Oreo's training journey with you! As he grows, he will be sending you regular updates about how his training is progressing. We anticipate his graduation from the training program around the time he is approximately two years old. Throughout this time, Oreo will be continually evaluated for his final career path as a Guide Dog for someone who is blind or visually impaired, as an Autism Service Dog for a young child with autism, or as a Service Dog offering a reprieve to a Veteran or First Responder with an Operational Stress Injury such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

Thank you again for your participation in this life-changing journey!

Sincerely,



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