



SETTING UP AN ELDERDOG PAWD

A HOW-TO GUIDE



ELDERDOG
CANADA



ELDERDOG CANADA

ElderDog Canada is a national, community-based charity with a focus on ageing people, ageing dogs, and the human-animal relationship.

Our vision is to honour and preserve the human-animal bond through care, companionship, research, and education.



PAWDS ACROSS CANADA

Be the first in your area to set up a local chapter (Pawd) of ElderDog Canada.

Our goal for the growth of ElderDog Canada across the nation is to expand at a modest, sustainable rate. Key to this growth is the establishment of local chapters (Pawds) and regional nodes. A cluster of local Pawds will form a regional node.



ABOUT THIS GUIDE

This guide was developed to help you begin to build your own Pawd. It will take you step by step through the process and allow you to define your goals and expectations for the work you and your Pawd will do in your area.

As well, it will allow you to establish a working relationship with ElderDog Canada.



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LEARN ABOUT ELDERDOG

- Go to **www.elderdog.ca** and explore the site.
- Read information about ElderDog's vision, mission, goals, and values.
- Read information about activities and services ElderDog provides (What We Do).
- Read information about volunteering activities (Give Help/Volunteer).
- Think about your interests, background, and community needs.
- Share ideas with others with a view to developing a team.



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BECOME A MEMBER

Complete and submit membership application along with membership fee. State your interest in becoming a Pawd Leader. Find the application at www.elderdog.ca.

A Pawd leader must also complete a background check. Be sure to complete and submit a criminal records check for work with vulnerable persons.

Contact local police station for information on how to do this. ElderDog can supply a letter to present with your application.



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FOCUS

Review ElderDog mission and ways to volunteer.

Think about how to begin outreach in your community relevant to ElderDog goals. Try to connect your ElderDog work with your other interests or volunteer activities.



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GROWTH PLAN

Create a Local Growth Plan. It should include:

- A statement about need for a Pawd in your area and its connections to ElderDog's goals
- A brief description of the community in which you propose to start a Pawd
- An outline of the activities that you wish to facilitate
- An estimate of the number of people you hope to involve and how you plan to recruit them
- Ideas about how you plan to promote your Pawd and connect with community groups and local businesses



SUBMIT YOUR PLAN

Share your ideas with us by
email: info@elderdog.ca
phone: 1-855-edogcan (1-855-336-4226)
or mail:

NATIONAL OFFICE
907 Feltzen South Road
Feltzen South
Rose Bay, Nova Scotia
BOJ 2X0



GETTING TO KNOW YOU

As we all know from our work with dogs, close attention to nurturance and relationship development in the formative weeks and months sets the stage for healthy growth, well-being, and potential over a life span.

Once we receive your membership application and proposed Local Growth Plan for starting a Pawd we will work closely with you to help your plan become a reality.



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TIPS

We have found that the most successful plans for Pawds:

- Are inspired by a deep appreciation of the animal-human connection
- Are team efforts of friends and neighbours
- Start small and grow
- Build on people's interests and talents
- Are responsive to community needs and resources
- Link with local businesses and service organizations



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TELL A FRIEND

The next most important thing you can do is tell family, friends, neighbours, and colleagues about ElderDog and encourage them to be involved.



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THANK YOU

The work of ElderDog Canada is made possible by people like you, who move through the world foot-by-paw and make a difference in the lives of ageing people and ageing dogs.

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