

ELDERDOG CANADA MEMBERSHIP AND VOLUNTEER GUIDELINES

Members and volunteers of ElderDog Canada are the organization's ambassadors. As a volunteer and/or member of ElderDog you agree to:

- honour ElderDog's mission and vision;
- contribute to ElderDog's goals and success;
- adhere to ElderDog's principles and values as reflected in the ElderDog Credo;
- respect and strictly protect the privacy and confidentiality of those we support;
- demonstrate respect, support, and cooperation toward other ElderDog volunteers;
- show respect, care, and compassion to those we support, their dogs, and the relationship between them;
- wear approved ElderDog identification when acting on behalf of ElderDog;
- refrain from consuming alcohol, drugs, or tobacco in public while wearing ElderDog identification

CREDO OF ELDERDOG CANADA

I believe that:

- People and animals, regardless of circumstance, health, and age, deserve to be treated with **DIGNITY**.
- RESPECT for animals and animal-human companionship is foundational to a person- and dog-centred ethic of care.
- Preservation of healthy relationships between seniors and their canine companions leads to enhanced **HEALTH AND WELL-BEING** for both dogs and humans.
- Dogs bring COMFORT to seniors' lives and, themselves, have individual physical and emotional needs in later life.
- **QUALITY OF LIFE** for both older adults and canine companions is enhanced with attention to emotional, physical, and social needs.
- Dogs play an invaluable role in humans' lives and are deeply missed when they pass on; they deserve appropriate TRIBUTE.
- A commitment to **INTEGRITY** and a principle-based process must be present in all aspects of the ElderDog organization.
- **SUSTAINABILITY** in all aspects of the ElderDog organization is paramount and is both an individual and collective responsibility.

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