



# BC & ALBERTA GUIDE DOGS

GUIDE DOGS • AUTISM SERVICE DOGS • PTSD SERVICE DOGS

[bcandalbertaguidedogs.com](http://bcandalbertaguidedogs.com)



A Division of BC Guide Dogs

July 2020

A big hello from your buddy, Red! Time to share my 10-month 'pup' date. Wow, I can't believe 4 months have gone by. I have lots to share with you once again, so here goes.

Since I last wrote, my routines have been completely changed. At first, I just didn't understand until I kept hearing about this COVID-character. Seems he's been changing everybody's schedules in our neighborhood. I haven't met him but if I do, we're going to talk. I hope you've stayed clear and never had to mess with him.

For several months things were very different in our house. For one thing, My Puppy Raisers and their children all stayed home. Wow! I had everybody's attention and lots of extra snuggles. Our trail walks were longer and more frequent than ever before. Unfortunately, we stopped visiting familiar public places and meeting familiar faces. I didn't get to see my buddies-in-training. It all happened so fast and it was very confusing.

Over the past few months, I've mastered the 475 stair Coquitlam Crunch. I'm very athletic. Mrs. Puppy Raiser is a pro, so I decided to join her every morning. She was amazingly patient with me when I struggled to get to the top sometimes. It didn't take me long to match her stride and become a 'seasoned pro'. The best part was the special treat I earned when we finished the stairs. It was so worth it. And I'm leaner and more handsome than ever, don't you agree?

You may know our regular training classes were 'pawed' for a few months, as well. I wasn't a big fan of training without my buddies and the Puppy Training Manager right beside me. I'm a very social kind of pup and love to play. Really, this COVID-guy came way too fast and I found this change in our training routine upsetting. I had a hard time listening and focusing while we trained with weekly virtual 'Zoom' classes.

I did manage to sneak in and explore the kitchen counters - once. Have you ever tasted a pepperoni pizza (or 2?). It's sooo delicious. Seems my new name at home is, 'Red Bandit'. The rules aren't the same in the kitchen now, as you can imagine.

Thank goodness small training classes have recently begun! I just love structured

## BC HEAD OFFICE

7061 Ladner Trunk Road  
Delta, BC V4K 3N3  
Tel: 604.940.4504  
Fax: 604.940.4506  
Toll-free (Canada):  
1.877.940.4504

## ALBERTA OFFICE

11 - 6115 4th Street SE  
Calgary, AB T2H 2H9  
Tel: 403.258.0819  
Toll-free (Alberta):  
1.877.258.0819

## VICD SERVICE DOGS

Office: Rms 9-10  
744 Primrose Street  
Qualicum Beach, BC  
Tel: 250.909.0090  
Mail: BC Head Office



classes and being around my pals and other people. We're working on special training exercises to 'leave' things I'm not allowed (like pizza) and not getting distracted around other dogs. There's play time and there's practice time. I'm getting back on track now and it feels GREAT!

I'm really proud of mastering stairs, curbs and doors and sitting down in front of them until I'm told to proceed. I've even mastered escalators. My Puppy Raiser says I'm amazing. Practice makes perfect and now that we can go out in public with social distancing, I plan to show everyone how much I haven't forgotten.

I've also mastered loose leash walking and no longer pull my Puppy Raiser over or walk in front of her. She says 'I'm a dream' checking in with her.

There's another word my family uses a lot and that's 'bubble'. See my photo below with some crabs during our visit with my Puppy Raiser's mom. Apparently, she was new to our bubble and so were the crabs. I settled into this new bubble just fine, and the exciting possibility of making new friends.

Be sure to check out BC & Alberta Guide Dogs' Virtual Trivia Night Summer Series, if you haven't already. It's lots of fun! The next one is a Travel Time theme on August 14. You can register at <http://bcandalbertaguidedogs.com>. You can even win prizes!

Thanks so much for supporting me and the Puppy Sponsorship Program. Your commitment allows pups like me to train and become life-changing dogs. Keep your paws crossed for me so that I can provide someone freedom and independence as a Guide Dog, Autism Service dog or PTSD Service Dog. I'll work hard to make you proud of me.

I promise to write again in November. Let's hope that COVID-guy stays low.

Love and snuggles,  
Red

