

GUIDE DOG and SERVICE DOG CERTIFICATION

(An addendum to the SHARE Housing Pet Policy.)

SHARE Housing recognizes the certification of guide and service dogs as defined under the Guide Dog and Service Dog Act (GDSDA). SHARE Housing further recognizes that dogs certified under the certification through the GDSDA are exempt from the pet policy of SHARE Housing. (See section 5 of the Residential Tenancy Agreement.)

1. All guide and service dog teams with valid identification cards issued by training schools accredited by the [International Guide Dog Federation \(IGDF\)](#) and [Assistance Dogs International \(ADI\)](#), regardless of Province or country of issue, are considered to be certified under the [GDSDA](#).
2. Therapy and emotional support animals, including dogs, are not eligible for certification. Such animals are NOT exempt from the SHARE Housing pet policy.
3. It is a [Guide Dog and Service Dog Act](#) offence to represent a dog as a guide or service dog when it is not. A conviction carries a fine of up to \$3,000.

Therefore, any dog accepted into SHARE Housing must be certified with GDSDA recognized certification. There will be **no** exception to this requirement. Other pets are not allowed into SHARE Housing as per the SHARE Housing pet policy.

Dogs trained by their handlers and dogs from schools that are not accredited by the [Assistance Dogs International \(ADI\)](#) or the [International Guide Dog Federation \(IGDF\)](#) are required to pass a public safety assessment administered by the [Justice Institute of British Columbia \(JIBC\)](#) before they can receive certification. These teams are required to be reassessed every two years in order to ensure that public safety standards are being maintained.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/justice/human-rights/guide-and-service-dog/certification-testing>