

The "Quispamsis Lions Club", in conjunction with "Petvalu" of Quispamsis, is sponsoring a "<u>WALK FOR DOG GUIDES</u>" on May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Registration for this event will be at the Quispamsis Petvalu store, 175 Hampton Road at 10 am with the walk commencing at 11am. You do not have to have a dog to participate in this event. Sponsor sheets can be picked up anytime during normal business hours at Petvalu.

A family and dog-friendly event that welcomes participants of all ages and abilities, the Pet Valu Walk for Dog Guides relies on the generous support of volunteers, donors, and partners to meet its goal of *giving Canadians a new leash on life*.



Providing specially trained Dog Guides through six distinct programs meeting a wide range of needs, Dog Guides increase the independence, mobility, and safety of their handlers.

- Vision dog guides (assist visually impaired navigate obstacles found on daily routes)
- Service dog guides (assist people with a physical disability by retrieving objects, open/close doors, etc)
- Hearing dog guides (assist by distinguishing sounds such as alarms, doorbells, phones etc)
- Seizure response dog guides (trained to react to the onset of an epileptic seizure)
- Autism Assistance dog guides (provide safety, companionship, etc for autistic children 3-12 yrs old)
- Diabetic Alert dog guides (trained to detect sudden drops in blood sugar levels through scent)



The Pet Valu Walk for Dog Guides is a national fundraiser held in over 240 communities across Canada. The Walk raises funds for Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides, whose mission is to assist Canadians with a medical or physical disability by providing them a Dog Guide at no cost. Dog Guides are provided at no cost to eligible Canadians, despite the \$25,000 expense it takes to raise, train, and place each one. There is no government funding. 100% of the donations raised go directly toward providing dog guides to Canadians with disabilities.

The dog walk is a major fund-raiser for the organization. It is held annually in the spring or fall is a one day one hour participant sponsored event. Currently there are more than 240 taking place across Canada (currently 8 in NB). It raised more than \$1.3 million in 2016.