

# OPERATION: SERVICE DOG

## PHASE 1: 2020

In 2020, following our National Service Dog Conference held in Victoria, we welcomed Fire Team K9 located in Pembroke, ON as a Probationary WWC Funded SD Provider. Initial pairings are promising as we look to the maturing of this provider.



"I GOT JUNO TO HELP ME MANAGE THE EMOTIONAL TURMOIL THAT WAS AFFECTING ME PHYSICALLY AND EMOTIONALLY. HE HELPED ME IN GOING OUT IN PUBLIC AND IN CROWDED AREAS WITHOUT FEAR."

## PHASE 2: 2021

One of the key outcomes from our recent Service Provider (SD) Conference was that all programs actively training SD's, have committed to pursue ADI accreditation. Our two senior SD Providers: VICD and NSD will mentor the other providers. This is a positive development as it will raise the bar when it comes to standards, provide international mobility to SD pairings and provide additional program development mentoring along with an addition layer of professional accountability.



## PHASE 3: 2022

Following the pattern established at our National Service Dog Conference in 2020, we are excited to welcome K9 Country Inn, from Meaford, ON, as a Probationary WWC Funded Service Dog Provider. **Operation Service Dog** is a prime example of what can be accomplished when organizations work together: cooperation in training, support, international recognition, and integrity. The Ontario Command and Wounded Warriors Canada partnership defines what it means to be **#InThisTogether** for the mental health of our Veterans and their families.





# THE PARTNERSHIP

In April 2018, The Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Provincial Command, partnered with Wounded Warriors Canada (WWC) following the launch of the national WWC PTSD Service Dog Program.

Stability in funding ensures Veterans are paired with Dogs meeting the criteria for WWC service dogs, including ethical training standards for dogs, client and service dog teams, client service and aftercare, financial transparency, and insurance coverage.

Wounded Warriors Canada's Service Dog Program is currently tracking the placement of 60 PTSD Service Dogs to Veterans **nationally** through Certified Service Dog Providers in this fiscal year; a further 43 dogs are in training and providers are allowing for new applicants due to the stable and consistent funding.

Philip C. Ralph, CD Captain (Ret'd)  
Director, Health Services.

# YOUR IMPACT

FUNDS INVESTED IN SERVICE DOGS IN ONTARIO	<i>\$1.3 MILLION</i>
PTSD SERVICE DOGS SUPPORTED	42
SERVICE DOGS CURRENTLY IN TRAINING	20 - 30
SERVICE DOG PROVIDERS IN ONTARIO	<i>NSD, FIRETEAM K9 &amp; K9 COUNTRY INN</i>

PART OF A NATIONAL NETWORK OF SERVICE DOG PROVIDERS



"SOOKE IS MUCH MORE THAN A SERVICE DOG. SHE IS A TRUE FRIEND AND COMPANION. SHE WILL NOT LEAVE UNTIL SHE KNOWS MY SPIRIT HAS BEEN LIFTED BY HER MERE PRESENCE

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