



**Alberta has gone to the dogs - Alberta Guide Dog Services, that is!**



Photo of Karen and Tucker. Karen is going to school in Calgary, with her two year old pup raised right here in Calgary by a wonderful volunteer family.

**Alberta Guide Dog Services (AGDS)** is very proud to celebrate a new milestone as they recently placed one of their first Alberta raised puppies with a 17 year old blind girl in Calgary.

Through the support of their volunteers, stakeholders and over **\$30,000** from **The Calgary Foundation**, the newly formed AGDS has been able to train guide dogs for the visually impaired citizens in Alberta.

After just three years of establishing an office in Calgary, AGDS has gone from the invisible charity few had heard of, to an organization with a growing public profile.

AGDS's growth has resulted in them now having 16 puppies in Alberta, at all different levels of training. Not only is AGDS growing in Calgary, they are developing a presence in Drumheller, Okotoks, Chestermere, Canmore, Cochrane, Airdrie and Lethbridge.

School students have also been making a big difference. At one school, a class of first graders decided they wanted to sponsor a puppy. They put together a business plan, gathered "seed" money by pooling their allowances, and started making dog cookies as a school business. They recently presented AGDS with a cheque for \$1,130.25 and are now the proud sponsors of four pups!