

Talking Points for Walk Organizer(s) on Status of Campaign- As of 19/3/2026

- In July 2025, construction of our new Dog Guide training school was paused due to an unexpected \$20 million funding shortfall.
- This gap resulted from three primary factors:
 - a) A committed piece of financing that did not materialize within the anticipated timeline;
 - b) An expansion in the scope and scale of the project to meet the complex needs of a fully accessible, purpose-built national training facility;
 - c) Increased construction and material costs driven by COVID-19 impacts and broader economic uncertainty.
- In response, the organization acted swiftly and decisively.
- We launched a public fundraising campaign with a goal of \$5 million, while simultaneously advancing three additional funding pillars of support: private lending, government funding, and institutional financing through our banking partner.
- Since the end of August 2025, the public phase of the campaign has raised an extraordinary \$4.65 million.
- This is a direct reflection of the dedication and generosity of our donors, community and organizational partners, and Lions Clubs across the country.
- It is momentum built by people like you.
- We are also making excellent progress on the remaining three funding pillars.
- Two have now been confirmed.
- A third is nearing confirmation and discussions continue to advance positively
- We are unable to share specific details at this time in order to respect confidentiality requests and protect the progress made
- We are optimistic and look forward to providing a comprehensive update soon.

- We recognize that this journey has required patience.
- Our leadership and fundraising teams remain fully committed and focused.
- The mindset is clear: full steam ahead, leaving no stone unturned.
- This is not a sprint. It is not even a simple run. It is a marathon — and we are determined to cross the finish line.

- Our National Walk is far more than a fundraising event.
 - It is a powerful demonstration of unity and belief in the mission of Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides.
 - It shines a spotlight on the life-changing impact of our programs and generates essential funds to sustain training and client support services across the country.
 - The Walk remains our largest annual fundraising event and plays a vital role in sustaining our operations.
 - As we continue to serve and support our clients, the success of this event is essential.
 - We are deeply grateful for your ongoing commitment and participation, which enable us to carry our mission forward and make a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve.
 - At this pivotal moment, your leadership matters more than ever.
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- This walk will mark a meaningful milestone as the final one organized from our original building—a place made possible through the dedication, generosity, and hard work of so many Lions, walk organizers, and supporters over the years.
 - This building has been more than a space; it has been a symbol of community, commitment, and shared purpose.
 - We look forward to honoring its legacy—and the incredible individuals who helped build and sustain it—in a thoughtful and distinctive way.
 - While plans are still underway, we will be sharing more details soon.
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- The work we do transforms lives.
 - Your Walks make that work possible.
 - Thank you for your unwavering commitment, your leadership, and your continued belief in our mission.
 - Together, we will ensure that individuals with disabilities continue to receive the life-changing support they deserve — and that our new training facility becomes a reality.