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**Ottawa Therapy Dogs**

Good dogs doing great work!

Ottawa Therapy Dogs is a volunteer-based not-for-profit organization that provides invaluable care and support through animal-assisted interventions. Our dogs and volunteer handlers visit individuals coping with physical and mental health challenges at over 60 health care, educational and social services facilities across Ottawa.

**How are therapy dogs different from other support animals?**

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| **Descriptions** | **Therapy Animal** | **Service/Assistance Animal** | **Emotional Support Animal** |
| **Provides therapeutic comfort to many people** | **YES** | **NO** | **NO** |
| **Primary job is to emotionally support owner through companionship** | **NO** | **NO** | **YES** |
| **Trained to assist an individual for a specific health need** | **NO** | **YES** | **NO** |
| **Must behave in and tolerate many environments** | **YES** | **YES** | **NO** |
| **Rights of access to public spaces such as restaurants and stores** | **NO** | **YES** | **NO** |
| **Housing rights even if “No Pets” Policy** | **NO** | **YES** | **YES** |
| **Travel rights in the cabin of an airplane with owner** | **NO** | **YES** | **NO** |
| **Okay to approach and pet in public with owner permission** | **YES** | **NO** | **NO** |

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