

**BLIND PERSONS RIGHTS ACT****CHAPTER 29****Interpretation****1.** In this Act

“blind person” means a person who is apparently blind and dependent on a guide dog or white cane;

“guide dog” means a dog used by a blind person to assist him to avoid hazards, and includes a dog for which a certificate under section 6 has been issued;

“minister” includes any person designated in writing by the minister;

“white cane” means a cane or walking stick, the whole or upper 2/3 of which is white.

1974-9-1.

**Rights with guide dog**

**2.** Notwithstanding the provisions of any enactment, a blind person accompanied by a guide dog has the same rights, privileges and obligations as a person not accompanied by a dog, and, notwithstanding the generality of the foregoing, he may enter and use all accommodations, conveyances, eating places, lodging places and other places to which the public is invited or has access in the same manner as if he were not accompanied by a dog, so long as he prevents the guide dog from occupying a seat in a public conveyance and so long as the guide dog is held by a leash or harness.

1974-9-2.

**No interference with rights of blind persons**

**3.** No person shall interfere with a blind person’s rights and privileges under section 2 or charge a fee to a blind person for his guide dog.

1974-9-3.

**White cane**

**4.** No person other than a person who is blind according to accepted medical standards shall carry or use a white cane.

1974-9-4.

**Onus on defendant**

**5.** In a prosecution under section 4, the onus is on the defendant to prove that he is blind according to accepted medical standards.

1974-9-5.

**Certificate**

**6.** (1) A blind person may apply to the minister for a certificate that he may use as evidence of the fact that he is a person entitled to the rights under section 2.

(2) On receipt of an application under subsection (1) the minister shall issue a certificate to the applicant if he is satisfied that the guide dog for which the application is made qualifies under the regulations.

(3) A certificate issued under this section becomes void and on the written request of the minister shall be surrendered to him where he is satisfied that the guide dog for which the certificate was issued has

- (a) died or become permanently disabled;
- (b) ceased to render guide services to the blind person to whom the certificate was issued; or
- (c) for any reason ceased to qualify under the regulations.

1974-9-6; 1976-32-3.

### **Regulations**

- 7.** The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations.

1974-9-7.

### **Penalty**

- 8.** A person who contravenes this Act commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$200.

1974-9-8.