

THE WCR LEARNING COMMUNITY

This project is made possible through funding from the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia.



Photo by Nick Procylo, *The Vancouver Sun*
Isla, the visiting dog, walks with Darlene Ross.

Adapted from *The Vancouver Sun*

Dog helps people

Level 1

Isla likes to visit the Union Gospel Mission (UGM) in New Westminster.

And she is 11 years old.

Isla is a dog. She is a Labrador dog.

She goes to UGM with her owner.

His name is Rodger.

Union Gospel Mission

People can go to the UGM for a good meal.

They can eat there every day.

The staff and volunteers also make food for special holidays. For example, they cook a big meal at Christmas.

There are nine UGMs in Vancouver and Mission.

People at UGM

People talk to Isla when she comes.

She sees someone sad.

Then she goes close to that person.

She licks the person's face.

(... continued on page 2)

(... continued from page 1)

Rodger and UGM

Rodger goes to UGM every morning.

He puts Isla in his car.

Then he works in the UGM kitchen.

He helps with the breakfast.

He helps with the lunch.

Isla and UGM

Isla does not stay long in the car.

Rodger sometimes gives his car keys to a **client**. Then that person can walk with Isla. Maybe that person talks to Isla.

Isla remembers

Isla and her owner walk in the city.

They meet people from the mission.

Isla sees them.

Rodger says, "Her whole body wags.

It's not just her tail."

Vocabulary:

- **clients:** (CLY - ents) customers; someone using a service or an agency like UGM

The business woman was very polite to her clients.

- **wags:** moves (a body part) very fast from side to side, or up and down

When my dog sees me, he wags his tail.

Learn new expressions:

- **as sick as a dog:** very sick
My friend was as sick as a dog when he left the restaurant last night.
- **in the doghouse:** to be in trouble
The man is in the doghouse with his wife because he came home late last night.
- **to rain cats and dogs:** to rain very hard
It is raining cats and dogs today.
- **to work like a dog:** to work very hard
The boy worked like a dog on his school project.

Links:

Union Gospel Mission opens new shelter:
<http://www.vancouver.sun.com/news/Union+Gospel+Mission+opens+largest+expansion+services+poor/4636970/story.html>

St. John's Ambulance dog therapy program:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kRzcLyRjj0Q>

About Labrador dogs:
<http://www.loveyourdog.com/labs.html>