



## For Immediate Release

February 28, 2022

### ***'Variety Show of Hearts' Raises \$6,936,621***

**(Burnaby, BC)** – Variety - the Children's Charity and Global BC are thrilled to announce that this year's *Variety Show of Hearts* raised \$6,936,621 to support children with special needs.

During the first two days of the three-day event on Thursday, February 24 & Friday, February 25, Global News viewers were introduced to just some of the amazing kids who were helped by Variety in 2021. The inspiring stories continued on Global BC's broadcast of the 56<sup>th</sup> Annual *Variety Show of Hearts Telethon* which aired on Saturday, February 26 from 1:00 pm to 5:30 pm.

"I'm once again left speechless by the unbelievable generosity of our donors and supporters," said Cally Wesson, Variety BC CEO. "Realizing how challenging the past two years has been for all of us, it's extremely heartwarming to see that British Columbians will still band together during the toughest of times to ensure that we'll always be here for BC's kids. It's absolutely overwhelming."

"I'm always amazed at the generosity of people in BC," said Bhupinder Hundal, News Director & Station Manager, Global BC. "With this incredible support, the future of so many kids and their families is much brighter thanks to all of you."

This year's roster of hosts included Global BC's Chris Gailus, Sophie Lui, Kristi Gordon, Neetu Garcha, Paul Haysom, Jay Janower, Jordan Armstrong and Michael Newman along with 980 CKNW's Jody Vance who was joined by *Show of Hearts* favourites Howard Blank, Alvin Law & Marco Pasqua and Variety Youth Champions Esabella Strickland and Janelle Milne. Making their *Show of Hearts* debut were actor & parent advocate, Bethel Lee and local singer-songwriter, Seven Taviss.

Viewers also got to see their donor dollars in action when they were treated to updates on the kids who they met during Global BC's *Variety Week*. Saturday's telecast also featured performances by musical guests David Foster, Katharine McPhee, Colin James, Serena Ryder and William Prince along with Penticton's spoken word poet, Shane Koyczan and Canadian violinist, Adrian Anantawan.

Those who missed this year's *Variety Show of Hearts* can still donate online at [variety.bc.ca](http://variety.bc.ca).

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#### **About Variety - the Children's Charity:**

Variety - the Children's Charity steps in where health care ends providing direct help to children with special needs in BC. For over 55 years, Variety has ensured children have the support to reach their potential. Since 2010, Variety has distributed more than \$35 million in funding to families and organizations in communities all across the province. For additional information on how you can support Variety - the Children's Charity, visit [variety.bc.ca](http://variety.bc.ca) or call 604.320.0505.

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