



For Immediate Release

October 25, 2022

'Variety Week' Raises \$2,221,409

(Burnaby, BC) – Variety - the Children's Charity and Global BC are excited to announce that this year's *Variety Week* has raised a total of \$2,221,409 to help BC's kids with special needs.

"We are once again astonished by the generosity of British Columbians especially at a time when everyone is feeling the pinch," said Josh Pasnak, Interim CEO, Variety BC. "Their phenomenal support takes away the financial burden from our families and ensures their kids will have the essential equipment, therapies and counselling they'll need to grow and succeed. And for that, we are truly thankful."

"I am amazed at how our viewers across the province give so generously each year," said Bhupinder Hundal, News Director & Station Manager, Global BC. "To know that so many children and their families will be receiving the support they desperately need demonstrates the power of our community and how we can make a difference in people's lives."

During the entire week, Global News viewers were treated to stories of children and their families who have been supported by Variety allowing viewers to see how their donations have impacted the children's lives.

Additionally Variety announced the launch of their Schools Grant program where they'll be working with schools throughout the province to bring a chosen project to life by matching funds up to \$10,000. Some of the projects that Variety will fund include closed captioning technologies, sensory paths & rooms and wheelchair-accessible playgrounds.

For those who happened to miss out on this year's *Variety Week*, donations can still be made at variety.bc.ca.

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About Variety - the Children's Charity of BC:

Variety - the Children's Charity of BC steps in where health care ends providing direct help to children with special needs province-wide. 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 across BC.

Variety's core grant areas range from mobility programs and life-saving medical equipment to specialized therapies, mental wellness counselling and educational programs as well as private autism & psychoeducational assessments. For additional information on how you can support Variety - the Children's Charity of BC, visit variety.bc.ca or call 604.320.0505.

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