



For Immediate Release

February 2, 2023

'Variety Show of Hearts' Returns to Global BC to Ensure All Kids Across BC Have the Brightest Possible Future

(Burnaby, BC) – Variety - the Children's Charity is excited to announce that the *Variety Show of Hearts* is returning to Global BC. Launching on *Global News Hour at 6* on Thursday, February 23, viewers will be treated to stories of hope, courage and resilience from children who Variety has helped in 2022. The inspiring stories will continue on all of Global BC's newscasts including *Global News Morning* and *Global News at Noon* on Friday, February 24 & Saturday, February 25.

The weekend will then culminate with the 57th Annual *Variety Show of Hearts Telethon* airing on Global BC and via livestream at GlobalNews.ca on Sunday, February 26 from 1:00 pm to 5:30 pm. The iconic fundraising event will be hosted by Global BC's **Chris Gailus, Sophie Lui, Sonia Sunger, Paul Haysom, Mark Madryga & Michael Newman**, CFOX's **Karen Khunkhun**, Rock 101's **Kiah Tucker** along with **Todd Talbot**. Joining them will be **Alvin Law, Marco Pasqua, Howard Blank & Jessica McCready** together with Variety Youth Champions, **Esabella Strickland, Kaitlyn Lye and Jayden & Ashton**.

This year's entertainment line-up will feature **Sarah McLachlan, Jim Cuddy, Devin Cuddy & Sam Polley** as well as pop-rock singer, **Fefe Dobson** and Coquitlam's own **Tyler Shaw**.

Throughout all four days, there will be matching opportunities up to \$850,000 taking the impact of every gift further. Viewers will also meet more children whose lives have been transformed including 6-year-old Kean from Chilliwack who was provided with a pulse oximeter to keep him safe during his asthma attacks and viral-induced illnesses.

"Families across our province are struggling and we continue to see record-breaking requests for urgent support and specialized care," said Andrea Tang, CEO, Variety BC. "The essential programs and resources made possible by our generous donors can transform daily realities for children and change the trajectory of their future."

"It's a critical time for many families as the need for support is immense," said Bhupinder Hundal, News Director & Station Manager, Global BC. "The Variety Show of Hearts is an opportunity for all of us to step up and help vulnerable families across the province. Global BC viewers are simply incredible in how they give so generously and I know our community will rise to meet the challenge."

Donations can be made online at variety.bc.ca, over the phone by calling 310-KIDS or by texting the word KIDS to 45678 to make an automatic \$25 donation.

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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 & youth with special needs province-wide. For over 55 years, Variety has ensured that children have the support to reach their full potential. Since 2010, Variety has distributed more than \$40 million in funding to families and organizations in communities across BC. Variety's core grant areas range from adaptive, medical & mobility equipment to specialized therapies, educational support, mental wellness counselling and private autism & psychoeducational assessments. For 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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