

Inspiring hope, enriching lives, and building a better future for BC's children.



For Immediate Release

CHILDREN IN COMOX VALLEY BENEFIT FROM LOCAL FUNDRAISER

Burnaby, BC (July 15, 2010) – The 2nd annual Courtenay/ Campbell River *Variety Children's Radiothon* has raised an amazing \$30,008 and 159 Buddy Bears to support children in the Comox Valley and Campbell River area who have special needs. The two-day event - broadcast live on *The Eagle 97.3* introduced listeners to some of the children and families Variety has helped in the Courtenay area, as well as some of the projects Variety has supported in the past several years.

Barbie Hislop, executive director of Variety - The Children's Charity said, "Variety is thrilled to be back in the Comox Valley for our second Radiothon. Once again, the community has rallied together for the kids! All of the money raised over the past two days will stay right here in the Comox Valley and Campbell River to help children who have special needs and their families. All of our generous donors should know they are making a positive difference in the life of a child in their community and that is truly incredible, thank you so much."

Since 2007, Variety has granted over \$60,000 to individual families in the Comox Valley and Campbell River area. The money has been used for specialized equipment, medicine, therapies and accommodation and travel costs associated with a child's medical emergency. In the last year Variety also provided over \$73,000 in organizational grants to the St. Joseph's General Hospital Maternity/Child Unit for critical care equipment as well as the Comox Valley Therapeutic Riding Society.

The *Variety Children's Radiothon* is supported by local sponsors including The Eagle 97.3, The Comox Valley Echo, Pharmasave, Best Western, The Westerly Hotel, Quality Foods and Canadian Tire as well as dozens of local volunteers. Members of the local Fraternal Order of Eagles organization volunteered their time as did some women from the Red Hat Society. You Are Not Alone, an organization that assists local children and their families with access medical assistance, also volunteered their time.

Variety - The Children's Charity raises funds and distributes grants throughout British Columbia to inspire hope, enrich lives and build a better future for children who have special needs. Since 1965, Variety has raised over \$155 million for children and families in the province.

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In partnership with

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