



For Immediate Release

Children's Radiothon Raises Big Dollars in Nanaimo!
Community comes together to help children who have special needs

Burnaby, BC (September 23, 2011) – The 4th annual *Variety Children's Radiothon* in Nanaimo has raised \$23,287 and 215 Buddy Bears - all to support children in the community who have special needs.

The two-day event - broadcast live on *102.3 The Wave* - introduced listeners to some of the children and families Variety has helped in Nanaimo and the surrounding communities, as well as some of the projects Variety has supported in the past year. All money raised at the Radiothon will stay in Nanaimo and the surrounding areas.

"We are very happy with the success of the Radiothon this year," said Barbara Hislop, Executive Director of Variety - The Children's Charity. "102.3 The Wave is an incredibly supportive partner every year – they truly go above and beyond. It is great to see a community come together in this way for the kids."

Over the last year, Variety has provided over \$30,000 in individual grants to families in the Nanaimo area. In the last six years, Variety has provided over \$1 million in grants to local organizations including the Nanaimo Child Development Centre, Nanaimo & District Hospital Foundation and the Errington Therapeutic Riding Association. Variety has also provided Sunshine Coaches, specially equipped, wheelchair accessible vans, to the Boys & Girls Club of Nanaimo & District, the Nanaimo Recreation Commission and the Nanaimo Unique Kids Organization.

"A huge thanks to all those that donated as it will help a lot of kids here," says The Wave DJ & Program Director, Kent Wilson. "Everyone here at The Wave is happy to have been a part of this Radiothon." Along with 102.3 The Wave, the event is supported by The Nanaimo Daily News, RLR (Ramsay Lampman Rhodes) Law Offices, Tigh-Na-Mara Seaside Spa Resort, Casino Nanaimo and Save-on-Foods.

Chuck Clara of Snap on Tools is one local sponsor that has shown tireless dedication to the children of Nanaimo. Through his personal donations and encouragement of local businesses to donate to Variety, he has proven to be an incredible Variety supporter.

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Inspiring hope and enriching the lives of children who have special needs.