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**For Immediate Release**

June 16, 2017

**13th Annual Variety Children's Radiothon on  
94.3 The Goat, Country 97 and Valley Country**  
Funds raised to support local children with special needs

**(BURNABY, BC)** Listeners to 94.3 The Goat, Country 97 and Valley Country will get the chance to hear more than their favourite songs on June 21 and 22 when Variety - the Children's Charity returns for the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Variety Children's Radiothon in Prince George and Vanderhoof. The fundraiser celebrates the strength and courage of families who have children with special needs, as well as the inspiring individuals and organizations in the community who help these kids accomplish new things every day.

Listeners who tune in to this year's Radiothon will have the chance to learn about kids like 8 year old Hunter, who was born premature and weighed less than 1.5 lbs at birth, and Jady, whose new power wheelchair provides him mobility despite his dystonic cerebral palsy. Because of generous donors in the community, so many kids like these have had the opportunity to be mobile, learn, connect and focus on just being kids.

"There are more and more families that need our help every year," said Variety BC CEO Kristy Gill. "But with the help of generous donors, like all those who support us in Prince George and Vanderhoof each year, we're able to be there when families in these communities need us most."

In the past ten years, Variety BC has provided 322 individual grants directly to families and children in Prince George and Vanderhoof. In addition, the charity has provided funding to five local organizations, including the Spirit of the North Healthcare Foundation, Northern BC Children & Families Hearing Society, Prince George and District Child Development Centre, University Hospital of Northern BC, and the Prince George Therapeutic Riding Association. In total, approximately \$610,768 has been spent to support local children with special needs over that period.

There are many ways to support the Variety Children's Radiothon and help children with special needs. All funds raised in the community, stay in the community:

- Tune in to 94.3 The Goat, Country 97 and Valley Country, and call toll free 1-855-545-1137 to donate.
- Donate online at [variety.bc.ca](http://variety.bc.ca)
- Text KIDS to 45678 to make an automatic \$20 contribution
- Join the conversation on social media using #VarietyRadiothon and @VarietyBC



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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 and the Yukon. For over 50 years Variety has ensured children have the support to reach their potential.

Together, we can be there when a family needs us the most.

Since 2010 Variety has distributed more than \$25 million in funding to families and organizations in communities all across the province. With your help, we can raise even more!

For more information on how you can support Variety - the Children's Charity, visit [variety.bc.ca](http://variety.bc.ca) or call 1-800-381-2040.

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