



For Immediate Release

June 15, 2020

Variety BC Brings Back 'Variety Mobility Day'

(Burnaby, BC) – Variety - the Children's Charity is pleased to announce that *Variety Mobility Day* will return for its second year on Wednesday, June 24.

A day set aside to celebrate accessibility and inclusiveness, last year's inaugural celebration included a Block Party and a Sunshine Family Van presentation. The day also saw British Columbians come together to raise enough money to fund two Adaptive Trikes in each of their five health regions.

"Variety has been providing mobility equipment for kids with special needs for more than 50 years," said Cally Wesson, Variety BC CEO. "This year we're hoping to raise enough money to meet the increasing demand for orthotics, wheelchairs and adaptive bikes for kids with mobility challenges."

"Many children with disabilities and their families have been staying inside these days making mobility more important than ever," said Marco Pasqua, Public Speaker, Entrepreneur & *Variety Mobility Day* Honourary Chair. "That's why supporting Variety Mobility Day enables these amazing children in our community to have the opportunity to stay active with our special trikes ... keeping them fit and encouraging them to get outside as much as possible. I'm so excited that I'm able to participate in Mobility Day again this year especially to encourage Canadians to stay positive and fit as we head into summer."

This year, the day will include a virtual concert with country music band The Washboard Union on Variety's Facebook Live and an Adaptive Bike presentation to Ethan, a 6-year old boy from the Sunshine Coast who was diagnosed with Nemaline Myopathy, a congenital, hereditary neuromuscular disorder and who Variety has helped with wheelchair accessories, orthotics and a ceiling track.

To help Variety reach their fundraising goal of \$10,000, donations can be made at variety.bc.ca or by texting "KIDS" to 45678 to make an automatic \$20 contribution.

-30-

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. For over 50 years, Variety has ensured children have the support to reach their potential. Since 2010, Variety has distributed more than \$33 million in funding to families and organizations in communities all across the province.

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

Media Contact:

Donnie Gordon

Direct: 604.328.8930

Email: donnie.gordon@variety.bc.ca