

# Easter Seals News

*In 1952, the Lions Clubs established the BC Lions Society for Children with Disabilities to help families and children with disabilities.*

*This Easter Seals Newsletter shares the stories of what Lions Clubs are doing today to continue to help persons with disabilities, information on upcoming events, what's happening at Easter Seals, and updates from the children, adults and families that you help directly.*

## In This Issue

50 Years of Camp

Creston Lions President Rappells

Meet Natasha

Chip In For The Kids Events

Easter Seals House gets a renovation to their 3rd floor lounge

Cabela's donates \$10,000

Easter Seals partners with TYDE

Upcoming Events

## Celebrating 50 Years of Camp

Lions Clubs were at Camp Winfield September 16th to volunteer and support the 50th Anniversary of Camp Benefit Concert and Family Festival event held to raise funds and celebrate the experiences camp brings to children, youth and adults with disabilities.

Camp Winfield opened in 1968 with the generous support and fundraising by local Lions Clubs. Over the last 50 years, the Lions Clubs have helped change the lives of more than 10,000 children and youth with disabilities who attend camp and return home inspired, motivated and enabled.

The 50th Anniversary Celebration was a great afternoon of live music, food, activities for the kids and a chance to share stories and meet some of the campers whose lives were changed because of Camp!



Thank you Chase Lions Club and Club Secretary Karen Bassett, for surprising Easter Seals during the 50th Anniversary event with a \$1000 donation.

## Creston Lions President Rappells for Kids

He did it! Creston Lions Club President Rod Giles took the challenge this week and rappelled down the CIBC building in downtown Victoria for Drop Zone 2018. And he did it for the love of the children.

Here's what Rod has to say about why his commitment to the BC Lions Society for Children with Disabilities is so important to him: "It is my belief that our forefather Lions began an incredible society and made an incredible difference in the lives of so many when they created the BC Lions Society for Children with Disabilities," says Giles. "I believe the commitment to those with disabilities should be the same, if not greater today. Let's send the message to the Society that we, as Lions of the East and West Kootenay's, care deeply and want Easter Seals to continue to make a difference in the lives of those who need us the most."

If you would like to make a donation to Rod's fundraising page, you have until October 14th. Go to [www.dropzonebc.ca](http://www.dropzonebc.ca)





## Meet Natasha - A Camper Alumni

Natasha was a BCLSCD and Easter Seals camper for 11 years and when we asked her to share some of her experiences she had some special memories to share.

"When I think of camp, I think of a place where no matter what your physical appearance is – whether you are a first time camper or have been going for numerous years or whether you have a minor disorder or have a disorder that makes it so you can't control any of your body

movements – the counselors, coordinators and the rest of the camp staff will do anything possible to make your week at camp enjoyable.

One of my favourite activities to do while at camp was going on the big swing that was 60 feet off the ground. I went on the swing every year that I went to camp, a total of eleven years, and loved it! The big swing is made up of two wires that are strung together between two telephone poles. Hanging down from these wires is another wire. After you have been harnessed to the wire which is hanging down, the ladder, which is under you, is pulled away. Your fellow campers and counsellors that are on the ground pull on a rope which pulls you up towards the telephone pole.

Once you feel that you are high enough you let go of the rope that is helping to pull you up and you swing inbetween the two telephone poles. The height to which you are pulled determines how long you swing between the two telephone poles for. It's an amazing feeling to be up that high swinging! Camp was so much fun!" ~ Natasha Kaweski, Camper Alumni

## Looking for a new way to raise funds for Easter Seals this year?

Last year, the **28th annual Chip In For The Kids** on Vancouver Island raised almost \$18,000 for kids with disabilities, while Vernon kicked off their first Chip In For The Kids event with plans for a second one this year.

Lions Clubs from Greater Victoria, Sooke, Duncan and Vernon organized community events to take place a week or two afternoon Christmas for residents to recycle their live Christmas trees for a donation to Easter Seals.

It's a great way to get involved in the community and raise funds for Easter Seals House and camps.



Start planning your Chip In For The Kids event soon!  
For information and ideas on how to get started,  
contact Shannon at [sbernays@eastersealsbcy.ca](mailto:sbernays@eastersealsbcy.ca)





## Cabela's Donates \$10,000 to Camp

Cabela's Canada Outdoor Fund has donated \$10,000 in celebration of this summer's 50th Anniversary of Easter Seals Camps. It's the first donation their Outdoor Fund has made to an organization in British Columbia. "Part of Cabela's Canada Outdoor Fund is designed to provide camping and outdoor experiences to sick or disabled individuals, so partnering with Easter Seals Camps was the perfect fit for us," says Megan Robertson, Retail Events Coordinator at Cabela's. "We had a chance visit the camp in July and to see the smiles and excitement from the kids as they enjoyed camp life, was so heartfelt." Cabela's commitment to providing and enhancing opportunities for everyone to enjoy the outdoors, means more children and youth with disabilities will be able to experience Easter Seals Camp.

## Easter Seals House has a new 3rd floor lounge & kitchen

After 30 years, and 30,000 bednights each year, the Easter Seals House 3rd floor lounge needed refreshing. So thanks to the help of the Greater Vancouver Home Builders' Association (GVHBA), renovations took place over the summer and the 3rd floor lounge and common kitchen area were able to receive a new look to better serve the families who use it everyday.



Renovations to the lounge and kitchen included new appliances, kitchen counters, cabinets, furniture, paint and so much more, including cabinets full of non-perishable food.



## Upcoming Events, Fundraisers & Celebrations

### Chrome & Cocktails - An Evening in Celebration of Timmy's November 6

Join us for an evening where we celebrate the commitment of Lions Clubs, donors and supporters throughout the year. It's an evening of good food, friends and fundraising in support of Easter Seals BC & Yukon.

This is an annual fundraising event featuring live entertainment, raffle, silent auction, food and cocktails. The magnificent Deely Exhibition Hall in Vancouver, displaying the finest motorcycle collection in Canada, provides the perfect setting for a spectacular evening. Get your tickets at [www.timmys.org](http://www.timmys.org).



### Abbotsford Lions Charity Poker Tournament November 3

Get your poker hand ready and visit with your friends from the Abbotsford Lions Club at this fundraising event for Easter Seals. Doors open at 6:00pm with a guaranteed prize pool of \$2000 available. For ticket reservations, e-mail the Tournament Director at [abbylionspoker@shaw.ca](mailto:abbylionspoker@shaw.ca)



## We're Collaborating with TYDE

Easter Seals has partnered with the Transitioning Youth with Disabilities and Employment (TYDE) project to prepare youth living with intellectual disabilities (ID) or Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) to find meaningful employment later in life.

We are excited to announce that the Transitioning Youth with Disabilities and Employment (TYDE), a project we are proud to partner with, has received over \$1.3 million in federal funding to develop curriculum for an online interactive learning environment to help those with ID and ASD," says Charlene Krepiakovich, President & CEO, Easter Seals BC/Yukon. "There is a gap for people with developmental disabilities as they transition from school to adult life and we are one of many partners of this project committed to bridging this gap by improving employment outcomes and giving them opportunities to have meaningful work in their lives." For more information on this project visit [www.mytyde.ca](http://www.mytyde.ca).



## Take Part in the Light Up The House Campaign

For the month of December, we'll be selling buttons at local retailers and taking online donations for bulbs and light strands that will light up Easter Seals House for the holiday season. Proceeds from every bulb, strand and button go towards providing a safe, comfortable home away from home for families needing to be in Vancouver for specialized care. Information on how you can sell buttons and take part in this holiday campaign is coming soon!

## Share your events and stories with us!

We are so grateful for the support of Lions Clubs and your commitment to the community and helping persons with disabilities. This newsletter is a great way to share your stories with other clubs and a chance for us to showcase and promote your events.

Send us your news, stories and events at [info@eastersealsbcy.ca](mailto:info@eastersealsbcy.ca)



## Volunteer With Us

The hard work and activism of our volunteers is the cornerstone of which Easter Seals is built on. Check out full role descriptions at [www.eastersealsbcy.ca](http://www.eastersealsbcy.ca)

### Easter Seals House Handyman

Help assist and carry out minor repairs and maintenance of property, furnishings and equipment.

### Easter Seals House Gardener

Landscape maintenance, weeding, watering, mowing the lawn, sweeping and other general yard work.

**Timmy's Celebration of Abilities - Nov. 6th**