



British Columbia/Yukon

2017/2018 Community Report



Easter Seals BC/Yukon is a service of the BC Lions Society for Children with Disabilities

Enabling abilities in our communities

Since 1952, our story has been one of hope, courage, and triumph. Over the years, through the BC Lions Society for Children with Disabilities (Society), Easter Seals has provided valued programs and services to families and children with diverse abilities that has offered hope and courage. Today, through this community report, we are celebrating the triumph you have enabled these past six decades and specifically this past year. Because of supporters like you, we are able to continue to empower persons with diverse abilities to be courageous and triumphant. Thank you.

This community report celebrates the impact you are making in the lives of persons with diverse abilities - highlighting what you have made possible, and what lays ahead in our future. While 2017/2018 posed some challenges, thousands of children and families were inspired and supported through our summer Easter Seals camp, through our home-away-from-home at Easter Seals House, through our bursary programs at six post-secondary institutions across BC, and through our community access programs. Further, we saw good financial performance as a result of reduced administration costs, streamlined operations, and increased funding.

With your support, we are well-positioned to implement our exciting 10 year plan to support children with diverse abilities throughout their lifetime. This vision will positively impact thousands of families across BC and Yukon — enabling abilities for life!!

From the bottom of our hearts, and on behalf of thousands of families, thank you.

Tracy & Charlene



Tracy Lakeman
Board Chair



Charlene Krepiakevich
President & CEO

Our 2018 Reach & Impact

Due to declining donations and a changing charitable landscape, the difficult decision was made to suspend camp programs at Shawnigan Lake and Squamish for the summer of 2018. We strived to communicate to you, about this change, and understand this was a difficult message to hear. But despite this challenge, Camp Winfield welcomed 240 children from across BC and Yukon during this milestone 50th anniversary year.

Other Easter Seals programs and services experienced improved delivery, growth and reach this past year. Because of you, we saw a 5% increase in rooms occupied and 31,154 bed nights at Easter Seals House. Students received bursaries from seven post-secondary institutions across the BC North, BC Interior, Lower Mainland, and Vancouver Island regions. Further, 2,917 Community Access 2 Cards and 166 Disability Travel Cards were issued to families.

- **240 campers attend Easter Seals Camp Winfield from communities across BC and Yukon.**
- **31,154 bed nights at Easter Seals House were filled with families who travelled from 350 communities to Vancouver for medical care.**
- **Seven regional post-secondary institutions disbursed educational bursaries to students with diverse abilities.**
- **2,917 Community Access 2 Cards were distributed to families in BC and Yukon.**

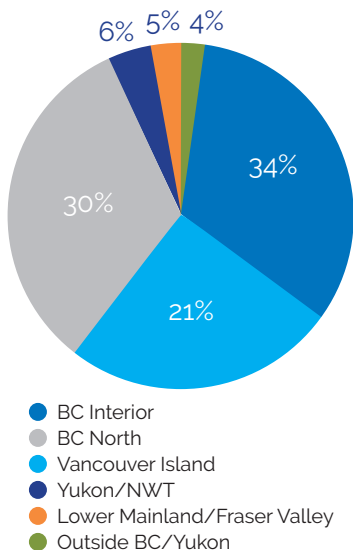
Your impact

With you, we give hope

Easter Seals House is a home-away-from-home for families and adults throughout BC and Yukon who have to travel to Vancouver for medical treatment. With 49 individual double occupancy suites, each with their own full kitchen, the House provides personal autonomy to guests, so they can relax, cook and live in their own space. This convenience is important to everyone, like those with compromised immune systems and special dietary needs. Easter Seals House is open 24/7 and alleviates some of the stress for guests staying in an unfamiliar city, for what may be one to two nights, a couple of months, or more than a year. The House also offers guests access to recreation rooms, large family kitchens, an outdoor garden, underground parking, free WIFI, and close proximity to hospitals and medical care facilities.

Easter Seals House • Guest Stays - 2018

In 2018, 58% of Easter Seals House guests were families with children needing medical care and treatment, and 42% were adults who stayed while in town for their medical care and treatment.



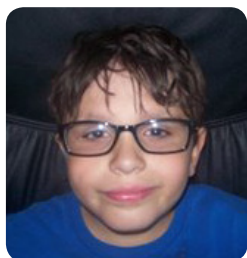
Callum's story

A couple of times a year, Callum and his mother Marusia, and sometimes his twin sister and younger brother, make the 2400 km trek by plane

from Yukon to meet with neurologists and specialists at BC Children's Hospital where Callum goes for treatment for epilepsy.

"It would be a totally different experience for us if we were staying in a hotel," Marusia adds. "Every time we come to the House we meet families that are going through a similar situation as us. It's a wonderful place and we're very grateful it's here."

In 2018, rooms at Easter Seals House were filled over 14,000 times. This was a room increase of 5% from 2017.



"Our first stay at Easter Seals House was when Ethan was four months old and we came to Vancouver for his first spine repair and surgery. It was a stay that lasted nine days and wouldn't have happened without the affordability and comfort of Easter

Seals House. Ten years and thirty stays later, we call Easter Seals House our second home and thank every person who makes our stay possible." ~ Ethan's mom, Tanya



Highlights of the year

The magic of camp

It all started in 1968 with the opening of Camp Winfield, the Society's first Easter Seals summer camp for children with diverse abilities. In 1976, Easter Seals Camp Squamish opened, followed in 1978 with Easter Seals Camp Shawnigan Lake. Over these last 50 years, over 35,000 children, teens, and youth adults with diverse abilities have experienced the magic of Easter Seals Camp in BC.

With a focus on abilities and empowerment, campers try the big swing, wheelchair basketball, water polo, and creative and performing arts, which in turn improves their confidence, independence and interaction with others. Campers return home with new friendships, improved skills, and become more independent and active members of their communities.

In addition, Easter Seals Camps provide a high camper to staff ratio with leaders who are enthusiastic and highly trained to support the needs of a full range of physical and cognitive disabilities. Along with onsite medical care, specialized meals, and customized programs, Easter Seals Camps offer a magical experience for campers and an important respite for families and caregivers.

Number of campers

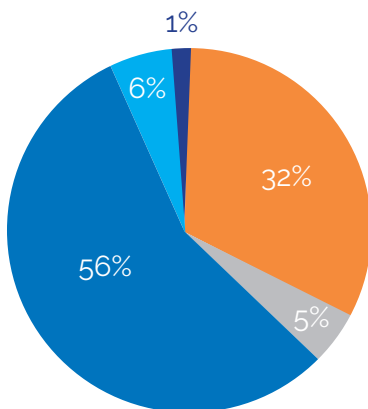
Easter Seals Camps	2018	2017	2016
Camp Winfield	240	180	180
Camp Shawnigan	0	182	185
Camp Squamish	0	203	186
Total	240	565	551

Camp Winfield turned 50!



In 2018, Camp Winfield turned 50! Over these five decades and with your support, the camp has provided highly cherished programs that has empowered and changed the lives of over 10,000 children and youth with diverse abilities.

Camp Winfield Camper Breakdown - Summer 2018



- BC Interior
- BC North
- Vancouver Island
- Yukon/NWT
- Lower Mainland/Fraser Valley



"Camp helped me gain confidence and become more comfortable and open about my disability." ~ Heather is a 12 year camp alumni and recently earned her Bachelor's Degree in Communications.

Located in the heart of Lake Country, BC, Camp Winfield overlooks Okanagan Lake and provides a magical setting for 200-300 kids each summer. Home to its famous waterslide, climbing wall, outdoor pool, large dining hall, basketball court, the big swing, performing stage and recreation rooms, Camp Winfield offers an accessible facility and creates a supportive and magical experience for each child.



Our future

Disability doesn't end at 18



In your community, and across BC and Yukon, the number of children and adults with diverse abilities is growing. New data from Statistics Canada reports that 25% of the population over the age of 15 has a disability, which is nearly 1 million people in BC. For children under the age of 15, the numbers are equally staggering and for the last 66 years, Easter Seals has been there for them. Yet, time and time again, families have told us that support for their children after they turn 18 becomes even more complex and challenging. It is for these children and their families, that Easter Seals is reimagining the next 66 years.

Our future – REIMAGINE: Enabling Abilities for Life!



Following extensive community and stakeholder engagement that showed a growing need for support past the age of 18, the Society made a strategic decision to broaden its mandate to enable abilities for life. This means that the Society will continue to provide valued programs for children and youth, and will now begin to work with the community to meet the needs of adults with diverse abilities.

To begin this trailblazing vision, in 2019, the Society will launch the first phase of a 10 year plan building on the legacy of helping children with diverse abilities, supporting them as they age and making the best use of camp facilities.

It is the Society's goal to redevelop the current facilities, where possible, into year-round community hubs, offering summer camps for kids with diverse abilities and new programs for adults that include skills and employment development, social enterprises, housing, and so much more.

Percent of people in BC with at least one disability.*

13%

**Youth aged
15 to 24 years**

22%

**Working-age adults
aged 25 to 64 years**

42%

**Seniors aged
65 years and over**

The total number of people with disabilities in BC aged 15 years and over is 25%.*

* 2017 Canadian Survey on Disability, Statistics Canada

For more details on the future of Easter Seals BC/Yukon visit eastersealsbcy.ca

Financials

The British Columbia Lions Society for Children with Disabilities

From the Audit & Finance Committee

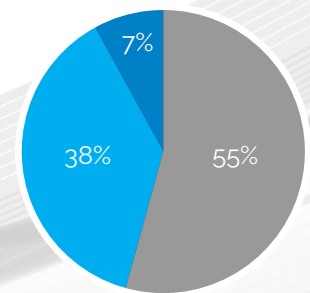
In 2017/2018, following a year of tough choices, the Society made strides to adjust its operation and steward funds strategically. As noted elsewhere in this report, decisions were made to suspend camp programs at Squamish and Shawnigan in 2018 due to the changing charitable landscape and lack of funds. We recognized the hardship this placed on families and worked very hard this past year to find a strategic path forward.

The positive financial results for 2017/2018 are an outcome of this hard work. Strategically the organization adjusted its operations and found efficiencies. Administrative costs declined to 12.9%. Engagement with government, corporations, foundations, and individuals saw funding increase and some modest gains were achieved to reduce the cost of fundraising. By stewarding funds strategically, the Society generated a year-end surplus of \$ 299,458.

Looking ahead, it is the Society's vision to broaden our reach and support children with diverse abilities throughout their lifetime. With a new operating model, we will look to expand our reach, increase our engagement with new and existing supporters, and collaborate with new partners and organizations. Together with you, our valued supporters, we will continue to support persons with diverse abilities across BC and Yukon for years to come.

Aaron Stewardson
Chair, Audit & Finance Committee
Treasurer, BC Lions Society for Children with Disabilities, Board of Directors

Source of funding - 2018



● Fundraising & Donations
● Fee for Service
● Other

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION Year ended September 30, 2018

2018
\$

2017
\$

ASSETS

Current assets	332,436	392,766
Investments	1,433,151	1,650,847
Capital assets	2,123,200	2,324,315
Total Assets	3,888,787	4,367,928

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

Current liabilities	606,334	1,118,212
Long-term debt	2,125,000	2,275,000
Capital lease obligations	4,803	10,566
Deferred capital contributions	782,546	897,754
Net assets	370,104	66,396
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	3,888,787	4,367,928

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

REVENUE

Fundraising & donations	2,122,913	2,065,252
Fee for service	1,474,291	1,749,871
Other	296,581	261,608
Total Revenue	3,893,785	4,076,731

EXPENSES

Programs for children, youth & adults	1,861,030	3,102,544
Fundraising	846,659	1,152,283
Administration	451,271	667,539
Interest, amortization & other	435,367	433,786
Total Expenses	3,594,327	5,356,152
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	299,458	(1,279,421)

Use of funds - 2016-2018

Programs & services (Camp, Easter Seals House)

