



The British Columbia Lions Society  
For Children with Disabilities



# SUMMER CAMPS

a life-changing experience for people with disabilities

For 79 years, Easter Seals BC/Yukon, a service of the BC Lions Society for Children with Disabilities, has been dedicated to enhancing the quality of life, self-esteem, and independence of individuals with disabilities. Through specialized services, programs, summer camps and facilities, we help break down barriers to create a more inclusive, accessible and equitable society, ensuring those with diverse abilities grow and thrive.

## OUR SUMMER CAMPS

Camp is an experience that every child or adult should be able to have. The experience a camper has when they sleep under the stars for the first time, make a new friend, or try an activity that has never before been accessible to them, is one that remains with them for a lifetime.

However, these priceless activities come at a cost, and would not be possible without the generosity of donors.



## MEET DANIEL

Daniel's story is a powerful testament to the life-changing impact of Easter Seals camps. At 24 years old, Daniel, who has Down syndrome, has been a part of Easter Seals programs since he was 11. Easter Seals camps provided him with a sense of belonging and community, giving him something to look forward to every year. The friendships he made, along with the confidence he gained through camp activities, have helped him overcome feelings of isolation and greatly improved his social skills.



**WATCH  
DANIEL'S  
STORY**



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## ONE-OF-A-KIND CAMP EXPERIENCES

Our camp program is unique:

- We operate three camp locations serving a wide area of the province – **Camp Shawnigan** on Vancouver Island near Victoria, **Camp Winfield** in the Okanagan Valley near Kelowna, and **Camp Squamish** nestled in the Sea-to-Sky Corridor
- For over 50 years, we have provided camp experiences with children with disabilities serving over **50,000** children
- In 2011, we introduced adult overnight summer camp programs to serve a gap that we saw in programs available to the disability community. These camps provide a social, fun and supportive environment tailored to persons with disabilities who are above the age of 18
- In 2019, we introduced family camps after discovering a need for support programs for the entire family. Our family camps are growing each year, providing a life-changing experience for 255 people last year!
- We are inclusive, innovative and accessible, bringing these ideologies to every camp experience
- Disabilities include: Cerebral Palsy, sight and hearing impairments, Muscular Dystrophy, Autism Spectrum Disorder, Down Syndrome, Fragile X, and Global Delay

## SUPPORTING CAMPS

The BC Lions Society for Children with Disabilities receives no government funding for the operation of our summer camps. Only a portion of the costs of camps are paid by families and we also offer subsidies for the families who are not financially able to cover the fees.

The average cost to provide a memorable camp experience for one child is **\$3,600**. We ask families to cover about a third of the cost, and for the remainder, we rely on the generosity of donors like our Lions Clubs. In addition, we also offer subsidies for the families who are not financially able to cover the fees, so that every child who can benefit from a camp experience can receive one.

That's where your support is so necessary. We are looking towards you to help us raise funds to keep camp experiences affordable and accessible for the hundreds of children who will benefit for the rest of their lives from attending a summer camp.

**\$3,600**

covers the cost to send one person to a memorable camp experience

Learn more about camperships by contacting Michele Materi, Manager, Major Gifts, at  
[mmateri@eastersealsbcy.ca](mailto:mmateri@eastersealsbcy.ca) or 250-307-2024

Become a member of our society for \$10/year

