

# BC Funding and Grant Information For Children Requiring Medical Assistance

Developed for: Northern Rockies Children and Family Action Committee,  
Fort Nelson, BC, in partnership with:



United Way Success By 6® Partners

Information Key:

\$	A	A/T	E	R	T	T/B	S
Funding/Grant dollars	Accommodations	Assessment / Therapies/ Health Services	Equipment / Medical Supplies	Renovation / Home Upgrades	Transportation	Gov. Tax / Benefits	Program Services Provided

## **At Home Program, Ministry of Children and Families      [\$, E, S]**

[http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/at\\_home/index.htm](http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/at_home/index.htm)

**Toll-free: 1 888 613-3232**

**Northern Health, Fort Nelson Health Unit: 250-774-7092**

The At Home Program assists parents with some of the extraordinary costs of caring for a child with severe disabilities at home through a range of health supports and services. It provides assistance in two main areas:

**Respite Benefits:** Allows parents to choose appropriate care options for their child and family.

**Medical Benefits:** Provides a range of basic, essential medical items and services.

Application: To apply for the At Home Program, complete the **At Home Program Application Form**, which is also available at your local MCFD Regional office or health unit.

## **Autism Funding Programs, Ministry of Children and Family Development [\$, A/T]**

[http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/autism/funding\\_programs.htm](http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/autism/funding_programs.htm)

**Autism Funding Unit: toll-free: 1 877-777-3530**

The Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) provides two Autism Funding Programs for children diagnosed with ASD. This funding is available in all regions of the province and is intended to assist parents in purchasing intervention services that best suit their child's needs.

**The Autism Funding: Under Age 6 Program** provides families up to \$22,000 per year per child to assist in purchasing eligible autism intervention services and therapies.

**The Autism Funding: Ages 6-18 Program** provides families up to \$6,000 per year per child to assist them with the cost of purchasing eligible autism intervention services and therapies outside of school. This funding is in addition to the educational program and special education services provided through school boards.

If your child has been diagnosed with ASD, and you wish to enroll in the Autism Funding Program, contact your local Ministry of Children and Family Development office to complete a funding agreement. **MCFD North Region Children and Youth with Special Needs: 250-263-0121**

## **BC Centre for Ability     [\$, S]**

[www.centreforability.bc.ca](http://www.centreforability.bc.ca) , [www.mybrainonline.ca](http://www.mybrainonline.ca)

**Fax: 604-451-5651**

**The Community Brain Injury Program (CBIPCY)** is a provincially-funded rehabilitation program, designed for children and youth with acquired brain injuries.

The CBIPCY program provides funding and coordination of short-term, rehabilitation and support services. The goal is to assist the child or youth, 0-19 years, as they transition from hospital or rehabilitation centre to home, school, and community. Services are provided in the home community, anywhere in British Columbia.

**Referrals** can be made by parents, community or medical professionals and faxed into the program at: 604-451-5651. Referrals must be accompanied by medical documentation.

## **BC Family Residence Program, Ministry of Health                     [\$, A, T ]**

[www.bcfamilyresidence.gov.bc.ca](http://www.bcfamilyresidence.gov.bc.ca)

**Toll free: 1 866-496-6946**

**Connecting Children and Families with Medical Care:** The Ministry of Health **Accommodation Assistance Program** enables families to stay together when their child requires medical care at BC Children's Hospital, including premature babies and newborns with other health concerns.

Enhanced travel assistance is also provided through improved ground transportation for children and air transportation for patients of all ages.

***Accommodation*** is arranged by Variety - the Children's Charity, in the Vancouver area. Accommodation assistance is available for one room for up to 30 days per stay. Ronald McDonald House, Easter Seal House or alternate locations that meet the criteria.

[www.variety.bc.ca](http://www.variety.bc.ca)

***Ground transportation for children:*** B.C. children, accompanied by their parents or care givers, who must travel for specialized medical care, may obtain free transportation to medical care aboard the Shriners Care Cruiser.

Toll free: **1 800-661-KIDS (5437)** or [www.shriners.bc.ca/bus/index.shtml](http://www.shriners.bc.ca/bus/index.shtml).

***Air transportation for individual patients:*** this program helps patients of all ages access specialized medical care with free air flights arranged through a national charity called Hope Air. Flights can be arranged for travel within BC and Canada.

Contact: Toll free: **1 877-346-HOPE (4673)** or [www.hopeair.org](http://www.hopeair.org).

To qualify for assistance with accommodation costs, families must: • be residents of B.C. and have medical insurance coverage under the [Medical Services Plan of BC](#), • have a child who is receiving medical care at BC Children's Hospital, including premature babies and newborns with other health concerns, and • live outside [Metro Vancouver](#).

## **BC Housing**           [\$, A, R]

<http://www.bchousing.org>

### **Northern Region**

**Regional Director: Malachy Tohill**

**Telephone: 250 562-9251, Toll Free: 1 800 667-1235, Fax: 250 562-6488**

**Email: [NorthernRegion@bchousing.org](mailto:NorthernRegion@bchousing.org)**

**Home Adaptations for Independence:** The Home Adaptations for Independence (HAFI) program provides financial assistance to help eligible low-income seniors and people with disabilities in British Columbia to continue to live in the comfort of their home. As your physical needs change, so too does the need to modify your home environment. Adapting a home improves accessibility and promotes safe and independent living. Even small home

adaptations can make a big difference in the lives of people who wish to remain in their homes longer.

If you or a member of your family is having difficulty performing day-to-day activities independently and safely – the HAFI program may be able to help.

For help with your application: **call 604-646-7055 or toll-free 1-800-407-7757 extension 7055**, email: [hafi@bchousing.org](mailto:hafi@bchousing.org)

**Rental Assistance Program:** Provides eligible low-income, working families with cash assistance to help with their monthly rent payments in the private market. The program provides rent assistance to working families with a gross household income of \$35,000 or less and at least one dependent child.

**Subsidized Housing:** This is long-term housing with rent geared to income (30% of household total gross income, subject to minimum rent based on # of people) for people who permanently reside in British Columbia when applying, with gross household income below a certain limit.

Different housing providers often have different criteria for choosing residents. Some use a first-come, first-served system, while others use a point system to determine which applicants are in greatest need. In addition, co-operatives accept new members based on their willingness to participate in running the co-operative.

**Housing Registry Supplemental Application Form:** The Housing Registry Supplemental Application Form is used by some housing providers that give additional consideration to applicants who are: homeless; fleeing domestic violence or abuse; or have a serious health condition affected by their current housing; and provides specific information from a third party, such as a health professional, social worker or counsellor, who can verify the applicant's current housing situation and the specific housing needs they have.

## BC Lions Society for Children with Disabilities / Easter Seals BC [\$, A, E, T]

[www.lionsbc.ca](http://www.lionsbc.ca)

Tel: 604-736-3475, Toll Free: 1-800-818-3666

**Patient Care Grants:** The families of children with disabilities often face extremely high costs, not covered by other medical plans. Patient Care Grants cover some of the costs for therapeutic equipment and prosthetics as well as transportation and accommodation to Easter Seals House.

**Assistance includes:**

- **Special Equipment:** wheelchairs, splints, braces, van hoists, and ramps,
- **Prosthesis:** artificial limbs and orthotic devices, prosthetics,
- **Accommodations:** for the child and an accompanying family member to stay during medical or rehabilitative treatments.

## Canada Disability Savings Grant [\$, T/B]

<http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/tx/ndvdl/tpcs/rdsp-reei/menu-eng.html>

It is an amount paid based on contributions deposited into a Registered Disability Savings Plan (RDSP).

If the beneficiary's annual family income is less than or equal to \$85,414<sup>1</sup>, the Government of Canada pays: a 300% Grant on the first \$500 in annual contributions made to an RDSP and a 200% Grant on the next \$1000 in annual contributions. If the beneficiary's annual family income exceeds \$85,414<sup>1</sup>, the Government of Canada pays: a 100% Grant on the first \$1,000 in annual contributions made to an RDSP.

**Grant Eligibility:**

- a contribution must be made to the RDSP,
- the holder must fill out an application form,
- the beneficiary must be eligible for a Disability Tax Credit (DTC),
- the beneficiary must be a Canadian resident and have a valid Social Insurance Number (SIN),
- be a dependent of an eligible individual whose income (used to determine the amount of the Canada Child Tax Benefit (CCTB) is less than or equal to \$85,414.

## **The Cerebral Palsy Association of BC**      [\\$]

<http://www.bccerebralpalsy.com/>

E-mail:      [info@bccerebralpalsy.com](mailto:info@bccerebralpalsy.com), Telephone: 1-800-663-0004 or 604-408-9484

**Education Bursaries:** Educational Bursaries awarded to the students living with Cerebral Palsy who are planning to pursue a post-secondary education or attend institutions of higher learning during the following year.

**Special Needs Summer Camp Subsidy:** Funds are available to assist children, teens, and adults with CP, across BC, to attend a summer camp of their choice. Funds can help pay for camp fees, transportation charges or for personal support worker.

## **Child Disability Benefit (CDB)**      [\$, T/B ]

<http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/bnfts/dsblty-eng.html>

The Child Disability Benefit (CDB) is a tax-free benefit of up to \$2,575 per year (\$214.58 per month) for families who care for a child under age 18 with a severe and prolonged impairment in physical or mental functions.

A child is eligible for the disability amount when a qualified practitioner certifies, on Form T2201, Disability Tax Credit Certificate, that the child has a severe and prolonged impairment in physical or mental functions and the CRA approves the form. The CDB is paid monthly to the Canada Child Tax Benefit (CCTB) eligible individuals.

## **Children's Medical Equipment Loan Service (CMERLS), Canadian Red Cross**      [E]

<http://www.redcross.ca>

The Children's Medical Equipment Recycling and Loan Service (CMERLS) provides recycled, durable, specialized medical and therapeutic equipment for approximately 3,000 children in B.C., ages 0 to 19. Several types of equipment are available by therapist referral including wheelchairs, special walkers and standers, bathing and toileting aids, and biomedical equipment.

CMERLS also provides loans and donations of specialized medical and therapeutic equipment to individuals, not-for-profit organizations, community centres and schools without equipment funding for special needs children in their care.

## **CKNW Orphans' Fund**                      [ \$, A/T, E, T ]

[www.cknworphanfund.com](http://www.cknworphanfund.com)

Phone: 604.331.2711, Email: [cknworphanfund@cknw.com](mailto:cknworphanfund@cknw.com)

If you would like to apply for funding for your family/child(ren), please download an [Individuals 2013](#) form.

The children that we help may require extra medical, social, educational or environmental supports to enhance or improve their health, development, quality of life and community integration.

- Assists individuals and local organizations concerned with the welfare of children who are underprivileged or have disabilities.
- Supports projects such as children's camps, and picnics at Playland.
- Funds such things as adapted wheelchairs, wheelchair lifts for vans, emergency transport to medical facilities for specialized treatment, and custom walking devices.

### **Therapies**

Funding for a variety of different therapies from speech therapy for an autistic child to therapeutic horseback riding therapy for a physically challenged child. Occupational and music therapy are also included in a variety of grants that are distributed.

### **Specialized Medical Equipment**

Funding for items such as; wheelchairs, a padded safety bed, an adapted tricycle, wheelchair van conversion, hearing aids and orthopaedic shoes.

### **Summer Camp Sponsorships**

Provides funds to over 48 different organizations with Camp Sponsorships including: [Autism Society of BC](#), [Canadian Cancer Society's Camp Goodtimes](#), [Canadian Diabetes Association](#), [Down Syndrome Research Foundation](#), [Pacific Children's Heart Network](#), [Salvation Army](#) and [Union Gospel Mission](#).



### **Educational Bursaries**

Financially assist families that require additional help with their child's special education needs. The CKNW Orphans' Fund distributes bursaries to children, who may attend an independent provincially approved special education program in BC, including: Accomplished, [Discovery School](#), [Fraser Academy](#) and [Mediated Learning Academy](#).

### **Cystic Fibrosis, BCA Travel and Medical Grant**    [ \$, A, A/T, T ]

<http://www.cfvancouver.ca/home/bca-grants/>

**1-800-378-2233 x 231**

Cystic Fibrosis Canada's British Columbia Association (BCA) administers a grant from the BC Ministry of Health to assist individuals with cystic fibrosis (CF) and their families with medication, travel and accommodation costs related to cystic fibrosis care. To be eligible for support individuals with CF must have their diagnosis confirmed by a CF clinic in BC. In addition, individuals must attend a CF clinic at least once every year. To qualify for the grant you must first submit a Grant Registration Form. It can be submitted with the first claim for each individual with CF.

### **Disability Tax Credit**    [ \$, T/B ]

<http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/E/pbg/tf/t2201/README.html>

Not all children with disabilities will qualify for this benefit. Only children with severe and prolonged disabilities according to the Income Tax Act are eligible. Form T2201 must be completed and signed by a qualified practitioner to certify that the child has a severe and prolonged impairment in mental or physical functions and that ONE of the following applies: **1)** The child is blind, even with the use of corrective lenses or medication; **2)** The child is markedly restricted his or her ability to perform a basic activity of daily living; **3)** The child is significantly restricted in his or her ability to perform two or more basic activities of daily living, and the cumulative effect of these significant restrictions is equivalent to having a marked restriction in a single basic activity of daily living; **4)** The child must dedicate a certain amount of time specifically for life-sustaining therapy.

## **Fair PharmaCare Plan, Ministry of Health**      [ \$, A/T, E ]

<http://www.health.gov.bc.ca/pharmacare/plani/planiindex.html>

BC's Fair PharmaCare plan provides B.C. families with coverage for eligible prescription drugs and designated medical supplies, based on their net income. All eligible British Columbians are encouraged to register for the plan.

Fair PharmaCare coverage is income-based. Families with lower incomes receive more assistance than families with higher incomes. PharmaCare uses income tax data from two years ago to calculate Fair PharmaCare coverage your family receives.

Your family pays your full prescription costs until you reach a level known as your deductible. Once you reach your deductible, PharmaCare begins assisting you with your eligible costs for the rest of the year. PharmaCare will pay 70% of your family's eligible costs for the rest of the year after you reach your deductible and until you reach your family maximum.

**Cystic Fibrosis (Plan D):** Individuals with cystic fibrosis who are registered with a provincial cystic fibrosis clinic receive coverage of digestive enzymes and other products listed in the Cystic Fibrosis Formulary.

**No-Charge Psychiatric Medication Plan (Plan G):** Available to individuals of any age who are registered with a mental health services centre and who demonstrate clinical and financial need. The plan provides coverage of certain psychiatric medications. Individual patient eligibility is determined by the patient's physician and the local mental health services centre. Registration is required.

**Insulin Pumps for Children and Adolescents, PharmaCare Plan:** Insulin pumps for children and adolescents age 18 or younger with Type 1 diabetes or other forms of diabetes requiring insulin. Insulin pump coverage is available to children who: •are 18 years of age or younger, •have Type 1 diabetes or another form of diabetes requiring insulin, •are covered under Fair PharmaCare or PharmaCare Plan C (B.C. Income Assistance Recipients), and • whose diabetes physician confirms that they meet the medical criteria.

**MSP Premium Assistance:** Regular premium assistance offers subsidies ranging from 20 to 100 per cent, based on an individual's net income (or a couple's combined net income) for the preceding tax year, less deductions for age, family size and disability.

To apply for premium assistance, you need to complete and return an application form to MSP. Forms are available online - [Application for Premium Assistance](#) (PDF 379K), at Service BC - Government Agent or by contacting Health Insurance BC.

[https://www.health.gov.bc.ca/exforms/msp/premium\\_assistance.html](https://www.health.gov.bc.ca/exforms/msp/premium_assistance.html)

## **Fort Nelson Elks Fund for Children's Medical Assistance** [ \$, E, A/T ]

Provides funds to purchase pediatric medical equipment, supplies or services for children birth to 19 years of age, who have an identified medical or developmental concern. Funds are intended for low income families in the *Northern Rockies Regional Municipality* who are not able to afford the financial cost of such equipment or services themselves and who have pursued other avenues of insurance coverage and funding.

For an **Application Form** or for more information please contact the **Northern Rockies Children and Family Action Committee** @ [fnelksproject@gmail.com](mailto:fnelksproject@gmail.com) or any Fort Nelson social service agency such as: Fort Nelson Health Unit, 250-774-7092; Fort Nelson Family Development Society, 250-774-2596; Dehzona Family Centre, Fort Nelson First Nation, 250-774-2361; Fort Nelson Community Literacy Society, 250-774-4415; School District 81, 250-774-2591.

Fully completed funding application forms can be mailed to: Fort Nelson Elks Project, PO Box 295, Fort Nelson, BC, V0C 1R0

## **Giving in Action Society** [ \$, E, R ]

[www.givinginaction.ca](http://www.givinginaction.ca)

**Phone: 1-866-523-3157, Fax: 604-683-3134**

Giving in Action Society is committed to helping families who have a relative with a disability. Giving in Action grants enable families to stay together by addressing accessibility issues in their homes and communities. The **Family Independence Fund (FIF)** and the **Children and Youth with Special Needs Fund (CYSN)** both have a two-stage application process. The **first stage**, Letter of Inquiry (LOI), consists of a short proposal and letter of support form to determine basic suitability and eligibility; the **second stage** is a full application.

## **Healthy Kids Program, Ministry of Social Development** [ \$, A/T ]

<http://www.eia.gov.bc.ca/publicat/bcea/healthykids.htm>

### **1 866 866-0800: The Ministry of Social Development Info Line**

The Healthy Kids Program helps low-income families with costs associated with basic dental care and prescription glasses for their children. Dependent children under 19 years of age, in families approved for premium assistance by the Medical Services Plan (MSP) through the Ministry of Health Services, are automatically registered with the Healthy Kids Program.

Coverage under the Healthy Kids Program: **Dental**- Children are eligible for \$1400 of basic dental services every two years. This coverage includes services such as exams, x-rays, fillings, cleanings and extractions. Dentists can advise families of other services that may be covered. **Optical** - Children are eligible for prescription eyeglasses (lenses and basic frames) once in a twelve-month period. Children's eye examinations are covered by MSP.

Before any dental or optical services begin, families need to show their child's BC CareCard to their dentist or eye specialist who will confirm the child's eligibility under the Healthy Kids Program. The Province pays dentists and eye specialists directly for the services children receive. Additional charges over and above what the Healthy Kids Program will cover are the responsibility of the family.

## **HELP: Health Equipment Loan Program, Canadian Red Cross** [E]

<http://www.redcross.ca/article.asp?id=3094&tid=077>

**Toll free: 1-800-278-7177**

**250-774-8111, Fax: 250-774-8110: Fort Nelson General Hospital, local HELP provider.**

Provides short term loan of medical equipment to children and adults who have suffered illness or injury that affects their wellness, mobility and independence. All equipment loans require a referral from a regulated health care professional. Referrals can be provided by physiotherapists, occupational therapists, nurses, doctors, and chiropractors. Basic Equipment Referral Form and Advanced Equipment Referral Form are available from the website.

## **Hope Air** [T]

[www.hopeair.ca](http://www.hopeair.ca)

**1.877.346.HOPE (4673)**

Mission: To arrange free flights for Canadians who are in financial need and must travel to healthcare.

Hope Air is the only registered, national charity that provides free flights to people who cannot afford the cost of an airline ticket to get to medical expertise or specialized medical technologies that usually exist only in larger urban centres. We arrange flights on Canada's national and regional airlines and on private planes.

Eligibility: •you are flying for a confirmed, approved medical appointment (e.g. treatment is being covered by your provincial health plan), •you are unable to afford the airline ticket. Hope Air serves people in financial need: we will follow up with a phone call to obtain financial details for your household, •your doctor(s) confirm you are medically fit to fly. Complete a **Flight Request Form** on our website.

## **Kinsmen Foundation of BC and Yukon** [\$, E]

<http://www.kinsmenfoundationofbc.ca>

**Toll-free Phone: 1 866 335-1234, Email: [kinsmenfoundationofbc@shaw.ca](mailto:kinsmenfoundationofbc@shaw.ca)**

The mission of the Kinsmen Foundation of B.C. and Yukon is to raise funds to support many worthwhile organizations and individuals facing the daily challenges of living with a severe physical disability and to improve their quality of life and independence. The Kinsmen Foundation of BC and Yukon accepts applications to provide funding assistance for persons with severe physical disabilities to acquire equipment and assistive devices.

## **Make-A-Wish Foundation® of British Columbia and Yukon [S]**

<http://makeawishbc.ca>

Toll-free: 1-866-277-9474, E-mail: [bcchapter@makeawish.ca](mailto:bcchapter@makeawish.ca)

### **Please fill out the online referral form**

Our mission at Make-A-Wish® BC & Yukon is to grant the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy. Children who have been diagnosed by their physician as having a medical condition that is life-threatening, and who are between 3 and 17 years of age, are eligible for a wish.

If you know a child who needs our help, please complete an online **Wish Referral Form** or contact us by email or phone.

Out of respect for the children and families we serve and out of concern for their privacy, children who may be eligible to receive a wish may be referred by one of three sources:

- Medical professionals treating the child such as doctors, nurses, social workers, or child-life specialists;
- A parent or legal guardian of the potential wish child;
- The potential wish child themselves.

## **Muscular Dystrophy Association Canada, Western Region [S, A/T, E, R, T]**

<http://www.muscle.ca>

Toll-free: 1.800.366.8166, E-mail: [infowest@muscle.ca](mailto:infowest@muscle.ca)

Muscular Dystrophy Canada understands that there are often financial implications as a result of having muscular dystrophy. An important part of fulfilling Muscular Dystrophy Canada's mission is alleviating financial pressures for people with neuromuscular disorders and their families, and enabling Canadians with neuromuscular disorders to lead independent lives. MDA helps to fund medical equipment such as wheelchairs, scooters, orthotics, hospital beds, and other essential equipment as well as, other necessities like attendant services, travel for medical appointments, massage therapy and home renovations related to accessibility.

## **Western Canada Equipment Program**

<http://www.muscle.ca/western-canada/services/equipment-program/western-canada-equipment-program/>

Please call 1-800-366-8166 ext. 111

## **Safeway Mobility Grant**

<http://www.muscle.ca/western-canada/services/equipment-program/safeway-mobility-grant/>

### **Go online to download an application**

The Safeway Mobility Grants were created to assist registered clients with the purchase of new medically necessary mobility related equipment. In order to be eligible to receive funding, you must be a registered client of Muscular Dystrophy Canada. Some items that we are able to consider are:

- Mobility aids such as power and manual wheelchairs, walkers and scooters;
- Seating and position aids such as specialty cushions, power tilt and lift chairs;
- Orthopaedic devices such as leg braces, AFOs and orthopaedic splinting;
- Access equipment such as stair glides, porch lifts and ramps;
- Other items such as hospital beds/mattresses, patient lifters, ventilators, cough assists and bathing devices
- Contributions towards accessible vehicles and home modifications.

## **Northern BC Friends of Children**

[ \$, A, A/T, E, T ]

<http://friendsofchildren.ca>

**Toll Free 1.866.564.2217 Fax: 250.564.2247**

Non-profit society assisting Northern BC and East Kootenay families with children in extraordinary medical need; medical emergencies, therapies, specialized equipment, drug prescriptions plus out-of-town accommodation, meal and travel costs. Friends of Children coordinate with other organizations to help with the child's medical challenges. We can assist with the travel expenses related to the child's medical appointment. Support may also mean help with the purchase of specialized equipment or prescription not covered by medi-care.

Support may come in the form of: • Assisting with financial support for travel, meals and accommodation involving children’s medical needs, • Providing resource information and emotional support, • Coordinating support through our links with other organizations.

## **Northern Health Connections: Medical Travel Service** [T]

<http://www.northernhealth.ca/YourHealth/NHConnectionsmedicaltravelservice.aspx>

**Toll free: 1-888-647-4997**

Northern Health Connections is a travel service program for patients needing to travel for out-of-town medical appointments in Northern BC and in Vancouver, Kamloops and Grande Prairie.

After your physician refers you for a medical service outside your home community: **(1)** Check the NH Connections bus schedule. **(2)** Book your medical appointment to coordinate with the bus schedule. (For short distance trips, book your appointment on that day; for long distance trips arriving in the evening, book the appointment for a following day.) **(3)** Call 1-888-647-4997 to reserve your seat. Please have your Care Card number and appointment information ready.

## **Nursing Support Services, Ministry of Children and Families** [A/T]

[http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/spec\\_needs/nursing.htm](http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/spec_needs/nursing.htm)

**250-774-7092: Northern Health, Fort Nelson Health Unit**

Nursing Support Services is intended for children with severe disabilities or complex health needs, assisting parents and caregivers to help children with special health care needs lead active, healthy lives in their communities, while providing safe, consistent care and appropriate health supports. Nursing Support Services provides direct nursing care in home, school and childcare settings.



Services include assessment, planning and monitoring of care and may involve:

- Information about the care of children and youth with special health care needs.
- Consultation about community-based care and resources.
- Direct nursing care: Coordination of planned, intermittent periods of respite, by a registered or licensed practical nurse, for complex supports such as home dialysis, tracheostomy, ventilator and end-of-life care.
- Delegated nursing care: Training and monitoring of non-nurse caregivers to provide special aspects of a child's care, such as gastrostomy tube meals, blood glucose monitoring, clean intermittent catheterization and oral suctioning.

## **Personal Supports Program, Government of BC** [S]

<http://www.personalsupports.bc.ca/psp/index.page>

Phone Toll-Free: 1 888 818-1211, Email: [PersonalSupportsInformation@gov.bc.ca](mailto:PersonalSupportsInformation@gov.bc.ca)

**Personal Supports Website:** contains information about and links to programs that provide equipment and assistive devices or other personal supports to persons with disabilities in British Columbia. If you would like to hear the text read out loud or see it translated into American Sign Language (ASL), click on the ASL icons.

**Toll-Free Personal Supports Information Line:** provides information about programs that may be able to provide equipment and assistive devices to meet your needs. Representatives have access to a free telephone translation service that can translate into more than forty languages for callers who find it difficult to communicate in English.

## **President's Choice Children's Charity,**

Ontario, Western & Atlantic Regions [S, E, A/T]

<http://www.presidentschoice.ca/LCLOnline/pcccHome.jsp>

Phone: 1-877-525-4762, Email: [PCCharity@Loblaws.ca](mailto:PCCharity@Loblaws.ca)

## **Special Needs Assistance Program**

Supports children with special needs by providing financial grants for essential specialized equipment and essential therapies. Through individual grants, the charity is able to supply much needed resources and help provide a renewed sense of independence, dignity and freedom.

#### Requirements:

To be considered a candidate for assistance, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Child (18 and under), •Diagnosed physical or developmental disability, •Household annual income \$70,000 or less
- Must be a Canadian citizen and/or have permanent resident status in Canada

Please download an **application form** @

<http://www.presidentschoice.ca/LCLOnline/pcccApply.jsp>

### **Provincial Outreach Services, Ministry of Children and Families** [A/T, E]

[http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/spec\\_needs/outreach.htm](http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/spec_needs/outreach.htm)

Provincial outreach services for children and youth with special needs, their families and community professionals are available through the **Sunny Hill Health Centre for Children**. These services are intended to supplement, rather than duplicate, community services.

Provincial outreach services include: • prescription and fitting of customized assistive devices, including mobility devices (e.g. wheelchairs), • complex feeding and nutritional assessment and, • psychology assessment or consultation.

### **Rick Hansen Foundation** [\$, E, R]

[www.rickhansen](http://www.rickhansen) : Contact website for grant applications

**Individual Grant:** This grant provides direct funding to individuals with disabilities including spinal cord injury and other injuries, diseases and birth conditions who have specific needs that cannot be met by existing programs, services or funding sources.

\*Essential equipment, assistive technology, mobility equipment and/or renovations that an individual with disabilities needs to maximize their independence and quality of life.

\*Funding for fees, equipment or other costs associated with participating in competitive and recreational athletic and fitness programs.

**Quality of Life Initiatives:** Providing people with a better quality of life and improving accessibility within communities, by funding solutions, such as: Home modifications, Adaptive computer devices, Accessible community centres, Recreation programs, Exercise equipment, and Therapy projects.

## **Save A Smile Program**                      [\$, A/T]

**250-263-6000**, Northern Health, Dental Program, Fort St. John Health Unit

Provides funding for children needing dental treatment. Children in need of funds for dental treatment will meet (1) Clinical criteria (i.e. pain/infection or wide spread obvious decay) and (2) Financial criteria (low income).

Contact your local Health Unit for more information.

## **Spinal Cord Injury, BC** (formally BC Paraplegic Association)                      [S]

<http://sci-bc.ca>

**InfoLine- 1-800-689-2477**, Email: [info@sci-bc.ca](mailto:info@sci-bc.ca)

SCI BC Information Services is the trusted resource for people with spinal cord injury and their support teams including family and friends, health professionals and community workers. The experienced and knowledgeable Information Services staff connect people with spinal cord injury with resources to help them find solutions.

Information Services can help you get the information you need, including topics such as accommodations, equipment, funding, universal design, and recreation and leisure. Information services can be accessed via email, phone and web. The SCI BC InfoLine is available to take your calls from 9:00am to 5:00pm, Monday to Friday. After hours you may leave a message and an Information Services Associate will call you the next business day.

**SCI Information Database:** contains many resources that may be of interest to you. Individuals searching our SCI Information Database can expect to find information in topic areas such as Advocacy, Building and Universal Design, Education, Employment, Financial, Funding, Health, Recreation and Leisure, Transportation amongst others. <http://sci-bc-database.ca/>

## Sunshine Foundation [\$]

<http://www.sunshine.ca>

Toll-free: 1.800.461.7935, General inquiries and information: [info@sunshine.ca](mailto:info@sunshine.ca),  
Dream Fulfillment: [dreams@sunshine.ca](mailto:dreams@sunshine.ca)

The Sunshine Foundation is the only national Canadian charity to provide individual dreams to children with severe physical disabilities (such as spina bifida or cerebral palsy) as well as life-threatening illnesses. In fact, 80% of Sunshine Kids are challenged by a severe physical disability.

You can refer a child by completing and submitting a [Referral Form \(PDF\)](#). The form seeks only basic information about the child: name, diagnosis, age, and home contact information. When Sunshine receives this form, our staff will contact you and send a full **Individual Dream Application** to the child's family.

## Tetra Society of North America [E]

[www.tetrasociety.org](http://www.tetrasociety.org)

[ptweedie@tetrasociety.org](mailto:ptweedie@tetrasociety.org) - Online Assistance Request Form

Phone: 604-688-6464, ext. 108, Toll-free: 1-877-688-8762

Fax: 604-688-6463

The Tetra Society of North America is a non-profit organization in Vancouver, BC that recruits skilled volunteers to create specialized assistive devices for people with physical disabilities. Everything created through Tetra is unique, custom made for one person's particular needs. The goal is always to reduce societal and environmental barriers and to create increased independence and improve an individual's quality of life.

## **Travel Assistance Program, Ministry of Health** [T]

[www.health.gov.bc.ca/tapbc/](http://www.health.gov.bc.ca/tapbc/)

**Toll-free in B.C.: 1 800 465-4911, E-mail: HLTH.TAPBC@gov.bc.ca**

The Travel Assistance Program (**TAP BC**) is available to eligible B.C. residents who are required to travel outside their home community to obtain non-emergency, physician-referred specialist medical care.

TAP is a corporate partnership between the Ministry of Health and private transportation carriers. The program is coordinated by the Ministry of Health and the transportation partners who agree to waive or discount their regular fees.

To be eligible for TAP: • You must be a B.C. resident and be enrolled in the Medical Services Plan (MSP); • You must have a referral from a physician or nurse practitioner for MSP insured specialist medical services which are not available locally; • Your travel expenses must not be covered by third party insurance, such as an employer plan, extended medical plan, Insurance Corporation of BC, WorkSafeBC or federal government program (e.g. Veterans' Affairs).

**(1) Fill Out the TAP Application Form:** Your physician, nurse practitioner, or specialty clinic will provide the TAP form and complete most of it for you. **(2) Obtain a TAP Confirmation Number:** Telephone TAP before you make travel arrangements to verify your eligibility and receive a confirmation number. B.C. (toll-free): 1 800 661-2668. **(3) Present Your Completed TAP Form:** To receive your discount, present the completed TAP form (including the TAP confirmation number) at the time you make air, rail, and northern ferry reservations.

## **Variety, The Children's Charity** [\$, A/T, E]

<http://www.variety.bc.ca/>

**Emergency Response Fund:** Variety provides grants to support children and families who need immediate assistance arising from a medical emergency. The Emergency Response Fund helps children and their family's access medical care, supplies and related services not covered by MSP, Pharmacare, hospitals or other agencies.

This includes accommodation and transportation while receiving treatment outside of their community, emergency supplies, prescriptions, ambulance bills, formula and breast pumps.

For more information contact our Heart Fund Sr. Associate, Sherrill Cairns at: **T: 604.268.3891**

**Toll Free: 310-KIDS (5437), F: 604.320.0535 After hours: 604.290.2947**

**Email: [heart.fund@variety.bc.ca](mailto:heart.fund@variety.bc.ca)**

**Individual Grants:** Variety provides financial assistance for children who have special needs, with the costs of a wide range of equipment, therapies, educational, social and recreational programs.

Some types of equipment Variety may fund includes: mobility or functional devices including orthotics, wheelchairs, walkers, standers, orthotics, customized seating, assistive or technical devices, Cochlear implants/processors and hearing aids, prescription eyewear, residential lifts or vehicle lifts and tie downs, customized bikes, safety items, feeding, insulin and other medicinal pumps and supplies or other special products.

Applications are accepted and considered throughout our grant year. For more information contact the Heart of Variety Fund: [heart.fund@variety.bc.ca](mailto:heart.fund@variety.bc.ca)

**Developed for: Northern Rockies Children and Family Action Committee,  
Fort Nelson, BC, in partnership with:**



**United Way Success By 6® Partners**