

BC Disability Funding Guide



Welcome!

The BC Disability Funding Guide is a resource to help you explore numerous funding opportunities. This guide is split into sections, each dealing with different categories of funding. There are also tips to help you find funding and write funding applications, as well as templates and examples for your use.

If you have any questions or comments about the guide, please get in touch with us. You can also check www.BCDisability.com for more resources, including our BC Disability Directory, additional funding opportunities, activities, games, toolkits, and more!



Best wishes,

Spencer van Vloten
Editor, BC Disability

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of the letters 'SV' in a stylized, cursive-like font.

Table of Contents

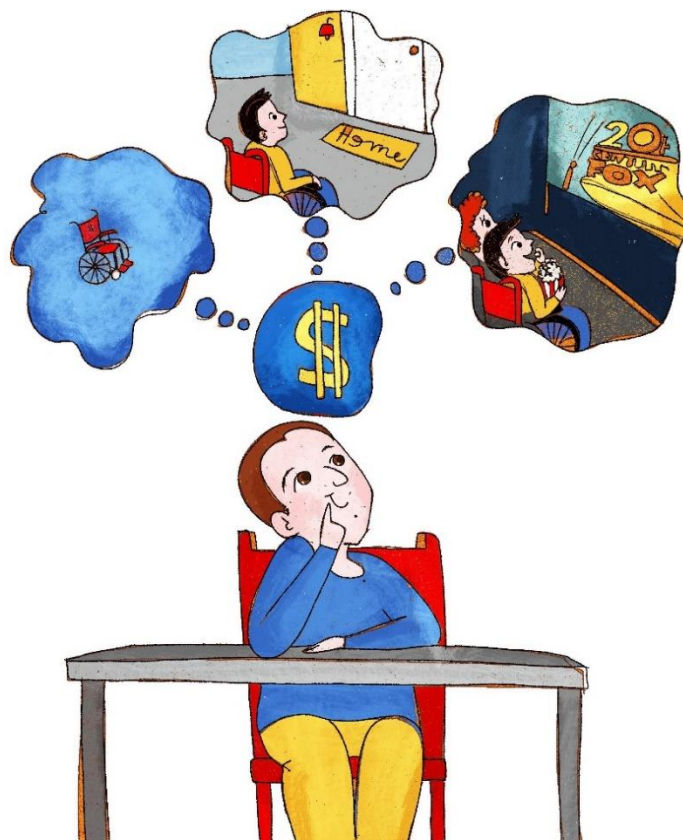
Tips

General Tips	4
Making An Appeal.....	7
Templates and Examples	9

Funding Directory

Assistive Technology	14
Children and Family	25
Education and Employment.....	33
General Funding and Benefits.....	41
Health and Wellness	47
Housing.....	51
Recreation	55
Respite.....	58
Seniors.....	63
Transportation and Mobility	66

General Tips



Below are some general tips and potential funding avenues to keep in mind throughout your search for funding. In the next section, we will also provide tips on writing funding applications, as well as templates and examples for your use.

Ask away

While this guide lists numerous funding opportunities, it is important to remember that not all funding is listed publicly. Securing funding takes an active approach, and you are advised to ask within organizations and businesses to see if there are opportunities that you may not have been aware of, and which may not have been advertised. Nothing bad can come of it, but a lot of good can!

Consider crowdfunding

While you may have been looking at external funding options, self-funding approaches have been highly successful and are worth exploring.

One of the options for this is crowdfunding, where you set up a donation page, and people can send donations through the page. This is also a great way to tap into a broad donation base, as your supporters can readily share your cause and your page through their own networks.

Some of the most notable crowdfunding platforms include:

[Kickstarter](#)

[GoFundMe](#)

[Indiegogo](#)

[Causes](#)

[Razoo](#)

Hold an event

Events are great ways to have fun and raise money at the same time! Take photos of your event and get the word out through social media and your networks.

Also ask around to friends, as well as local businesses, to see if they can lend their support, talents, or resources. You will be surprised at how many people want to help!

Event Ideas

- Auction
- Bake sale
- Bingo night
- Bowling tournament
- Garage sale
- Car wash
- Community barbeque

- Community party
- Games night
- Movie night
- Pool party
- Pub night
- Raffle for a cause
- Run, walk, or bike race
- Sports day
- Talent show
- Trivia night

These are just some ideas. If you are looking for more, try checking [here](#) and [here](#).

Be Persistent

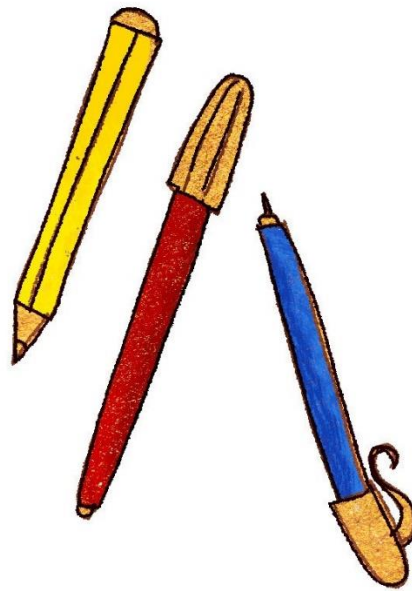
The final point is perhaps the most important, and relates to all the others. Successfully obtaining funding often requires a lot of hard work! Searching for funding opportunities, completing applications, writing to funders, and doing it several times over requires effort!

You may also be turned down on your first attempts, but do not worry! The best and biggest opportunities often come to the people who keep trying, and persistence is one of the most important attributes you can have on your funding journey.

In the words of writer and poet James Whitcomb Riley:

“Unflagging effort, persistence and determination will win. Let not the person be discouraged who has these”

Making An Appeal: Tips and Templates



Need fees for a recreation program, a new wheelchair, or something else? A strong appeal to funders goes a long way!

So, how do you make your case for funding in a clear and compelling way?

Write around 250-700 words

- **Not too long, not too short.** You want to write enough to convey what you are after, why you should get it, and to hook the reader, but you do not want to write so much that the reader starts to lose interest

Tell a story

- **If you have a story to tell, then tell it!** Stories inspire and activate emotions. They are what make people care, connect to your cause, and to give to your cause.

Engage emotions

- **People give because they care.** For them to care, they need to feel. Appealing to feelings is an essential way that humans connect and communicate.
- **Build commonality.** Empathy is a result of recognizing ourselves in other people and feeling for them. Give the reader a commonality with you or the characters in your story, as a mother, father, or another role or experience.
- **Include visual content.** Photos and videos put a human face on what might otherwise just be words, and in doing so activate people's emotions and sense of empathy. If you have set up a funding page, include an image of the person or cause you are funding for; if you are sending an application, attach the image.

Emphasize Impact

- **Demonstrate impact** Make it clear that receiving funding will have a large impact, perhaps even life changing. The more you can convince funders that they can make a difference, the more likely you are to receive funding.
- **Every cent counts** If you are crowdfunding, let people know that any bit they can contribute helps, and if possible explain how. This encourages people who may otherwise feel like their contribution would be too small to matter, thereby encouraging more donations.
- **Show that you have been trying** If you show that you have tried your best to raise funds, you not only demonstrate commendable effort, you also help emphasize to potential donors just how important their support would be.
- **Ask people to spread the word** If you have setup a crowdfunding campaign, be sure you also ask people to share your fundraiser, and any links you have to a funding page. This greatly expands your reach.

[Back to top](#)

Templates

These are just 2 examples of funding appeals you might send. The templates and examples are meant as guides to get you started, not something you need to copy exactly. You may wish to write something longer or with a different style, and so on.

Template 1: Writing to a specific funder

Dear [insert name],

[Begin with a personal story that hooks the reader and engages their emotions].

I have [insert how you have been trying to solve this issue]. Yet, it has not been enough.

That is why I am reaching out to you. With funding from [organization's name], I would [explain what the funding would allow you to accomplish].

I am therefore asking you [directly and clearly ask for what you want, using emotion to add persuasion to the request]. Your support would [reiterate just how significant and helpful this assistance would be].

If you would consider funding [your request], I would be forever grateful.

Sincerely,
[Your name]



Finding funding opportunities or raising funds yourself requires a determined, active approach

Example

Hello,

My name is Sara Smith, and I am the mother of two wonderful little boys, Max and Sam.

My boys would love to attend summer camp. Talking about outdoor adventures and roasting marshmallows over campfires makes their eyes light up and their smiles flare like nothing else.

Though summer camp is a normal childhood experience for many kids, Max and Sam's case is different. They were born with cerebral palsy, which means that regular summer camps are inaccessible, while accessible specialized camps for kids with disabilities cost upwards of \$1000—money I do not have.

I work full-time and have saved what I can. I have held bake sales and garage sales. I have tried it all, but it has not been enough, and it has broken my heart to have to tell them each summer that there will be no camp this year. They have not gotten a lot in their lives, and I would love nothing more than to make their dreams come true and provide them with the camp experience they deserve.

That is why I am reaching out to you. With funding from Fun Funders, I could send both to camp this summer. Not only would this be a dream come true for them, it would provide a lifetime of memories and show them that good things come to those who persist.

I am therefore asking you, from the bottom of my heart, as a mother who has tried her best, if Fun Funders would consider funding a trip to camp this year for my two little guys. Your support would finally bring the day when Max and Sam hear they are going to camp, and it would be truly life changing for them.

These are just two sweet little kids who have never caught a break; if you would consider helping fund the \$1000 fee to give them the summer of a lifetime, I would be forever grateful.

Sincerely,
Sara Smith

Template 2: Crowdfunding or funding within your networks

Dear [insert name],

You might have heard that I am fundraising to [insert reason why you are fundraising].

This cause is dear to me, as [give a personal reason that appeals to the reader's emotions].

That is why I am reaching out to you. I am encouraged by the support I have already received, but I still need help reaching my fundraising goal of [insert dollar amount].

Your contribution, no matter how big or small, would mean the world to me. (In 1 sentence reiterate why it would mean so much).

Would you be willing to contribute to my fundraiser? If you would like to donate, simply click the link below:

[Insert link to fundraiser]

It would also mean a lot if you could share my fundraiser link on social media. The more exposure I get, the faster I will reach my goal.

I would love to talk to you in person about my fundraiser, so please do not hesitate to reach out.

With love,
[Your name]

Example

Dear Friends,

You might have heard that I am fundraising to send my two little guys, Max and Sam, to an adapted summer camp.

While summer camp may seem like an experience every child gets to have, it has not been that way for my boys. They were born with cerebral palsy, which means that regular summer camps are inaccessible, while specialized camps for kids with disabilities cost upwards of \$1000, which is money I do not have.

Max and Sam would love to go to camp so much, and I have tried my best for them. I have saved all I can, I have held bake sales and garage sales, but I still need help reaching my fundraising goal of \$1000.

That is why I am reaching out to you. Your contribution, no matter how big or small, would mean the world to me and the boys. It would allow them to have a summer full of fun, laughs, and memories, and most importantly, to just be kids.

Would you be willing to contribute to my fundraiser? A gift of any amount would help. If you would like to donate, simply click the link below:

[\[Link to fundraiser\]](#)

It would also mean a lot if you could share my fundraiser link on social media and in your networks. The more exposure I get, the better chance I will have of reaching my goal, and surprising Max and Sam with good news.

If you have any questions, I would love to talk with you, so please do not hesitate to reach out.

With love,
Sara Smith

[Back to top](#)

Funding Directory



Assistive Technology



Did you know?



Canadian George Klein invented the electric wheelchair in 1953

Assistive Technology Funding

ALS Equipment Loan Program

With 3,220 pieces of medical equipment, the Equipment Loan Program helps people cope with the daily challenges of decreasing mobility and independence. Basic and essential assistive devices are offered at no charge.

Website www.alsbc.ca/programs-services/equipment-loan-program

Email equipmentloan@alsbc.ca

Phone 604-278-2257; 1-800-708-3228 (Toll Free)

Address 1228-13351 Commerce Parkway, Richmond, BC, V6V 2X7

Bear Essentials

Offers financial support for equipment, travel costs, and therapy to address special needs

Website www.islandkidsfirst.com/bear-essentials

Email beare@helpfilladream.com

Phone 250-382-3135; 1-866-382-2711 (Toll Free)

Address 345 Wale Road, Victoria, BC, V9B 6X2

BC Paraplegic Foundation

Provides funding for people with disabilities from spinal cord injuries. Funding support is considered for various mobility aids, adaptations, and aids to daily living.

Website www.sci-bc.ca/about-us/bc-paraplegic-foundation

Email foundation@sci-bc.ca

Phone 604-324-3611

Address 780 SW Marine Dr, Vancouver, BC, V6P 5Y7

BC Rehab Foundation Individual Grants

Helps fund assistive equipment for people with physical disabilities

Website www.bcrehab.com/applications/individual-grant

Email info@bcrehab.com

Phone 604-737-6383

Address 4255 Laurel St, Vancouver, BC, V5Z 2G9

spencer@bcdisability.com
BCDisability.com

Canada Grant for Services and Equipment for Students with Permanent Disabilities

This grant helps students with permanent disabilities pay for education related costs for services and equipment. Up to \$20,000 per year.

Website www.studentaidbc.ca/explore/grants-scholarships/canada-student-grant-services-and-equipment-students-permanent

Ceridan Cares Grants

Offers grants to individuals and families in need of financial assistance for items such as medical equipment and home adjustments. Grants typically range from \$200 to \$4,000.

Website www.ceridiancares.ca

Phone 1-866-313-2827

Address 2000 – 1111 West Georgia St, Vancouver, BC, V6E 4M3

CKNW Kids' Fund

Helps families with children in need, as well as children's organizations who provide beneficial programs. Funding is considered for a wide range of equipment and therapy.

Website www.cknwkidsfund.com

Email cathy.hunt@cknw.com; rhyanna.gathright@corusent.com

Phone 604-331-2711

Address 7850 Enterprise St, Burnaby, BC, V5A 1V7

CNIB Phone It Forward

Blind or partially sighted persons who register with the Canadian National Institute for the Blind can receive a free Smartphone through the Phone It Forward program

Website www.cnib.ca/en/programs-and-services/tech/phone-it-forward?region=bc

Email info@cnib.ca

Phone 1-800-563-2642

spencer@bcdisability.com
BCDisability.com

Communication Assistance for Youth and Adults

A province-wide program for adults 19+ who need an alternative communication system

Website www.cayabc.org
Email contact@cayabc.org
Phone 604-326-3500
Address 700-655 West Kent Ave, North Vancouver, BC, V6P 6T7

Crime Victim Assistance Program

Supports persons across BC who have received an injury due to criminal activity. Funding is provided for wheelchairs, scooters, ramps, rehab equipment, and more.

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/justice/criminal-justice/bcs-criminal-justice-system/if-you-are-a-victim-of-a-crime/victim-of-crime/financial-assistance-benefits
Email cvap@gov.bc.ca
Phone 604-660-3888; 1-866-660-3888 (Toll Free)
Address PO Box 5550 Station Terminal, Vancouver, BC, V6B 1H1

Equipment Provision Program

The MS Society's Equipment Provision Program provides equipment or financial assistance to acquire a new piece of equipment, or to pay for repairs on current equipment

Website www.mssociety.ca/support-services/programs-and-services/200/equipment-provision-program-bc-yukon
Email epp-bc@mssociety.ca
Phone 1-800-268-7582
Address 1103-4720 Kingsway, Burnaby, BC, V5H 4N2

Health Equipment Loan Program

HELP provides health equipment to individuals dealing with illness or injury

Website <https://www.redcross.ca/how-we-help/community-health-services-in-canada/health-equipment-loan-program>
Email WeCare@redcross.ca
Phone 1-800-418-1111

spencer@bcdisability.com
BCDisability.com

Home Adaptations for Independence (HAFI) Program

Provides financial assistance to eligible low-income households to complete home adaptations for independent living

Website www.bchousing.org/housing-assistance/HAFI
Phone 604-433-2218; 1-800-257-7756 (Toll Free)

ICBC Funding

Funding and compensation for those injured by an automobile accident

Website www.icbc.com
Phone 604-661-2800; 1-800-663-3051 (Toll Free)
Address 151 West Esplanade, North Vancouver, BC, V7M 3H9

Interim Federal Health Program

Covers certain pre-departure medical services for refugees coming to Canada for resettlement. This coverage includes assistive devices, medical supplies, and equipment, such as mobility aids, orthopedic and prosthetic equipment, and hearing aids.

Website www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/refugees/help-within-canada/health-care/interim-federal-health-program/coverage-summary.html

Jason and Rand Equipment Subsidy Fund

This fund offers financial support for the purchase of assistive devices

Website www.bccerebralpalsy.com/equipment-assistive-devices-funding-program
Email info@bccerebralpalsy.com; supportworker@bccerebralpalsy.com
Phone 604-408-9484; 1-800-663-0004 (Toll Free)
Address Suite 330 – 409 Granville St, Vancouver, BC, V6C 1T2



JGL Foundation Grants

Funds assistive technology that enhances mobility or quality of life. Examples of equipment include wheelchairs, walkers, adaptive bicycles, and more.

Website www.jglfoundation.com/grants

Email contact@jglfoundation.com

Address 4580 Cowley Crescent, Richmond, BC, V7B 1B8

Kinsmen Foundation Equipment Grants

Kinsmen fund new and used equipment, and will consider even the most obscure devices if they will assist an individual in their quality of life, personal mobility, and independence

Website www.kinsmenfoundationofbc.ca/apply-for-funding

Email kinsmenfoundationofbc@shaw.ca

Phone 800-742-5546

Address PO Box 64789, Sunwood Square PO, Coquitlam, BC, V3B0H1

Kiwanis Children's Fund

The foundation's main purpose is helping children, including those with disabilities. Contact the Kiwanis International Foundation for more information.

Website www.kiwanis.org/childrensfund

Email childrensfund@kiwanis.org

Phone 1-800-549-2647 (254); 1-317-217-6254

Address 3636 Woodview Trace, Indianapolis, IN, 46268, USA

March of Dimes Tablet Contest

Tell your story and win a customized accessible tablet package that includes a tablet, case, stylus, and specialized apps to improve your community access and participation

Website www.marchofdimes.ca/en-ca/programs/acs/aac/Pages/Assistive-Mobile-Technology-Initiative.aspx

Email amti@marchofdimes.ca

Phone 1-855-660-6632 (Toll Free)

Address 291 King Street, 3rd Floor, London, ON, N6B 1R8

spencer@bcdisability.com
BCDisability.com

McAdams Foundation

Focuses on assisting individuals and institutions committed to enriching the lives of children and teenagers whose families have limited financial resources. Funding is considered for assistive technologies and therapies.

Website www.mcadamsfoundation.ca

Address PO Box 8841, Victoria, BC, V8W 3Z1

Ministry of Children and Family Development

Provides funding for children with disabilities under the age of 18. Considerations of funding are made for many types of assistive equipment, including wheelchairs, walkers, lifts, and other devices necessary for care and rehabilitation.

Website www.gov.bc.ca/mcf

Email mcf.info@gov.bc.ca

Phone 1-877-387-7027

Address PO Box 9724 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC, V8W 9S2

Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction

Funding for people ages 18 to 65 who receive income assistance from the Government of BC. Individuals over the age of 65 require their funding to be reviewed before being approved. Considerations of funding for various assistive devices and aides.

Website www.gov.bc.ca/sdpr

Email sdpr.info@gov.bc.ca

Phone 1-866-866-0800 (Toll Free); 1-800-661-8773 (for deaf persons)

Muscular Dystrophy Canada Funding

Funding for people diagnosed with a neuromuscular disorder. Offers supplementary funding when other funding may not cover the required equipment costs.

Website www.muscle.ca/access-help/personal-support-program/equipment-program

Email info@muscle.ca

Phone 1-800-567-2873

Address 302-601 West Broadway, Vancouver, BC, V5Z 4C2

spencer@bcdisability.com
BCDisability.com

Neil Squire Society

Equipment funding is available for adults with disabilities. Benefits offered are intended for those seeking employment or individuals currently employed.

Website www.neilsquire.ca
Email info@neilsquire.ca
Phone 604-473-9363 and 1-877-673-4636
Address 400 – 3999 Henning Dr, Burnaby, BC, V5C 6P9

Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB)

Funding for First Nations and Inuit persons. Funding is considered for medical equipment.

Website www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fniah-spnia/nihb-ssna/index-eng.php

Open Door Group

Funds British Columbians with disabilities who intend to work or volunteer. Considerations of funding for rehabilitation equipment, as well as vehicle and workplace modifications

Website www.opendoorgroup.org
Phone 1-866-377-3670
Address 900 – 1200 Burrard St, Vancouver, BC, V6Z 2C7

Pacific Blue Cross (and other private insurers and company health plans)

There are funding opportunities for persons who have membership through work, union, or private contract. Funding is considered for equipment depending on the plan.

Website www.pac.bluecross.ca

PST Exemption for Medical Equipment

Many assistive devices and pieces of medical equipment for disabled persons are exempt from provincial sales tax, though documentation is required in certain cases

Website www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/sales-taxes/pst/exemptions

spencer@bcdisability.com
BCDisability.com

Recreation Equipment Loan Program

Lifetime Networks has specially designed and adapted recreation equipment available for loan. The equipment is available for anyone in the community with a need for it.

Website www.lifetimenetworks.org/programs/#equipmentloan

Rick Hansen Foundation

Committed to maximizing quality of life for Canadians with spinal cord injuries. Contact the foundation for funding and equipment information.

Website www.rickhansen.com

Email info@rickhansen.com

Phone 1-800-213-2131

Address 300-3820 Cessna Dr, Richmond, BC, V7B 0A2

Royal Canadian Legion

Grants are available nationwide for medical equipment and home adaptations for veterans, ex-service members, and their families

Website www.legion.ca/support-for-veterans/financial-assistance

Email veteransservices@legion.ca

Phone 1-877-534-4666 (Toll Free)

Address 86 Aird Place, Ottawa, ON, K2L 0A1

Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association of BC: Equipment Program

Items that will enhance or improve mobility for persons with spina bifida or hydrocephalus are eligible for reimbursement

Website www.sbhabc.org/our-programs

Phone 604-878-7000

Address 4480 Oak St, Vancouver, BC, V6H 3V4

spencer@bcdisability.com
BCDisability.com

Technology for Independent Living

Provides free environmental control systems that help people with physical disabilities control devices in their homes and on the go. Examples include automatic door openers.

Website www.technologyforliving.org
Email info@technologyforliving.org
Phone 604-326-0175
Address 103–366 East Kent Ave, South Vancouver, BC, V5X 4N6

Tetra Society

Tetra recruits volunteers who work with clients to design and build free-of-charge assistive devices that are custom-made for the individual. Gadgets for the workplace, at-home modifications, and for sport and leisure as well.

Website www.tetrasociety.org
Email eric@tetrasociety.org
Phone 604-688-6464 (117); 1-877-688-8762
Address 318 - 425 Carrall St, Vancouver, BC, V6B 6E3

The War Amps

The War Amps helps fund artificial limbs for children and adults

Website www.waramps.ca
Email info@waramps.ca; champ@waramps.ca
Phone 1-800-250-3030 (Toll Free)
Address 2827 Riverside Dr, Ottawa, ON, K1V 0C4

Variety – The Children’s Charity

Provides funding for persons with special needs 19 years and younger. Considerations of funding for adaptive equipment, specialized therapies, travel costs, and more.

Website www.variety.bc.ca/grants/individual-grants/individual
Email info@variety.bc.ca
Phone 604-320-0505; 1-800-381-2040 (Toll Free)
Address 4300 Still Creek Dr, Burnaby, BC, V5C 6C6

spencer@bcdisability.com
BCDisability.com

Veterans Affairs Canada Financial Programs

Provides funding for veterans in need of rehabilitative and assistive equipment

Website www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/financial-support
Email vac.information.acc@canada.ca
Phone 1-866-522-2122 (Toll Free); 1-833-921-0071 (for deaf persons)
Address Locations throughout BC ([click here](#))

Western Society for Children

Helps families access specialized equipment at a reasonable cost

Website www.wsfc.ca/programs/family-support
Email info@wsfc.ca
Phone 604-515-0810
Address 420-604 Columbia St, New Westminster, BC, V3M 1A5

WorkBC Assistive Technology Services

Provides equipment to help disabled persons with employment or community attachment

Website www.workbc.ca/Employment-Services/Assistive-Technology-Services.aspx
Email info-ats@workbc.ca

- **Burnaby**
Phone: 1-844-453-5506
Address: 400-3999 Henning Dr, Burnaby, BC, V5C 6P9
- **Kelowna**
Phone: 1-844-453-5506
Address: 202-437 Glenmore Rd, Kelowna, BC, V1V 1Y5
- **Nanaimo**
Phone: 1-844-453-5506
Address: 305-155 Skinner St, Nanaimo, BC, V9R 5E8
- **Victoria**
Phone: 1-844-453-5506
Address: 817A Fort St, Victoria, BC, V8W 1H6

[Back to top of section](#)

Children and Family



Did you know?



In 1938, Donald Triplett became the first child diagnosed with autism

spencer@bcdisability.com
BCDisability.com

Adult Upgrading Grant

Helps parents in school with costs related to unsubsidized child care and more. It also provides tuition for adult special education programs.

Website www.studentaidbc.ca/explore/grants-scholarships/adult-upgrading-grant-application

Phone 1-800-561-1818 (Toll Free)

Affordable Child Care Benefit

A monthly payment to help families with child care costs. Children who have a special need may be eligible for an additional \$150 per month towards the cost of child care.

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/caring-for-young-children/child-care-funding/child-care-benefit

Phone 1-888-338-6622 (Toll Free)

Athletics for Kids

Provides families funding so that all BC children, regardless of ability, can play sports

Website www.a4k.ca

Email info@a4k.ca

Phone 604-221-7529

Address 214-901 West 3rd St, North Vancouver, BC, V7P 3P9

Autism Funding

The BC government provides funding to help families with the cost of purchasing intervention services that will promote their child's development

Website www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/managing-your-health/child-behaviour-development/special-needs/autism-spectrum-disorder/autism-funding

Email MCF.AutismFundingUnit@gov.bc.ca

Phone 250-387-3530; 1-877-777-3530

Address PO Box 9776, Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC, V8W 9S5

BC Child Opportunity Benefit

Replacing the BC Early Childhood Tax Benefit on October 1st, 2020, the BC Child Opportunity Benefit is a tax-free monthly payment to families with children under 18

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/family-benefits/child-opportunity-benefit

Phone 1-800-387-1193 (Toll Free)

BC Family Residence Program

Provides accommodation assistance to enable families to stay together when their child requires medical care at BC Children's Hospital or Sunny Hill Health Centre for Children

Website www.variety.bc.ca/bc-family-residence-program

Email info@variety.bc.ca

Phone 1-866-496-6946

Bear Essentials

Offers financial support for equipment, travel costs, and therapy for kids with special needs

Website www.islandkidsfirst.com/bear-essentials

Email beare@helpfilladream.com

Phone 250-382-3135; 1-866-382-2711 (Toll Free)

Address 345 Wale Road, Victoria, BC, V9B 6X2

Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative

Enhances child care affordability by offering funding to licensed child care providers to reduce and stabilize parents' monthly child care fees

Phone 1-888-338-6622 (Toll Free); 250-356-6501 (Victoria)

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/caring-for-young-children/running-daycare-preschool/child-care-operating-funding/child-care-fee-reduction-initiative-provider-opt-in-status

spencer@bcdisability.com
BCDisability.com

Child Disability Benefit

A tax-free monthly payment of up to \$236 per month, for each eligible child, made to families who care for a child under age 18 with a severe and prolonged impairment in physical or mental functions

Website www.BCDisability.com/child-disability-benefit

CKNW Kids' Fund

Provides funding and support to vulnerable kids with physical, mental, and social challenges living in BC communities

Website www.cknwkidsfund.com

Email cathy.hunt@cknw.com; rhyanna.gathright@corusent.com

Phone 604-331-2711

Address 7850 Enterprise St, Burnaby, BC, V5A 1V7

Cops for Kids

Raises awareness and funds to assist BC kids in medical crisis or with special needs

Website www.copsforkids.org

Email info@copsforkids.org

Phone 250-801-4438; 1-877-500-4543 (Toll Free)

Address PO Box 20161, RPO Towne Centre, Kelowna, BC, V1Y 9H2

Down Syndrome Resource Foundation Bursary Program

Offers bursaries to help families with program costs

Website www.dsrf.org/programs-&-resources/program-funding/dsrf-workshops

Email info@dsrf.org

Phone 604-444-3773 and 1-888-464-DSRF

Address 1409 Sperling Ave, Burnaby, BC, V5B 4J8



For games and colouring sheets for kids, check out www.BCDisability.com/activities

spencer@bcdisability.com
BCDisability.com

Friends of Children

Provides financial support to BC families with children in medical need

Website www.friendsofchildren.ca
Email info@friendsofchildren.ca
Phone 1-866-564-2217 (Toll Free)

Goodlife Kids

Funds physical activity opportunities for children with special needs. Grants improve community access and help remove barriers preventing children from living active lives.

Website www.goodlifekids.com
Email lburrows@goodlifekids.com
Phone 519-661-0190 (6623)
Address 710 Proudfoot Lane, London, ON, N6H 5G5

Janna Epp Bursary

This bursary provides \$5,000 to a child living with cerebral palsy every year. This money will assist with that child's care, therapy, or recreation.

Website www.pacificmedicallaw.ca/jannaeppbursary
Email info@pacificmedicallaw.ca
Phone 604-685-2361
Address 401 W. Georgia St, Suite 905B, Vancouver, BC, V6B 5A1

Jumpstart

Helps kids overcome financial and accessibility barriers to sport and recreation. Provides individual child grants, para-sports grants, community grants, and access grants.

Website www.jumpstart.canadiantire.ca
Email Jumpstart@cantire.com
Phone 1-844-937-7529
Address 2180 Yonge St, PO Box 770, Station K, Toronto, ON, M4P 2V8

spencer@bcdisability.com
BCDisability.com

KidSport

Provides financial assistance for fees and equipment to kids aged 18 and under

Website www.kidsportcanada.ca
Email bezako@kidsportcanada.ca
Phone 204-925-5914
Address Chapters across Canada ([find a chapter near you](#))

Kiwanis Children's Fund

The foundation's main purpose is helping children, including those with disabilities.
Contact the Kiwanis International Foundation for more information.

Website www.kiwanis.org/childrensfund
Email childrensfund@kiwanis.org
Phone 1-800-549-2647 (254); 1-317-217-6254
Address 3636 Woodview Trace, Indianapolis, IN, 46268, USA

Make-A-Wish Foundation of BC and the Yukon

Make-A-Wish grants the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions

Website www.makeawishbc.ca
Email bcchapter@makeawish.ca
Phone 604-688-7944; 1-866-277-9474
Address 112-2025 W. Broadway, Vancouver, BC, V6J 1Z6

McAdams Foundation

Assists individuals and institutions committed to enriching the lives of young people whose families have limited financial resources

Website www.mcadamsfoundation.ca
Address PO Box 8841, Victoria, BC, V8W 3Z1

spencer@bcdisability.com
BCDisability.com

MCFD Special Needs Funding

Specialized service and funding options from the Ministry of Children and Family Development are available for children or teens who have special needs. Options for intellectual disabilities, autism spectrum disorder, fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, hearing or vision impairment, and complex health needs.

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/managing-your-health/child-behaviour-development/special-needs

Email MCF.ChildrenYouthSpecialNeeds@gov.bc.ca

Ministry of Children and Family Development

Provides various forms of funding for children with disabilities

Website www.gov.bc.ca/mcf

Email mcf.info@gov.bc.ca

Phone 1-877-387-7027

Address PO Box 9724 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC, V8W 9S2

Starlight Children's Foundation

Brightens the lives of ill kids and their families, bringing hope and joy to hospital and home

Website www.starlightcanada.org

Email info@starlightcanada.org

Phone 1-800-880-1004 (Toll Free)

Supported Child Development Program

Assists families of children 0-12 years old, and in some cases 13-19, who require additional support to access inclusive child care programs. The service is free of charge. Contact your local child or community resource centres to see if they offer the program.

Website www.icdabc.ca/programs/supported-child-development

spencer@bcdisability.com
BCDisability.com

Young Parent Program

Parents under the age of 25 may qualify for help with child care while they finish high school, including up to \$1,500 per month per child to help cover the cost of child care, as well as a space for their child in a care program at or near the school they are attending

[Website](http://www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/caring-for-young-children/child-care-funding/young-parent-program) www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/caring-for-young-children/child-care-funding/young-parent-program

[Phone](tel:1-888-338-6622) 1-888-338-6622 (Toll Free)



[Back to top of section](#)

Education and Employment



Did you know?



The first public school for deaf students was founded in France in 1760

Education and Employment

Adult basic education

Adult basic education has no tuition costs in BC

Website www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/adult-education/adult-upgrading

Adult Upgrading Grant

Helps with costs related to fees, books, supplies, transportation, and unsubsidized childcare. It also supports the cost of tuition for adult special education programs.

Website www.studentaidbc.ca/explore/grants-scholarships/adult-upgrading-grant-application

Assistance Program for Students with Permanent Disabilities

Helps students with permanent disabilities pay for education-related services and adaptive equipment. Up to \$12,000 available.

Website www.studentaidbc.ca/explore/grants-scholarships/assistance-program-students-permanent-disabilities

Blind and Partially Sighted Scholarships

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind offers several post-secondary scholarships

Website www.cnib.ca/en/programs-and-services/learn/scholarships-and-awards?region=bc

Email info@cnib.ca

Phone 1-800-563-2642

BC Access Grant

Provides up-front, non-repayable financial support for middle and low-income students at BC public post-secondary institutions

Website www.studentaidbc.ca/news/grants-scholarships/new-bc-access-grant

BC Access Grant for Students with Permanent Disabilities

Helps permanently disabled full-time students with the cost of education by replacing approximately \$1,000 in BC student loan funding

Website www.studentaidbc.ca/explore/grants-scholarships/bc-access-grant-students-permanent-disabilities

BC Access Grant for Deaf Students

Helps deaf and hard of hearing students with additional costs incurred while attending post-secondary institutions where curriculum is delivered in American Sign Language

Website www.studentaidbc.ca/explore/grants-scholarships/bc-access-grant-deaf-students

BC Paraplegic Foundation Scholarships

The foundation awards scholarships and bursaries to students with spinal cord injury

Website www.sci-bc.ca/about-us/bc-paraplegic-foundation

Email foundation@sci-bc.ca

Phone 604-324-3611

Address 780 SW Marine Dr, Vancouver, BC, V6P 5Y7

BC Supplemental Bursary for Students with a Permanent Disability

\$400-\$800 bursaries are available for students with a permanent disability

Website www.studentaidbc.ca/explore/grants-scholarships/bc-supplemental-bursary-students-permanent-disability

BC Training and Education Savings Grant

Families in BC are encouraged to start planning and saving early for their children's post-secondary education or training programs. To help, the BC Government will contribute \$1,200 to eligible children through the BC Training and Education Savings Grant.

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/scholarships/bc-training-and-education-savings-grant

spencer@bcdisability.com
BCDisability.com

Canada Education Savings Grant

The Canada Education Savings Grant is money that the government adds to a [Registered Education Savings Plan](#). This money helps to pay the costs of a child's full- or part-time studies after high school.

Website www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/education/education-savings/savings-grant

Canadian Hearing Services Scholarship Program

Canadian Hearing Services proudly offers higher education scholarships to deaf and hard of hearing students

Website www.chs.ca/scholarships

Email giving@chs.ca

Phone 1-866-518-0000 ext 4185

Canada Learning Bond

The Canada Learning Bond is money the government adds to a Registered Education Savings Plan for children from low-income families

Website www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/learning-bond

Canada Student Grant for Full-Time Students

Supports students from low- and middle-income families who are in a full-time undergraduate program. Students could get up to \$3,000 per school year.

Website www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/education/student-aid/grants-loans/full-time.html

Canada Student Grant for Services and Equipment for Students with Permanent Disabilities

Helps part-time or full-time students with permanent disabilities pay for education related costs for services and equipment. Up to \$20,000 per year.

Website www.studentaidbc.ca/explore/grants-scholarships/canada-student-grant-services-and-equipment-students-permanent

spencer@bcdisability.com
BCDisability.com

Canada Student Grant for Students with Permanent Disabilities

Helps part-time or full-time students with permanent disabilities with the cost of education. Up to \$2000 offered per program year.

Website www.studentaidbc.ca/explore/grants-scholarships/canada-student-grant-students-permanent-disabilities

Canada Workers Benefit

A refundable tax credit providing tax relief for eligible low-income individuals and families who are in the workforce. The CWB includes a disability supplement for individuals who are approved for the Disability Tax Credit.

Website www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/child-family-benefits/canada-workers-benefit

Cerebral Palsy Association: Tanabe Education Bursaries

A funding award open to BC students 17 years or older who have cerebral palsy

Website www.bccerebralpalsy.com/programs/education-bursaries

Disability Awards

An online search tool to find scholarships for students with disabilities

Website www.disabilityawards.ca/all-disabilities

Entrepreneurs with Disabilities Program

Provides support to disabled BC entrepreneurs, including business loans

Website www.communityfutures.ca/edp
Email www.communityfutures.ca/edp-enquiry-form
Phone 604-289-4222
Address C230-7871 Stave Lake St, Mission, BC, V2V 0C5



Show My Work! Know a disabled person who would like their work, talents, or achievements showcased? Contact Spencer(spencer@BCDisability.com) about the Show My Work series!

spencer@bcdisability.com
BCDisability.com

Epilepsy Society Bursaries

Each year, the BC Epilepsy Society awards bursaries to people living with epilepsy in BC who are entering, or are in a post-secondary program

Website www.bcepilepsy.com/donations/who-we-fund/bursaries
Email info@bcepilepsy.com
Phone 604-875-6704
Address 610- 4180 Lougheed Highway, Burnaby, BC, V5C 4B3

Future Bright

A free program that helps you access up to \$3,200 for your child's education

Website www.elizabethfry.com/future-bright

Gert Vorsteher Educational Bursary

Grants of \$5,000 each to British Columbians with a physical disability who intend to pursue post-secondary education

Website www.bcrehab.com/applications/gert-vorsteher-education

Learning Disability Assessment Bursary

Helps students with the up-front costs of the learning disabilities assessment

Website www.studentaidbc.ca/explore/grants-scholarships/learning-disability-assessment-bursary

Opportunities Fund for Persons with Disabilities

Helps disabled persons prepare for, obtain, and maintain employment or self-employment

Website <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/opportunity-fund-disability>

Registered Education Savings Plan

A special savings account for parents saving for their child's education after high school

Website www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/education/education-savings/resp

Repayment Assistance Plan for Borrowers with a Permanent Disability

If you have a permanent disability, this plan could reduce your student loan payments

Website www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/education/student-aid/grants-loans/repay/assistance/rap/permanent-disability

School based funding

Many scholarships are administered by individual schools. You are encouraged to search each program's website and the school's general awards page for funding opportunities.

Scholarships Canada

Scholarships Canada provides a searchable database of scholarship opportunities

Website www.scholarshipscanada.com

Severe and Permanent Disability Benefit

Permanently disabled persons may be able to have student loans cancelled via the SPDB

Website www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/education/student-aid/grants-loans/repay/assistance/severe-disability

Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association of BC: Bursary Program

The bursary program was established to assist and encourage students with spina bifida or hydrocephalus to continue their post-secondary education in their chosen field of study

Website www.sbhabc.org/our-programs

Phone 604-878-7000

Address 4480 Oak St, Vancouver, BC, V6H 3V4

Spinal Cord Injury BC Scholarships

Scholarships for persons with spinal cord injury pursuing post-secondary education

Website www.sci-bc.ca/about-us/scholarships-bursaries

Email info@sci-bc.ca

Phone 604-324-3611

Address 780 SW Marine Drive, Vancouver, BC, V6P 5Y7

spencer@bcdisability.com
BCDisability.com

Spinal Cord Injury Canada Scholarships

Scholarships for persons with spinal cord injury pursuing post-secondary education

Website www.sci-can.ca/application-scholarship

Email info@sci-can.ca

Phone 416-200-5814

Student Aid BC

Scholarships are available to help students with disabilities fund their education. The [Student Aid BC: Disability Program Guide](#) contains detailed info about the process.

Website www.studentaidbc.ca

Phone 1-800-561-1818 (Toll Free)

WorkSafeBC

Provides compensation and equipment for persons injured in work-related accidents

Website www.worksafebc.com/en/claims/benefits-services

Email crquery@worksafebc.com

Phone 604-231-8888; 1-888-967-5377 (Toll Free)

Address Offices throughout BC



[Back to top of section](#)

General Funding



Did you know?



The singer Prince was epileptic, experiencing seizures and blackouts

General Funding and Benefits

BC Community Foundations

Community foundations fund local projects, activities, and needs

Website www.communityfoundations.ca/find-a-community-foundation

BC Disability Funding Overview

An overview of local, provincial, and national funding opportunities

Website www.bcdisability.com/funding

Email spencer@bcdisability.com

BC Rehab Individual Grants

BC Rehab provides funds to individuals with physical disabilities. A wide range of requests are considered, including assistive equipment, program and therapy fees, and more.

Website www.bcrehab.com/applications/individual-grant

Email trynka@bcrehab.com

Phone 604-737-6383

Address 4255 Laurel Street, Vancouver, BC, V5Z 2G9

Canada Pension Plan Disability Benefits

Provides disability benefits to people who have contributed to the CPP and who are disabled and cannot work regularly. Benefits are also available to dependent children.

Website www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/publicpensions/cpp/cpp-disability-benefit.html

Canada Workers Benefit

Provides tax relief for low-income individuals and families in the workforce. The CWB includes a supplement for individuals who are approved for the Disability Tax Credit.

Website www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/child-family-benefits/canada-workers-benefit

Community Accessibility Grants

The BC government and Disability Alliance provide funding each year for projects that enhance community accessibility

Website www.disabilityalliancebc.org/program/accessibility-projects

Email ap@disabilityalliancebc.org

Phone 604-875-0188 ext. 121

Address 204 – 456 West Broadway, Vancouver, BC, V5Y 1R3

Disability Income Assistance

If you are 18 or older, provincial disability assistance can provide financial support. You must be designated as a Person with Disabilities (PWD) to receive this type of assistance.

Website www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/services-for-people-with-disabilities/disability-assistance

Phone 1-866-866-0800

Disability Tax Credit

A non-refundable tax credit helping disabled persons or attendants reduce income tax payments. Being eligible for the DTC can open doors to programs like the [Registered Disability Savings Plan](#), the [Canada Workers Benefit](#), and the [Child Disability Benefit](#).

Website www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/individuals/segments/tax-credits-deductions-persons-disabilities/disability-tax-credit

Phone 1-800-959-8281

Greater Victoria Down Syndrome Society: Educational Event Reimbursement

Funding to help GVDSS members participate in educational events

Website www.gvdss.org

Email info@gvdss.org

Address PO Box 35082, Victoria, BC, V8T 5G2

spencer@bcdisability.com
BCDisability.com

Individualized Funding Resource Centre

Helps disabled persons and their families manage the individualized funding process

Website www.ifrcsociety.org

Phone 604-777-7576; 1-844-604-7576 (Toll Free)

Address #1100-1200 W 73rd Ave, Vancouver, BC, V6P 6G5

Freemason Clubs

Freemasons fund many causes, including supporting persons with disabilities

Website www.masonicinfo.com/charity

Email reply@masonicinfo.com

Funding Guidance

Guidance on applying for disability assistance and benefits

Website www.BCDisability.com/general-disability-benefits

Email spencer@BCDisability.com

Food Banks BC

Low-income persons may qualify to receive food from a food bank. Find one near you.

Website www.foodbanksbc.com/find-a-food-bank

Kinsmen Clubs

Kinsmen serve their community's greatest needs. Sponsorships from Kinsmen's clubs have, for example, enabled disabled kids to attend accessible summer camps.

Website www.kincanada.ca

Email kinhq@kincanada.ca

Phone 800-742-5546

Address Clubs across Canada ([find a club near you](#))

spencer@bcdisability.com
BCDisability.com

Lions Clubs

For years, Lions Clubs have provided funding to support persons with disabilities

Website www.lionsclubs.org/en
Email programs@lionsclubs.org
Phone 630-571-5466
Address Clubs across BC ([find a club near you](#))

Loyal Protestant Association

Providing support to community members of all abilities for over a century

Phone 604-521-2244

Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction

Funding for people ages 18 to 65 who receive income assistance from the Government of BC. Individuals over 65 require their funding to be reviewed before being approved.

Website www.gov.bc.ca/sdpr
Email sdpr.info@gov.bc.ca
Phone 1-866-866-0800 (Toll Free); 1-800-661-8773 (for deaf persons)

Peace Arch Hospital Foundation

Raises funds to support the health and wellness of White Rock and South Surrey

Website www.pahfoundation.ca
Email info@pahfoundation.ca
Phone 604-535-4520
Address 15521 Russell Ave, White Rock, BC, V4B 2R4

Registered Disabilities Savings Plan

The RDSP allows people to put aside money tax free with some matching federal government funds for later use by a family member with disabilities

Website www.BCDisability.com/rdsp

spencer@bcdisability.com
BCDisability.com

Rick Hansen Institute

Supports programs working toward a world without paralysis after spinal cord injury

Website www.rickhansen.com
Email info@rickhansen.com
Phone 1-800-213-2131
Address 300-3820 Cessna Drive, Richmond, BC, V7B 0A2

Rotary Clubs

Rotary serves communities, and successful applications have been made to cover programs fees for disabled persons. Inquire with a local club about funding opportunities.

Website my.rotary.org/en
Email RotarySupportCenter@rotary.org
Phone 1-866-976-8279
Address Across Canada ([find a club near you](#))

Salvation Army

Provides subsidies and supports to persons in need. Get in touch with a [location near you](#).

Website www.salvationarmy.ca
Email kelly_de_weerdt@can.salvationarmy.org
Phone 604-299-3908
Address 103 3833 Henning Dr, Burnaby, BC, V5C 6N5

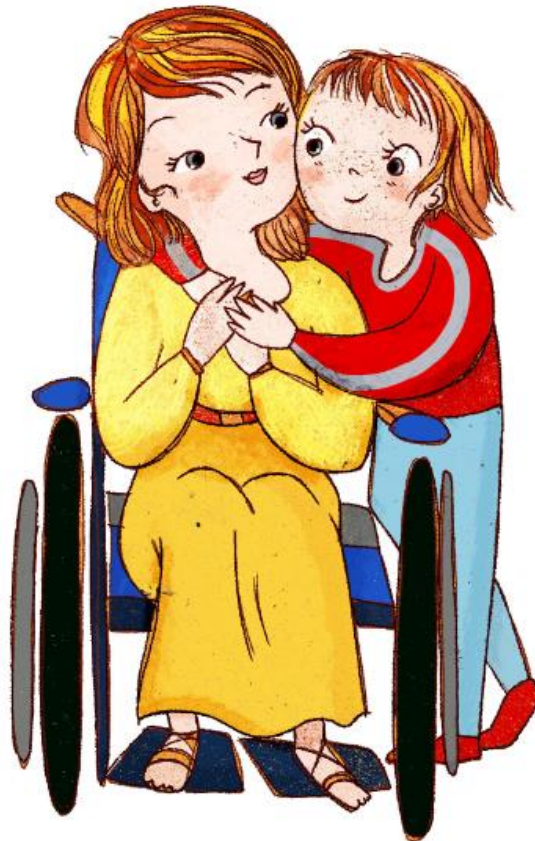
Vela

Provides free support in planning and managing the individualized funding process

Website www.velacanada.org
Email info@velacanada.org
Phone 604-539-2488
Address 1 - 5761 Glover Rd, Langley, BC, V3A 8M8

[Back to top of section](#)

Health and Wellness



Did you know?



In 2013, Canada had the world's highest rate of multiple sclerosis

Health and Wellness Funding

BC Palliative Care Benefits

Covers palliative care expenses for BC residents of any age who wish to receive palliative care at home

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/practitioner-professional-resources/pharmacare/prescribers/plan-p-bc-palliative-care-benefits-program

Children in the At Home Program

Provides community-based care for severely handicapped children. Children receiving full benefits or medical benefits through the program qualify for 100% coverage of eligible prescription drugs and designated medical supplies.

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/managing-your-health/child-behaviour-development/special-needs/complex-health-needs/at-home-program

Cystic Fibrosis Coverage

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](#). The [Cystic Fibrosis Clinic](#) arranges this coverage for their patients. You do not need to apply to PharmaCare for this coverage.

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/practitioner-professional-resources/pharmacare/pharmacies/product-identification-numbers/cystic-fibrosis-supplies-pins

Cystic Fibrosis Grant

Assists persons in BC with the Fair Pharmacare deductible, as well as with some travel and accommodation costs related to clinic visits and hospitalization

Website www.cf.providencehealthcare.org/cf-social-work/cystic-fibrosis-grant

spencer@bcdisability.com
BCDisability.com

Disability Supports Deduction

Individuals who have an impairment in physical or mental functions and have paid for certain medical expenses can claim the disability supports deduction on their tax return

Website www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/individuals/topics/about-your-tax-return/tax-return/completing-a-tax-return/deductions-credits-expenses/line-21500-disability-supports-deduction.html

Fair PharmaCare

Helps BC families pay for [eligible](#) prescription drugs, medical supplies and devices, and pharmacy services

Website www.BCDisability.com/fair-pharmacare

Health Connections Program

Offers reduced cost transportation options for rural residents who must travel for non-emergency, physician-referred medical care outside their home communities

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/accessing-health-care/tap-bc/health-connections

Health Supplements

Certain health supplements are available to persons receiving disability assistance

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/accessing-health-care/tap-bc/health-connections

Hope Air

Arranges free flights for patients of all ages who cannot afford to fly to receive required medical care

Website www.hopeair.ca
Email mail@hopeair.ca
Phone 1-877-346-4673 (Toll Free)
Address 207 - 124 Merton St, Toronto, ON, M4S 2Z2

Medical Transportation Supplements

Supplements are provided to specific recipients of income assistance and disability assistance to meet transportation costs associated with essential medical treatment

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/policies-for-government/bcea-policy-and-procedure-manual/health-supplements-and-programs/medical-transportation

PST Exemption for Medical Equipment

Many assistive devices and pieces of medical equipment for disabled persons are exempt from provincial sales tax, though documentation is required in certain cases

Website www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/sales-taxes/pst/exemptions

Recipients of BC Income Assistance

Provides 100% coverage of eligible prescription costs for BC residents receiving benefits and income assistance through the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction. The Ministry sends eligibility info to PharmaCare on their clients' behalf.

Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association: Clinic Fund

Funding for persons with spina bifida or hydrocephalus to assist with medical costs

Website www.sbhabc.org/our-programs
Phone 604-878-7000

Subsidized Homes Away From Home

If you or a family member is staying in Vancouver or Victoria for medical treatment, there are low-cost accommodations. In Vancouver, there are [Easter Seals House](#) and [Ronald McDonald House](#), while [Jeneece Place](#) serves as a home away from home in Victoria.

Travel Assistance Program

Helps alleviate transportation costs for BC residents who must travel within the province for non-emergency medical specialist services not available in their own community

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/accessing-health-care/tap-bc/travel-assistance-program-tap-bc

[Back to top of section](#)

Housing



Did you know?



Persons with disabilities are overly represented among the homeless

Housing Funding

BC Family Residence Program

Provides accommodation assistance to enable families to stay together when their child requires medical care at BC Children's Hospital or Sunny Hill Health Centre for Children

Website www.variety.bc.ca/bc-family-residence-program

Email info@variety.bc.ca

Phone 1-866-496-6946

Choice in Supports for Independent Living

An option for home support clients. Clients receive funds directly from their local health authority to purchase home support services. They become employers who manage their home support, from hiring and supervising staff, to overseeing CSIL spending.

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/accessing-health-care/home-community-care/care-options-and-cost/choice-in-supports-for-independent-living

Community Living BC Residential Support

People eligible under CLBC can be connected to housing resources and receive residential support in the form of supported living, shared living, or staffed residential living

Website www.communitylivingbc.ca/what-support-is-available/residential-supports

Email CLBCInfo@gov.bc.ca

Phone 604-664-0101; 1-877-660-2522 (Toll Free)

Address Throughout BC

Home Adaptations for Independence (HAFI) Program

Provides financial assistance to eligible low-income households to complete home adaptations for independent living

Website www.bchousing.org/housing-assistance/HAFI

Phone 604-433-2218; 1-800-257-7756 (Toll Free)

Home Owner Grant for People With Disabilities

If you have a disability or you live with a disabled relative, and your property is assessed at \$1,525,000 or less, you may be eligible for a grant which reduces your property taxes

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/property-taxes/annual-property-tax/home-owner-grant/person-with-disabilities

Home Owner Grant for Seniors

This grant reduces the property taxes seniors pay each year on their principal residence

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/property-taxes/annual-property-tax/home-owner-grant/senior

Home Renovation Tax Credit for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities

A refundable personal income tax credit to assist with the cost of permanent home modifications that improve accessibility or help a senior be more functional at home

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/income-taxes/personal/credits/seniors-renovation

Property Tax Deferment Program

A low interest loan program allowing disabled persons to defer property tax payments on their principal residence

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/property-taxes/annual-property-tax/defer-taxes/regular-program

Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters Program

Provides monthly cash payments to subsidize rents for eligible BC residents who are age 60 or over and who pay rent for their homes

Website www.bchousing.org/housing-assistance/rental-assistance/safer

Phone 604-433-2218; 1-800-257-7756 (Toll Free)

Address 101 - 4555 Kingsway, Burnaby, BC, V5H 4V8

Subsidized Homes Away from Home

If you or a family member is staying in Vancouver or Victoria for medical treatment, there are low-cost accommodations, that include the possibility of a long-term stay. In Vancouver, there are [Easter Seals House](#) and [Ronald McDonald House](#), while [Jeneece Place](#) serves as a home away from home in Victoria.

[Back to top of section](#)



Home Together *"Home is any 4 walls that enclose the right person"*

Recreation



Did you know?



The Special Olympics was founded in 1968 by Eunice Kennedy Shriver

Swimmer Michael Edgson of North Vancouver won a Canadian record 18 Paralympic gold medals

Recreation Funding

Access 2 Entertainment Card

This card grants free or significantly discounted attendance for a support worker at hundreds of recreational, entertainment, and cultural venues throughout Canada

Website www.access2card.ca

Email info@eastersealsbcy.ca; afonseca@eastersealsbcy.ca

Phone 604-873-1865 (403); 1-800-818-4483 (Toll Free)

Athletics for Kids

Provides families with funding so that all BC children can participate in organized sport

Website www.a4k.ca

Email info@a4k.ca

Phone 604-221-7529

Address 214-901 West 3rd St, North Vancouver, BC, V7P 3P9

Autism Funding

Many recreational activities can be paid for using autism funding, as long as it is shown that the activities are aligned with the child's treatment plan

Website www.BCDisability.com/autism-funding

Email MCF.AutismFundingUnit@gov.bc.ca

Phone 250-387-3530; 1-877-777-3530

Address PO Box 9776, Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC, V8W 9S5

Autism BC Ticket Giveaway Program

Free tickets to popular local events for families with an autistic person. Sports, concerts, Science World, and more!

Website www.autismbc.ca/programs/autismbcgoes

Email hello@autismbc.ca

Phone 1-888-437-0880 (Toll Free)

spencer@bcdisability.com
BCDisability.com

BC Rehab Individual Grants

BC Rehab provides funds to individuals with physical disabilities. A wide range of requests are considered, including for recreational therapy programs.

Website www.bcrehab.com/applications/individual-grant

Email trynka@bcrehab.com

Phone 604-737-6383

Address 4255 Laurel Street, Vancouver, BC, V5Z 2G9

Camp Fees Supplement

The BC government may help pay camp fees for children of income assistance, disability assistance, or hardship assistance recipients, or for disabled adults

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/policies-for-government/bcea-policy-and-procedure-manual/general-supplements-and-programs/camp-fees-supplement

Cerebral Palsy Association Camperships

Financially assists individuals of all ages to attend a special needs camp of their choice in BC. Subsidies go towards costs such as camp fees, transportation, and attendant care fees.

Website www.bccerebralpalsy.com/programs/camperships

Epilepsy Society Camp Bursaries

Financial subsidies to help cover the costs of various camp programs. These are for children who need extra support due to medical needs and learning or physical disabilities

Website www.bcepilepsy.com/donations/who-we-fund/camp-subsidies

Email info@bcepilepsy.com

Phone 604-875-6704

Address 610- 4180 Lougheed Highway, Burnaby, BC, V5C 4B3



Always Ask! Not all funding opportunities and discounts are publicly advertised. Check within each organization or business to see if there are any that you might have missed.

spencer@bcdisability.com
BCDisability.com

ET Music Therapy Financial Aid Program

ET Music Therapy has a financial aid program for clients who receive services at the Pacific Autism Family Network. Contact ET to learn more.

Website www.etmusictherapy.com
Email ecnivthane@gmail.com

- **North Vancouver studio location**
786 East 13th St, North Vancouver, BC, V7L 2M7
- **Richmond studio location**
3688 Cessna Dr, Richmond, BC, V7B 1C7

Jumpstart

Helps kids overcome financial and accessibility barriers to sport and recreation

Website www.jumpstart.canadiantire.ca
Email jumpstart@cantire.com
Phone 1-844-937-7529
Address 2180 Yonge St, PO Box 770, Station K, Toronto, ON, M4P 2V8

KidSport

Provides financial assistance for registration fees and equipment to kids 18 and under

Website www.kidsportcanada.ca
Email bezako@kidsportcanada.ca
Phone 204-925-5914
Address Chapters across Canada ([find a chapter near you](#))

Music Heals

Provides funding for music therapy

Website www.musicheals.ca
Email info@musicheals.ca
Phone 604-276-8742
Address #400 - 2245 West Broadway, Vancouver, BC, V6K 2E4

spencer@bcdisability.com
BCDisability.com

NSDRC Summer Bursary Program

Offers financial support to North and West Vancouver children and youth who have a special need may require additional support to attend summer recreation programs

Website www.nsdrc.org/community-based-services/summer

Email nsdrc@nsdrc.org

Phone 604-985-5371

Address 3158 Mountain Highway, North Vancouver, BC, V7K 2H5

Recreation Access Programs

Many cities and community centres offer adaptive programs and discounts for persons with disabilities. Check the websites of your city, and community centres near you, and inquire about potential discounts. Some examples are:

- **Abbotsford Access Program**

Abbotsford's Special Needs Access Program provides Abbotsford residents with disabilities a 50 percent discount on recreation centre drop-in admissions and memberships

Website www.abbotsford.ca/leisure/recreation/customer_care.htm

Email prcoffice@abbotsford.ca

Phone 604-859-3134

- **Kelowna Access Passes**

The city of Kelowna offers access passes to persons with disabilities, which provide discounts for numerous recreation activities and centres

Website www.kelowna.ca/parks-recreation/recreation/recreation-programs-registration/programs-diverseabilities

Email recreationandculture@kelowna.ca

Phone 250-469-8800

spencer@bcdisability.com
BCDisability.com

- **Vancouver Leisure Access Card**

The city of Vancouver offers a leisure access card to low-income families, as well as families with a disabled child who is not over 17 years old. The card provides discounts for community centre programs, as well as for other local activities.

Website www.vancouver.ca/parks-recreation-culture/leisure-access-card.aspx

Email lap@vancouver.ca

Phone 604-873-7000

Recreation Equipment Loan Program

Lifetime Networks has specially designed and adapted recreation equipment available for loan. The equipment is available for anyone in the community with a need for it.

Website www.lifetimenetworks.org/programs/#equipmentloan

Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association: Camp and Recreation Subsidies

Financial assistance is available for summer camp and other recreational activities

Website www.sbhabc.org/our-programs

Phone 604-878-7000

Address 4480 Oak St, Vancouver, BC, V6H 3V4



Awesome Athletes

- Having lost both arms, **Ibrahim Hamato** excels at table tennis by using his mouth
- Top curler **Emma Logan** is deaf and uses technology to communicate with her team
- Blind swimmer **Trischa Zorn** won a world record 43 Paralympic gold medals
- Wheelchair using strongman **Siamand Rahman** managed to bench press 683 pounds—the weight of 3 baby elephants!

[Back to top of section](#)

Respite



Did you know?



Family caregivers provide billions of hours of unpaid care annually in Canada

Respite Funding

At Home Program

This program supports the families of kids and teens with a severe disability or complex health care needs. It provides funding to purchase respite care for eligible children.

- [Website www.BCDisability.com/at-home-program](http://www.BCDisability.com/at-home-program)

Community Living BC Respite Funding

CLBC offers 2 forms of respite funding for the families of adults with developmental disabilities who receive CLBC support

- [Direct Respite](#)
Family members directly receive funding that is used to pay for respite support. This includes recruiting, screening, and monitoring a respite support provider
- [Contracted Respite](#)
CLBC or a service provider agency will coordinate respite support. The agency handles recruiting, screening, monitoring, and paying the respite support provider

Home Health

You can access respite services through your Home Health care provider, and learn more about funding opportunities through their facilitators

- [Fraser Health Respite Care](#)
- [Interior Health Respite Care](#)
- [Island Health Respite Care](#)
- [Northern Health Respite Care](#)
- [Vancouver Coastal Health Respite Care](#)

Other funding

It is strongly recommended that you also ask other programs and organizations you are involved with about respite funding, as some may offer funds. For example, the Victoria Society for Children with Autism offers respite funding as available to its members.

[Back to top of section](#)

Seniors



Did you know?



Alzheimer's is the world's most common neurodegenerative disorder, affecting nearly 50 million people

Seniors Funding

Community Travel Training Program

Free transit training for seniors and people with disabilities

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social/supports/seniors/transportation/public-transit

- **Kelowna:** 250-979-1312
- **Prince George:** 250-562-1394
- **Victoria:** 250-384-7723

Grants for Age-Friendly Community Planning and Projects

Helps BC communities support aging populations by undertaking projects that enable seniors to age in place and by facilitating the creation of age-friendly communities

Website www.ubcm.ca/EN/main/funding/lgps/age-friendly-communities

HandyCard and TaxiSaver

HandyCard provides fare discounts to disabled persons and attendants on the bus, SkyTrain, SeaBus, and West Coast Express.

TaxiSaver is a supplementary service to HandyDART available to people with permanent disabilities that already have a HandyCard. TaxiSaver provides a 50 per cent subsidy toward the cost of taxi rides.

Website www.translink.ca/Rider-Guide/Accessible-Transit/HandyCard.aspx

Phone 604-953-3680

Address 700-287 Nelson's Court, New Westminster, BC, V3L 0E7

Home Owner Grant for Seniors

This grant reduces the property taxes seniors pay each year on their principal residence

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/property-taxes/annual-property-tax/home-owner-grant/senior

Home Renovation Tax Credit for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities

A refundable personal income tax credit to assist with the cost of home modifications that improve accessibility or help a senior be more functional or mobile at home

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/income-taxes/personal/credits/seniors-renovation

Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters Program

Lower income seniors renting in the private market may be eligible for a rent supplement through SAFER. This program provides monthly cash payments to subsidize rents for eligible BC residents who are 60 or over and who pay rent for their homes.

Website www.bchousing.org/housing-assistance/rental-assistance/safer

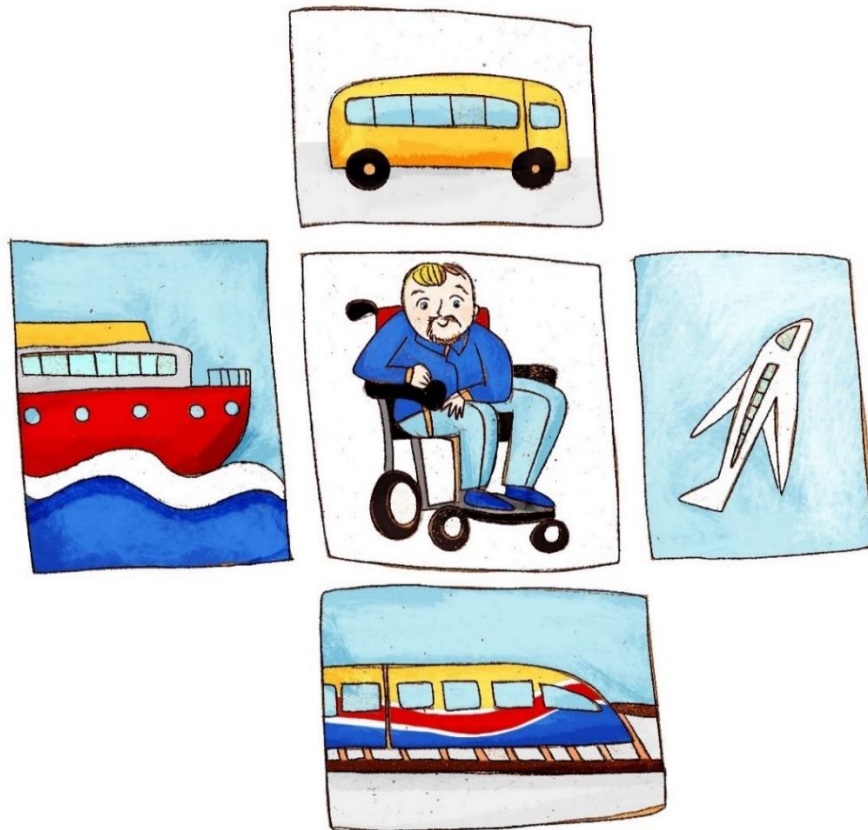
Phone 604-433-2218; 1-800-257-7756 (Toll Free)

Address 101 - 4555 Kingsway, Burnaby, BC, V5H 4V8



Glorious Gray “Gray hair is a crown of glory; it is gained in the righteous life”

Transportation and Mobility



Did you know?



Blind Canadian veteran Walter Harris Callow invented the first accessible bus

Transportation and Mobility Funding

Autoplan Disability Discount

Persons with impaired mobility may qualify for a 25 percent discount on a basic autoplan

Website www.icbc.com/brochures/Pages/disability-discount.aspx

Email revregcl@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca

Phone 1-877-388-4440; 604-661-2800; 1-800-663-3051 (Toll Free)

Address 151 West Esplanade, North Vancouver, BC, V7M 3H9

BC Bus Pass Transportation Supplement

People receiving disability assistance get an extra \$52 a month for transportation

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/policies-for-government/bcea-policy-and-procedure-manual/general-supplements-and-programs/transportation-supplement

Email BCBusPassProgram@gov.bc.ca

Phone 1-866-866-0800

Address [Across BC](#)

Bear Essentials

Offers financial support for travel costs and more for kids with special needs

Website www.islandkidsfirst.com/bear-essentials

Email beare@helpfilladream.com

Phone 250-382-3135; 1-866-382-2711 (Toll Free)

Address 345 Wale Road, Victoria, BC, V9B 6X2

BC Ferries Disability Status Pass

Discount fares are available for residents of BC with a permanent disability. To receive the discounted fare, you must apply for a BC Ferries Disabled Status Identification (DSI) Card.

Website www.bcferrries.com/travel_planning/disabilities.html

Email customerservice@bcferries.com

Phone 1-888-223-3779 (Toll Free); 1-800-972-6509 (TTY)

Address 1010 Canada Place, Vancouver, BC, V6C 0B9

spencer@bcdisability.com
BCDisability.com

Canadian Assisted Travel Society Funding

Provides financial assistance to individuals with disabilities who require the assistance of a personal care attendant when traveling

Website www.canadianassistedtravel.wordpress.com
Email canadianassistedtravel@gmail.com; dynamicmg@gmail.com

Community Travel Training Program

Provides free transit training to seniors and people with disabilities

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/seniors/transportation/public-transit

- **Kelowna:** 250-979-1312
- **Prince George:** 250-562-1394
- **Victoria:** 250-384-7723

Disability Travel Card

For people of all disabilities who require a support person when travelling. With the card, an attendant can travel with them at significantly reduced fare.

Website www.easterseals.ca/english/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Disability-Travel-Card-NEWEST-Application-Form-EN.pdf
Email afonseca@eastersealsbcy.ca; info@eastersealsbcy.ca
Phone 604-873-1865 (403); 1-800-818-4483 (Toll Free)

Epilepsy Canada VIA Rail Pass

For people with epilepsy who require a support person when travelling. With the card, an attendant can travel with them at significantly reduced fare.

Website www.epilepsy.ca/via-rail-pass
Email epilepsy@epilepsy.ca
Phone 1-877-734-0873 (Toll Free)
Address 3250 Bloor St. W., East Tower, Suite 600, Toronto, ON, M8X 2X9

Excise Gasoline Tax Refund

If you have a permanent mobility impairment and cannot safely use public transportation, you can ask for a refund of part of the federal excise tax on the gasoline you buy

Website www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/individuals/segments/tax-credits-deductions-persons-disabilities/excise-gasoline-tax-refund.html

Flight Discounts

Attendants can fly for free within Canada. Inquire with the specific airline for more information.

HandyCard and TaxiSaver

HandyCard provides fare discounts to disabled persons and attendants on the bus, SkyTrain, SeaBus, and West Coast Express.

TaxiSaver is a supplementary service to HandyDART available to people with disabilities who have a HandyCard. TaxiSaver provides a 50 percent subsidy for the cost of taxi rides.

Website www.translink.ca/Rider-Guide/Accessible-Transit/HandyCard.aspx

Phone 604-953-3680

Address 700-287 Nelson's Court, New Westminster, BC, V3L 0E7

Health Connections Travel Assistance

A regional travel assistance program that offers subsidized transportation options to reduce costs for rural residents who must travel to obtain non-emergency, physician-referred medical care outside their home communities

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/accessing-health-care/tap-bc/health-connections

spencer@bcdisability.com
BCDisability.com

Hope Air

Arranges free flights for patients of all ages who cannot afford to fly to receive required medical care

Website www.hopeair.ca
Email mail@hopeair.ca
Phone 1-877-346-4673 (Toll Free)
Address 207 - 124 Merton St, Toronto, ON, M4S 2Z2

Medical Transportation Supplements

Provided to recipients of income and disability assistance to meet transportation costs associated with essential medical treatment

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/policies-for-government/bcea-policy-and-procedure-manual/health-supplements-and-programs/medical-transportation

Provincial Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax Refund for Persons with Disabilities

If you have a qualifying disability, this program allows you to request a refund of the provincial motor fuel tax you paid in BC on fuel you used in a vehicle you own or lease.

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/sales-taxes/motor-fuel-carbon-tax/fuel-tax-refund
Email revregcl@victoria1.gov.bc.ca
Phone 1-877-388-4440

Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association: Driver Training Program

Financial assistance is available to persons with spina bifida or hydrocephalus to assist with the costs of driving lessons and assessment

Website www.sbhabc.org/our-programs
Phone 604-878-7000
Address 4480 Oak St, Vancouver, BC, V6H 3V4

spencer@bcdisability.com
BCDisability.com

Travel Assistance Program

Helps alleviate transportation costs for BC residents who must travel within the province for non-emergency medical specialist services not available in their own community

Website www.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/accessing-health-care/tap-bc/travel-assistance-program-tap-bc

Tetra Society

Tetra's focus is to find solutions to overcome environmental barriers faced by people with disabilities. Tetra recruits volunteers who work with clients to design and build free-of-charge assistive devices that are custom-made for the individual.

Website www.tetrasociety.org

Email eric@tetrasociety.org

Phone 604-688-6464 (117); 1-877-688-8762

Address 318 - 425 Carrall St, Vancouver, BC, V6B 6E3

