

TB VETS

Fact Sheet – BC's Keytag People

- Members of the Royal Canadian Legion TVS Branch 44 started TB Vets as a way to support themselves, rather than accepting government assistance. Originally called the Tuberculosis and Chest Disabled Veterans Association, TB Vets was incorporated on December 15, 1945.
- In 1946 TB Vets started BC's original keytag program in order to provide jobs for WWII soldiers who returned from overseas service suffering from the disabling effects of tuberculosis and other respiratory ailments. Donations from the key return service provided the veterans with steady meaningful employment.
- As the veterans employed by the keytag program retired, they were replaced by other people with special needs. As always, the TB Vets staff are involved with all aspects of the keytag production, donation processing and returning lost keys.
- Every year at the end of December, TB Vets mails nearly half a million keytags to the people of BC. These keytags can be used to protect house keys, car keys and any other items that may be on your key ring.
- Returning lost keys starts with the help of a Good Samaritan. If you find a set of lost keys bearing the TB Vets Keytag, simply pick up the keys and drop them in any Canada Post mailbox. Canada Post then returns the keys to TB Vets and we match the keys to the address in our database and return them to their rightful owner.
- Since TB Vets began we have returned almost 200,000 sets of lost keys to their grateful owners. Sometimes even those that were lost outside of Canada!
- All donations to the Keytag Campaign and other fundraising initiatives stay in BC to help British Columbians. Thanks to donor support TB Vets provides funding for:
 - Vital medical equipment for BC hospitals, to help people in respiratory distress;
 - Research into treatments and cures for TB and other respiratory diseases;
 - Education of tomorrow's Respiratory Therapists studying at Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops;
 - And in honour of our veteran heritage, providing valuable employment for people with disabilities.
- TB Vets receives no government funding. Donor support and the sale of our manufactured products and services ensure that we can continue to help the people of BC.

For more information regarding BC's TB Vets, contact:

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