



# ANNUAL REPORT

2021 -2022

TO LOWER SIDE  
LIFT THEN SQUEEZE HANDLE



## OUR MISSION

Arming Frontline Medical Heroes with  
Life-Saving Respiratory Equipment

## OUR VISION

BC's frontline is equipped for every  
situation where immediate respiratory  
care is required

## OUR VALUES

Community, Family, Courage, Hope,  
Compassion, Innovation, Service

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### **TB Vets Charitable Foundation**

Arming Frontline Medical Heroes  
with Life-Saving Respiratory Equipment

Registered Charity #87416 1482 RR0001

# REPORT FROM THE BOARD CHAIR & CEO



**At TB Vets you are an important part of our community, and we are honoured to share highlights from the past year and celebrate some of our accomplishments.**

In this Annual report, we continue to share stories of those who are grateful for the medical care they received with TB Vets donors help. This includes a heartfelt account from brave parents with their tiny new born.

Also please see the TB patient story from Courtney Steen, a compassionate Recreation Therapist on the Tuberculosis Unit at Vancouver General Hospital.

We also recognize Dr. Steve Reynolds, Royal Columbian Hospital & SFU, research on the Lungspace system his team has explored and a note of thanks from Respiratory Technician students from Thompson Rivers University.

TB Vets is fortunate to have welcomed fantastic new members to the Board of Directors to help build on the tradition of excellence and deliver on our mission to sponsor lifesaving respiratory equipment to British Columbians of all ages, and to make a meaningful impact in the community while honouring our deep-rooted Veteran history.

Once again, I thank you for your dedication and support of TB Vets. We are deeply grateful for donors like you, and for your vision and leadership. You are helping us ensure that TB Vets remains ready to take on life's respiratory challenges - today and in the future.

With Sincere Gratitude

  
Danny Redden  
Board Chair

  
Kandys Merola  
Chief Executive Officer

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022-2023

### PATRON

Dr. Eric Yoshida MD, MHSc,  
FACP, FACG, FCAHS, FAASLD

### BOARD CHAIR

Danny Redden

### VICE CHAIR

Heddy Bing

### SECRETARY / TREASURER

Gordon Coburn

### BOARD MEMBERS

Amar Tiwana  
Diane Thomson  
Peter Merola  
Jennifer Kastelein  
Sue Des Lauriers

### CEO

Kandys Merola

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# MUSIC THERAPY

## Baby Ruby's Story

### Baby Ruby received lifesaving and compassionate care.

When Ruby was born at just 24 weeks, her lungs had not fully developed. By her due date, she was also diagnosed with pulmonary hypertension and her care team realized she needed the specialized care only available at the BC Women's Hospital + Health Centre Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), the largest of its kind in the province.

Shortly after arriving in the NICU's Ladybug Unit, home to neonatal patients with the highest needs, Ruby's doctors determined she would need a tracheostomy. **This procedure would allow a ventilator, like the one donated by TB Vets,** to do the work of her lungs so that they could have the rest they needed to finish growing.

Being attached to a large, life-saving machine can be a stressful experience for anyone, but luckily Ruby had the support of her family and music therapist to make it more comfortable. Each week, NICU music therapist Carol Wiedemann would provide support by singing songs and making music with her. Thanks to the NICU's family-centred model of care, **her parents and big brother were able to participate in these sessions as well.**

Ruby was so engaged by the music that her care team was able to use it to help reduce and eventually remove the additional sedation typically needed during routine trach care.

**"She just loves the music,"** her mom says.

**A powerful duo, her TB Vets donated ventilator and music therapy sessions played a critical role in Ruby's incredible recovery journey.** After a seven month stay in the BC Women's NICU, Ruby was ready to head home for the first time in her life.



# “GOOD BYE FOR NOW”

## A Story of Inspiration & Resilience

**Goodbyes** already had a more profound meaning for David Garcia, who lost his wife to cancer nearly a decade ago. He and his son know that tomorrow is promised to no one.

**In the spring of 2021, the family was yet again reminded of the fragile nature of life when David was hospitalized after contracting COVID-19.** Within days, he was on life support in an Intensive Care Unit, where critical care teams and an array of medical equipment worked tirelessly to keep him alive.

For families like David's from throughout British Columbia, a vital part of their care comes as a result of the generosity of donors like you to TB Vets Charitable Foundation.

When David first went to Nicola Valley Hospital and Heath Centre in Merritt, he figured he would be back home in no time. But the virus had other plans, and soon the nasal cannula supplying him oxygen became essential to survive. And then, it was no longer enough.

As David went into respiratory arrest, he was rushed to Royal Inland Hospital in Kamloops for the highest level of care available.

David spent the next six days in an induced coma, hooked up to an assortment of critical care machines. He had two IV lines in his right forearm, a central line in his neck for feeding, a catheter, sensory

pads covering his torso, and a ventilator mechanically breathing for him.

Your donations to TB Vets help arm the medical frontline in the fight for respiratory care by providing critical respiratory equipment, research and education in BC.

**David spent nearly two weeks on a TB Vets supplied ventilator.** He remembers the moment when he took his own breath again.

**“It was shallow, but it was mine and mine alone,”** David recalls. **“I felt a freedom that cannot be explained. It was like being born again, a pivotal moment of a second chance.”**

Because of the medical care that was available to David during more than three weeks in hospital, he was able to return home to his son. Despite a lengthy road to recovery, David feels as if he has been brought back to life.

**“Thank you for all that you have given me and continue to give me,” he says. “Words just won’t do justice to the amount of gratitude I have.”** He says

For over 75 years, TB Vets Charitable Foundation has given hope to individuals and families in their hour of great need. Donors like you are helping others from throughout the province who are struggling with life-threatening breathing complications.

# TB RECREATION THERAPY

Many patients this year have either been quite unwell or had unique circumstances that required them to stay at the TB Unit for a long period of time for treatment.

For example, one patient came after being diagnosed with TB while working on a freighter from the Philippines. With nowhere to go to isolate, and no family to stay with, this patient was in the TB Unit until he could be off isolation and safely travel home by air. It was a long stay for him, made even longer with knowing his wife was expected to deliver their baby soon. **Fortunately, he was able to make it home before the baby arrived!**

**Another memorable patient** was an older woman of South Asian heritage. Her family realized that she had moderate dementia only after the death of her husband in July 2022. She loved to cook, and **as part of her recreation therapy while in the TB Unit, she was able to make samosas, all from a recipe in her head,** giving her a sense of normalcy and engaging her mentally and emotionally.

**Robert** was a patient who told staff that at home in the BC Interior he would spend most of his days outside, so to be inside the TB Unit all the time was incredibly difficult for him. With changes to the policy on outdoor access allowing some patients to go outside with a

friend or a family member, **Robert and his twin sister Patricia went out most days starting in late January until he was discharged in May.**

As the person who initiated this policy, I find it very rewarding to see patients directly benefiting from the work I put in and I'm appreciative to be working with a team of physicians who see the value of making changes in the name of improved patient care.

**Many patients this year also joined the TB Vets Get Up and Breathe online fitness program.** Feedback from everyone who has participated has been positive, and some patients continue to follow these workouts at home on YouTube. And it's not just TB patients – one patient who is currently in the TB Unit waiting for a lung transplant is using those YouTube videos daily to help maintain his physical fitness as best he can, leading up to his transplant.

**As always, a heartfelt thank you to TB Vets for continuing to support recreation therapy at VGH. I hope you see the impact your support makes as much as I do.**

By Courtney Steen  
Recreation Therapist, VGH



In 2018, we partnered with Royal Columbian Hospital Foundation to establish the five-year TB Vets Charitable Foundation Professorship in Critical Care at Simon Fraser University. TB Vet's \$200,000 investment supported the research of Dr. Steve Reynolds, a Royal Columbian Hospital critical care physician heading a research team investigating how mechanical ventilation effects multiple organs, including the heart and brain, and alternatives to mechanical ventilation.

The five-year professorship coincided with the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic. **"TB Vets' support could not have been timelier," says Dr. Reynolds. "Their funding kept the research lab and our team going during this crucial time. We had unrestricted access to research lab resources and thanks to TB Vets, we were able to complete years of work in an intense few months."**

**Dr. Reynolds** and his team have made significant contributions to this field of research, producing multiple articles for scholarly journals and presenting at international conferences.

**"For critically ill or injured patients, mechanical ventilation can be a lifesaving intervention,"** says Dr. Reynolds. "However, it comes with its own risks and complications. With our research, we are trying to push the envelope and find ways to prevent the potential harms associated with breathing machines."

# CHAMPIONING WORLD-CLASS RESEARCH



TB Vets Charitable Foundation

# 50/50

## Raffle Fundraiser

**The winner of the 2022 TB Vets 50/50 Raffle Fundraiser is Dr. E.W. Dick of Abbotsford, BC.**

A loyal donor, he took home \$59,505. He plans to purchase irrigation equipment for his farm.

Net proceeds of the lottery will help bring more respiratory equipment to BC's medical frontline.

The winning ticket number was 156045, drawn on July 29, 2022 at the TB Vets office in Vancouver.  
*(BC Gaming Event Licence No. 131706)*



## Education

# YOUR GIFT IN ACTION

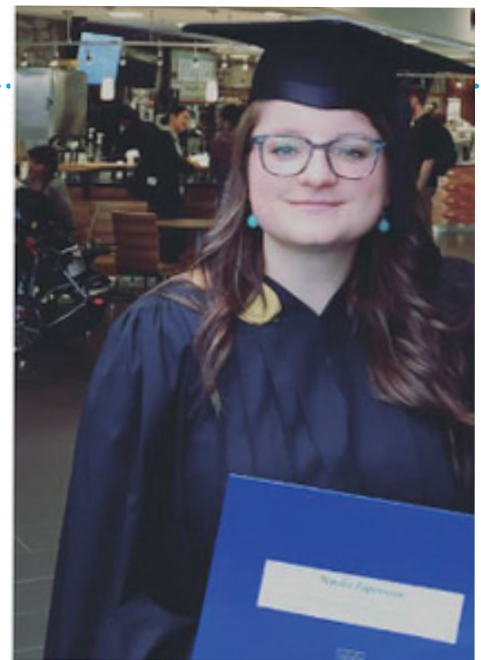
For more than 35 years, support from TB Vets Charitable Foundation and its donors has fueled Thompson Rivers University's (TRU) respiratory therapy program through critical funding for equipment and student awards. The success of our program is directly linked to the incredible support you've provided over the years.

### Your Incredible Impact

- In 2022, 11 well-deserving Respiratory Therapists (RT) students benefited from your generosity.
- **Since 1987**, 227 students have received \$281,626.41 in support from TB Vets Charitable Foundation Education Awards and the Ed Eberlein/TB Vets Charitable Foundation Scholarship.
- In addition to Education awards, you've also contributed to the purchase of essential simulation equipment and ventilators for TRU's respiratory therapy clinic, ensuring TRU students are fully prepared for work in high-risk areas of our country's hospitals.

*"I am a diploma student in the respiratory therapy program at Thompson Rivers University and will start my clinical year this June 2023. In 2016, I graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology. Within that degree, I also completed a minor in psychology, an honours thesis and a co-operative work program where I was able to work in a rehab neuroscience lab, a behavioural medicine lab and a chronic pain clinic. I also volunteered as a medical first responder for St. John Ambulance for six years during this time.*

*Because of your generosity through this scholarship, my financial burden is lessened and I feel free to focus on my continued studies in this upcoming year. Thank you again for your investment in TRU and students like me. I hope to give back to the community someday by being a competent and valuable clinician."*





# YOUR GIFTS IN ACTION

## 2022 Respiratory Grants

### RESPIRATORY EQUIPMENT

- \$10,000 BC Cancer Foundation (Vancouver)
- \$40,000 BC Women's Health Foundation (Vancouver)
- \$30,000 Bulkley Valley Health Foundation (Smithers)
- \$25,000 Burnaby Hospital Foundation
- \$5,865 Canuck Place Children's Hospice (Vancouver and Abbotsford)
- \$30,000 Chilliwack Hospital Foundation
- \$40,000 Comox Valley Healthcare Foundation (North Island Hospital)
- \$15,000 Delta Hospital and Community Health Foundation
- \$4,542 Dr. R.E.M. Lee Hospital Foundation (Terrace – Mills Memorial Hospital)
- \$25,000 Eagle Ridge Hospital Foundation (Port Moody)
- \$40,188 East Kootenay Foundation for Health  
(Elk Valley Hospital, Invermere Hospital, and Golden & District Hospital)
- \$28,394 Fort St. John Hospital Foundation
- \$35,000 Fraser Valley Health Care Foundation (Abbotsford Regional Hospital)
- \$27,820 Kelowna General Hospital Foundation
- \$38,560 Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital Health Foundation (Trail)
- \$20,000 Kootenay Lake Hospital Foundation (Nelson)
- \$50,000 Langley Memorial Hospital Foundation
- \$30,000 Peace Arch Hospital Foundation (White Rock)
- \$30,000 Revelstoke District Health Foundation
- \$32,569 Royal Inland Hospital Foundation (Kamloops)
- \$20,000 Saanich Peninsula Hospital & Healthcare Foundation
- \$30,000 Shuswap Lake General Hospital Foundation (Salmon Arm)
- \$10,000 St. Paul's Foundation (Vancouver)
- \$8,813 Stanton Territorial Hospital Foundation (Yellowknife)
- \$66,666 Surrey Hospitals Foundation
- \$39,317 Vernon Jubilee Hospital Foundation
- \$20,000 Victoria Hospitals Foundation (Royal Jubilee Hospital)

### RESPIRATORY RESEARCH

- \$40,000 Royal Columbian Hospital Foundation (Mechanical Ventilation)
- \$50,000 UBC Hospital Foundation (Tuberculosis)
- \$35,000 VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation (COVID-19)

### TB WARD - RECREATION THERAPY

- \$40,600 VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation (Vancouver)

### RESPIRATORY EDUCATION

- \$21,200 Thompson Rivers University Foundation (Kamloops)

OVER  
**\$939K**

in Respiratory Funding  
2021 - 2022



**TB VETS**  
Arming Frontline Medical Heroes  
with Life-Saving Respiratory Equipment

1410 Kootenay St. Vancouver, BC V5K 4R1  
1.888.874.5626 · [tbvets.org](http://tbvets.org)

## Financials

# THE POWER OF GIVING

In 2021-22, TB Vets Charitable Foundation's cost per dollar was 24 cents (excluding community awareness and public engagement), which is lower than the industry average of 26 cents.

Thanks to our donors, our 2021-22 consolidated revenue, including investments, totalled **\$1,634,625**. Together with our donors and supporters, we have made a direct and significant impact on respiratory care in our province.

The following financial highlights are based on TB Vets' audited financial statements for our fiscal year ending **September 30, 2022**. The Foundation's statements are audited by Rolfe Benson LLP Chartered Professional Accounts and are available on our website\* at: [tbvets.org/audited-financials](http://tbvets.org/audited-financials)

### REVENUE

	2022	2021
• Philanthropy from Key Tags	1,663,767	1,636,817
• Bequests	65,087	429,108
• 50/50 Raffle	122,010	101,380
• Program Grants	670	4,000
• Investment & Other Income	(216,909)	416,913
	<b>1,634,625</b>	<b>2,588,218</b>

### EXPENSES

• Foundation Operations	392,874	419,105
• Community Awareness & Public Engagement	671,986	669,258
	<b>1,064,860</b>	<b>1,088,363</b>

### EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES BEFORE GRANTS

**569,765**      **1,499,855**

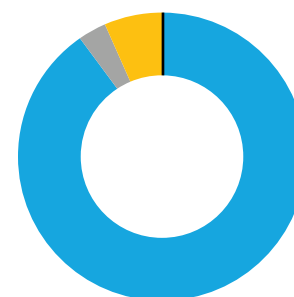
• Funds granted for:		
• Hospital Equipment	752,735	918,552
• First Responders	-	20,148
• Education	21,200	21,200
• Research	125,000	85,000
• Recreation Therapy	40,600	65,687

**939,535**      **1,110,587**

### EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES AND GRANTS

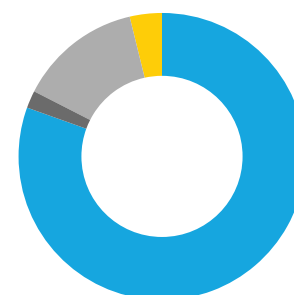
**369,770**      **389,268**

• Fund Balances, beginning of year	2,904,451	2,515,183
• Fund Balances, end of year	2,534,681	2,904,451



### SOURCES OF REVENUE

- 89.86%** Philanthropy from Key Tags
- 3.52%** Bequests
- 6.59%** 50/50 Raffle
- 0.04%** Program Grants/Donation



### DISTRIBUTION OF DONATED FUNDS

- 80%** Hospital Equipment
- 13%** Research
- 5%** Recreation Therapy
- 2%** Education
- First Responders

\*Full audited financial statements may also be requested by phone call to TB Vets at 1.888.874.5626 (toll-free).

# HELP BRING RESPIRATORY EQUIPMENT TO BC'S MEDICAL FRONTLINE.



## Yes, I'd like to help save lives!

### MY CONTACT INFORMATION

Mr.  Ms.  Miss  Mrs.  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City and Province \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

### MY TAX-DEDUCTIBLE GIFT

I would like to make a **single** gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make a **monthly** gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Process my monthly gift on the 1st or 15th of each month starting the month of \_\_\_\_\_

**By Interac e-Transfer.** Add TB Vets as new Interac recipient. Send your donation to **information@tbvets.org**. Please put your Key Tag Number in the message box. Your donation will be automatically deposited to the TB Vets account. No need for a security question.

*\*I authorize TB Vets to withdraw the above amount monthly from my credit card (fill out details below) or bank account (attach void cheque). Monthly gifts may be changed, paused or stopped at any time.*

Donate Online



[tbvets.org/donate](https://tbvets.org/donate)

### HOW TO GIVE

- Cash
- Cheque payable to TB Vets
- Charge my credit card:
  - Visa  Mastercard  American Express
- Card No. \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Exp \_\_\_ / \_\_\_
- Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_
- I would like to receive a Legacy Giving and Executor Role Guide.

Your gift is tax-deductible. Registered Charity #87416 1482 RR0001. TB Vets respects your privacy and will never share, trade, rent or sell your information. Your personal information is only used to process your donation and keep you informed of Foundation updates.



Please tear off along dotted line and send donation to:

**TB Vets Charitable Foundation**  
1410 Kootenay St.  
Vancouver, BC V5K 4R1

Other ways to donate:

Online: [tbvets.org/donate](https://tbvets.org/donate)

By phone: **1.888.874.5626 (toll-free)**

Interac e-Transfer: [information@tbvets.org](mailto:information@tbvets.org)





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