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BC FERRIES MEDIA CHARITY GOLF EVENT RAISES \$50,000 FOR BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS

VICTORIA – For the 14th consecutive year, members of British Columbia’s media, business and government communities got together for the BC Ferries Media Charity Golf Classic at Bear Mountain Resort in Victoria on June 14, 2019. This year’s tournament raised \$50,000 to support Big Brothers Big Sisters of Victoria and Area thanks to the 132 participants.

Co-founded by Global TV’s Keith Baldrey and the Times Colonist’s Les Leyne, the tournament is designed to achieve two things – a great day of golf with some of the top media personalities in B.C. matched with an opportunity to raise money for a great cause. Over the past 14 years, the tournaments have raised over \$820,000 to support programs for children and families.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Victoria Capital Region has a 41-year history of serving children and youth (aged 6 to 18) across Southern Vancouver Island, the Southern Gulf Islands and more recently the Comox Valley. Supportive, nurturing relationships, like those fostered by Big Brothers Big Sisters, are critical in supporting children and youth through developmental stages. The largest most universal impact of their programs is in mental health – increasing resiliency and decreasing depression.

“BC Ferries is proud of its association with Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Media Charity Golf Classic,” said Mark Collins, BC Ferries’ President & CEO. “This tournament is a unique opportunity to bring together the media, business and government communities in support of very worthy causes – for the second year, we’re helping Big Brothers Big Sisters of Victoria and Area, which has a long history of igniting good citizenship through mentoring relationships to not only change the course of a child’s life but also bring promise to each community’s future as well.”

“Big Brothers Big Sisters of Victoria and Area is grateful for the opportunity to work with BC Ferries and the organizing committee for the BC Ferries Media Charity Golf Classic,” said Rhonda Brown Executive Director. “The funds raised through this tournament have helped us to grow our services by 17 per cent supporting a milestone 632 children through mentoring. With this generous support we are helping local children and youth become healthier and stronger, they are growing in confidence, have improved self- esteem, have meaningful relationships and increased civic engagement.”

BC Ferries would like to thank all of the corporate sponsors, media representatives and the many volunteers who participated in the 14th annual BC Ferries Media Charity Golf Classic and looks forward to another successful fundraising event in 2020.

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Photo attached

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L to R - Steve Chubby, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Victoria and Area's Board President receives a cheque for \$50,000 from Tournament Co-Chair the Times Colonist's Les Leyne, committee member Bruce Williams and Tournament Co-Chair Global TV's Keith Baldrey, along with John Horning, BC Ferries' Board Chair and Corrine Storey, BC Ferries' VP and Chief Operating Officer. Funds raised at the 14th Annual BC Ferries Media Charity Golf Classic will help support mentoring relationships between vulnerable children and good citizens, who are caring members of coastal communities.