



The British Columbia Lions Society  
For Children with Disabilities



**For Immediate Release**

### **Three Surrey students finish in semi-finals for AccessAbility Week contest**

*Ketzia Ashly, Claudea Tsang and Kayla Tumambing finished in the top 10 of Easter Seals AccessAbility Week Flag Design Contest*

**Surrey, B.C. (May 31, 2021):** Regent Christian Academy's Ketzia Ashly, and Kalya Tumambing and Claudea Tsang from Sullivan Heights Secondary School all finished in the top 10 of Easter Seals AccessAbility Week Flag Design Contest.

The contest, held by Easter Seals BC/Yukon, a non-profit dedicated to providing programs and services for persons with disabilities, was open to all Grade 6-12 students across the BC and the Yukon, and focused on the theme of National AccessAbility Week, happening now until June 5<sup>th</sup>.

"We designed this contest to bring out the creativity of the youth in our province and celebrate the valuable contributions of persons with disabilities," says Lisa. "We asked students to design a flag that symbolized the theme of making BC and the Yukon a better place to live through an accessible society."

"My flag represents how people with disabilities have an endless path to new choices and experiences. It shows how they get to decide their future without being limited," says Ketzia.

May 30 – June 5, 2021, is Canada's National AccessAbility Week – a week that celebrates the valuable contributions of Canadians with disabilities and recognizes the efforts of individuals, communities and workplaces that are actively working to remove barriers to accessibility and inclusion.

"I chose to draw the Inukshuk because not only do we have one at Whistler BC, the Inukshuk symbolizes safety, hope, and friendship. Then I ended off with adding simple mountains as the scenery as we have many mountains across BC," added Claudea. "Overall, this shows that no matter how different we are on the outside, we are all the same on the inside and no one should be ever left out or treated differently."

"For my piece, I decided to create a bright and simple illustration of how I see accessibility in British Columbia. I made my subjects as diverse as I could, recognizing different disabilities, ages, ethnicities and so forth. Ultimately, I think my piece strongly upholds the theme of making BC/Yukon a better place to live by showcasing and celebrating diversity," says Kayla.

All three received a Panago pizza prize for their entries.

"We all benefit from a society without barriers to inclusion," adds Beck. "The artwork and commitment from the students and teachers for this project and contest was amazing. We had over 600 entries and we were blown away by them all."

Easter Seals will be producing a real flag of the winning entry to put up at their three summer camp locations across the province, and the winning student's teacher received \$750 towards classroom materials. The contest will be running again in 2022.

*Kayla Tumambing, Sullivan Heights Secondary School, Grade 12*



*Claudea Tsang, Sullivan Heights Secondary School, Grade 11*



*Ketzia Asly, Regent Christian Academy, Grade 9*



**About Easter Seals BC/Yukon and BC Lions Society for Children with Disabilities**

Easter Seals BC/Yukon is one of British Columbia's legacy charities and is operated by the BC Lions Society for Children with Disabilities (Society) to help children with diverse abilities. Since 1952, the Society has provided programs and services to families and persons with diverse abilities that help improve their quality of life. Over six decades, the Society has helped over 1,000,000 families in need through transportation services, child health research, Easter Seals summer camps, Easter Seals House, post-secondary bursaries at seven regional colleges or universities, community access services, and patient care programs. As a registered charity, the Society relies on the generosity of its donors to fund its programs and services. Through individual or corporate giving, grants, special events, and major gifts or bequests, the Society directs and stewards its funds with the strategic guidance and fiduciary oversight from its Board of Directors.

**For more information visit [www.eastersealsbcy.ca](http://www.eastersealsbcy.ca)**

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