

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 15, 2016

**22nd SOS Children's Holiday Gala to Kick Off the Holiday Season in Vancouver
Supporting Foster Kids and Youth Aging Out of Care**

Vancouver, British Columbia Vancouver's preeminent spectacle of holiday magic kicks off the season on Thursday November 24, 2016 at 6:00pm atop Grouse Mountain, the Peak of Christmas. With such a fantastic venue, the 22nd SOS Children's Holiday Gala wows guests with a soaring gondola ride up to a truly West Coast inspired chalet, supremely decorated for the occasion. SOS Children's Village B.C. is pleased to welcome back tabled seating for all gala guests and a delightful buffet dinner and dessert.

Global News Morning traffic reporter Amber Belzer is thrilled to be Master of Ceremonies for the gala, with live music provided by alternative rock band **Her Brothers**, winners of the *Langley Has Talent* competition. Guests will be treated to fine wines, craft beer, and splendid cuisine, while enjoying a captivating silent/live auction, 50/50 draw, and **brehtaking city views from snow-blanketed Grouse Mountain**. It is the perfect way to celebrate the holiday season with style and elegance, all while supporting a great cause.

The SOS Children's Holiday Gala and accompanying festivities have raised more than \$600,000 over the years for the charity's much-needed **neurofeedback therapy, counselling, educational, musical, cultural, and transition to adulthood programs for local children and youth in foster care**. Attendees will be the first in Vancouver to witness the revealing of the renowned SOS Children's Gingerbread Village presented by RE/MAX.

A spectacular vacation package will also be on offer in the live auction: a trip for two on WestJet to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico where the winner will stay in the boutique hotel Villa Amor del Mar for seven nights. The infinity pool and sweeping ocean views complete this little piece of paradise in the tropics, a perfect getaway from all the rain.

"In previous years, guests of our gala have always told me how magical the event feels to them and how it brings holiday spirit into their hearts," said Douglas Dunn, executive director of SOS B.C. "I would like to thank the amazing crew at Grouse Mountain for all they do to support this beloved event, the team at RE/MAX, our media sponsors, and everyone who takes time to think of others less fortunate than themselves during the holidays."

Tickets to the gala are \$99 each, available now at www.sosbc.org, and include a gondola and parking pass. The most rewarding part of the evening is that net proceeds go directly to SOS B.C.'s programs and homes for local foster children, and for homeless youth who have aged out of care after turning 19.

About SOS Children's Village BC

SOS Children's Villages is the world's largest non-governmental, non-denominational child development organization for fostered, orphaned, and abandoned children. It has existed for over 65 years with presence in 134 countries and 572 Villages. British Columbia is home to the only SOS Children's Village in Canada. SOS Children's Village BC provides homes, a supportive community, and programs to help foster children and youth in need grow into caring, self-reliant adults.

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