



**APRIL 7, 2023**

*In support of organ donation awareness / registration  
in schools and communities across British Columbia.*

**SCHOOL TOOLKIT**

BC Transplant is encouraging schools to participate in Green Shirt Day on April 7, 2023. Green Shirt Day is an opportunity to generate class discussions on organ donation, inspire action from students, and participate in a meaningful cross-Canada initiative. It is also an opportunity for students to demonstrate leadership by raising awareness for organ donation, and for Grade 10-12 students to apply for [one of four \\$1,500 scholarships](#)! This Green Shirt Day toolkit includes resources and information for educators. There is an accompanying one-pager of ideas for students, available at [transplant.bc.ca](https://transplant.bc.ca).

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## What is Green Shirt Day?

- Canadians were inspired to rally together in support of the Humboldt Broncos hockey team in April 2018 following the tragic bus crash that killed 16 people.
- Logan Boulet, a 21-year old defenceman, was one of the players who did not survive. He had registered as an organ donor just weeks before and had spoken to his father about his wishes a year before. **Logan was able to save or help improve six people’s lives through organ and tissue donation.**
- Though other victims of the Humboldt crash may have wished to become donors, only Logan died in such a way that allowed for donation to be possible.
- As news spread of Logan’s generous act, thousands across the country and world were inspired to register as organ donors.
- More than 100,000 Canadians registered to become organ donors in the weeks following the tragedy—the largest number of Canadians registering as organ donors due to one event or person.
- This became known as the “**Logan Boulet Effect**”.
- On April 7, the anniversary of the day Logan Boulet became an organ donor, Canadians recognize Green Shirt Day by wearing green and talking about the powerful impact of organ donation. April is also Organ Donation Awareness Month across Canada.
- The purpose of Green Shirt Day is to honour and remember all the victims and families involved in the Humboldt tragedy, and continue Logan’s legacy of inspiring Canadians to register as organ donors.
- Green Shirt Day shows that there is always hope, even in the most tragic situations.
- The Broncos’ team colours are green and gold. Green is the colour of organ donation awareness.
- Visit [GreenShirtDay.ca](https://www.GreenShirtDay.ca) for more information.
- In BC, people can take two minutes to register as an organ donor at [taketwominutes.ca](https://www.taketwominutes.ca).



**Watch the video:** *The Logan Boulet Effect* (TSN)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LR4Z6n6erJM>

## How can your school participate in Green Shirt Day?

- **Wear green!** On April 7 encourage everyone in the school – staff and students – to wear green or a hockey jersey in support of Green Shirt Day and the Humboldt Broncos victims, survivors and families. Official shirts are available to order at [GreenShirtDay.ca](https://www.greenshirtday.ca).
- **Challenge students:** Consider issuing a challenge to students to encourage as many as possible to wear green or register themselves or their family members as organ donors.
- **Bring the conversation into the classroom:** Teachers can incorporate Green Shirt Day and organ donation discussions in the classroom. Some discussion ideas include:
  - Green Shirt Day is the result of an inspiring story going viral on social media. Discuss with students and examine the short- and long-term impacts of a story going “viral”.
  - Mainstream media interest in Logan Boulet’s story was profound and prolific. Search news reports and videos since 2018, review and discuss.
  - Discuss altruism in connection with Logan Boulet’s gifts of life. What does altruism mean to you and how are you altruistic? What can you do to be more altruistic?
  - Discuss what it means to be an organ donor or a transplant recipient. Would you want to be an organ donor? Has organ donation or transplant had an impact on your family?
  - View BC Transplant videos ([bit.ly/taketwominutes](https://bit.ly/taketwominutes)) of real people affected by organ donation and transplant, and discuss how the decision to become an organ donor affects those in our world and community.
  - Invite a BC Transplant speaker – transplant recipient, donor family, or organ donation specialist – to speak to your class to learn more about organ donation
- **BC Transplant has developed a [high-school science organ donation curriculum](#)** (under school programs, click BC high-school science curriculum program) that can be used in class, and supplemented by an in-person or virtual presentation by a BC Transplant organ donation specialist.
- **Explore the education resources available to Canadian teachers and students, and bring some into the classroom.** Canadian Blood Services has a helpful online portal that brings together education resources for teachers, students and parents: [learn.organtissuedonation.ca](https://learn.organtissuedonation.ca)



- The BC Ministry of Education has a **Grade 8 lesson plan on organ donor awareness** that can easily be adapted to other grades and made specific to Green Shirt Day. The original lesson plan is available online: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/node/64320>.

## BC Transplant's "Live Life. Pass It On." scholarship for grade 10-12 students

Encourage Grade 10-12 students to apply for a \$1500 scholarship

- Green Shirt Day offers grade 10-12 students the opportunity to demonstrate their leadership and inspire their fellow students and community around organ donation awareness.
- **BC Transplant will award four \$1500 scholarships to Grade 10-12 students who lead an organ donation awareness project in their school or community in the 2022/23 school year.**
- Students can organize their whole school to participate in Green Shirt Day on April 7, start a social media challenge, host an organ donor registration drive in their school or community, or come up with their own creative project. BC Transplant has a [one-pager of ideas for students](#).
- Students must submit a 500 word essay or short video to showcase their organ donation awareness project.
- **Deadline to apply is May 5, 2023.** For more details, visit [ww.transplant.bc.ca](http://ww.transplant.bc.ca).



## 5 easy ways to get involved

### 1. PA announcements

- a. Guess what? Green Shirt Day is coming up on April 7th and everyone should wear a green shirt or a hockey jersey! This is in honour of Logan Boulet, a young hockey player who died in the Humboldt Broncos bus crash five years ago, and saved six people's lives by donating his organs. Let's rally together for this important awareness event. See you in green!

- 
- b. It's Green Shirt Day today. Thanks for wearing green in support of organ donation awareness and registration! Today is a good reminder to register as an organ donor – like Logan Boulet who saved six people's lives with his organ donation – or talk about it with your friends or family. Registering as a donor offers hope to the more than 500 people in BC waiting for a life-saving organ transplant.

## 2. School assemblies or classroom presentations

- a. **Video:** BC Transplant has created an [awareness video](#) targeted at youth. Build it into your calendar to share with students during class or a school assembly. Other videos can also be found on BC Transplant's [YouTube page](#) ([bit.ly/taketwominutes](http://bit.ly/taketwominutes)) and in the Helpful Resources section of this document.
  
- b. **Presenter:** Request BC Transplant to find a transplant recipient, living donor or donor family member to share their story face-to-face or virtually with your staff and students. Is there someone at your school who has their own connection to donation and transplant? Ask them if they're willing to share their story.



## 3. Newsletter write-up

On April 7, schools across Canada will participate in Green Shirt Day. In April 2018, the tragic Humboldt Broncos bus crash affected the entire country. One of the players, Logan Boulet, was able to save six people through organ donation. His gift showed there is always hope, even in the most tragic situations. Students can participate on **April 7** by wearing a **green shirt or a jersey** in support of all those affected by the Broncos accident, and to honour Logan's legacy of selfless giving.

Green Shirt Day is a great reminder to register as an organ donor or talk about it with your friends and family. Registering as a donor offers hope to the more than 600 people in BC waiting for a life-saving organ transplant.

Take Two Minutes and Save a Life. Talk to your parents about organ donor registration today, and register online at [taketwominutes.ca](http://taketwominutes.ca).

## 4. Get a BC Transplant campaign kit for your school

BC Transplant has posters on organ donation that you can order to put up at your school. We can also send organ donor registration cards to distribute as part of Green Shirt Day activities. Contact us at [info@bct.phsa.ca](mailto:info@bct.phsa.ca). You can also download and print Green Shirt Day posters at [GreenShirtDay.ca](http://GreenShirtDay.ca).

## 5. Get social and share with us!

We would love to see the participation of students and staff on Green Shirt Day! We will be sharing photos of people from all around the province showcasing their support for organ donation in honour of Logan Boulet. BC Transplant also has social media images available at [transplant.bc.ca](https://transplant.bc.ca) that you are welcome to use.

Please email photos to Irene at [irene.phan@bct.phsa.ca](mailto:irene.phan@bct.phsa.ca), or tag us on social media:

- Facebook ([@BCTransplant](https://www.facebook.com/BCTransplant))
- Twitter ([@BC\\_Transplant](https://twitter.com/BC_Transplant))
- Instagram ([@bc\\_transplant](https://www.instagram.com/bc_transplant))
- Hashtags:
  - #GreenShirtDay
  - #LoganBouletEffect
  - #HumboldtStrong
  - #TakeTwoMinutes



## Helpful resources

### Online resources

- Canadian Blood Services has a helpful online portal that brings together education resources for teachers, students and parents: [learn.organtissuedonation.ca](https://learn.organtissuedonation.ca)
- The BC Ministry of Education has developed a Grade 8 lesson plan on organ donor awareness that can easily be adapted to other grades and made specific to Green Shirt Day. Updated lesson plan is available for download here: <http://www.transplant.bc.ca/our-services/awareness-programs/green-shirt-day-resources>. The original lesson plan is available here: <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/node/64320>.
- Green Shirt Day resources available for download at <https://greenshirtday.ca/be-inspired/>.

- Organ donation lesson plans for educators - produced by Donate Life California - <https://donatelifecalifornia.org/education/educator-resources/>
- *Mommy Can Play Again* – This story of Molly, whose mother is waiting for a lung transplant, is published by the Transplant Recipient International Organization (TRIO) and designed for younger children: <https://www.trioweb.org/resources/mommy-can-play-again-2.html>
- Organites is a UK-based website designed for children to help them understand organ donation. Some resources available to download at <https://orgamites.com/>.

## Videos

- Take Two Minutes with Natalie, Abby and Olivia: <https://youtu.be/LZlaTAgSQo4>
- BC Transplant YouTube channel: [bit.ly/taketwominutes](http://bit.ly/taketwominutes)
- Short educational video – Canadian Blood Services’ Learning to Save Lives - organ and tissue donation (1 min 30 sec): [https://www.dropbox.com/s/ze827dj3r3wxzbl/Learning To Save Lives recut.mp4?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/s/ze827dj3r3wxzbl/Learning%20To%20Save%20Lives%20recut.mp4?dl=0)
- “A Precious Gift of Life” - video produced by the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children in the UK. Appropriate for Grade 8 and above. <https://youtu.be/7V6rtVWFbiU>
- TSN Logan Boulet Effect Video: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=LR4Z6n6erJM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LR4Z6n6erJM)
- Global News: [www.globalnews.ca/video/4136973/family-of-logan-boulet-explains-why-he-became-anorgan-donor](http://www.globalnews.ca/video/4136973/family-of-logan-boulet-explains-why-he-became-anorgan-donor)
- Global News: <https://globalnews.ca/news/4557654/logan-boulet-organ-donation-humboldt-broncos-bus-crash/>
- Canadian Transplant Association “Family Talk” (English): <https://vimeo.com/265652438>  
(French) <https://vimeo.com/265652624>
- Canadian Transplant Association “Braden’s story” (English): <https://vimeo.com/266485532>  
(French): <https://vimeo.com/266671415>

## BC Transplant quick facts on organ donation and registration

- Your registration in BC Transplant’s Organ Donor Registry is an official record of your decision on organ donation. If you aren’t registered, your family will decide for you.
- You are more likely to need a transplant than you are to be an organ donor.
- Less than 1% of people die in a way that allows them to be an organ donor.

- To become an organ donor, a person must be in a hospital Intensive Care Unit and be on a ventilator.
- Donation is considered only after all life-saving efforts are made and it's certain a person will not survive.
- Two doctors, not involved in transplant, must declare death before organ donation can proceed.
- You may still be able to donate if you have a medical condition. Register your decision and the specialists will determine if you can.
- There is no age limit for organ donation. The oldest organ donor in Canada was 92 years old!
- Anyone can register their decision. If you are under 19 years old, your parents have to sign.
- You only need to register once.
- Once you've registered your decision, take the time to talk to your loved ones about your wishes.
- A decal on your driver's license or care card is no longer enough.
- Not sure if you've registered? Verify online at [transplant.bc.ca](https://transplant.bc.ca) with your Personal Health Number.

## Conversation Starters

(Excerpted from Canadian Blood Services School Toolkit)

Starting a conversation about death or dying is hard. Most of us avoid talking about sad things but today – Green Shirt Day – is a good day to break the ice. Take a conversation starter home and talk it through with your family.

Sharing your wishes about what you want to happen at the end of your life is really important – including your thoughts and decisions about organ and tissue donation.

Having these discussions before a tragedy happens is a gift to you and your family in a time of grief and sadness.

Logan told his dad his wish to be an organ donor if ever anything bad happened to him. Knowing Logan's wishes helped his family support that decision when tragedy struck.

### Take it home and talk about it

Here are a few ways to start the conversation about donation:

1. "Have you heard about the Logan Boulet Effect? We talked about it at school today. Even though Logan Boulet died, he saved 6 people's lives by donating his organs. People were so touched by his story, 100,000 people signed up to be donors..."

2. “Today was Green Shirt Day at school. We talked about Logan Boulet and how he became an organ donor after the Humboldt Broncos bus crash. It was sad. But also happy because he was able to help other people...”
3. “Did you know that today there are more than 500 people in BC, and 4,300 in Canada, waiting for an organ transplant? A sick person can get better if they get an organ from someone else...”
4. “Do we know anyone who needs or has ever had an organ transplant?”

## Organ donation and transplant FAQs

(Excerpted from [Donate Life California student resources](#))

### What is an organ?

Much like a machine, our bodies are made up of lots of working parts. For humans, these working parts are called organs. All of our organs work together in our body, but each organ also has a specific job, such as pumping or cleaning our blood or helping us breathe.

What do the organs do?

**Lungs** – Our two lungs help us to breathe.

**Heart** – Our heart pumps blood through our bodies.

**Kidneys** – Our two kidneys help to clean our bodies of waste. They also make urine.

**Liver** – Our liver helps to break down the food we eat.

**Pancreas** – Our pancreas helps our bodies to digest food.

**Intestine** – Our intestine turns food and liquid into fuel for our bodies.

### What is an organ transplant?

Sometimes our organs don't work properly. This can be because of an illness or just something the person was born with. When this happens, doctors will decide if they can replace the organ with a healthy one from someone else.

### What organs can be transplanted?

Lungs, heart, kidneys, liver, and pancreas.

### Where do the organs come from?

Organs can come from a living person or someone who has died. A living donor is someone who wants to help by giving all or part of a healthy organ. A living donor can donate one kidney or a part of the liver. Sometimes someone who has died can also share their organs. In this case, the person and/or the person's family generously agrees to donate the organs to help someone else live.

**How does the new organ get inside a person?**

The person will need to have an operation in the hospital. After the operation, the person might have a scar from where the doctors took out the organ that didn't work and put in the new one. This will be sore for a while, but it will heal.

**What happens after someone receives an organ transplant?**

After the transplant, it will take some time to heal and the person may have to stay in the hospital. The person will also have to take medicine every day to keep healthy and may get sick more than you do, or visit their doctor often - but in most cases, once they are feeling better, a person can do everything that you can do. If the person is coming back to school after a long absence, he or she might be nervous or need to catch up on school work. You can help the person in class, answer questions, invite the person to eat lunch with you, and be a friend. Also, because someone with an organ transplant can get sick more easily, it is important to wash your hands often and not visit the person when you are sick.

## Background materials

### Logan Boulet's story

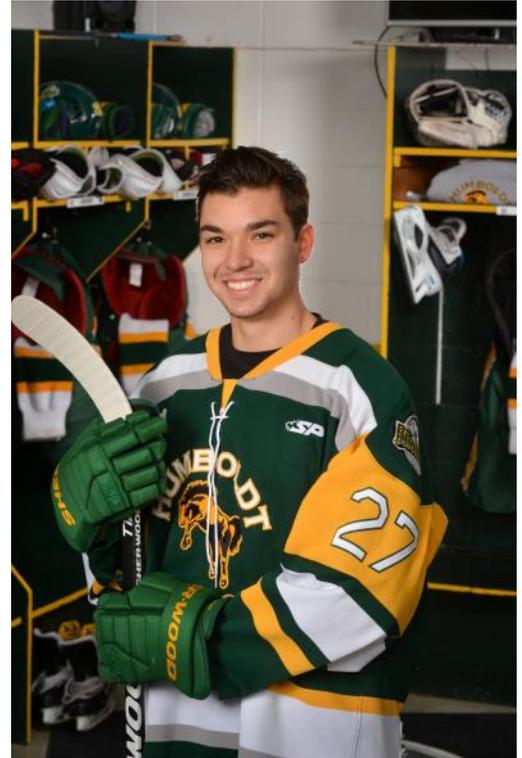
Logan Boulet made the decision to be an organ donor just weeks before he died in the tragic

Humboldt Broncos bus crash in April 2018.

Logan was inspired to register his decision to donate by his coach and mentor, Ric Suggit, who had died in 2017 and was an organ donor.

After Logan registered his decision, he took the wise and necessary step of sharing his decision with his friends and family. The act of registering his choice and sharing that decision with his loved ones helped prepare them to make the heart-wrenching decision to allow Logan's organs to be donated for transplant.

The details of this tragic event have reached a wide audience. Since 2018, "The Logan Boulet Effect" inspired more hundreds of thousands of Canadians to become registered organ donors. Logan's family continues to share their story, making an essential contribution to nationwide public awareness of organ and tissue donation.



Join the Boulet family in spreading the word about the importance of organ donation and honour Logan's legacy by participating in national [Green Shirt Day](#) on April 7 and raising awareness of organ and tissue donation through the month of April.

### Background: Organ donation and transplant in British Columbia

There are more than 500 British Columbians waiting for a life-saving organ transplant in this province. Almost 80 per cent of patients on the transplant wait list live with chronic kidney disease and are currently on dialysis. Those patients on the wait list for a heart, liver or lungs suffer from a variety of chronic diseases such as cardiomyopathy, polycystic liver disease and cystic fibrosis.

For the people on the transplant wait list, organ donation and transplant gives them a new chance at life – an ability to live a normal life, travel, resume work, and spend time with family. While transplant has a

physical impact on each patient, the benefits are felt by a much larger circle of family, friends and community.

## **BC Transplant: Who we are**

BC Transplant provides oversight for all aspects of organ donation and transplantation across BC. Funded principally through the BC Ministry of Health, we are a program of the Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA).

With compassion, collaboration and innovation, we save lives and offer hope through organ donation and transplant.

We work to accomplish this mission through:

- Direct delivery of organ donation activities across BC and inter-provincially, including donor management, in-hospital support, and organ retrieval
- Management of the province's official Organ Donor Registry and the province's organ transplant wait list
- Organ donor awareness and education programs
- Funding regionalized programs for pre-transplant assessment and post-transplant management in partnership with health authorities, including immunosuppressant therapies
- Investment in living donation and deceased donation, which includes expanding capacity for donation after circulatory death
- Maintaining policies, professional standards and clinical guidelines for donation and transplant-related activities

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