

April 7, 2025



REGISTER • TELL YOUR FAMILY • BE INSPIRED

SCHOOL TOOLKIT

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

Register as an organ donor: registeryourdecision.ca

There are more than 600 British Columbians awaiting a life-saving organ transplant. People who need an organ transplant, including pediatric patients, have a variety of chronic diseases such as kidney disease, cardiomyopathy, polycystic liver disease and cystic fibrosis.

Organ donation and transplant offers a new chance at life – allowing people to return to school, travel, resume work, and spend time with family. While each recipient is directly impacted, the benefits are felt by a much larger circle of family, friends and community.

BC Transplant encourages schools to participate in Green Shirt Day on April 7, 2025. 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. Students can demonstrate leadership in raising awareness for organ donation, and 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.

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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 for more information.
- In B.C., people can take two minutes to register as an organ donor at registryourdecision.ca.



Watch the video: [The Logan Boulet Effect \(TSN\)](#)

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 but you can wear anything green.
- **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) 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 B.C. 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 or volunteer.
- **Explore the education resources** available and bring some into the classroom. Canadian Blood Services has a helpful online portal that brings together education resources for teachers, students and parents.
- The B.C. 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.



BC Transplant’s “Live Life. Pass It On.” scholarship for grade 10-12 students

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

- Green Shirt Day offers grade 10-12 students the opportunity to demonstrate their leadership and inspire their fellow students and community on the subject of organ donation awareness.
- BC Transplant will award three \$1500 individual scholarships and one \$1500 team scholarship to Grade 10-12 students who lead an organ donation awareness project in their school or community in the 2024/25 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 plan 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 2, 2025**. For more details, visit www.transplant.bc.ca



Five easy ways to get involved

1. PA announcements

- Grade 10 to 12 students, want to win a \$1500 scholarship? Show off your leadership skills and inspire fellow students and our community on the subject of organ donation awareness. There are individual scholarships and a team scholarship. Learn more at transplant.bc.ca/schools.
- Hey there! We have Green Shirt Day coming up on Monday, April 7. We are asking everyone at school to wear green to show your support for organ donation and transplant. Learn more about organ donation today!
- Don't forget to go green for Green Shirt Day on Monday, April 7! The entire school will be wearing green to show our support for organ donation and transplant. Your support brings hope to hundreds of people waiting for a life-saving organ. Learn more about organ donation at transplant.bc.ca.
- Green Shirt Day is coming up on April 7! Come by to our table by the office on Monday, April 7th to learn more about organ donation and transplant.

2. School assemblies or classroom presentations

- 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 \(bit.ly/taketwominutes\)](#) and in the Helpful Resources section of this document.
- Presenter: Request a presenter from BC Transplant. With our speaker program, we can arrange for a transplant recipient, living donor or donor family member to share their story face-to-face or virtually with your staff and students. Or, 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

In your monthly or weekly school newsletter, include a blurb on Green Shirt Day so students and participate with their families. Here is a suggestion for content:

- On April 7, 2025, 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 bus crash 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 B.C. waiting for a life-saving organ transplant.

Take Two Minutes and Save a Life. Talk to your parents about organ donor registration today. Everyone can register online at registeryourdecision.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 forms to distribute as part of Green Shirt Day activities. Contact us at info@bct.phsa.ca. You can also download and print Green Shirt Day posters at 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 that you are welcome to use.

Please email photos to Divya at Divya.Thakor@bct.phsa.ca, or tag us on social media:

- Facebook ([@BCTransplant](https://www.facebook.com/BCTransplant))
- LinkedIn ([@bctransplant](https://www.linkedin.com/company/bctransplant))
- Instagram ([@bc_transplant](https://www.instagram.com/bc_transplant))

Hashtags:

- #GreenShirtDay
- #HumboldtStrong
- #LoganBouletEffect
- #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
- 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. The updated lesson plan is available for download [here](#). The original lesson plan is available [here](#).
- Organ donation lesson plans for educators produced by [Donate Life California](#).
- [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.
- [The ant who needed a transplant](#) – Another storybook designed for young children to help them learn how an act of kindness can save a life. Written by Dr. Bill Wall, this book embraces the themes of empathy, altruism, and compassion. BC Transplant also has some copies available to send to classrooms for free.

Videos

- [Take Two Minutes with Natalie, Abby and Olivia](#)
- BC Transplant YouTube channel: bit.ly/taketwominutes
- Short educational video – [Canadian Blood Services’ Learning to Save Lives](#) - organ and tissue donation (1 min 30 sec)
- TSN Logan Boulet Effect Video on [YouTube](#)
- Global News: [Family of Logan Boulet explains why he became an organ donor](#)
- [The Lasting Effect of Logan Boulet’s Selfless Act in Organ Donation](#)
- Canadian Transplant Association “Family Talk”: [English](#) & [French](#)
- Canadian Transplant Association “Braden’s story”: [English](#) & [French](#)

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.
- [Anyone at any age can register their decision. If you are 19 and over, your registration constitutes a legally valid decision record. For someone under the age of 19, your registration reflects an expressed wish about organ donation and is not a legally binding decision record. You can formalize your decision legally once you turn 19.](#)
- You only need to register once.
- Once you’ve registered your decision, take the time to talk to your loved ones about your wishes.
- 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 medical professionals, 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.
- 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 with your Personal Health Number.

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.