

# MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Nominated Family Surprised with Shuswap Christmas Car Giveaway**

(SALMON ARM December 20, 2019) A mother of two received an unsuspected gift just in time for the holidays. Billie Jean Douglas of Salmon Arm was chosen as the recipient of the Shuswap Christmas Car Giveaway—an annual initiative put on by local sponsors Kal Tire, Braby Motors, Fix Auto Collision and SASCU Financial Group.

Billie Jean, along with her two children, were surprised on Friday, December 20th when presented with the refurbished Grand Caravan, \$250 in fuel cards and \$1,500 towards vehicle insurance at Kal Tire in Salmon Arm.

“I’m completely overwhelmed... I didn’t expect this to happen at all,” said Billie Jean when asked how she felt. Austin, her fifteen-year-old son, and Frankie, her eight-year-old daughter, shared their mom’s disbelief.

In friend Catherine Lavigne’s nomination, she detailed the positive impact the win would be for the Douglas family. “I know it would forever make a massive impact on this family’s life.”

Billie Jean travels frequently to the Children’s Hospital in Vancouver, and occasionally the United States, for medical appointments for her daughter who suffers from brittle bone disease.

“Frankie requires specialized equipment for her mobility, such as wheelchairs, walkers, and emergency medical supplies,” Catherine explained. “This minivan would provide them with adequate space [to travel].”

“We were glad to host the surprise this year,” stated Justin Myhre, Kal Tire. “When we heard this family’s story, we were completely moved.”

“The community we have here is amazing,” exclaimed Justin Braby, Sales Manager at Braby Motors. “We’re happy for Billie and her family to receive this van.”

Derick Miller, General Manager of Fix Auto Salmon Arm, also chimed in, “We recognize the impact having this van will have for Billie and her family and look forward to next year’s Christmas Car Giveaway.”

“SASCU is honored to be part of such a great local initiative. We wish Billie Jean and her beautiful family all the best,” shared SASCU Insurance General Manager Janice Giesbrecht.

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