In Tune

The Music Therapy Association of British Columbia (MTABC) celebrates our valuable community of supporters

We are Celebrating 45 years of MTABC



Greetings from Our Association

We're delighted to send you our warmest wishes. For this summer edition, we have reason to celebrate: 45 years of the Music Therapy Association of British Columbia, and 50 years of the music therapy program at Capilano University!

As we mark these milestones, we also remember the colleagues, mentors, and friends who we will deeply miss — whose care and music continue to shape our community. Thank you for walking alongside us, and we wish you a bright, restful, and joyful summer.

Cheers to 50 YEARS Capilano University!

We are celebrating BC's music therapy program in style on **October 17th** at **CapU.** Follow @MTABC, @CapUmusictherapy, MusicTherapyBC, and CapUmusictherapy for more details. Mark your calendars and get ready to celebrate with us!

Remembering Music Heals: A Gala and A Legacy

We're counting down to the Strike a Chord Gala, presented by Music Heals, on October 22, 2026. This year, they funded $555,000 toward music therapy programs across BC and Canada. Their gala is a night of incredible fundraising, and a seriously good time — making programs possible for music therapists to reach the people who need music most. Come join us for a night to remember!





Strike a Chord 2025
Image Source: Music Heals



Dave Barnett
Image Source: Music Heals

We are deeply saddened by the passing of David Barnett, founder of Music Heals and a steadfast champion of music therapy in BC. His belief in the healing power of music shaped an organization that has touched countless lives and strengthened our field in ways that will endure. We are profoundly grateful for his generosity, vision, and kind spirit. Our heartfelt condolences to his loved ones and the Music Heals family.

Image Source: Rifflandia

After 18 unforgettable years, Rifflandia Festival has come to a close — and MTABC was proud to be part of its final season. Four days of music-making with kids and families, plus a Main Stage songwriting session led by PR Chair Supriya Crocker. It was a joy to bring music therapy to one of Victoria's most-loved festivals, and a reminder of how powerfully music connects us. Thank you, Rifflandia. Here's to what comes next.



Image Source: Supriya Crocker

Thank You to Our Anonymous Donors. We're grateful to recognize the generous supporters who give quietly, without seeking acknowledgment. Your contributions make a lasting difference. Among them, an anonymous donor **gifted over 15 guitars** to four different music therapy programs in Victoria, BC, and to kids at Rifflandia. Thank you for your generosity.

AGM HIGHLIGHTS: Connection and Sensory Discovery

A heartfelt thank you to **The Louis Brier Home and Hospital** for generously hosting this year's AGM, where MTABC Treasurer Jessica Shen hosted attendees to explore the facility's innovative **multi-sensory room.**



MTABC by the Numbers:

- Over 35 volunteers including 7 board members and an Operations Lead
- 9 Chairs and focused committees working on advancing music therapy. SPOTLIGHT: Continuing Education Chair, Shannon Perkins Carr, coordinated 4 virtual and in-person workshops from Jan-June 2026, reaching music therapists across BC.
- Countless hours dedicated to strengthening and growing the profession province-wide

Thank you!

MTABC is grateful to all of our supporters for their commitment to and support of music therapy projects in British Columbia throughout 2025/2026. Your contributions make meaningful impacts for all those involved with music therapy across our province.

In Tune was created on and distributed from the traditional, unceded, and ancestral territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations. In Tune also recognises and honours numerous other Indigenous Peoples throughout the province, on whose land many MTABC members live, work, gather, grow, and rest.

In Tune is made possible by the dedication of our PR Committee. Thank you, Tiana Clausen and Ian Wright. -*Supriya Crocker*, PR Chair, and *Sheila Lee*, Director of External Relations, MTABC