



**Ronald McDonald
House Charities®**
Newfoundland & Labrador

Keeping families close

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**McHAPPY DAY GUESTS RAISE OVER \$98,600 FOR
RONALD McDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES® NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR!**

*One-day fundraiser will help hundreds of families supported by
RMHC Newfoundland and Labrador this year*

St. John's, NL May 4, 2017 – On Wednesday May 3rd, McDonald's restaurants, guests and local communities helped raise more than **\$98,600** in support of Ronald McDonald House Charities® (RMHC NL) Newfoundland and Labrador. Funds raised on McHappy Day, a one-day fundraising event, will help the hundreds of families, supported by RMHC NL each year, stay together as their child receives medical treatment and care far from home..

"The outpouring of generosity and support from McDonald's guests and our local community on one of the happiest days of the year – McHappy Day! – continues to amaze us," said Annette Godsell, Executive Director, RMHC NL. "Every dollar raised will help us keep families with a sick child close – close to one another and close to the care their child needs. For families staying at our House, this can mean being able to share meals together, having movie nights as a family, or even being able to share a kiss goodnight. Simply put, we could not be there for our families without your support – thank you!"

The Ronald McDonald House in St. John's is one of 15 across Canada, provides a home for out-of-town families to stay at while their child receives treatment at a nearby hospital.

"Our family has had many stays at Ronald McDonald House, including the Christmas seasons of 2016 and 2015 while our daughter, Isla, was receiving treatment for Neuroblastoma, a form of cancer. We are grateful to Ronald McDonald House and everyone that supports it, for keeping our family together during some very difficult times."
Sarah Short, Deer Lake, NL

McHappy Day continues to play a large role in providing Ronald McDonald House Newfoundland and Labrador with the funds needed to support our House and the families we serve. Since McHappy Day was first celebrated in 1977, McDonald's Canada, its franchisees and generous guests, have contributed nearly \$56 million for Ronald McDonald Houses and local Canadian children's charities.

Today, the need for support continues to grow and McDonald's continues to play a forever and sustaining role as our largest donor partner, alongside an extended and vibrant group of many community and corporate partners, as well as individual donors.

About Ronald McDonald House Charities Newfoundland and Labrador

Ronald McDonald House Charities Newfoundland and Labrador keeps families close by providing comfortable and affordable accommodations while their children receive medical care and treatment in St. John's.

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For more information, please contact:

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The Short Family of Deer Lake, NL

Michael, Isla & Sarah Short

109 nights at RMHC NL