



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

For Immediate Release

Ronald McDonald House Charities Newfoundland and Labrador Celebrates Five Years and 1000 families

(September 22, 2017, St. John's, NL) – September 21, 2017 marked the 5th Birthday of Ronald McDonald House Charities Newfoundland and Labrador. Canada's 15th House is located at 150 Clinch Crescent, St. John's, just steps away from the Janeway Children's Hospital, and offers 15 suites to sick or injured children and their families. Ronald McDonald House families, volunteers and supporters enjoyed an onsite birthday party! There were plenty of children's activities; games, food, and birthday cake for everyone and of course a special visit by Ronald McDonald!

The past five years has been incredible. In fact, Our House has provided more than 23,000 nights of comfort and care to 1000 families with a sick or injured child. It is estimated that Ronald McDonald House saved these families more than \$3.5M in accommodation costs alone! Now that's worth celebrating!

Open 24 hours a day/7 days a week, Ronald McDonald House features many common areas including a large kitchen, family room, television room, resource center, home office, children's play areas and laundry facilities. The House is open to parents, siblings and at times, extended family members of children receiving medical treatment in St. John's. It draws on a pool of committed volunteers who help families feel at home.

Annette Godsell, Executive Director, Ronald McDonald House Charities Newfoundland and Labrador said, "Thanks to the generous support received from across our province, and from countless others, today we celebrate the 5th Birthday of Ronald McDonald House." Godsell noted that Ronald McDonald House is a very busy place. "During the past 5 years, we have welcomed 1000 families and provided them with 23,000+ nights of comfort and care. This is worth celebrating."

Celebration plans during the month of September, includes the onsite birthday party celebration at Ronald McDonald House, and 44 volunteer organized **Red Shoe Crew-Walk for Families** events throughout Newfoundland and Labrador this coming weekend. Visit <http://rmhcnl.ca/events/signature-events/red-shoe-crew-walk-for-families/> for more details.

Ronald McDonald House Charities® Newfoundland and Labrador helps keep families with a sick or injured child close to each other and the care and resources they need, when they need it most. Open 24 hours a day/7 days a week, Ronald McDonald House features many common areas including a large kitchen, family room, television room, resource center, home office, children's play areas and laundry facilities. Ronald McDonald House is open to parents, siblings and at times, extended family members of children receiving medical treatment in St. John's. It draws on a large pool of committed volunteers who help families feel at home.

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