



For Immediate Release

Ronald McDonald House Charities® Newfoundland and Labrador Appoints new Board Members

(January 5, 2023 St. John's, NL) – Ronald McDonald House Charities® Newfoundland and Labrador (RMHC NL) is pleased to announce the appointment of **Gail Collins** and **Penny McDonald** as its newest members of the RMHC NL Board of Directors.

Gail Collins is the Vice President, People and Corporate Affairs with Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro. Gail has worked with Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro since 2018 and is responsible for four portfolios – Human Resources; Corporate Strategy, Risk and Sustainability; Safety, Health and Environment; and Strategic Communications, Culture and Brand. Gail has over 20 years of experience in senior leadership roles in the public and private sectors, leading the development of business, organizational change, and corporate relations strategies. Gail's experience spans strategic planning, strategic human resource management, organizational change and business management, regulatory and corporate governance, and corporate communications and relations. Gail is a graduate of Memorial University of Newfoundland and Labrador and Royal Roads University. She has served on a variety of not for-profit and enterprise Boards of Directors and is also currently is a Board member of a credit union in her home town. Gail brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to help guide and advance Ronald McDonald House's mission.

Penny McDonald is currently a McDonald's Owner/Operator with locations in Grand Falls-Windsor, Lewisporte, Corner Brook and Stephenville. Penny was born and raised in Grand Falls-Windsor and worked at her local McDonald's as her first job at 16 years old. She started as crew and was promoted to swing manager. Eventually, she followed a career in social work for more than 17 years prior to returning to McDonald's in a new role as owner-operator. Penny is a people person and very committed to her business. She has participated in a number of national McDonald's initiatives such as McHappy Day and many other initiatives locally and regionally including Ronald McDonald House and the annual Red Shoe Crew-Walk for Families events. She is very excited to join the Board of Directors with Ronald McDonald House Charities Newfoundland and Labrador.

RMHC NL also recognizes the contributions of outgoing board member and former McDonald's Owner/Operator, **Paul Rogers**. His commitment to families, along with relationships he has fostered with donors and partners, will help ensure RMHC continues to keep families of sick children close to each other and the medical care and resources they need.

Paul Rogers has been a dedicated McDonald's owner/operator in central Newfoundland with more than 45 years of experience. He has been a board member of Ronald McDonald House and member of the Development and Communications

Committee since 2014. Paul has provided insight and support to RMHC NL from the McDonald's network always helping to find creative ways to provide financial support during the past eight years of serving as a board member and helping providing programs and services to sick children and their families. Paul engaged his entire McDonald's crew in all Ronald McDonald House activities and campaigns including leading the Gander Red Shoe Crew-Walk for Families event. Even though Paul has retired as a McDonald's Owner/Operator and will be stepping aside as a Board Member, we are certain he will continue his involvement as an ambassador and volunteer in his community. RMHC extends its sincere gratitude for his tremendous contribution to keep families close at RMHC.

RMHC NL Board of Directors is comprised of leaders in the fields of business, finance, law, medicine, communications and facilities management.

RMHC NL Board of Directors 2022:

- **Theresa Rahal**, Board Chair
- **Angie Brown**, Treasurer
- **Blair Rogers K.C.**, Director
- **Dr. Lynette Bowes**, Director
- **Heather Peters**, Director
- **Erin Higdon**, Director
- **Gary Follett**, Director
- **Gail Collins**, Director
- **Penny McDonald**, Director

While each Ronald McDonald House shares a common mission, each house is independently governed by a Board of Directors with its own charitable registration number. Since opening ten years ago in 2012, Ronald McDonald House Charities® Newfoundland and Labrador have accommodated more than 1600 families dealing with their child's illness far from home. It is estimated that RMHC NL saved these families more than \$8.3M.

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.

www.RMHCNL.ca

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Charitable Registration Number: 85050 2865 RR 0001

Newly appointed Board Members



Gail Collins



Penny McDonald

Outgoing Board Member



Paul Rogers