

# heartstrings

Helping give sick children what they need most...their families.®



## There's no place like our home away from home

For Clifford and Tammy the sound of children laughing has filled their home for many years.

With six children between the two of them, the couple were awaiting the arrival of baby number seven in October 2012.

The Catagas family calls Crane River, Manitoba home and knew Tammy would have to deliver the baby in Dauphin.

**“Little Emily was born October 15 and she was just beautiful.”**

The next day Tammy and baby Emily were discharged and the family headed home to start their new life as a family of nine.

A few weeks later when Emily stopped eating, Clifford and Tammy knew

something was wrong and rushed her back to Dauphin Regional Health Centre.

**“We got to Winnipeg on Halloween – I’ll never forget that date. They rushed us by ambulance and it felt like the longest drive of my life.”**

Clifford left his home, which was under renovation, and knew he had to leave it up to friends and family to take care of things.

After arriving at Children’s Hospital in Winnipeg, the Catagas family learned they would be here for as long as it took to find out what was wrong with little Emily.

After a long first night by her bedside, Clifford and Tammy knew they had to find somewhere to stay.

With no family or friends in the city, they didn’t know where to turn until Clifford’s mom suggested Ronald McDonald House.

**“She told us it was a beautiful place and a beautiful environment. She was right!”**

Tammy and Clifford were ecstatic to have a warm, comfortable space where they could bring their two young daughters Amy and Bianca. Cuddles, kisses, and time together made the situation easier to bear.

Because of donors like you, the Catagas family has been calling Ronald McDonald House home for over five months and if they could, I know they would thank each and every one of you.

*Continued on page 2...*



Mom Tammy shows Emily a balloon puppy made just for her!

After rounds of tests and many uncertain appointments, sadly Tammy and Clifford learned their beautiful baby girl had a serious heart defect and would require life-saving surgery, but not until she was healthy and strong enough to undergo the procedure.

Months after their journey began, they finally got the good news: they would be flying to Vancouver in early March for Emily's heart surgery.

Both parents were overjoyed that she was strong enough to go and immediately started making preparations.

**“I haven't left my baby's side since she was born and I won't be leaving her now.”**

Ronald McDonald House has been able to provide the strength and stability that Clifford and his family needed to get through this incredibly difficult time.

**“I don't know where we would be without this place, I really don't.”**

Clifford and Tammy have a large support system that includes family, friends, and neighbours. But without Ronald McDonald House they would not have been able to stay together during their baby's illness.

Your donations make it possible for us to provide the comforts of home like warm baking, fresh coffee, activities like craft night for children, and nutritious meals through our Home for Dinner program.

We will continue to care for families like the Catagas', but we can't do it alone.

Will you please consider giving a gift in honour of baby Emily as she continues her journey to health?

Sincerely,

Allison Kesler, CFRE  
Executive Director

## Help us keep families together.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Donation:

\_\_\_ \$35 \_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_ \$100 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment Details

\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_ Cheque  
(Cheques made payable to Ronald McDonald House Manitoba)

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Please send me information on volunteer opportunities.

\_\_\_ I have left a donation to Ronald McDonald House Manitoba in my will.

\_\_\_ I would like to speak with someone about leaving a donation to Ronald McDonald House Manitoba in my will.

*Ronald McDonald House Manitoba respects your privacy. We do not sell, trade or release our mailing list or any part of the information we collect to any other party or agency.*

Tax receipts are issued for donations of \$10.00 or more.

Charitable Organization Number: 10412 5323 RR0001

### Mail to:

Ronald McDonald House Manitoba  
566 Bannatyne Avenue  
Winnipeg, MB R3A 0G7

### Contact:

204.774.4777  
www.rmhmanitoba.org  
info@rmhmanitoba.org

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## Board of Directors

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## Contact Us

Ronald McDonald House Manitoba  
566 Bannatyne Avenue  
Winnipeg, MB R3A 0G7  
Tel: 204-774-4777  
Fax: 204-774-2160

Ronald McDonald Family Room  
Children's Hospital - HSC Winnipeg  
CE322-840 Sherbrook Street  
Winnipeg, MB R3A 1S1  
Tel: 204-787-4627  
Fax: 204-787-4629

[www.rmhmanitoba.org](http://www.rmhmanitoba.org)



Do you have your tickets to the 27th Annual Hope Couture Fashion Gala yet?

It is Winnipeg's favourite night of fashion and fun, with all proceeds going to Ronald McDonald House Manitoba and our programs.

This year's event will be held at Delta Winnipeg and promises to be another spectacular night.

Your ticket includes a three-course meal with wine, seats to the hottest fashion show in town, and opportunities to win amazing prizes.

For tickets call (204) 774-4777 or email [wendy@rmhmanitoba.org](mailto:wendy@rmhmanitoba.org)

Fashion Show  
Presented by:



THURSDAY APRIL 18, 2013  
DELTA WINNIPEG

CHAMPAGNE RECEPTION 5:30PM  
DINNER & FASHION SHOW 6:30PM

\$150 (\$50 TAX RECEIPT)  
VIP PACKAGES \$1,750 (10 TICKETS)

204.774.4777

[WWW.RMHMANITOBA.ORG](http://WWW.RMHMANITOBA.ORG)



## 20th Anniversary of McHappy Day® Wednesday, May 8



McHAPPY DAY®

MAY 8, 2013

Mark your calendars for May 8, 2013: it's McHappy Day and you're invited!

For 20 years McDonald's Restaurants across Canada have supported local children's charities at this fun event.

We are proud to be the charity of choice for participating McDonald's Restaurants throughout the province as they raise funds by donating \$1.00 from every Big Mac®, Happy Meal®, and McCafe beverage sold.

Last year with your support we raised over \$60,000 and we know we can shatter that amount with your help again in 2013.

You can volunteer your time at a convenient restaurant, purchase food or beverages for your office, or bring your family for a meal. Watch our website for more details.



# Adopt-a-Room partners make a generous commitment



After re-launching our Adopt-a-Room program in 2012 we are proud to share some special rooms at the House and Family Room with our partners shown above.

The Winnipeg Jets True North Foundation selected the quiet lounge in the Family Room to support families in the hospital.

A friend of Ronald McDonald House Manitoba

FRIEND OF RONALD  
MCDONALD HOUSE  
MANITOBA

and Cargill Specialty Seeds & Oil both selected cozy bedrooms at the House to sponsor.

For an annual contribution you can make a direct impact on the love and support a family feels while they are caring for their sick child.

A limited number of bedrooms and common areas are available for adoption and we would



be happy to help you select a room that is a perfect fit with you or your organization.

For more information on our Adopt-a-Room program visit us online or contact Allison Kesler at (204) 779-9751 or [allison@rmhmanitoba.org](mailto:allison@rmhmanitoba.org)

## Home for Dinner program brings families and volunteers together



Our friends at Manitoba Infrastructure had a special visit from Ronald during their dinner.

One of the ways you can make the most impact on the stressful days our families experience is by providing a Home for Dinner meal.

Every week we host at least one night where families do not have to cook for themselves and we would love to have your group come over to prepare the meal.

No cooking expertise is required! We welcome groups from companies, churches, community groups, schools, and even groups of families or friends.

Dinners can be booked any night of the week but we try and ensure families have a home cooked meal at least every Tuesday and Thursday.

Your group can plan a menu that is sent to the House in advance and we share that menu with families so they can look forward to your cooking.

Pots, pans, cooking utensils, and all other supplies are available in our large kitchen. A BBQ is also available in the summer months. Food must be prepared on site but can be whatever you choose.

Leftovers are left in the "Help Yourself Fridge" for families who can't make it to dinner and want to grab a bite to eat later.

For more information or to book a date for your group contact Kerry at (204) 774-4777 or [kerry@rmhmanitoba.org](mailto:kerry@rmhmanitoba.org)



McDonald's corporate staff cooked up a storm for families in 2012.

## Keeping more families together

**We're growing by leaps and bounds! We have seen an increase in families at the House and Family Room which means we are keeping more families together.**

**Here are statistics for January and February 2013...**

### Ronald McDonald House:

- We welcomed **98 families** home from all over Manitoba, across Canada, and around the world.
- **31 families** had never stayed with us before and were welcomed with open arms.
- Families came to us from as far away as **Lebanon and Belize**.
- We accommodated families in our warm, safe home for **737 nights**.

### Ronald McDonald Family Room:

- We welcomed **3,398 guests** to our common area for a cup of coffee and homemade baking.
- **44 families** stayed overnight in our sleeping rooms so they could be just steps away from their critically ill child.
- Our occupancy rate in the sleeping rooms was **90%**

## Sponsor Spotlight: Global TV Winnipeg



A relationship that started with a fashion show sponsorship has blossomed into a year-round friendship for the employees at Global TV Winnipeg.

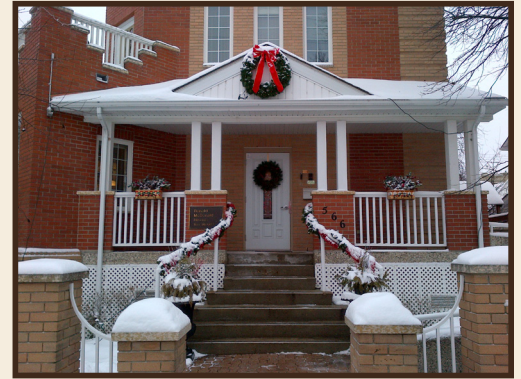
For many years we have been proud to share fashion show promotions on air during peak times.

This sponsorship has resulted in ticket sales and ultimately an increase in donations for Ronald McDonald House Manitoba.

Recently the evening news crew at Global decided to make an extra special visit to the House and they surprised our families with an early Christmas gift - toys for the children!

Everyone was overjoyed to receive the gifts and we couldn't have been happier for the support around the holiday season.

Thank you, Global TV Winnipeg for everything you do to make our House a warm, cozy home away from home for families with sick children.



Global TV Winnipeg made the holidays extra special for families staying at the House over Christmas.

A photograph of Trevor Olfert, a man with short brown hair, wearing a grey ribbed sweater and blue jeans, sitting on a green park bench. He is leaning his head on his hand and looking thoughtfully to the side. The background shows trees with yellow and orange autumn leaves.

# Trevor Olfert *and the* open sky orchestra

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# CONCERT

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## MAY 1st

7:30PM AT THE PARK THEATRE  
698 OSBORNE ST. WINNIPEG, MB

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Family and Friends of the  
Ronald McDonald House Winnipeg  
Tickets \$10  
available at 566 Bannatyne Ave.

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Evening Sponsored by

The logo for Bison Transport features the word "Bison" in a large, bold, black sans-serif font above the word "TRANSPORT" in a smaller, bold, black sans-serif font. To the right of the text is a stylized graphic of a bison's head in profile, facing right, with a green and black color scheme.

## Holiday feast for families

The holidays are a special time for families everywhere, but at Ronald McDonald House that time of year holds more meaning than ever.

On Christmas Day we make sure there is a traditional turkey dinner for families and in 2012 this meal was generously provided by Julia and George Janzen on behalf of Homestead Manitoba.

Families enjoyed turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes and all the fixings including hot gravy, of course!

Thank you, Julia and George for making holiday memories for our families.



## RMH finalist at Chamber's 'Spirit of Winnipeg' awards

On March 1, 2013 The Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce held its 4th annual Spirit of Winnipeg Awards.

The event recognizes local companies and organizations for their commitment to innovation and Ronald McDonald House was pleased to be a finalist in the "Charity" category.

The event was a spectacular way for us to share our story and we were honoured to be in such great company!

## Connect with us



[www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)

Facebook is a social networking website that allows users to become fans of organizations and connect with them

through sharing stories and photos.

"Ronald McDonald House Manitoba"



[www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com)

Twitter is a social networking tool that provides users with tidbits of information from other users that they are "following." In 160 characters or less you can send your followers status updates, information, or a fun greeting.

@RMHManitoba



[www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com)

LinkedIn is a social networking website that creates connections among users that can facilitate new networking opportunities or strengthen existing ones.

Primarily used for business, users can upload resumes, change their status and find new colleagues.

"Ronald McDonald House Manitoba"

## Let's celebrate volunteers at RMH



Volunteers Irene and Katrina offer cookies to families.

Ronald McDonald House was founded on the support and dedication of volunteers and that trend continues today, even after 29 years of keeping families together..

Over 160 people donate their time to ensure our organization runs smoothly. These people come from a variety of backgrounds and have so much to offer through their skills and talents.

From shift volunteers at the House and Family Room, to board members, to committee members, we truly are blessed with the very best people to support our organization.

Their hearts are always open and we couldn't do what we do for families without them.

If you are interested in joining our dynamic team please contact Kasia James, Family Room & Volunteer Manager at (204) 787-4626 or by email: [kasia@rmhmanitoba.org](mailto:kasia@rmhmanitoba.org)

*"It takes hands to make a house but only hearts can make a home."*

**Ronald McDonald House Manitoba will celebrate National Volunteer Week from April 21-27.**

**We are grateful for the generous contributions of our volunteers over the past 29 years.**

**Thank you for giving your time and helping to make our house a home!**



Volunteer Lacey bakes up a storm!

# In-Kind Donations

Thank you to our friends who contributed to our programs from November 2012 through March 2013.

Aubrey Allan...candy  
Steve Boisvert & Sylvie Ayotte...battery booster  
George Banjavich...Lexmark printer  
Grete Barthel...knitted blankets  
BFI Canada...weekly garbage pick-up  
Darcy Cantin...craft supplies  
Christmas Décor...outdoor decor  
City Bread Co. Ltd....bread  
Coca-Cola (Canada) Ltd....Coke products  
Delmar Crafts...knitted items  
Julie Dufresne...food items  
Elmwood High School...gift wrapping  
General Mills Canada Corporation...cereal  
Jean Halliday...dish cloths  
Kruger Products Limited...paper products  
Lorraine & Roger Labossiere...blanket bags  
Ron and Elaine Latter...gingerbread house  
Ivo Lopes...Toys 'R Us gift cards  
Agnes & Fred Luciow...toothpaste  
McCaine Electric Limited...electrical services  
McDonald's Restaurants...food supplies, turkeys  
McRIM Service Centre...insurance coverage

Mega Group...new beds and box springs  
Albina Moran...Pictures  
Mother Parkers Tea & Coffee...coffee, hot cocoa  
Lorna Normand...visit from Santa  
Pacific Junction School...Pampered Chef items  
Payworks...payroll services  
Petals West Inc....monthly flowers  
Prairie View School (Grades 3 & 4)...gifts  
David & Jennifer Rempel...oranges, cookies  
Reynolds Elementary...Christmas toys  
Saputo Foods Limited...milk, creamers  
Sobeys Cash and Carry...toys, candy, movies  
St. Joseph The Worker Women...knitted items  
Stalwart Appliances by Design...laundry soap  
Stampin' Up...craft nights  
Gordon & Marlene Stimpson...gingerbread house  
Marie Taylor...Dyson vacuum  
TD Waterhouse Private Client Services...cookware  
Cheryl Telford...sheets  
The Winnipeg Sun...daily newspaper  
Winnipeg Parking Authority...parking permits

## Hampers

- Yvonne & Timothy Baer
- Carman United Church
- Patrick & Janice Cyrenne
- Michele Cyrenne
- Julie Dufresne
- Chad & Cara Gillis
- Ashley Hayward
- Kids Centre Co-Op Preschool
- Les Tournesols Daycare
- Amy Legras
- MFRC Childcare
- Order of the Eastern Star - Jubilee Chapter
- Kathy Perreault
- Sanford United Church
- Winnipeg Regional Health Authority

*we couldn't do it without you*

## Wish List

If you would like to put together an in-kind donation or hamper of household goods/food items we encourage you to use the list below.

Contact Kerry at (204) 774-4777 or [kerry@rmhmanitoba.org](mailto:kerry@rmhmanitoba.org) for more details or to find out if an item has been donated yet.

- Baking margarine
- Chocolate chips
- Sugar (white and brown)
- Raisins
- Cocoa powder
- Baking mixes
- Frozen fruit for baking
- Cereal
- Disinfecting wipes
- 28 housecoats
- Indoor grill
- Dishes and coffee mugs (3-4 dozen of each)
- Glassware
- Fresh fruits and vegetables



Volunteer Katrina prepares lunch for a family at the Ronald McDonald Family Room with a brand new set of pots and pans donated by our friends at TD Waterhouse Private Client Services.

We are always grateful for donations of gift cards! Please keep us in mind if you have cards for gas stations, grocery stores,

movie theatres, toy stores, restaurants, or long distance phone companies. They help us keep our operating costs at a minimum.

# Thank you for your support!

The following organizations and individuals have contributed through cash donations from November 2012 through March 2013.

## Up to \$49

Eva Adams  
A.N.A.F. 10 Ladies Auxiliary  
William Antonow  
Atlas Graham Industries  
Nicole & Vince Baker  
Bill & Amelia Barboni  
Jean Barratt  
Reesa & Mervin Beckelman  
Thomas & Doreen Beggs  
Susan & Alan Bell  
Robert & Betty Bell  
Roxanna Berard  
Kevin & Lisa Bergen  
Cassandra Bird  
Carol Boucha  
Gemping Cao  
Edith & Thomas Checkley  
Cynthia & Mike Chudyk-Collins  
Wanda Church  
Alvin & Anna Combate  
Rochelle Cook  
Lise Cyr  
Mary Betty Dahl  
Shirley Delmage  
Nancy Delong  
Irene Dickson  
Irene Draper  
Michael Dube  
Tammy Ducharme  
Patricia & Donald Duncan  
Aaron & Rande Goldman  
Pamela Gwyer  
James Hamilton  
Sandra Hancock  
Stan & Judy Hardy  
Stacey & Nelson Houle  
Shirley Hurst  
Denise & George Ketter  
The Kewley Family  
Miles & Bonnie Kushner  
Charlotte Leclaire  
Linden Meadows Social Committee  
Anne Loewen  
V. Lovatt  
Manitoba Lotteries Corporation  
Susan Mark  
Diana & Pat McBratney  
William & Barbara McCartney  
Bonnie McDonald  
Donald McDonald  
Dorothy & William McKenzie  
Bill McMullan  
Miami Lions Club  
Claudette Mitchell  
Faye & Ken Mitchell  
Mary Ellen Morrison  
MTS Volunteers  
Kerry Mushumanski  
Ashley & Josh Pollock  
Carol Prosk  
Fred & Vera Ralke  
Michelle Ramilo  
Valerie Rollins  
Royal Canadian Legion #10 -  
Boisvain Branch  
Denyse Saloranta  
Neil Sabourin  
Georgianna & Jason Schuurman

June Seaquist  
Patricia Spiring  
Evelyn Staples  
Muriel Sutherland  
Thompson Dorfman Sweatman  
United Way of Calgary-Donor  
Choice program  
Leo & Eliane Vincent  
Susan & Edward Zwingerman

## \$50 - \$99

Fran Allan  
Leslie Anderson  
Anonymous  
Margaret Barbour  
Raymond & Mary Benson  
Liam & Erin Boiteau  
Charline & Darrell Bradley  
Nicole Burnett  
Sydney Cardy  
Myra Cherewyk  
Marion Chewings  
City of Dauphin  
DAVIDsTEA  
Diane Sparrow De Grave  
Lorraine & Frank Devenney  
Donors Choice Combined Appeal  
Denis Dupuis  
Irene & Doug Fisher  
Kyle & Alycia Fortune Chuckrey  
Lydia Funk  
Lindsey Hoogsteen  
Gordon & Marilyn Hornan  
Paula Hrycak  
Dennis & JoAnn Hudson  
Investors Group Matching Gift  
Program  
Cindy & Darcy Isaac  
Robert & June Jackson  
Delilah Kippen  
Don & Jenny Kline  
Sandra Knight  
Karen & Irwin Kumka  
Judy Limpricht  
Lori Lomonico  
Elizabeth Longe  
Susan Mainella  
Shelley Marcus  
Barbara & Peter Marino  
Roger & Pat McNeill  
Merry Makers  
Cindy and Brian Michaleski  
Cathy Miller  
Dorothy Miller  
Ella Mitchell  
Kristin & Steve Mitchell  
Jack & Phyllis Mutton  
Theya Nault  
Noventis Credit Union Ltd.  
Kathleen Oliphant  
Kathleen Palson  
Barry & Christine Panas  
Jazreel Peters  
Pinawa Lions Club  
Guy & Nicola Pounder  
Wayne Reutlinger  
Dale & Pat Randle  
Royal Canadian Legion #79 - Oak  
Lake Branch

Bette & Edward Rutherford  
St. George's Anglican Church  
Alma & Ray Sigurdson  
Donna Smith  
Tamara Speirs  
Shannon Swartz  
Joseph Sydorko  
Ian Thomson  
Robert & Grace Torrance  
University of Manitoba  
Wallace Community Club  
Mary & William Zabloski

## \$100 - \$249

99ers Hockey Club  
Air-Rite Inc.  
Lisa Albrecht  
Alpha Iota Sorority - Winnipeg  
Alumnae Chapter  
Army Navy & Air Force John OSB  
Artistic Dental Ceramic Ltd.  
K. Dean & Tina Austin  
Louis and Maria Baltus  
Joe, Vigdis & Bruce Bauernhuber  
Cherrubie Bautista-Chan & Hugh Ka  
Kuen Chan  
David & Karen Bieber  
Allison & Colin Bourgooin  
Lynda & Barry Brown  
Brigitte Burd  
Beven & Majorie Burnell  
Olive & Neil Cameron  
Chapman Goddard Kagan  
Cholakis Dental  
Marilyn De Von Flindt  
Bryan Dykes  
Emerson Milling  
Tamara Faurschau  
Adolf & Marijke Feddes  
Tim & Marilyn Funk  
Jennifer & Kyle Galbraith  
Glenora Community Boosters  
Allison & Lionel Hawryliw  
Margaret Helgason  
Greg & Val Hutsal  
I.B.E.W. Local 2085  
Pat & Al Jacksteit  
Duane Kent  
Borys Kozak  
La-Z-Boy Furniture Galleries  
Manitoba Public Insurance  
Corporation  
Derwood & Frances Mann  
Danielle & Guy Marion  
Bernice Susan Mayne  
Sherree McLenehan  
Jayne Murphy  
Murray Nagler  
NumberTEN Architectural Group  
Barrie Ottenbreit  
Debbie Orvis  
Overland Truck Campers  
Partnar Animal Health  
Lori & Leelan Pearson  
Pembina Physiotherapy  
Susan Prescott  
Lisa Pringle  
Public Health Agency of Canada  
Lisa Radlinsky

Donald Ransom  
Danielle & David Reed  
Margaret Robertson  
Julie Strong  
Tracy Smith  
Swank Boutique  
Cheryl Telford  
United Way of Greater Toronto  
Joan Vanbeselaere

## \$250 - \$499

Air Wise Inc.  
Beaumont School  
Anita Berdert  
Feleasha Bott  
Kim & Wade Desserre  
Harold Dueck  
Brenda & Michael Evans  
Giroux UFM Co-Op  
I.O.D.E. De Winton Chapter  
James Valley Colony Farms Ltd.  
David & Lorissa Martens  
John & Yvonne Mavins  
Simone Orzechowski  
Pembina Colony  
Puma Grand Prix  
Gary & Pam Robbins  
Stead & Area New Horizons Senior  
Club  
Vickar Community Chevrolet  
Roger & Kathy Yost

## \$500 - \$999

Cossette Communication Group  
Direct Plus Food Group  
Dr. Emmett & Karen Elves  
Henry & Loretta Enns  
Lowe Mechanical Services Ltd.  
Manitoba Blue Cross  
Royal Canadian Legion #60 - Souris  
Branch  
Sanford Collegiate  
Sierra Systems Group Inc.  
Tractus Projects  
Ken & Carrie Wai

## \$1,000 - \$2,499

Anonymous  
Deloitte & Touche LLP  
The Ernst Hansch Foundation Inc.  
Friesens Corporation  
International Brotherhood of  
Electrical Workers  
Melissa & Greg Krahn  
Estate of Olga Kowalsky  
Main Street Seniors  
Manitoba Egg Farmers  
Mike Vanderhorst  
Wawanesa

## \$2,500+

Cargill Seeds & Oils  
John Kennedy  
Rotary Club of Winnipeg -  
Assiniboine  
Manitoba Hydro - Brandon

We are grateful for the ongoing support from McDonald's Restaurants through Ronald McDonald House Charities® of Canada. This equates to about 30% of our operating budget and helps reduce our expenses so we can keep more families together.