



Probus Club of Central Edmonton

November 2017

Editor: Brian Johnson

Speaker: November 21: - Patricia Snow, Ronald McDonald House

Our speaker for November was Patricia Snow, a Donor Relations Officer for Ronald McDonald House Northern Alberta.

The first house of this type was started in Philadelphia in 1974. There are now 364 such houses across North America. The purpose is to create a home away from home for families with seriously ill or injured children receiving treatment. The Edmonton House works to ease the financial and emotional burdens of families through operating programs that provide essential support and service, as well as comfort to families. While the families who stay at Ronald McDonald House® come from outside Edmonton, the House also helps families from Edmonton through the Day Pass Program, where families have access to all House programming – The Ronald McDonald House® in Edmonton provided 11,457 nights of comfort and welcomed over 157 families through the Day Pass Program in 2016!

Hundreds of families staying at the Ronald McDonald House® in Edmonton are comforted with all the basic necessities of home including warm beds, hot showers, family-friendly kitchens, playrooms and laundry facilities. Families also receive much needed support from programs and services such as Meals That Mend, education, recreation, shuttle and self-care which provide families with a sense of normalcy during some of the hardest times they will have to face. The House is more than just a place to rest, but a place where families can lift each other up and be close to their children when they need love and support.

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Tour: November 28 - Ronald McDonald House

Nineteen members and spouses (spice?) had a tour of the Ronald McDonald facility. It is an impressive place. Not just a place to stay but a refuge at a time of trouble for many families. I think it is fair to say that Patricia, who led our tour, gave us a real appreciation for the effort and love that keeps this project moving forward. She also told us of their hopes /plans to develop a larger facility closer to the University Hospital, and that she hoped to welcome us back for a tour at the new place “in a few years”



The very attractive front of the Ronald McDonald House



Our crew, finishing the tour