



Despite continuous advancements in research and pediatric medical care, a growing number of children must cope with a life-limiting or terminal illness, while many other children remain medically complex, fragile and technology dependent throughout their lifetime. Extreme prematurity, severe neurological or physical disabilities, multiple health conditions and life-threatening illnesses such as cancer or cystic fibrosis are but a few examples of life-limiting conditions.

When the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO) opened its doors in 1974, it served as the sole provider of pediatric palliative care services in our region. For 32 years palliative care and support was offered exclusively within the hospital setting.

In 2003, inspired by the spirit and compassion of the late **Roger Neilson**, a much-respected member of their coaching staff, the Ottawa Senators Hockey Club and its Foundation approached CHEO with an exciting vision that would improve the quality of life for children and families going through the most difficult times imaginable. Roger Neilson House was born out of this vision and continues to be there for patients and their families.

There are many ways to support Roger Neilson House.

Make a gift! a one-time gift, annual or monthly gift : rogerneilsonhouse.ca/donate/
 Leave a gift in your will for Roger Neilson House : rogerneilsonhouse.ca/donate/
 Have more questions on making a gift? Call 613-737-2780

Want to host a fundraising event for Roger Neilson House? Visit: sensfoundation.com
 Or call 613-599-0323



Donations can be mailed to
 Roger Neilson House C/O CHEO Foundation
 415 Smyth Road
 Ottawa, Ontario
 K1H 8M8



Donations to Roger Neilson House Fund:

Respite Care

The word respite is synonymous with pause. The provision of respite care at Roger Neilson House is a very important form of support for families coping with the many challenges of their child's life-limiting illness. It allows a family the time it needs to rest and rejuvenate so they are better able to care for their child. During the respite visit children may be offered or require symptom management, recreation therapy and counseling.

Transition from Hospital to Home Care

A transition to home admission at Roger Neilson House is coordinated by the CHEO Palliative Care Team. Children leaving hospital with new treatments, equipment and/or medications may be admitted to the hospice for a period of time to support families as they become familiar and comfortable with the new plan of care. Families assume the responsibility for their child's care while also receiving support and reinforcement of the teaching they received at CHEO.

Symptom Management

Symptom assessment and management is available at Roger Neilson House and is coordinated by the CHEO Palliative Care Team in consultation with the family, members of the care team at CHEO. A child is admitted to the hospice for a period of time to evaluate symptoms, implement treatment modalities and evaluate responses.

End of Life Care

End of life care is available at Roger Neilson House when it is determined by CHEO's medical team that death is imminent. The team recognizes this and works collaboratively to ensure that the final wishes and needs of each child and family are met in the weeks, days and hours leading up to the child's death and beyond into the bereavement phase. This involves helping family members make difficult decisions around end-of-life plans, creating memories and sharing mementos as well as addressing emotional and spiritual care needs. Heartfelt guidance and compassionate support is offered to help with transitions at end-of-life for children and families.

Grief and Bereavement Counseling

The death of a child is a life-altering tragedy for the families who love them and who must accompany them through this difficult journey. Roger Neilson House provides support to children and families throughout their highly individual experience of grief. From a child's diagnosis, throughout their illness, and after their death, grief support and bereavement care are offered to the entire family.





Roger Neilson House is an eight-bed pediatric residential hospice which offers compassionate care in collaboration with CHEO's palliative care team. This amazing facility is located on the grounds at CHEO and provides a home-like environment to children who have a significant risk of dying before reaching adulthood. In medical context, "palliative" means to care or to comfort, as opposed to curing. Paediatric palliative care also embodies a philosophy of care that focuses on enhancing the quality of the life for children and youth and their families. On admission to **Roger Neilson House** a personalized care plan is designed for the children and youth and family.

Some of the services available include:

- Respite care
- End of life care
- Grief support and bereavement care
- Symptom management
- Recreational therapy
- Home hospice
- And so much more!

Roger Neilson House delivers palliative care services for CHEO's patients and families with an integrated, multi-disciplinary team of doctors, nurses, social workers, therapists and support staff working together in a new state-of-the-art, homelike setting designed with the entire family in mind. A multitude of services are provided that cater to the unique needs of a medically fragile population. Roger Neilson House has created an environment that celebrates life by enabling kids to be kids, and is a special place of comfort and compassion where children and families can cherish each moment spent together.

For further information about Roger Neilson House:
Call 613-523-6300
Visit: rogerneilsonhouse.ca
Write Roger Neilson House, 399 Smyth Road, Ottawa, Ontario K1H 8L2

