

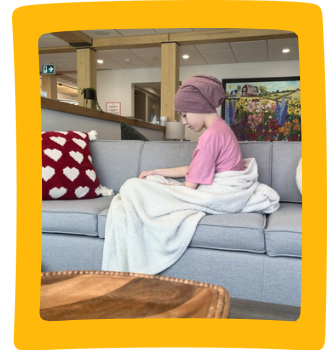
## Meet Fiona from Kemptville

*the family story shared by mom, Hannah*



“Fiona started grade 6 excited for her last year of elementary school but in November we started noticing a significant decline in her health. By February our doctor referred us to the emergency room at CHEO where blood tests determined she had B-Cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia.

Our nurse informed us that with the new expansion of the Ronald McDonald House, we were now eligible to stay (it had previously been 80km away but changed to 60km with more rooms). When Fiona and I first walked in, Fiona saw the craft room, bee-lined in that direction, and didn't look back.



**I couldn't help but cry seeing parents cooking and chatting together, families enjoying a meal with other families, and kids of all ages playing together nearby.**

The House makes you feel like a family reunion, and after a whirlwind six weeks following Fiona's initial diagnosis, it was the feeling of normalcy we needed.

Since our first stay, we have met so many lovely families who have become good friends and the House has truly become a home away from home when we need it the most.



**Pictured here: Ottawa Senators Goalie Linus Ullmark meeting Fiona in March, while donating books to the families.**