IMPACT REPORT

2025

Make-A-Wish CANADA



CELEBRATING 35 YEARS

WHEELS 4 WISHES

presented by DONCASTER FOUNDATION

Your Impact

Another Record-Breaking Event!

Over the past 35 years, Dave Lacey, Jeff Pabst and the Ontario racing community have demonstrated their exceptional support of Make-A-Wish Canada through the annual Wheels 4 Wishes ride-along event, presented by the Doncaster Foundation .

This year's 2025 Wheels 4 Wishes ride-along brought together over forty wish families gathered at the Canadian Tire Motorsport Park on April 27. The day was full of laughter and smiles as children and their families enthusiastically sped around the racetrack.

Through the immense support of corporate and community sponsors, we are delighted to share that a record-breaking **$322,000** was raised this year – **a 13% increase over our previous year and enough to grant over 30 life-changing wishes**! With over 3700 wish kids waiting for their wishes to be granted across Canada, you have made an extraordinary impact.

This spectacular success speaks to the generosity of our donor community to utilize this magical event to brighten the day for our wish kids while raising critical funds to grant wishes for many other deserving children across Canada.

Because of your support, we're one step closer to making sure every eligible child in Canada receives their most heartfelt wish. THANK YOU!





A Message of Gratitude

We are delighted to present this year's impact report for the 35th edition of our Wheels 4 Wishes ride-along event! On behalf of Make-A-Wish Canada, I would like to extend a sincere thank you for your support in making this event such a huge success. It's thanks to sponsors like you that we are able to further our mission of creating life-changing wishes for children with critical illness.

Every two hours, a child in Canada is diagnosed with a critical illness. Events like Wheels 4 Wishes offer sick children and their families a much-needed break from fear and anxiety, bringing them together to create joyful memories—where kids can simply be kids, have fun, and share in an unforgettable, one-of-a-kind experience they'll cherish forever.

Wishes are treatment. Research shows that children who are granted a wish experience improved health outcomes and are more motivated to continue their health journey. As a sponsor of Wheels 4 Wishes, your generous commitment will help us bring transformational and therapeutic benefits to children facing critical illness who are eagerly waiting for their wish.

Once again, thank you for your exceptional support of wish kids and families. We look forward to seeing you again at Wheels 4 Wishes 2026!

Sincerely,



Meaghan Stovel McKnight
CEO, Make-A-Wish Canada

Wishes are Treatment

90% **OF MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS** said a wish experience improves a child's emotional well-being including alleviating feelings of sadness, hopelessness, anxiety, depression and loneliness

95% **OF MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS** said a wish experience improves a child's physical well-being and gives them strength to fight their critical illness

100% **OF MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS** said the wish experience improves the child's overall quality of life and is a turning point in a child's treatment said the experience improved their own emotional well-being, relationships with families, and had a positive impact on their work

Source: Make-A-Wish America - Wish Impact Survey 2022

Thank you for helping kids like Roux

Roux's Story

Roux is a joyful and spirited 7-year-old who loves swimming, bike rides, building snowmen with her little brother Silvio, and singing along to Raffi and Disney tunes. She has a sweet tooth for chocolate, a fondness for steak, and a giggle that lights up any room.

Her journey with critical illness began at just two years old. On a cold New Year's Day in 2019, after a string of persistent illnesses, Roux's parents, Gillian and Adam, took her to the ER. A precautionary scan revealed heartbreaking news—stage four liver cancer. The cancer had spread rapidly, filling her abdomen with tumors. Within hours, she was rushed to SickKids Hospital, and their lives changed forever.

I wish to meet princesses at a Florida theme park!

Roux, 7

rare liver cancer



Over six intense months, Roux endured ten rounds of chemotherapy and a major liver surgery. That July, her family heard the words they had been longing for: no evidence of disease (NED). That summer became a time of joy, freedom, and deeply cherished family moments.

But just three months later, the cancer returned—this time in her lungs. Her chances of survival dropped. Roux faced six more rounds of aggressive chemotherapy, followed by double-lung surgery in March 2020, as the world around them shut down for the pandemic.

During this dark time, Roux was referred to Make-A-Wish. Her dream? To meet princesses at a Florida theme park. That wish became a symbol of hope—something to hold on to.

She became the first child in Canada to receive a breakthrough treatment to detect hidden cancer cells during surgery. After 633 grueling days, 24 rounds of chemo, and endless worry, Roux was once again declared NED on September 25, 2020—and she has remained cancer-free ever since.

In August 2023, her wish came true. Roux and her family got to meet her favourite princesses in Florida.

Make-A-Wish® CANADA

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Thank you for your generous support!

Charitable Registration Number: 881291918 RR 0001