



## Toronto Hike for Hospice on Sunday May 6<sup>th</sup>



**Toronto, ON** – The *Hike for Hospice* on Sunday, May 6, 2018 features live music, prizes, a barbeque and the choice of a 2 km or 5 km route through scenic Cabbagetown and Riverdale Park. Proceeds benefit hospices throughout the metro area including Emily’s House, the first hospice in Toronto designed specifically for children. A frequent guest at Emily’s House is Tallula. Her father, David Smeriglio, is passionate about supporting the important work of hospices for all patients and their families.

“I created ‘Team Tallula’ to raise awareness as well as funds,” says David. “I don’t think a lot of people realize that there are very few pediatric hospices in Canada.” The Emily’s House website notes that there are only six across Canada.

“Emily’s House has just 10 beds, so it is often full. Sick Kids Hospital also relies on Emily’s House to care for children and babies. There is a real need for pediatric hospices.”

Tallula is a fighter who has visited Emily’s House since it opened nearly four years ago. “It can be a very somber place, but it is also a fun and beautiful place. It is a modernized century house. The environment is great. It is one of the warmest, most inviting facilities I have ever visited. It offers camps, extended stays when families need to travel and wonderful programs such as music therapy. Tallula is blind and has very acute hearing—she can hear a pin drop. She really absorbs music, especially guitar.”

To learn more about the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Toronto Hike for Hospice, please visit David’s Team Tallula Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1732871796771243/about/> or for details or to donate, please visit <http://www.philipazizcentre.ca/toronto-hike-for-hospice-partners-join-team-emilys-house-pac-sunday-may-6-2018/>. This event is part of *Hike for Hospice Palliative Care*, a Canadian national fundraiser.

David is grateful to the Ontario REALTORS Care® Foundation and the Toronto Real Estate Board for recently approving a \$10,000 grant to Emily House. As well, he extends his thanks to Erin Oaks Kids and Motion Specialties for loaning his family a special stroller that allows Tallula to participate in *Hike for Hospice*.

Sutton is a 100% Canadian-owned and operated company with more than 7,500 REALTORS® in over 200 offices nationwide. To find out more about Sutton, visit [www.sutton.com](http://www.sutton.com). To learn more about Sutton Spirit, visit [www.suttonspirit.com](http://www.suttonspirit.com).

-30-

### **Sutton Group Realty Services Ltd. Contact:**

Sandra Vujatovic                      604-691-1689                      [stories@suttonspirit.com](mailto:stories@suttonspirit.com)

### **Sutton - West Realty Inc.\* Contact:**

David Smeriglio                      416-622-6565                      [smerigliod@sutton.com](mailto:smerigliod@sutton.com)

\*Independently owned and operated brokerage