



"Our son was operated on at the Montréal Children's Hospital in the cardiac surgery room funded by Opération Enfant Soleil. In the hospital, we often saw the OES logo on equipment. We were able to see firsthand that money from donations goes directly to the children. Thank you for making a difference!"

Adrien is a real fighter! Born very prematurely at 25 weeks, Adrien has given his parents quite a fright on several occasions since he came into the world.

At just 7 days old, baby Adrien was brought to the operating room for the first time. A valve in his heart urgently needed to be fixed. It was distressing for his parents, who were extremely worried about their baby's health during this delicate surgery that he had to undergo while he struggled to survive. Happily, the surgery was a success, but only a little while later, Adrien's parents were informed that he would need another operation. A perforated bowel required an ostomy. Their lives were shaken once again.

After that surgery, Adrien was not doing very well. For several days, which became weeks and then months, the medical team attempted to decrease breathing support, but without success. "We had a few promising moments, but Adrien always relapsed," says his mother. "He got pneumonia because of his reflux. Even though he was being fed, it was difficult to nourish him." It was a return to the operating table, this time for a gastrostomy, that allowed him to slowly improve.

"Having a premature baby is a rollercoaster of emotions. It feels like you age 10 years in just a few months." Adrien was finally discharged from the hospital just a few days before his first birthday. For his parents, it was a huge victory.

Today, Adrien is doing well, although he suffers from a developmental delay. He takes part in occupational therapy, physiotherapy, speech therapy, and special education. "For the first time last year, we didn't have to stay in the hospital. That's a huge step for us," say his relieved parents.

Adrien's family thanks you for being there for them and for all sick children in Québec!

Sophie Chartrand and Danny Perth



## Adrien Perth 6 years old

Born prematurely, operated on several times, asthmatic

Little miracles don't happen on their own

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