

Light The House

for families at
Ronald McDonald
House BC and Yukon



RMHC[®]
British Columbia
& Yukon



Light The House

Dear Friend of the House,

Christmas is a special time of year and all families have just one wish: to spend the holidays under one roof with their loved ones. At Ronald McDonald House British Columbia and Yukon, we ensure that families who are far from home can celebrate together and enjoy the festivities of the season, even while they are going through the most difficult of times as their child receives life-saving medical treatment.

Every year, we transform the House into a festive place for families who are away from home during the holidays. To do this, we depend on support from community groups and generous donors to help us light up the House.

This year, you can help by participating in any of the following ways:

1. **Fundraise or donate \$2,000 to sponsor a tree in the House:** Your team will be invited to visit the House for a tour and spend some time decorating your tree in your own special way!
2. **Build your own community tree:** If you are a business, school group or workplace, you can sell paper RMH BC light bulbs for \$2 or \$5 each and light up your common space! Donors write their name or a message on the paper lightbulb that they purchase. Proudly show your support and recognize donors by displaying the bulbs in your space and help us Light the House from your own community.
3. **Donate to our wish list:** This will help us Light the House in other ways, such as supporting the purchase of specific gifts for children and parents. We will create a recognition ornament in your honour and display it within the House!

By supporting Light the House, you will also be invited to our Light the House Reception for a tree lighting ceremony, caroling, and holiday treats! Your tree will be on display at the House all December for the enjoyment of our families. If you are building a community tree, be sure to send in your photos to be featured in the House!

The funds donated and raised will give our families the simple comforts of home: a comfortable bed, a kitchen to enjoy a home-cooked meal and a place to put up their feet at the end of a long day. Your generosity will also provide a network of support for families who are away from their home communities during the holidays, and help provide some joy, tradition and normalcy at a time when their lives are anything but normal.

We hope you are able to join us in transforming the House into a magical home-away-from-home for the holidays and help us give the children of RMH BC the best Christmas gift of all: time spent with their families. Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,



Richard Pass Chief Executive Officer
Ronald McDonald House BC and Yukon



About Ronald McDonald House BC & Yukon

Every year, over 2,000 families from BC and Yukon communities come to Vancouver in search of lifesaving medical treatment for their seriously ill children. Emotionally drained, financially strained and far from the comforts of home, these families need a safe and affordable place where they can maintain a sense of normalcy while they deal with the challenges that come with having a child who is seriously ill.

For 35 years, Ronald McDonald House British Columbia & Yukon has provided a home-away-from home for families like this. Within our walls, kids undergoing treatment for life-threatening illnesses stay with their families and get the love and support they need as they engage in the fight of their lives. Here, parents offer mutual support to others who face similar worries and have access to services that can help to ease the many physical and emotional strains that come during the most difficult of times.

Ronald McDonald House BC and Yukon is more than just a place for families to stay – it's a place for families to heal better together.

Meet Paisley From Mission, BC

When Paisley MacRury was diagnosed with leukemia right before Christmas in 2018, her family abandoned their plans for the holidays and found themselves checking in to RMH BC on Christmas Eve.

At the House, the MacRurys found a festive and supportive environment filled with decorations, meals and activities. Generous community supporters like you helped to ease the burden on Paisley's mom Lauren and gave Paisley the chance to celebrate Christmas even while she was away from home unexpectedly.

"Although it was an extremely hard time of year for her to be diagnosed, RMH BC helped us feel a little bit like home," says Lauren, "and Santa still found us!"



172 families found a home away from home at RMH BC in December 2018.



Families stay with us anywhere from a few days to over a year. The longest consecutive stay by a guest family was **497** nights.



No one expects to spend the holidays in the hospital, but Light the House participants help keep homesickness away.



How To Get Involved

1. Sponsor a House Tree

Register: We have a limited number of trees, so reserve yours today! Please send in the attached Registration Form. Let us know if we can help you set up a personalized online fundraising page!*

Tree Decorating: [Monday, November 25 to Wednesday, November 27](#)

Come to the house for a tour and decorate your tree along with your team. While you enjoy decorating, we will play festive holiday music and serve delicious hot chocolate! RMH BC volunteers can also help you decorate your tree – please let us know in advance if you require any additional assistance.

Light the House Reception: [Thursday, November 28, 5:30 - 7pm](#)

All of our House tree sponsors and their guests are invited to join us and our families as we officially light all of our trees for the holiday season. Help us fill the House with the sound of carols and the smell of holiday treats!

Tree Take-Down: [First week of January](#)

Pick a day in the first week of January to take down your tree. Assistance from the RMH BC volunteers can be made available with advance notice. We are happy to take down your tree decorations and return them to you for a \$50 donation.

2. Build your own Local Community Tree

Register: Please send in the attached Registration Form and specify the address that RMH BC paper bulbs should be mailed to.

Build Your Tree: [Monday, November 11 to Tuesday, December 24](#)

Raise funds for families at RMH BC through the sale of paper light bulbs at your business, school or workplace. Donors can write their name or a message of hope on the bulbs, which can be purchased for \$2 or \$5 each. Help us Light the House from your own community by proudly displaying your bulbs on the wall. Be sure to send us pictures to be featured in the House during the reception and tag us in any social media posts: **#rmhbc**.

Light the House Reception: [Thursday, November 28, 5:30 - 7pm](#)

All of our House tree sponsors and their guests are invited to join us and our families as we officially light all of our trees for the holiday season. Help us fill the House with the sound of carols and the smell of holiday treats!

3. Make a Donation

Give today: Fill in the attached donation form, give a gift from our Wish List or visit our website to make a donation and help make the holidays bright for families staying with us in December.

Send In Your Recognition Name Or Personal Message: Your name or personal message will be included on an ornament that will be displayed in the House!



*Minimum fundraising of \$2,000 must be met before receiving your sponsored tree at the House.



Registration Form

Other resources that we can provide:

- A personalized online fundraising page
- Promotional posters
- RMH BC materials
- RMH BC Christmas Wish List

For more information, please contact:

Sunshine Purificacion

P: 604-736-2957
E: sunshine@rmhbc.ca

Company (if applicable): _____

Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Participation Option:

- We would like to sponsor a tree for \$2,000.
 My tree decorations are items to be donated to the House and do not need to be returned.
- We would like to participate by building a paper tree in our community. Please send paper RMH BC light bulbs to the address indicated above.
- We would like to make a donation of \$_____ (min. \$100) to support the families of the House this Christmas. Please indicate the name or message to be included in the recognition ornament:

If option 1 or 3 selected, please specify your preferred payment method:

- Cheque (made payable to Ronald McDonald House BC & Yukon)
- Visa Mastercard Amex

Cardholder Name: _____

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiry: _____ / _____ CSV: _____ Amount: _____

