

Like most teenagers, 15-year-old Isaac's favourite thing to do is chill with friends, whether it's playing video games or sports. And though the past year has been anything but normal for Isaac and his family from Prince Rupert, staying at RMH BC has meant that he has a community of friends behind him when it matters most.

On April 1, 2018, "the worst April Fool's day ever," Isaac Mastroianni and his family travelled from Prince Rupert to Vancouver to begin long-term chemo treatment for a brain tumour and Ronald McDonald House BC and Yukon became home.

For Isaac, the House is a break from the hospital – a place where he can go outside and play basketball, enjoy dinners cooked by volunteers, and spend an afternoon playing video games with friends who are also in treatment.

RMH BC has also taken care of Isaac's whole family. Isaac's younger sister Jillian has been with him every step of the way, and at the House she also has kids to connect with who know what it's like when your sibling is sick. The whole family appreciates the many activities around the House that help provide a break from the hospital. "This place has everything," says Isaac's mom Gina, from the location to the community of other families, staff, donors and volunteers.

"We can't say thank you enough," says dad Mark. "You took away one of the major stresses – where are we going to stay – and took away a lot of the cost as well, so we can focus on being together and getting through each day."