

Bill and Maureen Watchorn believe that the work that Rossbrook House does is important. *“It provides a pathway to a better future for the kids and the inclusive nature of Rossbrook House extends the positive impact to their families”*, Bill said. **And that is why they have been so involved with Rossbrook House for the past twenty years.** It’s also why they have made plans to continue their support of Rossbrook.



In the late 1990s, Bill helped to recruit a small group of business leaders to raise funds for a capital project; to build an expansion to Rossbrook House. That expansion was completed in 1999 and holds a small gym and library plus an upstairs board room and office space. The fundraising goal was exceeded.

During that time Bill spent a great deal of time at Rossbrook and was impressed with the programming that was being provided to the children and youth in the community. *“At that point we had excess funds on hand and we discussed what to do with the money”*, Bill explained.

These discussions brought forth the creation of the Rossbrook House Foundation in 2006.

“The purpose of the Foundation is to provide a financial backstop for RH to ensure its commitment to the kids and community could continue without interruption”. Bill was the first Chair of the Foundation and was a member of that board until 2016.

Bill and Maureen also graciously opened their cabin at Victoria Beach to students from Rossbrook House. They, along with a neighbour, would turn over their cabins to staff and students for a week each summer. The cabin-owners would meet the kids on their first and last days, to enjoy a meal together and hear their vacation stories.

“We witnessed first-hand the great work Rossbrook House was doing in the community and the great impact it was having on the kids”, Bill said.

Bill and Maureen revised their wills in 2012. *“The kids from Rossbrook House were very much on our minds so it was a short leap for my wife Maureen, daughter Meghan, and me to include a legacy gift for the Rossbrook House Foundation in our wills”*.

“Rossbrook House is a very valuable organization in our city. We feel our legacy gift is the best way we can continue to support it.”