



SPRING 2022

Rossbrook House Circle



"No child who does not want to be alone, should ever have to be" -Sister Geraldine MacNamara

Mother Earth, We Love You

Rossbrook House and Green Action Centre have teamed up with Depave Paradise project to remove the concrete in front of Rossbrook House. We will be creating a beautiful garden/green space for all to enjoy later this spring. The new frontage will be called **Maamaa-Ahki Gizaagi-igoo: Mother Earth, We Love You.**

Working with Josep Seras Gubert, Sustainability Projects Coordinator from Green Action Centre has been enjoyable and inspiring. We can't wait to share the new space with our neighbours.



Past depaving projects have included rain gardens, edible gardens, sensory gardens, naturalization, planting of trees, and green playgrounds.

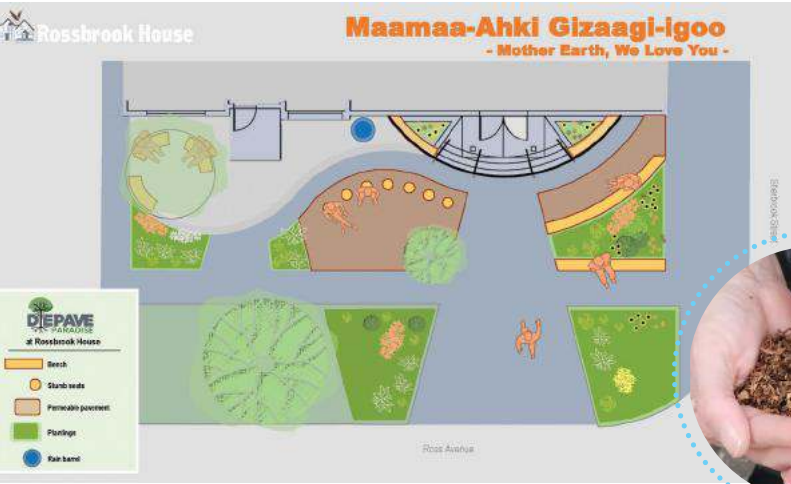
A Blessing Ceremony was held in the fall in front of Rossbrook House in anticipation of the project.

"Green Action Centre feels very excited and proud to co-design a project where community members will come together in the spring to tear up concrete and create a new green space," Josep

said. *"We have amazing professional collaborations like HTFC, a firm specialized in landscape architecture, providing us technical support. Liberty Brothers Landscaping and Fencing, contractors that also used to come to Rossbrook House as participants. However, the most important collaboration is you. That is why we invite you to join this project to bring beauty and natural life to the neighbourhood."*



We will be looking for volunteers to help us with the tearing up of the concrete as well as the installation of the new garden.



LASTING LEGACY

Jeff and Mary Morton say they both grew up in homes where they were taught to give back to their communities.

"Our parents prioritized volunteering and sharing what they had through financial donations and/or investing their time in community-focused organizations," Mary says.

They have both found ways to volunteer for things they considered important.

Jeff and Mary have made a planned gift in support of Rossbrook House and are Rossbrook House Foundation Legacy Circle members.

A **planned gift** is a major gift made in collaboration with a donor's financial and/or estate planning.

The most common type of planned gift is a bequest – a gift left in one's will. While many choose to keep their planned gifts anonymous, those who inform Rossbrook House of theirs become members of the **Legacy Circle**.

As a teacher, Mary understands how important it is for every child to have a nurturing, safe space in which to thrive.

As parents and grandparents, Mary and Jeff both believe all children have a right to personal security, to opportunities that allow them to develop socially, spiritually, intellectually and physically, and to lots and lots of love.



They say that Rossbrook House offers all these opportunities.

As a student at St. Mary's Academy, Mary became aware of the important community work being done by Rossbrook House. Jeff and Mary offer this advice to anyone considering making a planned gift:

Making a legacy gift is a way of communicating to the world what is important to you. It's also a kindness to one's Executor and family members who may be looking for ways to honour your memory. It's one way to share the abundance with which we've been blessed in a meaningful way.

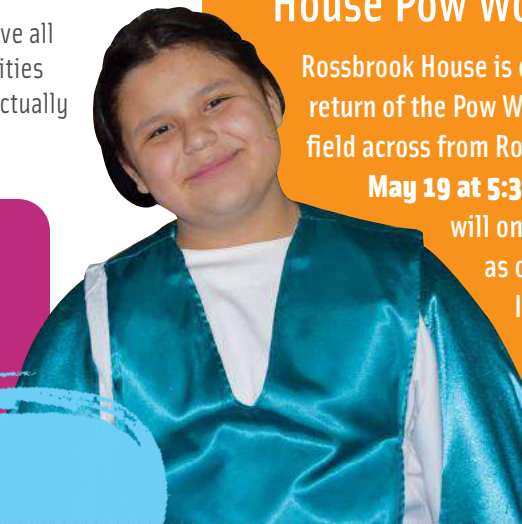
Rossbrook House is a very worthy recipient of donors' consideration, given the vital role it plays in the lives of children in our community.

Read more: rossbrookhouse.ca/legacy-jeff-and-mary-morton

Join us for the Rossbrook House Pow Wow: **MAY 19**

Rossbrook House is excited to announce the return of the Pow Wow! Please join us in the open field across from Rossbrook House on **Thursday, May 19 at 5:30pm**. The children and youth will once again be dancing as well as other community members. It's always a gorgeous and wonderful event. We'd love to see you there.

For more information on making a planned gift to Rossbrook House Foundation, please contact **Stephanie Lambert** at 204.949.4092 or slambert@rossbrookhouse.ca



RENOVATIONS THANKS TO GENEROUS DONORS

2021 was a busy year. Rossbrook House was **open every day for children and youth**, much of the time for 24 hours. During this time some very generous supporters heard that the elevator at 658 Ross needed repair. This group quickly put some funds together that not only helped Rossbrook House to be completely accessible for all, but they also made it possible to renovate the washrooms in the basement, along with a grant from the Thomas Sill Foundation. Now there are two spacious and accessible, single person washrooms for participants and guests.

One of these kind donors who initiated this fundraiser (and wishes to remain anonymous) had this to say: *"When the need for important repairs was identified there was an immediate response to my request for support. Rossbrook House is well known to provide a valuable service and a commitment to funding the project immediately followed. We need to help our youth grow into valued community members and in turn they can provide the necessary support for the future."*

We are very grateful to these amazing supporters who continue to keep the children and youth of Rossbrook House in their hearts.



The kitchen continues to prepare two delicious meals a day: Weekday lunches for the Eagles' Circle students and after-school 'snack' for all children and youth who drop in. Weekends include a brunch and late afternoon meal.



The Young Mothers' program is running once a week (after a brief COVID hiatus). Their children are looked after at Rossbrook House while the young moms enjoy an outing with their peers.



Thank you to young artist Breanna for sharing her talents with Rossbrook House. She created this original design, as well as many other beautiful pieces of art that we have turned into cups and cards.