



FALL 2022

Rossbrook



House Circle

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

Meet Patty.

"Once a 'Brooker, always a Brooker', which holds true for a lot of us."

You could say that Patty Mainville has **returned** to Rossbrook House. She officially took over as Executive Director in early September.

"The amount of supports and mentors I have had over the years have been instrumental in the direction in which my life has led me, which is full circle," Patty says.

As a youth, Patty attended Rossbrook House programs, was a junior staff member and graduated from Rising Sun high school. She went on to become a teacher and a principal in the Winnipeg School Division. Although she never stayed too far away from Rossbrook House, returning each year to help prepare the dancers for the annual Rossbrook House Pow Wow with not only the correct steps but cultural teachings as well.

"I became involved in Pow Wow as a Jingle Dress dancer at a time in my life where I needed to connect with my Indigenous teachings, traditions, and ceremony. The positive lifestyle and pride of the Indigenous culture was not always made available to me as a child, and I always wanted to share this with youth."

Patty is Anishinabek from Treaty 3, Couchiching First Nation Ontario. She is a proud mother of four sons, a grandmother and great-grandmother.

"One of the many focuses of Rossbrook House is to mentor the participants with leadership skills and to build



on their strengths," she says. "I have had the honour to know and be mentored over the years by many of the great people who have built, lead and contributed to Rossbrook House, from the Nuns to the many staff, and participants."

Patty's skills and experiences as an educator have given her insights into youth and community that will help drive and support the work that we do. "I believe in providing youth with a safe place to grow, learn, and become. To offer support, skills, tools, and teachings so that youth can self-determine their own journey and navigate through their paths."

Patty is looking forward to meeting more community members, stakeholders, participants, and funders.

"I will always be thankful to the Rossbrook House family and am excited about this next chapter".



Outgoing ED Phil Chiappetta says "Patty brings a calm, steady leadership style with a wonderful sense of humour to Rossbrook House. She proudly shares the dignity and power of her Indigenous heritage. Her full circle journey from Rossbrook House participant to Executive Director is an inspiration to all the young people coming through our doors."

We're thankful to Phil for his dedication to children and youth and all he has done these last 42 years at Rossbrook House. We wish him well in his retirement.

Rossbrook House Open House returns Thursday, November 3 at 11am. Come by to purchase craft items from the three alternative school programs and to celebrate our scholarship winners.

“Our city is only as vibrant and healthy as our children and their families.”

For former member of the Rossbrook House Board Susan Millican, supporting Rossbrook House is a family tradition. Susan was introduced to Rossbrook House by her mother Sheila Chipman. Introducing Susan to Rossbrook House, along with Sheila's three hero's, Sister Bernadette, Sister Margaret & Sister Lesley, “was a part of her legacy!” The commitment of these three women to the children of Rossbrook House continues to be an inspiration to many.

Susan, and her husband James, have built on her mother's legacy by arranging for a planned gift in support of Rossbrook House and joining the Foundation's Legacy Circle. When asked why leave a planned gift in support of Rossbrook House Susan shared that

“once you visit Rossbrook House and meet the children your heart is open to helping in anyway you can.” Susan is an active member of the Rossbrook House community,

in addition to being a financial supporter she is currently volunteering on the 2023 No Child Alone Dinner Committee.

A firm believer that those who “can have a responsibility to help ensure that all Winnipeg children can reach their potential.” Susan shares the importance of facilitating equal playing fields for children to succeed, while acknowledging that “it takes time to make significant changes in the world.” Susan sees their legacy gift as a way to “ensure your commitments to a cause continue after you're gone.”

To those considering making a legacy gift Susan says...

My father had 12 precepts that he lived by. The first precept was “The winners in the world are those who give”. To me it always sounded like a wise and true adage. Leaving a legacy is an important way to continue giving.

Interested in learning more about the Rossbrook House Foundation Legacy Circle? Visit us at rossbrookhouse.ca/foundation/planned-giving/

Interested in learning more about planned giving? Visit WillPower.ca for helpful tools including resources on financial planning & will writing to help you save on taxes, and a directory of financial & legal advisors.



Rossbrook House Foundation

THANK YOU to all who supported Rossbrook House through the Foundation's fall 50/50. Itching to try your luck again? Stay tuned for our next 50/50 in February.

TICKETS ON SALE October 27 for the 2023 **No Child Alone Dinner** in support of Rossbrook House occurring April 23.

STAY TUNED for information on the return of **Paint “Night”** in support of Rossbrook House, occurring January 29.



Going **sage picking** was just one of the summer outings for 2022. Our summer programs included many fun and engaging outings for children and youth, and for participants in the Young Mothers' program and their youngsters.

Camp Maskwa returned with two week-long overnight stays for two large groups. Youth and staff were thrilled to once again take part in a variety of outdoor activities- and get out of the city!



So many children and youth took part in **planting the new green spaces** in front of Rossbrook House in July. Working together, we planted several different native plants including yarrow, wild bergamot, purple coneflower and, a paper birch tree.

STAY IN TOUCH



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