



SPRING 2025

Rossbrook



House Circle

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

No Child Alone Dinner 2025

Rossbrook House Foundation hosted the **No Child Alone dinner April 24** at RBC Convention Centre in support of Rossbrook House programs. It was a beautiful evening filled with inspiring messages. Thank you to all who were in attendance or supported in other ways.

Honorary co-chairs, Shelley and Larry McIntosh, welcomed the 320 guests after the Grand Entry of young dancers from Rossbrook House. Emcee, Autumn, kept things flowing while also sharing her story of growing up at Rossbrook House. *"Rossbrook House has helped me grow and succeed and I am forever grateful for the opportunities and experiences, like this one tonight,"* she said.

The evening included a silent auction that helped to raise funds for programs and operations. Thank you to all the silent auction prize donors.

And there was a 'fund-a-need' to raise money for the Young Mothers' program. Thanks to participant, Alex, who shared her story about how this program helped her and her young family.

"During my son's early years, there were many times when I felt isolated and alone. I first started going to the Young Mothers' Program at Rossbrook House in 2021. At the time, my older



son had just turned 2. Right away, I felt welcomed, and we enjoyed attending every week. The program gave me something I really needed—community."

Rising Sun student and Junior staff member Jade also shared how Rossbrook House has made a difference in her life. *"When I was in 9th grade, my teacher, Claire, (at Eagles' Circle) saw something in me, and she helped me to grow my leadership skills. Claire encouraged me to apply for the Junior Staff job. It's really helped me a lot."* Jade also

talked about her family and being the oldest of 5 children. "Being the oldest I have to be a role model, not only for my siblings, but also for the kids at Rossbrook House," she said.

There were beautiful performances by two Rising Sun students who have been taking music lessons from the drop-in program and at school. Thank you, Austin Desmarais-Thordarson and Trinity Apetagon.

The Foundation strives to spread the word about Rossbrook House and its programs for children and youth. The Dinner is a great way to share what Rossbrook House does with a larger audience while showcasing some of the programs, staff, and participants. Thank you to the many sponsors and table purchasers who helped to make it all possible!

Rossbrook House is making plans to celebrate its 50th year in 2026 in a variety of ways. Stay tuned to rossbrookhouse.ca and social media so that you can join in the celebrations.



STAY IN TOUCH



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Show Your Heart Radiothon

On February 14, Rossbrook House Foundation hosted the 'Show Your Heart Radiothon' on CJOB. It was a great way to not only raise funds for programs, but to also reach a wider audience. It was an exciting day with volunteers taking calls while a variety of Rossbrook House staff and participants shared their inspiring stories.



Like Tannis, a Youth Worker, who started dropping in to Rossbrook House in grade 2.

"When I started connecting with the kids, it reminded me of how I felt when I was their age. Coming to Rossbrook House, excited to see certain staff. That's what I want to be for the kids today."

And Terry who shared how it felt to get his first-ever birthday cake when he turned 13.

Listeners were touched by what they learned about Rossbrook House and its programs and showed their support. Thank you to the many supporters and sponsors. It was a great day and one that we won't soon forget!



2nd Annual Futures Fair, one in the evening for drop-in participants and another during the day for Rising Sun & Eagles' Circle students, were held in March. Thank you to the organizations and businesses that shared their knowledge.



Participants are learning to budget, shop, and cook meals and other delicious treats with the Cooking in the Kitchen program.



A favourite activity is van rides, like this one to Selkirk. The youth love touring the city and province, and nearby sites, listening to music, and being with their friends.



New Program with New Opportunities

There's a new Young Men's program underway at Rossbrook House called oshki-ininiwag giwiitaabiwag (translates to young men sitting in a circle in Anishinabemowin). They meet once a week with Indigenous Way of Life Coordinator, Mitch. The goal is to create a sense of community with support systems.

The group will learn about themselves, can attend sweat lodge, and take part in land-based learning such as medicine picking and fishing, as well as learn how to be healthy and supportive young men. There will also be cultural teachings from Knowledge Keepers and Elders.



UPCOMING
EVENTS

Rossbrook House Annual
Community Pow Wow
Thursday, June 12, 5:30pm

Annual Community
Meeting
Thursday, June 26, 8am