



The Vanderhoof Community Foundation wishes to announce our first ‘Named Fund’ donation from the LaForge Family of Vanderhoof. They have donated \$10,000 to our endowment fund and the income earned from this donation will be directed to our general granting fund account as per their wishes. We are excited to make this opportunity available to the community as a way of honouring the families, businesses and individuals that have made Vanderhoof what it is today and what it will be tomorrow.

Kathie LaForge tells us about their decision to set up a Fund in their name.

“Bill and I moved from Dawson Creek, BC in 1978 just after we were married. We both had jobs here and were able to afford to build a home on 5 acres. Our story is similar to many, we came here for two years and we now are close to 43 years in this community and in the same home. Our two boys, Brett and Tye, were born and raised here. Bill became a partner in Avison Management Services (Forestry Consulting) in 1984 and I worked for the Federal Government, the Municipal Government and Private Sector.

This community has been so good to us. We have had opportunities here that we would never have had in a bigger centre. Our commute to work was about 5 minutes drive and if we were energetic we could walk. Recreational opportunities included skiing (downhill and cross country), slow pitch baseball, curling and golf (will more like hacking). The boys were in T-ball, Minor Hockey and Soccer. They took guitar lessons and were involved in theatre through school.

The medical facilities here are the best! I know this first-hand as I was diagnosed with Colorectal Cancer in 2013 and was able to have my chemo treatments in our Oncology Unit and with the wonderful care I received, I’m happy to report that I am cancer free. After being on her own, for a few years, my Mom moved from Quesnel to Vanderhoof and after a year in our home is now at the Stuart Nechako Manor (Long Term Care Facility).

We are big believers in volunteering in our community and over the years we have been involved with the Chamber of Commerce, Vanderhoof Co-Op, Nechako Valley Credit Union, Nechako Kitimaat Development Fund Society, UNBC and more recently, the Canadian Rangers and the Vanderhoof Community Foundation. We agree that if we had been in a bigger centre, its doubtful that we would have had these opportunities which not only allowed us to give to our community but helped develop our own skills which we applied to other areas of our life.

Now we are retired and are thinking about our future and the future of our family. Although our sons are not living in Vanderhoof, they are happy that we are donating back to the community that they consider their home. We chose the Foundation for our donation as instead of having our donated funds spent, they are invested and only the returns on this investment are granted so our money will stay with the Foundation in perpetuity. Our Financial Advisor suggested that we donate some of our securities from our investments as this would reduce the capital gains we have to pay when these funds were

going to be sold anyway, and we also receive a tax receipt for our donation so it will reduce our taxes all the way round. This will work out much better for us than making a monthly cash/credit card donation.

We have decided that the income from our donation, will be added to the general grant funds so that the Foundation can help more organizations provide more programs and services in the community to help them achieve their goal of Building Community, Today, Tomorrow and Forever!"

If anyone is interested in looking into this type of an opportunity for themselves, their family or their business, please feel free to connect with the Vanderhoof Community Foundation for more information at legacy@vhfcf.org or phone 250-570-9320. Check out our website at www.vhfcf.org

