THANK YOU for offering the warmth and support of home to those who must leave their own to access important health services

LAST YEAR

You are truly making a difference in people’s lives! Last year, your generous support meant A Port in the Storm could say ‘yes’ to more than 155 guests who were seeking affordable, comfortable accommodations when they had to travel to Winnipeg for medical care.

We are pleased to give you an update on the impact of your gift.

You inspired our guests to ‘pay it forward’.

Doug was diagnosed with prostate cancer in early 2015 and had surgery in June of that year. Unfortunately, a year later we found out that he needed further treatment, involving 2 months in Winnipeg for radiation. In addition to the disappointment of finding out Doug still had cancer, we were absolutely overwhelmed by the prospect of managing 2 months in Winnipeg. We had no support system there. We needed accommodations, parking, laundry, meals and we needed to be able to afford it all.

We had heard through the grapevine through another couple who had stayed at a place called A Port in the Storm, when they needed medical care. I called them to ask about it. They could not say enough good and we were sold! A Port in the Storm eliminated the worries we had about putting together the resources to stay in Winnipeg for two months. Once we arrived, in November of 2016, we were so pleased to discover the kindness and support of the staff and how helpful it was to be with other people going through the same experience.

Following Doug’s radiation treatment, we were again disappointed to learn that were not done yet. In August of 2017, Doug started a year of hormone therapy. In February of 2018 we found out that he was cancer-free! Prior to Doug’s diagnosis in 2015, we had been planning our trip of a lifetime to Australia to visit my daughter. It had been put on hold for three years. Upon hearing the good news, we finally booked our trip and spent the past December and January in Australia. It was wonderful. Doug has remained cancer-free for a year now and feels great.

You’re a great neighbour!

Your contribution to A Port in the Storm is helping people from communities all across Manitoba and Northwest Ontario...and beyond!

You help so many people!

• 100% of guest survey respondents say they would stay with us again
• One client has stayed with us 17 times
• We welcomed more than 150 guests in the past year
• Our guests come from as far away as Penticton BC, as far south as Dominion City, MB and as far north as Nunavut
• Most guests are in Winnipeg for cancer treatment or dialysis. Other reasons include surgeries, diagnostic tests and cardiac care.
• The average length of a guest stay is 21 days; the longest stay was over 700 days!
YOU give people “a safe haven”.

Your support of A Port in the Storm gives our guests a lot more than affordable accommodation. You make Port ‘a place to call home’ where guests can curl up and watch TV with their loved ones, prepare favourite meals in their fully-equipped kitchen and make new friends in our group activities.

Continued from front

Doug and I are well aware that Port was available to us through the generous donors that support it. We wanted to show our appreciation by giving back in some way to help to ensure that Port remains available to others like us – people who need a calm haven in the storm caused by a devastating diagnosis requiring relocation to Winnipeg for treatment. Fortunately, we had a way to do that.

We enjoy playing music and know others who love the opportunity to play, as well as many people who enjoy listening to live music. About five years ago, we thought it would be fun to organize concerts in our house featuring the local talent and invite people to come. We call our series Local Roots. We put on about six concerts a year. Usually our concerts are free. However, Local Roots has grown to the point where, thanks to our generous performers and community members, we can present a couple of each year’s concerts as fundraisers. We are dedicating one concert a year as a fundraiser for Port.

Our first Port concert was held in April 2018 at Johnny’s Social Club, a local music venue. The venue was generously donated to us by the owners Greg East and Mark Rower and we raised $1,868 for Port! Since then, we held a second fundraiser last month and raised $1,517! Thank-you to all the musicians and support of the community for your generosity!

– Ann Ross, Flin Flon, MB

“We were very fortunate to have a friend recommend Port in the Storm. The name says it all. When emotions are running high and so many decisions must be made, Port offers a safe haven. It is truly a home away from home, a place to feel comfortable and relaxed.”

– Elaine, Flin Flon, MB

“We had everything we needed and more. Thank you for relieving us of a major concern in dealing with all the issues related to having to be away from home for so long and having a major illness.”

– Pam, Thompson, MB