

Lindsay Babineau's Abbotsford Legacy Story

October 1, 2015

As the undersigned, I promise to contribute to the future of the community of Abbotsford through a bequest to the Abbotsford Community Foundation

Lindsay was born in 1954 in Saskatoon, close to the family farm where his Scottish Grandmother and Acadian Grandfather chose to settle. After World War II, his father played football for the Saskatchewan Rough Riders for several years and then coached the Saskatchewan "Hilltops" for 10 years leading them to win three Dominion championships. He was honoured when they named their juvenile football team the "Babineau Warriors".



The Babineau family moved to Winnipeg in 1960 where Lindsay lived to the mid 70's. After earning his undergraduate degree in Agriculture at the University of Manitoba, he moved to Alberta to take a job with Cargill Grains' livestock division. One summer his job took him to the Peace River Country of BC where he met his wife, also named "Lindsay", at a local fair and tractor pull event. She was a student teacher doing her practicum. At the end of the summer she returned to her home town of Vancouver. "I couldn't convince a Vancouver girl to move to the Prairies," Lindsay said. "So I came to Vancouver and we were married in September, 1979 and celebrated our 36th wedding anniversary this year."

Passionate about horses, Lindsay owns a retired ranch horse named "Waylon" and the two of them enjoy getting away into the back country, along with other "wannabee cowboys" whenever possible.

The Babineaus have two children – Jessica Mary who was born in 1986 who in 2015 graduated with a law degree from the University of Calgary and is now articling with Field Law in Alberta. Their son, John Eric, was born in 1988, is a professional engineer and now works with the Ministry of Transportation in Victoria.

His wife Lindsay left the classroom 18 years ago to lead a fledgling foundation known as British Columbia Agriculture in Classroom. As Executive Director of BCAITC she was passionate about teaching children throughout the province about where their food comes from and the importance farming in everyone's life. The Foundation is also responsible for the delivery of fresh fruits and vegetables to over 1,200 schools throughout B.C. each month of the school year.

As for Lindsay's career, after a brief stint selling pigs for the Cargill Hot Farm in Mt. Lehman, he transitioned into a banking career with the Bank of BC in 1981 as an agrologist. In 1987 he joined First Heritage Savings Credit Union, which today is known as Envision Financial. In 1994 he returned to the Bank of BC, which had since become HSBC, and in 2012 took a position with the Canadian Western Bank.

Lindsay has served his community for many years in different capacities including 12 years of the board of AgriFair and coaching his son's minor soccer team for the same amount of time. He was a Rotarian for 10 years and is currently on the boards of the Abbotsford Airport Authority and United Way of the Fraser Valley, plus he sits as a member of the Planned Giving Committee of the Abbotsford Community Foundation. He and his wife have lived in Mt. Lehman since 1981 where they very soon plan to spend their retirement.

Lindsay Babineau