

What being a Rotary host family has meant to Chris and Peter:

Being a Rotary host family has been a very positive experience. We had the privilege of getting to know four wonderful young adults, from Brazil, Ecuador, Bolivia and Germany. Each of them shared their culture, music, food and joy of life with us. And we have had the opportunity to visit some of them on our subsequent travels. The biggest advantage we saw in hosting Rotary exchange students was the impact they had on our children. Two of our three children went on to experience Rotary exchanges; one in Berlin, Germany, and the other in Portoviejo, Ecuador. We saw a tremendous growth in their confidence, language skills (of course!) and their ability to problem solve and search out new opportunities in their life and educational pursuits since they have come back to Canada. In terms of Canadian students whom our exchange students went to school with here in Rossland, it was interesting to see how they integrated with the international students while at the same time learning about their cultures. We encourage any family who is considering hosting an exchange student to 'go for it'! Your lives will be positively changed as you create lifelong friendships, foster international relations in your community and give these students the opportunity to explore and learn about Canada.