## **Bill Groenheide**

Every day I am

- a husband, a father of 4 and a grandfather
- a full time farmer
- a person who enjoys being part of agriculture in Ontario

In our community, I am currently

- A municipal councilor
- Board Chair Thunder Bay Country Market

Leading up to the present I participated as a

- Member of the originating Thunder Bay Federation of Agriculture
- Board member of the Beef Farmers of Thunder Bay
- Board member @ Thunder Bay Co-op Farm Supplies
- Board member @ Hymers Agricultural Society
- Member of the rural Police Board
- Graduate of Class 12 Advanced Agricultural Leadership Program

The following things are important to me

- Growing farms and farming in the north and northwest
- Finding programs, both provincial and federal, that work for the north
- Working on a solution to help young farmers get a start in agriculture
- Sustainable farming
- Food Security for the north, northern communities and also for Canada as a whole
- Fair trade agreements with other countries
- Different commodity groups collaborating to promote all sectors of farming.
- Strong ethics in helping people work together for a better community as a whole

We have operated Tarrymore Farms since 1990. It has been in our family since 1970. I cannot remember a time that I wasn't in some way involved in agriculture. It was working in the market garden for one uncle, on the dairy farm for another uncle and grain farming for yet another relative. My first choice has always been agriculture.

Currently on our farm we have beef cattle, a chicken flock and a diverse selection of crops. I am married to Jenny and we have four grown sons with wives and children. Two of our sons are joining us in active farming. As I am not someone to sit around, this gives me an opportunity to serve on a board such as the Ontario Federation of Agriculture. Should Zone 15 members feel that I could do this, I would look forward to meeting more of you and working towards a common goal of growing agriculture in our areas.

