

Why I chose to leave a legacy gift

by Dorothy Grant



If you've ever been to the hospital for care, or accompanied a loved one, you know that the waiting room is often full of emotions. Worry and relief, pain and comfort, sorrow and joy, you'll find them all in a hospital waiting room. Yet ***the one emotion that overwhelms me every time I visit the QEII Health Sciences Centre is gratitude.***

On a recent trip to the hospital, as I sat anxiously waiting, I looked around the room and saw my own feelings of hope and uncertainty mirrored in the faces of the families seated around me. Yet when I spoke to the people waiting with me, I kept hearing the same sentiment that I found so comforting. It was the moving conviction we all seemed to share that this is a wonderful place.

Over the years, I've become aware of the QEII as a result of a number of memorable and very moving "up close" experiences. As a consumer affairs reporter with the CBC in Halifax, I've interviewed numerous doctors, hoping this would prove to be a fulfilling way to educate the public about our health care system and the positive effect it continues to have on countless lives.

I've also seen how the QEII is a centre of excellence in medical research and is actively engaged in training the next generation of medical professionals. It is constantly innovating, creating a growing series of endowed medical research chairs, which are putting Atlantic Canada on the international map for medical research and are helping cure diseases that affect our communities. In addition, the facility is world-renowned for the type of patient care that my husband and many of our friends and family have received.

From every perspective, ***the QEII has earned my complete admiration and devotion.*** That is why my husband and I have decided to leave a gift in our estate plans to the QEII Foundation. A legacy gift is our way of making an enduring commitment to the QEII. We feel strongly about the importance of leaving a lasting legacy for future generations—one that recognizes how important the QEII Health Sciences Centre has been for our family and for all of Atlantic Canada. Legacy giving will help the QEII remain at the intersection of cutting-edge research and, above all, compassionate care long into the future.

Please consider joining me and all those families in the waiting rooms of this outstanding medical facility by tangibly expressing your gratitude. I am convinced that this is the ideal way to express a truly heartfelt, "Thank you so much!"

With a little help from all of us, the QEII will always be a wonderful place for patients and their families when they most need its extraordinary services.

Donor Teas



Thank you to all our donors who joined us for tea this spring and fall. The spring session was led by Dr. Louise Parker who spoke about the population cancer study underway in Atlantic Canada. The fall tea featured Dr. Gord Gubitz who discussed stroke prevention and treatment.



Phyllis Webber with special guest Dr. Louise Parker.



Evelyn and Dean Salsman at the spring donor tea.



Foundation friends enjoy a cup of tea at the fall donor event.



Charitable Giving with Life Insurance

Planned giving using life insurance is an increasingly attractive strategy for people who are charitably minded. A gift of life insurance allows you to make a significant gift at a fraction of the value from your disposable income. A life insurance gift can allow you to become a benefactor at a level you might not otherwise be able to attain. It can leave a lasting legacy and provide the QEII Foundation with stable funding over the long term without reducing the estate available to your heirs.

Funding a charitable gift with life insurance can be done in several ways:

1. Life insurance can fund a bequest through the will.

2. The QEII Foundation could own the policy.

- Donors receive an annual tax receipt on premiums paid if the Foundation is made both owner and beneficiary of the policy.

3. The donor can own the policy and name the Foundation as beneficiary.

- Donors receive a tax receipt calculated from the death benefit in the year of death if they own the policy and name the Foundation as the beneficiary.

When choosing to elect option two or three, the life insurance proceeds are not considered part of the estate. There are no probate taxes or creditor claims on this amount, and it is totally private. The Foundation immediately gets the proceeds when the donor passes away, which can be a substantially larger donation than if the donor gave cash every year. A bequest created by a will, by contrast, may not be settled for a considerable period of time.

A donor can purchase a new policy on their own life or a joint last-to-die policy on their life and that of their spouse. A joint policy is normally much lower in cost, as such allows a larger eventual gift for the same premium cost. Donors can also give an existing policy and receive a tax receipt for the greater of the policy's cash surrender value or its fair market value. These values can be significant for policies that have been in force for many years.

An important feature of permanent life insurance is the tax free accumulation of cash value inside the policy. This will be of particular interest to donors who currently pay tax on the growth of their non-registered investment portfolios. The tax free growth of cash within the policy can greatly increase the policy's eventual benefit to the Foundation.

In summary, life insurance is a very effective tool to guarantee a significant gift to a charity such as the QEII Foundation. There are various aspects to making this type of gift. In order to ensure that your wishes are met in the most effective way, for both you and the Foundation, consulting with a financial security advisor is recommended.

Roger Sinclair is a financial security advisor with Sinclair Financial Ltd. Roger can be reached at rsinclair@sbwdirection.com, or by calling 902-425-6438.

Thanks to You ~ Charles O'Neil, Gift Planning Advisor, QEII Foundation



The QEII Foundation is grateful for the contributions that arrive daily helping to support the life giving care provided by our dedicated physicians and staff. Thanks to you the Foundation transferred over \$8 million to the QEII in 2009 to support research, equipment purchases and patient programs that just wouldn't be possible without these funds. Together, we can and do make a difference!

By reviewing your estate and financial plan with your advisor you may discover that a charitable gift could be part of that plan; a gift that gives you peace of mind and speaks to your values and the causes important to you. Whenever the time is right for you please consider a gift to the QEII Foundation in your estate plan!

For more information on arranging a legacy gift in your will, please contact Charles at 902-473-4511 or charles.o'neil@qe2foundation.ca. Visit our website at www.qe2foundation.ca.

YES, I would like to learn more about how I can support health and healing at the QEII Health Sciences Centre. Please send me further information on:

Charitable business no. 88646 3496 RR0001

- writing my Will
- gifts of securities
- planning my estate (free booklet)
- gifts of life insurance
- I have already remembered the QEII Foundation in my Will.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ PROV _____ PC _____

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Please send this completed form to: [QEII Foundation, 1276 South Park Street, Centennial Building, Room 1-040, Halifax, NS B3H 2Y9](mailto:QEII_Foundation@1276_South_Park_Street_Centennial_Building_Room_1-040_Halifax_NS_B3H_2Y9) Vol.4 No.1