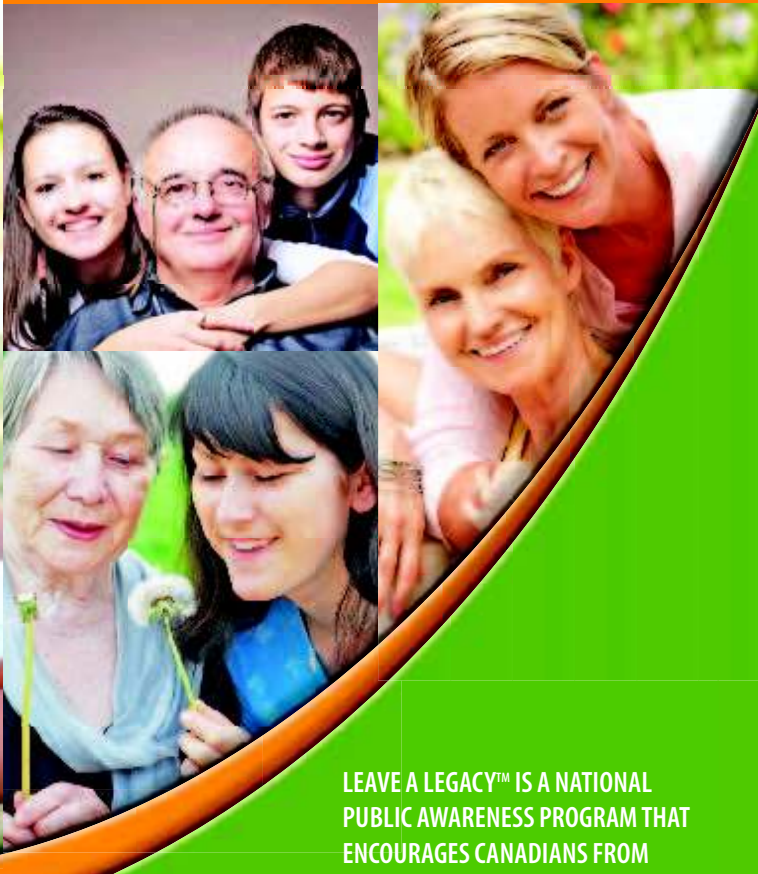





LEAVE A LEGACY™

MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES THAT FOLLOW



LEAVE A LEGACY™ IS A NATIONAL PUBLIC AWARENESS PROGRAM THAT ENCOURAGES CANADIANS FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE TO MAKE GIFTS THROUGH A WILL, LIFE INSURANCE OR OTHER GIFT-PLANNING INSTRUMENTS TO THE CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION OF THEIR CHOICE. SEE INSIDE THIS SPECIAL SECTION FOR MORE INFORMATION.



STRONGER COMMUNITIES TOGETHER™

MAY IS LEAVE A LEGACY MONTH

What is LEAVE A LEGACY?

LEAVE A LEGACY™ is a national public awareness program that encourages Canadians from all walks of life to make gifts through a will, life insurance or other gift-planning instruments to the charitable organization of their choice.

A program of the Canadian Association of Gift Planners (CAGP-ACPD), LEAVE A LEGACY is a collaborative effort of donors, charities, not-for-profit organizations and professional advisors.

The LEAVE A LEGACY program's goal is to raise awareness of the importance of thoughtful, well-planned, tax-preferred gifts and their impact on the quality of life for everyone in our communities. A legacy gift can benefit all not-for-profit groups large or small.

The Niagara Golden Horseshoe Leave a Legacy Program is region-wide (Hamilton, Burlington, Brant and Niagara areas.) Through affiliation with the Canadian Association of Gift Planners (CAGP-ACPD), it works hand in hand with

professional advisors in will and estate planning as well as charities to encourage well planned and managed giving.

Over the years there has been a growth in the estate planning industry as a whole and while many lawyers, accountants, financial advisors and insurance agents include the promotion and benefits of philanthropic giving, only a minor number of charitable donations are the result of bequests.

The goals of The Niagara Golden Horseshoe Leave a Legacy Program in association with CAGP-ACPD are twofold:

- to build local awareness of the benefits of making planned gifts that support charities and other not-for-profit groups in our local community.
- to build local programs and partnerships between donors, charities, not-for-profit groups and gift planning professionals such as estate planners, financial advisors, insurance professionals, accountants and lawyers.

This integrated, collaborative community effort creates a focused win/win situation. Individuals get professional guidance, specific to their situations and wishes through a will or an estate plan. These types of thoughtful, well-planned, tax-preferred gifts ultimately impact on the quality of life for everyone in our communities.

Any individual can plan a legacy gift, regardless of current assets or income. It provides the opportunity for individuals and families to support the causes they believe in, often in ways they might not be able to accomplish during their lives.

CAGP-ACPD Executive Director Diane MacDonald observes, "We often refer to the statistic, 80 per cent of donors give in their lifetime, while seven per cent leave a gift in their will. We feel this statistic is so low because many Canadians do not know they can leave a gift in their will. No one asks them. By spreading the message of LEAVE A LEGACY in The Niagara Golden Horseshoe Region, donors will be

better informed."

Across Canada, there are 22 local LEAVE A LEGACY committees that oversee the work of educating the public in their areas. This grassroots collaborative effort includes local charitable organizations, professional estate and financial planning organizations, financial institutions, community foundations, other funders and the media, which have embraced underlying principles of philanthropy and altruism.

Local groups are invited to partner with their LEAVE A LEGACY Committee, and for a nominal fee, receive benefits ranging from the use of the LEAVE A LEGACY logo, to inclusion of their organization's name on the local LEAVE A LEGACY website, local newspaper ads, newsletters, etc.

For more information and resources, visit the local website at www.leave-a-legacy.on.ca or the national website at www.leavealegacy.ca.



Why leaving a legacy is a great decision

Legacy, bequest, endowment – all of these terms specify that within your Will a monetary gift will be given to an association, hospital, church, charity or not-for-profit organization to which you have a special affection or connection.

These endowments are varied as are the people who finance them, the groups that benefit from them, and the reasons why people leave a legacy.

Bequests as a way to ensure a person's memory lives on within a family, community or a favourite charity. They're also a way to ensure that your favourite charity or organization can continue its important work.

Others see bequests as a way to facilitate the tax implications that come with the transfer of one's estate to surviving relatives. The variables are almost endless.

The major objective of the Niagara Golden Horseshoe Leave a Legacy initiative is to help people become aware

of the wide range of options available, so they can more easily understand and manoeuvre the entire field of philanthropic giving.

Community enrichment is of prime importance for some endowments. Charities that provide meals for isolated seniors, summer jobs for disadvantaged high school students, scholarships, funding for mental health or cancer research, local arts organizations, libraries and sports programs are just a few.

Ongoing support means financial assistance for worthwhile charitable works. Many volunteers for such organizations know that by leaving a gift in their will or estate plan they can continue to participate in spirit with their favourite cause.

There are many ongoing services, from homeless shelters, to disability and senior services support groups and like-minded organizations, that make an important difference in our communities. What

better way to thank these people and organizations than by remembering them with a contribution from your estate through a bequest?

Many people are surprised that such charitable gifts can also be a very practical addition to a financial or estate plan when tax issues are taken into consideration – even for those who think they may not have tax issues. More often than not, the tax burden left to relatives is lifted significantly.

At one time or another many of us have received some type of assistance, whether it is physical, financial or spiritual.

There are enormous support networks within our community that provide many forms of assistance, as well as those that contribute to personal and community enrichment. Get to know them and consider making a contribution to those charitable organizations that you value most.



Rose Garden, Hendrie Park



Sue Perrin
On the trails



Hendrie Valley Sanctuary



**ROYAL
BOTANICAL
GARDENS**
www.rbg.ca

The beauty of Royal Botanical Gardens belongs to you



Ensure its beauty endures ...
season to season ...
generation to generation

Leave your Legacy — Join the Laking Sustaining Society

Members of Royal Botanical
Gardens' Laking Sustaining
Society are recognized
for making life-legacy
contributions through
their estates.

**For more information on how to make a difference,
contact:** Darlene Bennett-Howes, Director of Business
Development and Fundraising
905-527-1158, ext. 295 ; dbennett-howes@rbg.ca
RBG Centre, 680 Plains Road West, Hamilton/Burlington

Royal Botanical Gardens
is a proud member of: **Imagine
Canada** Ethical Code

MAY IS LEAVE A LEGACY MONTH

Options and benefits are many for leaving a legacy

There are many ways to leave a bequest to a charity, church or not-for-profit group that has touched your life. These include:

- Gifts of Cash
- Gifts of Life Insurance
- Gifts of RRSPs or RRIFs
- Gifts of Securities
- Gifts of Charitable Remainder Trusts
- Gifts of Property

Totaled, the above represents your estate. Documented through your will they assure that your estate is directed precisely to your wishes.

Your charitable gift can be a fixed amount or a percentage of what is left after tax and other costs have been paid. If your beneficiary is a registered charity, your estate will receive a charitable gift receipt in the amount of your gift which will

offset taxes owing on your estate. This receipt can be applied up to 100 per cent in the year of death and in addition, carried back one year.

A financial planner can tell you how this charitable receipt can offset taxes owing on an estate, through income and/or capital gains, ensuring your family or others named in your will do not also inherit a heavy tax burden.

The Gift of Cash

This is very straightforward. You decide on a cash amount and specify which charity or other groups are to share in that amount. This is generally referred to in the will as a bequest and in financial planning as including a Charity Child, when it involves a percentage of assets after costs and other dispensations.

The Gift of Life Insurance

Life Insurance can be a powerful ally in increasing the value of an estate. During a series of smaller payments during your lifetime, you can make a large charitable gift at the end of life.

If you have a fully paid up life insurance policy that has value but is no longer needed, you can realize a charitable receipt in the fair market value of the policy which can be applied for current tax relief.

The benefit of naming a charity directly on your policy is that there is no need for the gift to pass through probate. It passes outside your estate, thereby saving money in your estate and the gift is not subject to contest.

Your insurance provider can fully explain all the options for existing as well as new policies for charitable giving.

The Gift of RRSPs or RRIFs

Naming a charity as the partial or full beneficiary of your RRSP or RRIF is one of the most tax efficient ways to leave an endowment.

This is because RRSPs and RRIFs are among the most highly taxed assets in your estate. They are treated as if they had been cashed all at once and added to your income in the year of death.

This can mean an income of \$35,000 in a year can skyrocket to a whopping \$135,000, when the value of the RRSP or RRIF (for example worth \$100,000) is added into income. This asset would then be taxed at the highest tax level, in many cases directing about half of the face value into taxation. By willing to a charity, the charitable tax receipt can be applied up to 100 per cent in the year of death, or carried back one year.

The Gift of Securities

Gifts of securities get favourable tax treatment as the federal government has eliminated capital gains tax on listed stocks when they are transferred directly to registered charities.

The charitable receipt is equal to the market value of the securities, just as with a cash donation. When combined with the charitable receipt for the value of the securities, this provides a major tax benefit to the donor. For example, if instead of cash, you transfer shares now worth \$20,000, directly to a charity, you will not have to pay tax on your gain.

The Gift of Charitable Remainder Trusts

A Charitable Remainder Trust provides you with income for life and after your lifetime, the assets pass to the charity you have chosen. A trust can also be set up to provide income for a surviving spouse or other family member, in which case the assets would pass to the charity only after both spouses have died.

In most cases, the donor is entitled to a charitable receipt at the time the trust is created, giving tax relief during the donor's lifetime. The amount of the receipt is based on the current value of the remainder interest determined by the remainder of the fair market value of the assets - generally in the range of 20 to 60 per cent.

Benefits include steady income and immediate tax relief, expert financial management and exemption from probate.

The Gift of Property

You can choose to make a gift of property outright or you may irrevocably assign ownership to a charitable group and receive the tax benefits now, while enjoying the use of the property for your lifetime.

Things such as houses, cottages, commercial buildings and land, jewellery, antiques, art and vehicles are examples of property.

All property is covered under assets, as all have a cash value and thus the donor is entitled to a tax receipt for the full market value of the donated asset.

Leaving a Legacy to Wesley Urban Ministries will help others for years to come.

Your legacy will change the future of our community and benefit the many children, youth, families, at-risk adults and seniors living in Hamilton.

By leaving a bequest in your will, through a life insurance policy, naming your RRSP/RRIF proceeds, supporting our Endowment Fund or through other legacy gift opportunities, **you can make a difference in the lives that follow.**

For more information about how your gift can be arranged and how it will be used, please call Wesley Urban Ministries at **905.528.5629, extension 244** today or email us at info@wesleyurbanministries.ca.



Will you leave a legacy?

Wesley's 4 Pillars of Investments

Children, Youth & Families
Innovative & Supportive Housing

Human & Social Investments
Employment & Skill Development

 **WESLEY
URBAN MINISTRIES**

learn more at
www.wesleyurbanministries.ca

MAY IS LEAVE A LEGACY MONTH

What to give and where?

While many people will no doubt want to help others all year long, it can be challenging to actually decide what to contribute – money, time or both – and to which cause. Here are some suggestions that might make selecting a cause to support easier:

Food banks are great options to consider as they offer different ways to get involved – from monetary support and collecting essential food items to volunteering time to handout or deliver goods.

The whole family can help at a food bank. It's a great way to teach compassion to children and get them involved in

their community.

If you are a book lover, used books would make an excellent donation to a local library, school or retirement residence. Love animals? Consider dropping off treats or blankets at your local animal shelter or humane society.

Many companies, of course, get into the act with their own original programs that go beyond cash donations, helping people directly through active involvement in communities. For example, Duracell donates batteries to hospital playrooms across Canada, so that children and families spending time in hospitals

over the holidays can share and enjoy toys and games that are in good working order at all times.

Hospitals in your area will also welcome your own offer of volunteer time or donations to the various programs they operate, both within their facilities and in various communities.

A phone call or online research can quickly provide a lot of information on what is needed and how you can help out.

There are many ways to make a difference and the generous act of giving, as many can attest, is often the most rewarding experience of all. (NC)



Food banks are great options to consider as they offer different ways to get involved – from monetary support and collecting essential food items to volunteering time to handout or deliver goods.



"I am passionate about the VON. This opportunity to donate a life insurance policy to the organization made sense for me, and the tax break didn't hurt either!"

A relatively small amount of money on a monthly basis has been more than manageable, for an end product that is significant!" Liz Newman, VON Canada Life Member and Donor

VON Hamilton is located at
414 Victoria Avenue North, Hamilton

Did you know that there are many ways to give to the Victorian Order of Nurses? Whether you designate VON as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy or retirement benefits, or you create a charitable annuity, or trust fund, your contribution could provide significant fiscal advantages to you and your beneficiaries.

Please contact us for more information on programs and services to assist you or someone you love.



CANADA
HEALTH STARTS AT HOME

RD/02/07/08

vonhamilton@von.ca 905-529-0700

FOR COMFORT AND DURABILITY, RELY ON



QUALITY
BLANKETS



With your donation
a sense of dignity
is within reach.



Giving
Hope
Today

SalvationArmy.ca/dignity
1-800-SAL-ARMY

For more information, contact George Warkentin
Phone: 905-521-1660 | Fax: 905-521-0244 | 151 York Blvd., Hamilton L8R 3M2
email: george_warkentin@can.salvationarmy.org

RD/02/07/08

MAY IS LEAVE A LEGACY MONTH

RRSPs/RRIFs – A creative and tax-effective way to give

It's a well-known fact that Canadians have billions of dollars in Registered Retirement Savings Plans (RRSPs) and Registered Retirement Income Funds (RRIFs). However, did you know that a gift of retirement funds can make an excellent philanthropic gift while generating a tax credit for your estate?

As a result of changes made in the 2000 Federal Budget, it is possible for Canadians to name a charity as a beneficiary of their RRSP/RRIF directly within the plan documents. This means that the proceeds of any RRSP or RRIF no longer have to pass through the estate and be subject to probate fees. In addition, a tax receipt is issued to the estate for the full value of the proceeds once the funds are received by the charity.

Peggy North, a faithful supporter of St. Joseph's Healthcare Foundation since 1989, had a strong desire to make a gift in memory of her late husband Karl. After careful consideration of her assets, Peggy chose to create a legacy in Karl's memory by naming the Foundation the beneficiary of her Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP).

Upon her passing, a sizeable gift will support the

Firestone Institute for Respiratory Health at St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton.

Peggy notes, "Donating my RRSP is a tax-effective way for me to give back. I also know it will be put to good use."

This type of charitable gift is easy. Simply designate St. Joseph's Healthcare Foundation as the beneficiary within your RRSP or RRIF document, rather than through your Will. The tax credit received by your estate could offset the taxes payable to Revenue Canada on the proceeds. Consultation with your financial and legal advisor is recommended to ensure that the designation is properly made.

In honour of Leave A Legacy™ month, why not consider making a gift of RRSP or RRIF accumulations to St. Joseph's Healthcare Foundation that will fulfil your philanthropic wishes, meet your estate planning needs and have a profound impact on healthcare in your community.

For more information on how to leave a legacy to St. Joseph's Healthcare Foundation, contact Lisa Gonnering at 905-521-6036, ext 35978 or visit www.stjoesfoundation.ca.



Faithful supporter Peggy North

Your Niagara Golden Horseshoe LEAVE A LEGACY Partners

- A Legacy for Life
- Brock University
- Burlington Art Centre Foundation
- Burlington Community Foundation
- Dr. Bob Kemp Hospice
- Foundation for Niagara & Hamilton area Christian Schools
- Greater Hamilton Wellness Foundation
- Greater Niagara General Hospital Foundation
- Hamilton Community Foundation
- Hamilton Conservation Foundation
- Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation
- Joseph Brant Memorial Hospital Foundation
- Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation
- Lupus Foundation of Ontario
- Medical Ministry International
- Niagara Community Foundation
- St. Joseph's Healthcare Foundation
- The Bruce Trail Conservancy
- The Aids Network Serving Hamilton, Halton, Haldimand, Norfolk & Brant
- The Hope Centre
- United Way of Burlington & Greater Hamilton
- Welland Hospital Foundation
- Wesley Urban Ministries Inc.
- West Lincoln Memorial Hospital Foundation Inc.
- World Vision Canada
- YMCA of Hamilton/Burlington/Brantford
- YMCA of Niagara

Leaving a legacy with life insurance helps to offset taxes claimed in final year

Life Insurance

Did you know you can make a charitable organization the beneficiary of your life insurance policy and your estate will receive a tax receipt for the amount gifted? This can help to offset any taxes you will claim in your final year.

You can also purchase a new life insurance policy, make the charitable organization the owner and beneficiary, and you would then receive charitable tax receipts for the premium payments, allowing a donor to make a substantial gift in the future for much smaller payments now.

For Example:

Life Insurance Policy Purchase	\$500,000
Charity is named Owner & Beneficiary	
Premiums Paid Annually	\$18,000
Total Tax Credit (40% of \$18,000)	\$7,200
Total cost of making gift annually	\$10,800



Charity receives \$500,000 gift upon passing and a large, memorable legacy gift is made to the charitable organization.

Remember, each donor is unique and there may be some gift options that are right for you. Speak to your advisor and family today. For information, please visit www.leavealegacy.ca or your local site at www.leave-a-legacy.on.ca.

MAY IS LEAVE A LEGACY MONTH

Getting started can be simple and easy

If every adult in Canada made a will and included a bequest of just \$100 to a charity or organization of their choice, billions of dollars would flow to charitable causes every year.

It's important that you consider this when you prepare your will.

When you sit down to organize this, think first about the charitable organization or organizations that have most impacted your life – your church, hospital, social services agency, arts group, an environmental group. Have you or someone you know benefited from the service of a particular organization?

Next, talk to the professionals of the organization or charity of your choice to discover the opportunities for giving or leaving your legacy.

When you decide which charity/charities you wish to gift, consult with an estate planner or professional advisor to get the right expertise and advice. Their professional advice will help ensure the type and timing of your gift so it maximizes the advantages to you and the organization.

What does your "estate" represent? It includes assets such as your home or other real estate, cash, term deposits, stocks, bonds, mutual funds, vehicles and insurance. You can also name your favourite charity as the beneficiary of your RRSP, RRIF or pension.

You might also consider purchasing a charitable gift annuity.

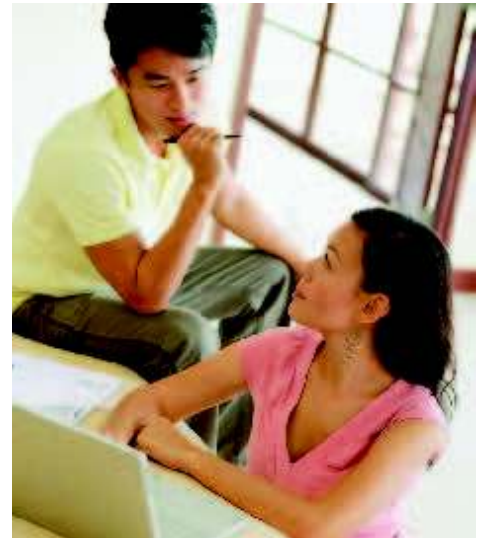
This allows the donor to give a lump sum to a charity and receive

guaranteed income in return.

Some people choose to give the gift of life insurance either in an existing policy or one set up just for that donation.

Before preparing your will, it is important to talk with family members to make sure they are aware of your intentions so they can support and take pride in your philanthropic dreams and the causes that are near and dear to you.

The final step is to prepare your will. Often people are surprised at how bequests can greatly expand the value of the donor's estate. Your lawyer can advise you on finer points that guarantee your will and that your legacy gift, in whatever form you choose to give it, is precisely executed to your wishes.



A Legacy of Caring

**St. Joseph's
Healthcare & Hamilton
FOUNDATION**

Charitable Registration # 11918 3549 RR001



"Designating St. Joseph's Healthcare Foundation as the beneficiary of my RRSP is my way of giving back."

Peggy North

Learn how you can leave a *legacy of caring* by remembering St. Joseph's Healthcare Foundation in your estate plans. Your legacy can support patient care, medical equipment and world-renowned research.

Call 905.521.6036
or visit www.stjoesfoundation.ca

RO071934

A promise for the future

Hamilton Community Foundation helps you make the difference you want to make in this community.

When you make a gift in your will or estate plan, you become a member of our *Legacy Circle*, a special group of people recognized for their vision for the future. You don't have to disclose the amount of your gift, and you can choose to remain anonymous.

For more information about how HCF can help you create your personal legacy, please call.

Sheree Meredith
Vice-President, Philanthropic Services
905-523-5600, ext. 246



**HAMILTON
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**

For Hamilton. For Good.

visit us online at www.hcf.on.ca



RO0197098



Leave Your Legacy

At Mohawk College, students are at the heart of all we do. It is our goal to provide students with the learning spaces and facilities they need to be future ready, and the scholarship and bursary support they need to make their dreams of a college education a reality.

By considering Mohawk in your charitable giving or estate plans, you have the opportunity to transform the lives of thousands of individuals – those same individuals who have the power to transform our community.

For information on how you can change a life, or create your own legacy, please contact:

Linda Marshall
Director, Annual & Planned Giving
linda.marshall@mohawkcollege.ca
(905) 575-2063

 **MOHAWK**
COLLEGE