

Gifts of Charitable Bequests

A Charitable Bequest is a gift arranged in your Will that becomes available after your lifetime, to the charity of your choice. A Charitable Bequest allows you to make a large impact on the future of the Heart and Stroke Foundation without reducing your cash flow or savings today. Your estate will receive important tax benefits, ultimately providing the most value possible for your beneficiaries and heirs. A charitable bequest is a lasting statement of your generosity and care for your community and their future – a gift you and your family can be proud of.

How does a Charitable Bequest work?

- To prepare a Will, you usually start by listing what you own and what you owe (your assets and liabilities).
- You can choose to leave the **Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada** a specific amount of money, or a percentage of the value of your total possessions.
- Although you plan for it today, the Heart and Stroke Foundation receives your gift only after your death.
- Charitable Bequests can take many forms, and often consist of cash savings, real property and/or appreciated investments that have increased in value since purchase (e.g. stocks, bonds and mutual funds).

How does a Charitable Bequest benefit you?

- It provides you with an opportunity to make a large contribution to members of your community in a way that might otherwise be impossible during your lifetime. It would be an achievement for you and your loved ones to be proud of.
- Your estate will receive a donation receipt for the full value of your bequest gift. The resulting tax credits will reduce taxes owing on your final tax return. This helps increase the remaining value of your estate for your beneficiaries.
- When you include a bequest in your Will, you keep your right to change it at any time.
- Your cash flow, savings and worldly belongings are still yours, during your lifetime.

What else should you consider?

- Please notify us of your intention to include the Heart and Stroke Foundation in your Will. This will help ensure that your bequest is carried out in the way you intend. This also allows us to thank you for your support, and to provide you with our proper legal name, charitable registration number and proper wording for your Will. We can also offer you meaningful recognition and stewardship options – ways for us to share our gratitude with you during your lifetime.
- The annual gift contribution limit for charitable donations increases from 75% to 100% in the year of death. Any excess tax credits generated by your bequest can be carried back one

year, and applied to recover a portion of that year's tax, also to a maximum of 100% of income for that year. Overall, the income tax your estate pays is reduced, maximizing the value of the estate available to your other beneficiaries.

- Obtain advice from a lawyer/estate planner in preparing your Will, communicating your bequest intentions and maximizing your estate's tax benefits.

Options of suggested bequest language for your Will:

<p>Residual bequest/legacy:</p> <p>You wish to leave a portion or share of your estate to the Heart and Stroke Foundation after all debts and specific bequests to loved ones are paid.</p>	<p>"I give to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada all (or stated percentage) of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate."</p>
<p>Specific bequest/legacy:</p> <p>You wish to leave a gift for a specific amount or percentage to the Heart and Stroke Foundation.</p>	<p>Gift of a specific dollar amount: "I give to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada the sum of (state the dollar amount)."</p> <p>Gift of a percentage of your estate: "I give to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada the percentage of (state the percentage amount)."</p> <p>Gift of a particular asset: "I give to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada (describe the property/asset)."</p>
<p>Contingent bequest/legacy:</p> <p>You wish to leave all or part of your estate to the Heart and Stroke Foundation only if other beneficiaries in your Will pass away before you.</p>	<p>"If (indicate beneficiary name) does not survive me, then I give all the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada."</p>

Note: Your bequest gift may be used where it is most needed, or you can choose to have it go toward a specific program, such as research.

See next page for official bequest language.

Official bequest language to give to your lawyer/estate planner.

Legal Name: Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada

CRA Business #: 10684 6942 RR0001

Residual Bequest

"I direct my Trustees to pay or transfer ____ (number) of such equal shares of the residue of my estate to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada (the "Foundation") to be used for the Foundation's general purposes [or, to be applied by the Foundation as its directors see fit].

General Legacy

"I direct my Trustees to pay or transfer the sum of \$_____ to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada (the "Foundation") to be used for the Foundation's general purposes [or, to be applied by the Foundation as its directors see fit]."

Discretion to Transfer Shares

"In making any payment to a charitable institution pursuant to the provisions of this Will, my Trustees may transfer any shares held by my estate in any publicly traded company or corporation in lieu of cash, provided that the shares transferred shall have a fair market value on the effective date of the transfer equal to the amount payable to the charitable institution. In exercising their discretion, my Trustees shall take into consideration the tax benefits, if any, which may be enjoyed by my estate by transferring such shares in specie."

Specific Legacy

"I direct my Trustees to pay or transfer the sum of \$_____ of my estate to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada (the "Foundation") and I direct the Foundation to apply such sum towards research. In the event that circumstances make the specific use of this gift no longer practical or desirable, the directors of the Heart and Stroke Foundation are hereby authorized to make changes in its use which remain in agreement with the spirit and general intent of the gift."

Thank you for considering how you can leave a legacy through the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

For more information please call our Legacy Giving Office at toll-free 1-800-205-4438 ext. 2 or contact your provincial **Heart and Stroke office**.

Note: Bequest administration is managed by our National office located in Toronto, ON.

This material provides general information and is not intended to constitute or replace specific professional advice. Donors considering a legacy gift should speak to an advisor with appropriate tax and other expertise to implement a strategy that achieves their objectives.