

# Estate Gifts by Will - Bequests

a little  
means a lot



CAMPBELLFORD/SEYMOUR  
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

a living legacy rooted in the community

# Estate Gifts by Will - Bequests

Will Power is what donors create when they prepare a thoughtful will: The power to use the accumulated fruits of a lifetime to provide for loved ones as they see fit, rather than as the government determines. Power to ease the transition of their passing for those who survive them. When a donor includes the Campbellford/Seymour Community Foundation in their Will, they are using Will Power to help strengthen community programs and purposes they believe in for generations to come.

#### Acceptable Assets:

- Gifts funded with cash or cash equivalents
- Publicly Listed Securities (including segregated and mutual fund units).
- Proceeds from Retirement Plan Accumulations (RRSPs and/or RRIFs)
- Gifts of Real Estate
- Gifts of other tangible property

#### Benefits to the Campbellford/Seymour Community Foundation:

- Generally, easy to administer
- The expectancy of future gift is known, provided that bequest wording is not changed

#### Benefits to the Donor:

- Revocable during the donor's lifetime
- Donation receipt for use in final income tax return against 100% of taxable income
- Satisfaction of providing for a future gift while retaining full control of property

#### Most Appropriate For:

- All individuals (any age), but especially older persons with few or no heirs

#### Common Questions & Answers:

**Q:** Is making a Will difficult?

**A:** Ordinarily it's quite simple. The process begins by listing assets and most important personal possessions (nothing should be overlooked), and the persons, institutions and causes for which an individual would like to provide. Then a lawyer should be consulted to review intentions and draft the final document in proper language.

**Q:** What if a donor changes their mind later on?

**A:** A Will is fully revocable while you are living – you retain control and can easily make revisions should your wishes or circumstances change, either by having a new Will drafted or adding a codicil to an existing one.

**Q:** Does a charitable bequest have to be in cash?

**A:** No, you may also give publicly listed securities, real estate or artworks. Because a charitable bequest is creditable up to 100 percent of income in the year of death, the tax credit will almost always exceed tax on the gain, resulting in some tax savings. Whether the bequest consists of cash or other property, any portion not usable because of the 100-percent-of-income limit can be carried back to the prior year, again subject to the 100-percent limit.

#### NOTE TO READER:

The purpose of this publication is to provide general information, not to render legal advice. In addition any changes in the tax structure may affect the examples listed in this information. Consult a lawyer or other professional advisor about the applicability of this information to your situation.