



LASTING LEGACIES



Acadia University's Planned Giving Program

A legacy gift is a thoughtful and powerful way to ensure that succeeding generations will have access to the best post-secondary experience possible.

Legacy Giving Options

Wise estate planning can reduce taxes and maximize the value of your estate, enabling you to both help your heirs and fulfill your charitable wishes.

Your estate gift to Acadia University will create opportunities for learning and innovation that will benefit future generations of Acadia students.

There are several ways you can make a legacy gift to Acadia University.

Will Bequest

Bequests are a cornerstone of planned giving at Acadia. A bequest is a direction by Will to give from your assets. You can give a percentage of an estate, the residue of an estate, or a specific dollar amount.

While provision for a future gift is made today, a bequest is not paid out until after death and usually takes one of two forms – an unrestricted bequest, which applies your gift to areas of greatest need, or a restricted bequest, which directs your gift to a specific area of interest, such as a named fund, scholarship, faculty or program. When your gift takes the form of an endowment, where the principal is retained and the annual earnings support your chosen priority, your giving never ends.

With careful planning, a bequest can reduce most, if not all, the taxes payable on death. Your executor can claim bequests equal to 100% of the net income on your final two tax returns.

Bequests should name “The Governors of Acadia University” as the beneficiary. (Please see the Will Bequest sample wording enclosed.)

Did you know? By confirming your Will Bequest today, we can recognize your generosity during your lifetime and ensure your intentions are properly documented in accordance with your wishes.

Life Insurance

A gift of life insurance lets you make a significant gift with a minimal outlay of current savings or income. It also provides immediate tax advantages and the ability to leave a legacy. The proceeds from your policy will go towards a project or fund of your choosing, and you can gift life insurance by transferring ownership of a policy to Acadia or by designating Acadia as a/the beneficiary.

When transferring ownership of an existing policy to Acadia, a charitable tax receipt is issued for the cash surrender value of the policy at the time of the transfer.

When transferring ownership of a new policy to Acadia, annual premiums are eligible for a charitable tax receipt. During the period in which the policy is being paid off, the resulting tax credit can defray almost 50% of the premium cost.

When the University is the direct beneficiary of your life insurance proceeds, your estate may be eligible for a charitable tax receipt. And a gift of life insurance is not subject to probate since the death benefit is paid directly to the University.



“A gift through my estate will ensure that my lifetime giving continues to benefit Acadia students and faculty. It is very rewarding to know I will have a lasting impact.”

Ruth Hennigar ('81), San Jose, California



“Acadia had such an impact on my life and career. Even though I live far away, I wanted to give back to the place that gave me so much. A legacy gift seemed like the ultimate gift I could make.”

Shih Fang (Dino) Ng ('01), Kuala Lumpur

Did you know? You can direct your gift to a specific student award, academic unit, or other priority. Speak with us to ensure we are able to fulfill your wishes and recognize your gift appropriately.

Retirement Funds

It is possible to name a charity as the beneficiary of an RRSP/RRIF and receive the tax benefits.

If you are enrolled in an RRSP, or have already converted your RRSP to a RRIF, you can name Acadia University as the beneficiary of all or a part of any retirement funds remaining at the time of death. Your estate will receive a tax credit for the value of your gift, offsetting any tax on the proceeds. Gifts of RRSPs and RRIFs fall outside of your estate and are, thus, not subject to probate.

If you can provide for your retirement needs through investments such as RRSPs/RRIFs, you may want to use the funds received from your Canada Pension to make a charitable donation. When you receive your payment, simply send Acadia a payment for the amount or a part of the CPP distribution. You will receive a tax receipt for the

value of your cash gift, and your pension gift will be put to use immediately. You will have the benefit of seeing how your generosity is making a difference today.

You can also donate your CPP lump-sum death benefit to Acadia by including a bequest in your Will.

Did you know? Many people do not designate a primary or secondary beneficiary for their pension plan, life insurance, or retirement funds, leaving the estate susceptible to further tax.

Stocks/Securities

Donations of publicly-traded securities to a registered charity are exempt from capital gains tax.

Publicly-traded securities include shares, bonds, bills, mutual funds, warrants and futures traded on Canadian and most foreign stock exchanges.

For your convenience, we would be pleased to provide step-by-step guidelines to assist you with a gift of publicly-listed securities.



“The small size that helps Acadia personalize education can make raising funds challenging. However, giving is worth it. I have seen first-hand the difference that the generosity of alumni and friends can make.”

Libby Burnham ('60, '00), Toronto, Ontario

When you make a planned gift to Acadia, your contribution confers membership in the **1838 Society**, created to recognize friends like you who are leaving a lasting mark at Acadia. We want to ensure you are thanked for your generosity and that your gift is recognized in accordance with your wishes.



“Acadia donors lightened my financial burdens and allowed me to focus on learning. Their generosity inspired me to give back to my community and help others. I hope to one day follow in their footsteps and help students.”

Emily Murray ('18), Dartmouth, Nova Scotia

All gifts are important to Acadia, but unrestricted donations provide flexibility to apply gifts where they will make the most difference. In many cases, our donors have specific goals they want to achieve. We will work with you to ensure your wishes are realized.

We also recommend that you consult with legal, accounting, and/or financial professionals when planning your legacy gift.



Nancy Handrigan ('92)
Executive Director, Philanthropy
t: (902) 585-1042
e: nancy.handrigan@acadiau.ca

Office of Advancement
15 University Avenue
Wolfville, NS B4P 2R6
Canada

t: (902) 585-1459
Toll-Free: 1-866-222-3428
giving.acadiau.ca