



Sunnybrook's Tory Trauma Program has been verified as a Level 1 Trauma Centre by the American College of Surgeons, the first hospital outside of the United States to achieve this mark of excellence.

PAYING IT FORWARD: HOW LEGACY GIFTS INVENT THE FUTURE OF HEALTH CARE AT SUNNYBROOK

In a year of tremendous growth at Sunnybrook, legacy gifts have made a meaningful impact on our vision to invent the future of health care.

“From the very beginning, Sunnybrook was built on a legacy of those who chose to make a profound difference for future generations,” says Kelly Cole, president and CEO of Sunnybrook Foundation. “It began more than 75 years ago with a gift of land from the estate of Joseph Kilgour by his widow Alice. From that gift, Sunnybrook has evolved into one of Canada’s top health sciences centres. In partnership with our donor community, we change lives and save lives, leading by discovery, innovation, teaching and learning.”

More than \$20 million has been received in the past three years through the estates of many generous and inspiring donors. The impact of such generosity can be seen across Sunnybrook’s program areas. Notable examples include:

The Garry Hurvitz Brain Sciences Centre, where we are watching construction unfold for the three-storey, 121,000-sq.-ft. space that will be the first of its kind in Canada. The frame of the building is now complete, and the next phase to develop the interior and exterior of the space is now in progress. This unique and collaborative space will increase collaboration across disciplines, improve integration of mental and physical health and streamline care for patients with complex conditions.

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Sunnybrook's Tory Trauma Program has joined an elite class of trauma centres, earning the honour of becoming the first hospital outside of the U.S. to be verified as a Level 1 Trauma Centre by the American College of Surgeons (ACS). This historic achievement is not only a mark of excellence, it demonstrates Sunnybrook's system-wide leadership provincially and nationally. Our pursuit of ACS verification has undoubtedly made Sunnybrook's trauma care better than ever, and that is a standard our patients and province can rely on when it matters most.

The *Blake & Belinda Goldring and Family Hybrid Operating Room* opened in 2022. It's the first operating room of its kind at Sunnybrook. What makes it so special is the all-in-one combination of a surgical theatre, angiography suite, cardiac catheterization lab and imaging suite, enabling multidisciplinary teams to work in tandem on patients with complex, time-sensitive concerns. In this space, we will champion the next breakthroughs in complex surgical care, continue delivering the highest quality care and train the next generation of leaders.

St. John's Rehab is addressing urgent gaps in rehabilitation, including research to help patients with long COVID; innovation to support amputees through the use of 3D-printed prosthetics; and partnerships

that help keep seniors healthy, at home and out of hospital.

Sunnybrook's Odette Cancer Program is also the first in Canada to treat patients with the MR-Linac, the first technology in the world to combine radiation and high-resolution MRI. Donor support was critical in bringing this machine and two other precision technologies to Sunnybrook. The MR-Linac's real-time MRI guidance allows radiation oncologists to more precisely monitor a tumour's response to radiation, so they can personalize therapy for each individual patient.

Philanthropy plays an important role in achievements like these and has helped us achieve Canadian and world firsts. Because of the long-term nature of a bequest, legacy gifts arranged years ago have enabled us both to meet urgent needs today and to lead the way with discoveries that invent the future of health care.

As we look ahead, we will continue to push the boundaries in life-saving research and innovation; upgrade and expand our state-of-the-art facilities; and strive to ensure the highest standard of care for all our patients and their families.



Garry Hurvitz Brain Sciences Centre, with construction underway.



The Sunnybrook team works together in the Hybrid OR supported by high-definition imaging and state-of-the-art equipment.

STU PATERSON AND NANCY SMITH – GRATITUDE PERSONIFIED

Stu Paterson is unequivocal: “Sunnybrook saved my life twice.”

Stu has received outstanding, wonderfully compassionate care from Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre for more than thirty years. In 1990, he credited Sunnybrook with ensuring he survived a ruptured appendix. In 2010, when Stu was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, he says he knew Sunnybrook would be there for him.

Throughout it all, Stu also knew he could count on his partner Nancy Smith, who reflects that each time they were treated with warmth, kindness and empathy at Sunnybrook, in addition of course to excellent medical care. With her own background in hospital administration, Nancy knew Sunnybrook was “the best” on all levels. Stu’s experiences were clear proof of just how exceptional Sunnybrook can be.

Pancreatic cancer is very difficult to treat. Fortunately, Stu was a good candidate for the Whipple procedure: a complex, major operation used to treat tumours and other disorders of the pancreas. Stu was treated by Dr. Calvin Law, Chief of Sunnybrook’s Odette Cancer Program, and underwent 14 hours of surgery, followed by over a year of recovery. Stu and Nancy valued the relationships they established at Sunnybrook during that time – so much so they say they were sorry to say goodbye when Stu’s treatments and follow-up visits drew to a close. Today, almost 13 years later, Stu remains free of pancreatic cancer. “Profoundly grateful” are words Stu and Nancy both share to describe their experience at Sunnybrook.

After the wonderful support and care they received, Stu and Nancy decided to give back. When it was time to update their Wills, they both chose to remember Sunnybrook with gifts in their Wills. Not surprisingly,



Stu Paterson and Nancy Smith hold a replica of a prize-winning rainbow trout at the Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular Derby.



Chief of Sunnybrook’s Odette Cancer Program, Dr. Calvin Law, performed Stu Paterson’s Whipple procedure 13 years ago.

they have directed their future gifts to research in pancreatic cancer. As Nancy says, “We could not think of a better way to say thank you than to support an area of research that is underfunded.”

Stu is a journalist who retired from the CBC in 2000. Nancy retired as an administrator with various organizations in 2005. Today they live in their country home just outside of Warton, Ont., where they enjoy fishing, camping, gardening, and just being outdoors. Stu, ever the reporter, continues to write articles for local publications. They lead enjoyable and contented lives and remain deeply grateful to Sunnybrook for Stu’s new leases on life.

Both Stu and Nancy are clear in encouraging others to remember Sunnybrook with a gift in their own estate plans. “Don’t hesitate!” says Nancy. “Too many people see a cancer diagnosis as being hopeless. Sunnybrook gave us that invaluable gift: hope! The Hospital provides outstanding care and undertakes life-saving research, but they need money to back their work. That’s why it’s so important for everyone to consider a legacy gift.”

Stu, Nancy, on behalf of those who your gifts will help in the future, thank you for your commitment to Sunnybrook.

Will you join Stu and Nancy by remembering Sunnybrook with a gift in your Will? When you include Sunnybrook in your estate plans, you join a community of exceptional donors as a member of our Kilgour Legacy Society. The Society was founded to honour and celebrate individuals who have chosen to shape the future of health care by remembering Sunnybrook with a legacy gift.

Perhaps you have already included a gift to Sunnybrook in your estate plans. If so, would you please let us know? We’d like to offer you recognition — or not, if you prefer — and partner with you to ensure your future gift is used exactly as you wish.

FOUR EASY STEPS

It’s easy to establish a gift in your Will for Sunnybrook. With these four simple steps, you can make a difference for future generations.



1

Consider if you would like to leave a specific amount of money or a percentage of your overall estate. Your professional advisors can help determine what is best for you.

2

If you are revising an existing Will, ask your lawyer to add a codicil (an addition that modifies part of your Will) that establishes a gift for Sunnybrook.

3

Give your lawyer our legal name, charitable registration number and our address. Then let your lawyer take it from there.

4

Please let us know if you have left a legacy gift to Sunnybrook. We would like to thank you personally, discuss how you would like your gift to be used, and offer options for recognition — if you wish.

HOW A DONATION IN YOUR WILL CAN BENEFIT YOU AND YOUR FAMILY



The idea of leaving a charitable gift in your Will might have you wondering: why would I leave a gift to charity in my Will when I have my family to take care of?

Fair question! No one wants to leave their loved ones without enough resources to sustain themselves. We all want to make sure that we've done what we can to help our loved ones thrive after we're gone.

Of course you'll want to name your nearest and dearest as beneficiaries in your Will, and have peace of mind that they're getting the bulk of your estate. But what if you could do "better" with your Will? If you knew you could leave a meaningful contribution to causes important to you, while still supporting your family, wouldn't that be the best of all worlds?

Think about it in terms of percentages

It doesn't have to be a binary choice, you can support your family *and* the causes you care about. Think about what a small percentage of your estate left to Sunnybrook would look like, while still leaving the majority for loved ones.

Let's say your estate – your property, any unused savings, etc. – is worth \$650,000. Just 5% to charity would be \$32,500. A donation of that size could have an incredible impact! And there's still 95% of your estate for loved ones.

Don't forget the tax benefits!

Your estate is likely going to be hit with one big tax bill. You might think that these taxes are inevitable, but in reality, you have a choice. You can redirect funds that would have otherwise been paid in taxes to a charity instead.

Put another way, when you leave a gift in your Will to charity, your estate will get a charitable tax credit that can help pay down that big tax bill.

Let's take that same estate of \$650,000. If you wanted to leave 5% of your estate to charity (a \$32,500 donation), your estate would get about a 2.5% reduction in taxes (equivalent to \$16,250).

A beautiful legacy for family to rally around

Taking care of family is about more than making sure they have the financial resources they need.

A gift in your Will to charity can be a beacon of positivity during a difficult time for your loved ones. It can be something that they rally around, and use to celebrate your life and what you stood for.

It can also be the start of a legacy that inspires your future generations of loved ones to give back to the world around them. It's up to you to shape the legacy you want. But armed with the knowledge that you can support your family, support your cause, and the benefits of doing both, what decision will you take?



YOUR WILL IS POWERFUL

Sunnybrook Foundation has partnered with Will Power, to help valued donors like you make a meaningful philanthropic difference through your Will.

Will Power is a national movement to inspire Canadians to make an impact on the causes they care about with a gift in their Will.

Can you really make a difference with your Will? In short, yes. Even a small percentage of your estate left to Sunnybrook can have a big impact, while still leaving the majority for loved ones.

Learn about YOUR Will Power today. Visit the Will Power website for helpful articles like the one shared here, and other estate planning resources to get you started.

www.willpower.ca

KILGOUR LEGACY SOCIETY

Everyone who has remembered Sunnybrook with a legacy gift is honoured and welcomed into the Kilgour Legacy Society. Members of the Kilgour Society have made a commitment to heal the future: to ensure those who follow in our footsteps inherit a world even better than ours. And for this we are truly grateful.

If you have remembered Sunnybrook with a legacy gift, would you please let us know? We would like to thank you and ensure that your future gift is used exactly as you wish.

If you are interested in joining the hundreds of community members who have arranged a gift in their Will, we would be happy to help you in the planning process or answer any questions you may have. Please contact Christa Kelly, Senior Philanthropy Officer, Gift and Estate Planning, at 416-816-5340 or christa.kelly@sunnybrook.ca. Or, visit our website for more information.



**Kilgour Legacy Society members
Jeff and Debbie Gifford.**