



Planning to Give

News from the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation

June 2014



Natalie Kolasa Gives Back to Cardiac in a Big-Hearted Way

Highly regarded as a community-minded and generous person, Natalie Kolasa (nee Sewchuk) arranged for one of her most generous gifts to be presented as part of her legacy. The Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation was recently informed that Natalie had designated an estate gift of \$830,000 to the cardiac program at the Health Sciences Centre.

Natalie, who was 97 when she passed away on November 7, 2012 felt a connection to the cardiac program. She had a pacemaker and over the years had been treated for her heart condition at the Health Sciences Centre.



Natalie & Nick Kolasa.

“We knew very little about Natalie when we received word about her estate gift,” said Terri Hrkac, Director of Major and Planned Giving with the Health Sciences Foundation. “Luckily we were able to connect with two dear friends of hers who brought Natalie to life for us.”

Natalie’s family owned Westfort Outfitters, where she worked before pursuing her passion to become a teacher. Eventually her husband Nick took on the family business while Natalie stayed with what she loved – teaching.

Many adults who were educated at Green Acres elementary school remember “Mrs. Kolasa”, who was a beloved kindergarten teacher there for most of her long teaching career. She was a gifted pianist and artist and a teacher who was always kind and encouraging to her students. She truly cherished when a former student would stop her to talk of the wonderful memories they had of being in her class.

Natalie loved gardening, nature, fashion, hosting elegant dinner parties for friends and entertaining friends as her guests at various local restaurants. Neither of her friends was surprised at Natalie’s quiet philanthropy. She had never mentioned her planned gift to the cardiac program which, they say, was her nature as a private person.

Natalie’s gift is to be recognized on the Health Sciences Foundation’s Bequest Recognition Wall in the foyer of the Health Sciences Centre and in the Cardiac Unit, on display for others to know of her generosity. A lovely memory, her friends say, of a gracious lady and a very dear friend.

For more information about supporting world-class healthcare here at home through a gift in your will, please contact:

Terri Hrkac at (807) 684-7109

Reasons to Give

Estate planning is generally guided by three rational motivations:

1. Provide adequately for family members and/or other loved ones.
2. Ensure that your estate is distributed in the most timely manner possible after your death.
3. Minimize taxes – during your lifetime and equally important, for the beneficiaries of your estate.

... and three emotional motivations

1. Gain comfort from knowing your loved ones are well looked after
2. Feel secure knowing that settling your affairs will not add more stress to those grieving for you.
3. Rest assured that your estate will be distributed the way you wish

Laura Fralick is Here to Help You Put The Puzzle Pieces Together in Estate Planning



Laura Fralick has been in the business 16 years, because of her passion for complete financial planning. Laura works in a holistic way with her clients to ensure she puts together a financial plan to best serve her clients' needs. "Part of my job is to inspire my clients, to get them to start envisioning their situation and then monetize it. As a financial planner, I help clients to realize their life goals - then bring it down to dollars and tasks to help them put it in place" commented Laura.

Laura Fralick from Investors Group

One topic she discusses with her clients is Charitable Giving through a bequest from their estate. A number of clients want to help family, but don't realize that the family gift can be enhanced by also leaving a gift to an organization that is dear to them.

Laura presents the bequest topic to her clients like this, "You have three options about where estate money will go to; your family, a charity or Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). If you only choose your family, your final tax return will have tax rates over 40%. By adding charitable gifts, there will be significant tax reductions, improving your ability to give to family. Through collaboration between your Financial Planner, Lawyer and Accountant, you can ensure that your financial wishes are realized."



Save the Date!

Please join us on September 29th, 2014 at the Victoria Inn Hotel & Convention Centre for a free seminar on Estate Planning and Legacy Giving presented by Investors Group & BDO.

There will be an afternoon seminar at 2:00 PM and an evening seminar at 7:00 PM. Please come and join us for this informative session about the benefits of leaving a legacy gift for your family and community.

For more information please contact Terri Hrkac at (807) 684-7109



Exceptional Cancer Care Campaign

What is Exceptional Cancer Care? To some, it's the high-tech tools we use to first detect and then blast cancer cells into oblivion. To others, it is the compassion they receive from our incredible cancer care team that makes facing this disease a little less scary. To the mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers, aunts and uncles, sons and daughters, friends and co-workers, it is the miracles that ensure our loved ones will be with us in this world a lot longer.

The Foundation has launched "The Exceptional Cancer Care" Campaign. It's growth that can be considered life-or-death for the people of Northwestern Ontario. The Health Sciences Foundation will support that plan by providing vital funding in three key areas: diagnosis, treatment, and research.

Cancer is no longer the whispered word it was even 10 years ago. Today, more people are living with cancer than dying of it. Cancer is a journey that we all take, either personally or as we walk alongside a loved one.

Thanks to generous donations, nobody makes that cancer journey alone.

For more information please visit our website:
<https://www.healthsciencesfoundation.ca/ecc>

or call us at
(807) 345-4673



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