



MacKenzie Forbes Society

Making plans today to give every child a bright future



Going Beyond Expectations

By Renée Vézina, President

Welcome to the fifth edition of the MacKenzie Forbes Society Newsletter. This has been another challenging year due to the pandemic, but thanks to the vision of donors who have established endowments and made bequests, the Foundation has risen to the challenge of responding to both ongoing and unexpected needs.

The Tiny Tim Endowment Fund, for example, supports patient families who need financial assistance while their children are being treated at the Hospital. The consequences of the wars and other conflicts have left vulnerable children needing pediatric care outside of their country. Endowment funds help to provide treatment and financial assistance to refugees today and in the future.

The Children's goes beyond expectations because our donors pave the way for us to do even more, even better. The last two years have shown that none of us knows what the future holds.

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Supporting people is Dr. Blair Whittemore's enduring legacy



Dr. Blair Whittemore had worked 40 years as a clinician in hematology at the Montreal General Hospital before coming to The Children's in 2001. "I was always drawn to helping people," he says.

In 2003, Dr. Whittemore accepted the interim directorship of the Hematology-Oncology Division – a position he held for 10 years. Today, Dr. Whittemore oversees The Children's hematology laboratory and blood bank and teaches hematology-oncology residents. "I love medicine and being able to exclusively work in the lab."

Dr. Whittemore, who trained in both pediatric and adult medicine, says that when it comes to pediatric cancer, case loads may be lighter than for adults but children require more specialized support. "During weekly reviews at The Children's, physicians, nurses, social workers, psychiatrists, psychologists, music therapists, the Jewish community and other disciplines sat at the same table, providing meaningful input."

This kind of multidisciplinary care is vital for patients and their families but staffing, particularly for jobs requiring specialized training, is a constant challenge. Therefore Dr. Whittemore created the Mary and Blair Whittemore Endowment to fund continuing education for hematology-oncology nurses and laboratory technologists. "They are under-funded and often unable to attend meetings with their national counterparts," he explained. "Nurses are now playing a larger role such as nurse practitioners who prescribe medications; provide certain treatments; and may work independently."

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The Legacy of Giving

When she was 15, Marie-Caroline Dutton-Godard organized Marie-Caroline's Big Bazaar, a garage sale meant to be joyful and festive, just like her. Everyone spread the word to support her project. Marie-Caroline raised \$5,000 for The Children's. A new tradition was born...

"Two years earlier, Marie-Caroline was diagnosed with a cancerous brain tumour. As parents, it's hard

to describe the agony we felt: it's indescribable. But from the start, The Children's care team was there to guide us, and they continued to support us throughout the ordeal. The Hospital became our second family.

Following her operation and several radiation therapy treatments, Marie-Caroline's health improved. Unfortunately, the following year the tumour returned. After another surgery and more treatments, she went back to school and resumed her

activities. In 2009, however, the discovery of an inoperable tumour and metastasis made further treatment options impossible. Despite this reality, Marie-Caroline never gave up.

Her strong desire to live and appreciate the big and little joys in life gave her the courage to pursue her dream.

Our girl was determined to raise funds for research. In the last three years of her life, she became very involved in fundraising activities. Marie-Caroline left us on April 7, 2012. She was 17 years old.

Following her death, we wanted to honour her memory. Marie-Caroline's Big Bazaar has become an ongoing tradition. We also established an endowment fund in her name. All funds raised support research into pediatric brain tumours.

The Children's is known for excellence in care, research and teaching, and is equipped with state-of-the-art technology. To us, it's a beacon of hope. I know that one day, thanks to our collective fundraising efforts, we'll be able to ensure a better future for children and families faced with this terrible disease."

Line Dutton-Godard, Marie-Caroline's mom



Expert Corner

What is an endowment fund?

An endowment fund is an investment tool that ensures the capital is not spent down, and only a portion of the income earned is used for a purpose agreed upon by the donor and The Children's Foundation. The remainder of the income is added to the capital for future growth.

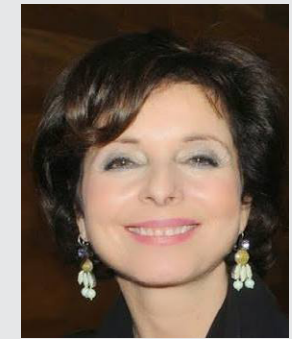
What are the advantages?

An endowment fund is a vehicle that will last in perpetuity. You can name it after you, your family or your loved ones. You can invite family and friends to donate to your fund. It will provide a sustainable source of income to the Hospital and be part of a lasting legacy of your commitment to support patients and their families. Donations to your fund are also tax deductible.

Members of the MacKenzie Forbes Society have made a legacy gift to The Children's through a bequest, a charitable annuity, a gift of life insurance or by establishing an endowment. We are extremely grateful to these donors for helping to ensure the best pediatric care for future generations of young patients. Dr. Alexander MacKenzie Forbes co-founded the Montreal Children's Hospital in 1904 and served as its Surgeon-in-Chief until 1929.



Samar El Soufi,
Senior Gift Planner



Susan Elias, Director,
Major and Planned Gifts

How are endowment funds used and how does the Foundation report the impact?

The Children's Foundation has endowment funds worth an estimated \$97 million in assets. Some funds are designated to support departments such as Complex Pain, Surgery, Hematology-Oncology and Adolescent Medicine. Others are undesignated and provide the flexibility to support most urgent needs. Each year, the Foundation reviews the Hospital's needs and ensures that the purpose of each endowment fund is respected. We also provide an annual summary report on each endowment to the fund holder. This report shows the endowment's book value and market value of the most recent fiscal year. It also shows how the endowment has supported The Children's.

How can a donor create an endowment fund?

The minimum to create a fund for undesignated use is \$25,000 and \$50,000 for designated support. You can take up to five years to reach the total amount. Using unspent tribute funds (funds created in memory or in honour of someone) is one way in which to start an endowment. An agreement is signed between the endowment fund holder and The Children's Foundation so that the donor's wishes are respected.

Can you leave a bequest to The Children's Foundation that specifies that you want it to be endowed?

Yes, you can. Whether you want to support an existing endowment fund or create a new one, your wishes should be clearly indicated in your will. We would be pleased to supply sample wording at your request. Once we receive these funds from your estate, the bequest will be endowed according to your wishes.

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What we do know is that we need to be prepared so we can always lend a hand to help sick children in need.

Planned gifts offer hope for a better future. Through them, we ensure that patients and families have access to the best expertise, equipment and treatments, and benefit from the latest research. We also help parents cope during the most stressful time of their lives.

For those who want to help sick children and their families, our Major and Planned Gifts Director Susan Elias at seli@mchf.com, and Senior Gift Planner, Samar El Soufi at sels@mchf.com, can guide you through the process of making this important decision.

We cannot thank you enough for all that you do. You help our doctors, nurses and the entire Children's staff save young lives. Your generosity will live long into

the future just as others before us are making a difference today.

I hope you enjoy reading the MacKenzie Forbes Society Newsletter and are inspired by the legacies of Dr. Blair Whittemore and the Dutton-Godard family. Thank you again for your ongoing support.

Supporting people is Dr. Blair Whittemore's enduring legacy

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Donor support like Dr. Whittemore's is vital to ensure young patients get the cutting-edge care they need. And creating an endowment ensures that The Children's can count on a stable source of funding to help meet the Hospital's most urgent needs, like training, for future generations of healthcare professionals.

“Donor support can bring the hospital from great to extraordinary and every dollar makes a difference.”

