

A woman with short, white hair is smiling and looking off to the side. She is wearing a light blue cable-knit cardigan over a white t-shirt. She is holding a light green ceramic mug with both hands. The background is a blurred living room with a bookshelf, a lamp, and a sofa.

Vancity
Community
Foundation

Leave a gift that
continues to
give.

A simple way to support
your community, now and for
generations to come.

Giving often connects to life's important moments

You may be thinking about your family, your values, your community and your legacy. For many people, including a charitable gift in their will is a way to reflect what matters most, while continuing to care for the people and communities they love.

At Vancity Community Foundation, we're here to help you shape that gift in a way that feels thoughtful, flexible and aligned with your values.

A simple and flexible way to give

A gift in your will (also called a legacy gift) allows you to support causes you care about as part of your estate.

When you leave a gift in your will:

- ✓ You remain in full control of your assets during your lifetime
- ✓ Your gift is made in the future
- ✓ You can give a specific amount, a percentage or what remains in your estate

→ Many people choose this approach because it allows them to take care of family first, while also making a meaningful contribution to community.



Why consider a gift in your will?

A gift in your will can be a meaningful way to:

- Support the causes and communities you care about over the long term
- Extend your impact beyond your lifetime
- Take care of family first, while still giving back
- Create something lasting in your name or in honour of others
- Keep your giving flexible as community needs evolve
- Make giving a part of the legacy you wish to create

You don't need to have a large estate to give this way.

Many people choose to leave a percentage or a portion of what remains.

Local knowledge. Lasting impact. Flexible giving.

When you make a gift through Vancity Community Foundation, your generosity becomes part of something bigger. We work alongside community organizations and partners to ensure funding reaches where it's needed most, now and over time through both granting and an impact-focused approach to investing.

Your gift can:

-  **Support emerging community needs**
-  **Focus on specific causes or priorities**
-  **Continue supporting organizations you care about**

You can be as specific or as open as you'd like. Some donors outline clear priorities. Others prefer to leave direction broad so their gift can respond to changing community needs over time.



What happens after you include VCF in your will?

For many people, having a plan in place brings peace of mind. It helps ensure their wishes are clear and can make things easier for their families when the time comes.

Every person approaches this differently. Some people prefer to stay closely connected to their future giving, while others take comfort in knowing a plan is in place.

Throughout your lifetime, we can:

- ☒ Meet with you to clarify your wishes
- ☒ Check in from time to time to make sure your plans still reflect what matters most to you
- ☒ Make updates together if your goals or circumstances change



**By sharing your wishes with us,
you help ensure your gift is used
in the way you intend.**

Creating your fund

When you include a gift to VCF in your will, we typically:



**Meet with you
to establish the fund in
advance**



**Work with you
to document the name and
purpose of the fund**



**Document your future
wishes through a Deed of
Gift**



**Set up the fund as
inactive during your
lifetime**

When your gift is received, the fund becomes active and begins granting. This approach helps ensure your intentions are clearly understood and recorded, making things easier for your family and executor.

And if you already have a fund, you can:

- Add a gift in your will to grow your existing fund
- Extend your giving beyond your lifetime

If you would prefer a simpler approach to giving, you may also leave a gift directly to VCF to support the areas of greatest need.

Simplifying your will

When activating or growing a fund through a gift in your will, you will need to include the official name of the foundation (Vancity Community Foundation), and our charitable number (BN: 89202 8242 RR0001).

You can also include the name of your fund. We can work with you or your lawyer to recommend appropriate language.



For example:

To give [amount / percentage / the residue] of my Estate to Vancity Community Foundation (BN: 89202 8242 RR0001) to go towards [Name of Fund].

Detailed instructions about the use of funds are not required in your will, as your wishes are recorded directly with VCF and can be updated at any time without needing to revise your will. This flexibility helps ensure your giving can evolve over time.

We also strongly recommend involving your financial advisor and/or lawyer in these conversations to ensure your philanthropic plans align with your broader financial and estate plans.





Let's start the conversation

Let's get started with a conversation about what matters, and what might be possible.

From here, we can shape an approach together.

**Terran Bell**

*Sr. Manager, Community and
Donor Advised Funds,
Vancity Community Foundation*

Phone

604-877-6584

Email

Terran_Bell@vancity.com

Visit us online

vancitycommunityfoundation.ca



*A simple step today ...
can create lasting impact
tomorrow.*