

Vancouver Community College Foundation's Guide to Charitable Giving through your Will or Estate Plan



Do I have an "Estate"?

Yes. Though the word "estate" can sound daunting, it is merely an account of all your assets. Assets can be in the form of cash or something you own, like real estate, a car, an RRSP or a life insurance policy. Without a will, the government will decide how to distribute your assets.

Why do I need an estate plan?

Your estate plan ensures that you are taken care of in your lifetime, your family members are provided for and, if there is any money left over, how you might like to support your community or an organization that has played a major role in your life.

What should I consider when planning a gift?

- ✓ Your current charitable giving (how much, how often, to whom)
- ✓ If you would like your family to be involved
- ✓ Which organizations will receive your gift

How do I leave a gift?

You can create a legacy of your own by making a gift in your will. To make or update a will and estate plan, you can either visit a lawyer or a financial advisor or, as a first step, you can contact the VCC Foundation. We'd be happy to answer your questions and provide you with a directory of professionals.

Teaching will be my legacy for the students I taught, but I didn't want my contribution to end there. I also wanted to leave a legacy for students in the future. That's why my husband and I created an endowment fund with the VCC Foundation. That way we know our work over the last 20 years will still be relevant and valued long after we leave.

*Shannon Hougham,
Department Head, Deaf and
Hard of Hearing*

How will the College make use of my gift?

The Vancouver Community College Foundation is a registered charity that exists to provide support for our students and programs through the generosity of the community - including employers, volunteers, current & retired employees, alumni and other friends.

Donations assist students through a scholarship or provide assistance during a difficult time with support from a bursary. Contributions can also provide some special funding for much needed training equipment, curriculum development or other special initiatives.

Can I specify where my gift will go?

You can direct your gift to your area of interest or indicate that only the income from your gift be used. If you want to designate for a specific purpose, it's best to consult with us in advance to make certain we'll be able to carry out your wishes.

Can I create a named legacy?

Many supporters choose to make their bequest in someone's memory. We'll be pleased to honour your intent, and can suggest many ways to give named recognition.

What types of gifts can I make?

- *Cash*
- *Bequests in a Will*
- *Gifts of Securities*
- *Life Insurance Policies*
- *RRSP and RRIFs*
- *Gifts in Kind (real estate/artwork/automobiles)*

Planning a gift provides the resources that create extraordinary opportunities for students at Vancouver Community College. Our community of learners depends on your goodwill.

For specific information on how you can make a very special and lasting gift contact your legal and financial advisors.

For general questions or to discuss your planned gift options, **call the VCC Foundation's Executive Director, Lucy Komori, at (604) 871-7237.**