



Giving Back Through Their Gift



Blair Carter strongly believes in supporting his community. Born in Halifax to a military family, Blair has known more than a few communities in his lifetime. But after living in Truro since 1979 he thinks he has found one of the best.

He and his wife Rosemary are parents of three daughters, Victoria 15, Nicole 12 and Caroline 9. They understand the importance of supporting organizations that make our communities better places in which to live. Rosemary is a part-time elementary school teacher and stay at home mom. She was involved as a Brownie leader and has volunteered at a local school library for several years. Blair is a member of the Colchester Regional Hospital Foundation Planned Giving Committee and former member of the board of directors for the Foundation. He is also on the board of directors with the United Way and is involved with Junior Achievement.

“We believe that it is important to give something back,” says Blair. “There are so many organizations doing great work here. But they need our help.”

In addition to volunteer service, Blair and Rosemary financially support a number of local charities. However, after Blair was appointed to the Foundation Board he realized that he wanted to do more so he added a codicil to his Will providing a future gift to the Foundation. “Donating to the hospital foundation is a great way to support the community,” he explains. “The hospital is there for all of us no matter what stage of life we are in, and sooner or later everyone will need its services. All three of our children were born there, and my father recently spent a few months in the hospital, and the care and compassion received from the staff was absolutely fantastic. We couldn’t have asked for better.”

Blair’s bequest to the hospital foundation was made with careful consideration for his family. As an investor advisor/financial planner with RBC Dominion Securities, Blair knows the importance of identifying financial goals and establishing plans to reach them. A major goal for him is to ensure the financial resources required by his young family will be available in the event of his death. In addition to his Will, Blair has used life insurance as part of his overall financial and estate plan.

As for his charitable bequest, he knows the tax credit from the gift will help offset the income tax owing on his final tax return; funds that would not be available to his family anyway. “If I can choose between Canada Revenue Agency or myself deciding how those funds should be spent, I’ll win every time,” he laughs.

Blair likes the fact that, although the gift has been arranged, his assets and cash flow today are not affected. And as his children grow and their needs change he can re-visit his will as required. “A will should be reviewed every few years to ensure that it still meets your needs,” Blair points out. “Later on our lives will change and things will look different. Hopefully we can then be even more generous!”

For now Blair and Rosemary are happy to enjoy their family and community and to do their part to ensure quality medical care is available now, and in the future.