

NEWS RELEASE

A Gift from the Heart and for the Heart

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"I wanted to continue a legacy of giving while helping two hospitals that have a special place in my heart". ~ Ruth McDonald



Ruth McDonald (centre) with CMH Foundation Board Chair Calvin Newman (left) and Darrell Smith (right), Director of the TMH Foundation Board.

TRENTON, ON & CAMPBELLFORD, ON ~ Growing up in Codrington, ON, the daughter of Willa and Reg McCann, Ruth McCann McDonald was one of five generations of the McCann family to receive care at Campbellford Memorial Hospital (CMH). "Our family has always been proud of CMH and fortunate to have the Hospital close to home; we want it to be there for future generations." In 1986, Ruth and her husband George retired to Brighton from Toronto. It was there that Ruth and George would appreciate the healthcare provided to them by Trenton Memorial Hospital. Prior to his death last year, when George was dealing with heart failure and Alzheimer's they spent a lot of time at TMH. "I consider Trenton Memorial my current hospital and feel it's a wonderful facility with a terrific staff." says Ruth. "Everybody at TMH treated George and I with great dignity, and for that, I will always be grateful."

For many year's Ruth has been a regular donor to both Trenton and Campbellford Memorial Hospitals. Most recently Ruth made a generous gift of RBC Royal Bank shares to each hospital, gifts that will have a tremendous impact on the care and services provided by both hospitals. "I wanted to continue the legacy of supporting hospitals like my mother did and thought donating to the two hospitals that I care very deeply about would be the way to do it". In 2012, Ruth's mother Willa made a generous gift to CMH to fund the purchase of a patient bed, colonoscope and other surgical equipment. CMH also receives annual donations from a special fund called the *McCann Family Legacy*.

The funds donated by Ruth to CMH will be used to help purchase a new echocardiography machine. This machine helps diagnose ailments of the heart and is a new hospital-based service at CMH. Meanwhile the funds donated to TMH will be used to kick-start a \$300,000 campaign for a new Telemetry system for the Hospital's Inpatient Unit. This is a vital piece of life saving equipment that monitors the vital signs of patients admitted to the hospital with heart attacks, angina, congestive heart failure, electrolyte imbalances, arrhythmias, and patients before and after heart surgery. "Ruth's gift to TMH will jump start our Telemetry campaign," says Darrell Smith, Director with the TMH Foundation. "We hope Ruth's generosity will encourage others to support the Telemetry Campaign."

Having discussed her wishes with her Investment Advisor, Ruth says donating appreciated securities was a great way to fund her charitable gifts. "At a young age my grandfather taught me the importance of

investing and gave me 65 Royal Bank shares. Over the years those stocks grew in value through market trends, dividends and stock splits and I was very excited about doing something special with them.” Donating publicly-traded stock, mutual funds and options that have appreciated in value is a terrific way to support your favourite charity. When the securities are donated directly to the charity, instead of being sold and donating the cash, there is no capital gains tax. What began with a gift of 65 RBC shares from a grandfather to his granddaughter - grew to a gift of 2555 RBC shares valued at over \$200,300 to two local hospitals for life- saving equipment. In turn thousands of people will benefit from Ruth’s thoughtfulness.

“We are honoured with Ruth’s generosity to CMH,” says Foundation Chair Calvin Newman. “The funds are being put to immediate use to help patients with heart problems and we can’t thank her enough for her support.”

Ruth’s dedication to her community extends far beyond her recent financial support of Trenton and Campbellford Memorial Hospitals. She has also been a very active volunteer, including 24 years as a driver and board member with Northumberland Community Care (Brighton Branch) and 15 years with the Northumberland Hills Hospital Auxiliary. In 2003 she was awarded the Queen’s Golden Jubilee Medal for her volunteer work.

Ruth’s two sons, David, in Colborne, ON and Ron in Red Deer, Alberta say they are very proud of their mother’s dedication to the community and her generosity to two very important hospitals.

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