

Gifts of Retirement Plan Savings

Canadians have accumulated billions of dollars in Registered Retirement Savings Plans (RRSPs). Often, these funds are eventually converted to annuities or Registered Retirement Income Funds (RRIFs) to produce a reliable income stream. Some individuals start taking income from their retirement plans immediately upon retirement. Others, not needing the money immediately, delay payments as long as possible. They like to continue taking advantage of the tax-sheltered growth these funds offer.

A certain percentage of individuals will die prior to spending their entire registered retirement savings. If the beneficiary is an individual other than a surviving spouse or dependents, the full value of the retirement savings remaining in the plan will be taxed as ordinary income in the year of death. In such cases, a significant percentage of the savings can be used up for taxes.

By naming SHARE Family and Community Services Society as a beneficiary of retirement plan savings (either RRSP or RRIF), single individuals without dependents can easily make a generous gift in support of our mission, beyond their lifetime. All they need to do is obtain a change of beneficiary form from the plan administrator or their financial advisor and name SHARE Family and Community Services Society as beneficiary of all or a percentage of the RRSP/RRIF account.

How does making a Gift of Retirement Plan Savings benefit you?

Naming SHARE Family and Community Services Society as beneficiary of all, or a percentage, of your Retirement Plan Savings allows you to make a significant commitment today towards helping SHARE continue to be a pillar of support to the community for the future, but postpones your donation until you pass away.

Your estate will receive a donation receipt for the fair market value of the gift, reducing the taxes on your Retirement Plan Savings that are payable at your death. In other words, your gift redirects your money to a favourite charity(ies) that would otherwise be lost to taxes.

With a Gift of Retirement Plan Savings, SHARE Family and Community Services Society will receive the full value of your gift, maximizing the funds donated to support our community programs and initiatives.

For more information please call SHARE's administration office at 604.540.9161 or contact our Director of Development Valerie Hutton valerie.hutton@sharesociety.ca.

This material provides general information and is not intended to constitute or replace specific professional advice. Donors considering a legacy gift should speak to an advisor with appropriate tax and other expertise to implement a strategy that achieves their objectives.