



Westlock Community Foundation



# Celebrating Your Legacy

A resource for donors to explore impactful giving options

Become a *Community Investor*.

# Contents

Your Legacy Preserved **1**

Creating Your Legacy **2**

Benefits of a Public Community Foundation **4**

The Basics **5**

Types of Funds **6**

- Legacy Funds
- Flow-through Funds
- Donor Advised Funds
- Corporate Giving
- Agency Funds
- Memorial Funds
- Managed Funds
- Scholarship Funds
- Spend-Down Funds

Ways to Give **8**

Fees **9**

Impact of Giving **10**

Resources **11**

# Your Legacy Preserved

Welcome to the Community Foundation, where your legacy finds a permanent home. We protect your donations forever, so your legacy can thrive.



## PROTECTING YOUR LEGACY

At the Foundation, we protect your gift(s), with no fees deducted. Your legacy lives on undiminished.\*

## THE POWER OF INVESTMENT

**We don't stop at preservation. We professionally invest your donation(s) wisely.**

Sustainable Growth - Surplus investment returns will grow your legacy over time.

- Charitable Costs Covered - Investment returns historically have covered our low costs. \*
- Giving Back - The ability to give back every year to charity. Historically, the granting amount has been set at 3.5%–5% and has been covered by investment returns. \*



## A BRIGHTER TOMORROW

**We help you secure a lasting impact. Your legacy is a force for good, creating a brighter future for generations to come.**

Newly created funds require time to build up a cushion with investment returns. Depending on market fluctuations, this can take upwards of two years.

\*Historically, our returns have covered all fees and granting, while increasing your fund. Past success does not guarantee future results. Management fees and investment losses can reduce your fund balance temporarily on a short-term basis. During this time, grants would be restricted until your fund balance returns to make your donations whole.

# Creating Your *Legacy*

## Why build a lasting legacy?

Pause for a moment to reflect. What are your giving goals? What are your dreams for the future?



### CRAFTING A LEGACY: THREE PROFOUND GIFTS

**The Gift to Yourself:** You've tirelessly pursued your dreams, lent your time to noble causes, and enriched your community. Creating a legacy is, in essence, a gift to oneself. It's the reassurance that your hard-earned efforts, your time devoted to volunteering, and your commitment to causes will not fade away with your presence. Through a Legacy Fund, you grant yourself the gift of peace of mind, knowing that your wishes will be carried out, and the causes you hold dear will continue to receive your unwavering support.



**The Gift of Enduring Impact:** Your legacy is more than a mere memory; it's a beacon of hope that burns eternally. Your legacy becomes a source of sustainable funding for the causes and organizations that have touched your heart. It's a gift that keeps on giving, not just for today, but forever.



**The Gift of Solace:** Leaving a legacy isn't just about finances; it's about leaving a legacy of love and clarity. It removes the burden of guesswork from your loved one's shoulders. They will never have to wonder if they are making the right decisions on your behalf because your wishes have been documented. When you create a legacy, you also leave behind a piece of yourself, a piece of your heart and love that will forever comfort your family and loved ones.



Leave Your Love with a Legacy.

A legacy is a heartfelt gift that bridges generations. It ensures that your love and passion continue to warm the hearts of those you hold dear while supporting causes you cherish. It's a testament to a life well-lived, a life dedicated to making the world a better place. Take action today, and unlock the power of your legacy. Leave an indelible mark on the world, while securing peace, perpetuity, and comfort for yourself and your loved ones.

*Life is like a book. When your book is opened, what will that story say about you? What legacy are you going to leave behind?*

**Show your support for the community forever. Together, let's write your story.**

# Legacy Impact Stories

The Foundation is honoured to be associated with several individuals, families, and organizations who have created their own charitable legacy within our family of funds. Here are a couple of inspiring stories.



Known for their warm hearts and deep commitment to community, the Millers were beloved figures in Town. They dedicated their lives to making Westlock a better place for everyone. They were community builders.  
**Albert and Florence Miller**

spent their days volunteering at local charities, organizing community events, and lending a helping hand to those in need. They were inseparable, their love for each other mirrored by their shared passion for community service. In their will, the Millers bequeathed their estate to the Town of Westlock, with a specific stipulation – the funds were to be used to create a Community Foundation. The purpose of this foundation was to support local projects, charities, and initiatives that aimed to enhance the quality of life for Westlock residents. The Millers' legacy will live on in every project and program funded by the foundation, a reminder of the couple's enduring love for their community. The Millers' estate will transform into a hub of community activities and projects. Albert and Florence may have left this world, but their spirit will linger in the impact their gift makes for Westlock. The story of Albert and Florence Miller is a tale of love, generosity, and community spirit that will inspire future generations to give back and make a difference.



The Westlock Community Foundation established the **Rural Resiliency Fund** in honour of Florence and Albert Miller. The Millers donated the initial gift that started the Foundation, and were deeply rooted in the lifestyle of rural Alberta. The objective of the Rural Resiliency Fund is to enhance and sustain a quality of life in the rural communities of Westlock and region.

The Westlock Community Foundation received a generous \$26,802 donation from the Westlock Educational Scholarship Society. This substantial contribution serves as the cornerstone for establishing the **Westlock Education Scholarship Fund** aimed at supporting local students who aspire to pursue post-secondary education or engage in research.

The newly established scholarship fund reflects our community's commitment to fostering educational opportunities and supporting the youth of Westlock in their academic and professional endeavours. It underscores a shared belief in the transformative power of education and the importance of community support in unlocking the potential of future generations.



The Westlock Community Foundation received a \$200,684.28, used to establish the **Literacy and Learning Fund**. This significant contribution marks a major step forward in supporting educational opportunities and enhancing literacy-related programs and services in Westlock and the surrounding communities.

The Westlock Learning and Literacy Centre's exceptional generosity will provide a lasting impact on the region's literacy landscape. The Literacy and Learning Fund, made possible by this remarkable donation is dedicated to promoting literacy, fostering a love for learning, and advancing educational initiatives.

# Extra Benefits of a Public Foundation

A personal approach, crafted just for you.

Enjoy the advantages of a personal foundation without the hassle of administrative duties.



**Research-Based Giving:** In addition to these benefits, we believe in the power of data-driven philanthropy. That's why we've introduced our Vital Signs Report, a comprehensive research initiative aimed at understanding the areas of greatest need within our communities. This report empowers you to make informed decisions about where your philanthropic efforts can have the most significant impact, ensuring that your generosity addresses the most pressing issues faced by our community.

Your philanthropic journey is at the heart of our mission. We're here to ensure that your generosity creates a lasting impact, and we're committed to providing you with the tools and support you need to make a difference.

- **Streamlined Donations Management:** We coordinate all incoming donations to your fund and handle the charitable receipting, ensuring that your giving experience is hassle-free.

- **Expertise in Granting:** Our team possesses extensive knowledge and expertise in granting to a wide range of charitable organizations. We make it our mission to connect you directly to the local charities you care about, amplifying the impact of your giving.

- **Focus on Your Priorities:** You can concentrate on granting decisions or fundraising efforts, while we take care of all the background work on your behalf. This allows you to maximize your philanthropic impact.

- **Customization:** Should you wish to open your donations to the public, we offer the ability to customize donation receipt cover letters, including a personalized message from you. Your voice is at the forefront of your giving.

- **Personalized Website:** We can create a personalized website for your fund to promote it and accept credit card donations, making it easier for others to support your cause.

- **Full Transparency:** You will have access to a private Online Fund Portal, ensuring complete transparency regarding your fund's activities.

- **Pooling Donations:** We pool donations together, allowing for higher returns with low fees, maximizing the impact of every dollar.

- **Donor Anonymity:** If you prefer to remain anonymous, we offer the option to issue grants from your fund without revealing your identity. All CRA reporting falls under the Foundation umbrella, ensuring your privacy.

- **Innovative Giving Options:** We facilitate various giving options, from securities and private company shares to life insurance, real estate, art, and more, ensuring your philanthropy aligns with your unique preferences.

- **Custom Solutions:** We work with you to create tailored solutions such as employee giving programs or point-of-sale donation options for your business.

- **Cost-Effective:** Our charitable fees are significantly lower compared to the costs associated with managing your own private foundation.

- **Community Engagement:** Stay informed and engaged with our community newsletters, annual reports, and audited financial statements.

- **Online Giving Catalogue:** Explore a diverse range of charitable opportunities through our Online Giving Catalogue, where charities post their emergent, capital, or programming needs.

# The Basics



## Step 1: Legacy Giving

- We accept all types of donations to your legacy fund, including: cash, securities, real estate, land, mineral rights, and more.
- We complete all the administrative work including: donation receipts, valuations, personalized custom messages with donation receipts, and custom websites for accepting donations to your fund.
- Increase value by enhancing tax management strategies in your giving.
- Legacy Giving is for all wealth levels. Your legacy journey can begin with only a few thousand dollars or a plan through life insurance.



## Step 2: Protect

- Legacy funds create generational impacts.
- Our Foundation protects the donations and invests them wisely to earn above-market returns.
- You have full transparency into how your fund is growing.



## Step 3: Give Back

- As your legacy fund grows, the interest earned goes toward your giving wishes, supporting the causes and charities you care for most.
- Our skillful team is equipped to carry out your granting wishes, based on direction from you directly or through your deed of gift.



Your personal Fund is created through a legal Deed of Gift (a contract) and an initial donation.



Your Fund is then pooled with other investments to be cared for and grow.



Donations can be accepted towards your Fund throughout the year, in any year, and through your estate.



Over time, your Fund grows along with our large pool of investments. There is a small annual fee that historically is covered by the Foundation's great returns.



Your Fund is able to grant to the charity of cause of your choice each and every year. The disbursement quota for granting is typically between 3.5% to 5%. The remaining investment earnings go back into the Fund to continue growing.

# Types of Funds

## Creating Your Legacy to Meet all Types of Giving

### LEGACY FUNDS

#### AGENCY FUNDS

- Can be set up by a variety of charities and non-profits to provide sustainable funding back to the organization.
- One organization is designated to receive all the distributions from the fund.
- Permanent legacy funds provide sustainable funding forever.
- Strengthen donor relationships while offering a sense of security for your donors.
- Expand donor potential.

#### DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

- All the benefits of having your own personal foundation, without any of the administrative work.
- Retain the ability to recommend grants out to the charities of your choice.
- With a Donor Advised Fund, you can change your preference at any time. You have the option to support only your favourite charities or simply select the causes you care about. We will take care of the rest.

#### DONOR DESIGNATED FUNDS

- An ideal fund if you are certain about what you would like to support and want to secure your wishes.
- You can name specific charities or focus areas to support and the choices will be permanent once the fund is started.

#### MEMORIAL FUNDS

- Honour and celebrate the memory of your loved one.
- Carry on someone's remarkable spirit and legacy through charitable giving.
- The legacy created will allow friends and family to pay tribute by contributing donations to the fund and support community for generations to come.
- The memory of your loved one will live on forever.

### SCHOLARSHIP, BURSARY, AND AWARD FUNDS

- Once you and the academic institution or professional organization of your choice finalize the scholarship, bursary, or award criteria, we ensure that the funding of the scholarship, bursary, or award meets the all requirements related to the timing of payments, amount of payments, or even multi-year agreements.



#### **Reminders:**

- We multiply the impact of gift dollars by pooling them with other gifts.
- The Foundation's funds are professionally managed. We are transparent and reputable stewards of community resources. We are committed to being accountable, accessible, and responsive.
- Funds at the Foundation benefit from shared administration, legal, audit, and investment fees.
- Designated grant recipients must be a registered charity or qualified donee.

## **MANAGED FUNDS**

### **• New unique option for reserve investment.**

- Organizations can utilize the Foundation as an investment option.
- Our administrative fee is 0.5% to 1.0% (fees support our charitable activities).
- You can access your funds at any time.
- **No expertise required.**
- No board or staff experience is required from your teams. You get access to our diverse and professionally managed \$8 million portfolio – and earn returns with the rest of our funds.

### **• The assets remain those of the organization, not the Foundation.**

- Minimum \$50,000 to start a Managed Fund.

## **FLOW-THROUGH FUNDS**

### **• While not the core of our business, these funds are useful in many cases.**

- Great for capital campaigns or when money is needed urgently.
- All funds are still added and share on the returns from the investment portfolio. There are options to keep these assets in shorter-term, less risky options like GICs.

## **SPEND-DOWN FUND**

- This type of fund offers individuals the opportunity to create a fund that will have a designated life span.

- For a spend-down fund, the capital is invested with the intent to grant the entire amount, including the capital, in agreed-upon intervals until it is fully depleted. This type of fund may be ideally suited for donors who are interested in dividing a larger gift to a charity in more manageable, predictable amounts for short-term, immediate, and perhaps transformative, impact.

## **CORPORATE GIVING**

- Create a culture of giving within your corporation by promoting employee giving plans. We can work with your payroll personnel to assist with automatic payroll deductions for employee donations.
- Point of sale donation options available for businesses wanting to set up a donation campaign.
- Create a corporate legacy fund and involve your employees with granting decisions.

# Ways to Give

## Harnessing Gifts of Donations and Resources to Build a Legacy

We are experts in multiple ways of giving.

On your behalf, we take care of all the details of your valued donation.

Gift giving through a will or estate allows a legacy to live forever.

Gifting of commodities or personal belongings like:



For businesses, we can set up employee giving campaigns—working with your payroll processing personnel to set up payroll deductions for charitable giving. We can also assist with setting up point-of-sale donations.

# Fees

## INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT FEES

- Included with our admin fees and includes portfolio managers with Leith Wheeler

## CHARITABLE ADMINISTRATION FEES

### • Agency Managed Funds

- Tiered Fees:

Fund balances under 500k = 2.0%

Fund balances \$500k-\$999k = 1.50%

Fund balances over \$1M = 1.0%

### • Legacy (Endowed) Funds

- 2.0% (includes Investment Management Services)

### • Flow-Through (Non-Endowed) Funds

- 2% or minimum \$150

## WHERE YOUR FEES GO:

### • Historically, fees don't fully cover all our operations

- We have reserves and earn interest off our own investments

### • We focus on understanding needs

- Vital Signs Reports – gauging the pulse and the needs of our communities through research and data

- Vital Signs Community Network - get involved today!

- Support the education and development of the charitable sector

### • Donor Services - guidance in their giving

- Identifying needs and creating opportunities for targeting giving

- Act as a bridge between donors and the causes that need support

## HISTORICALLY:

### • Our returns have increased our funds

- The returns are covering all costs and granting out

- The returns over the past 1.5 years are over 7%

- Fees are less than 2%

- Leaves 5%+ to your fund for granting/growth every year

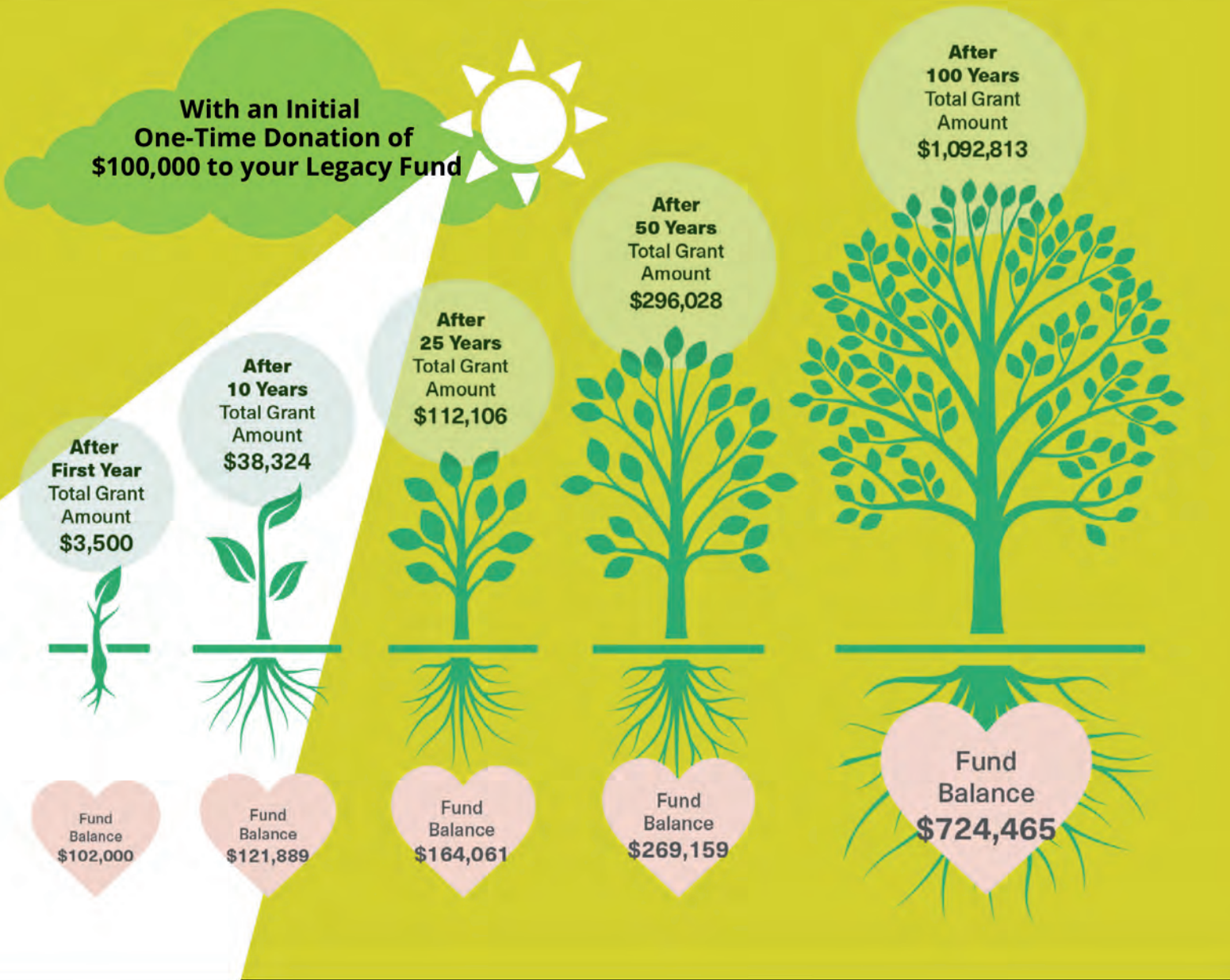
### • Impressive returns in 2023

*Past success is not a predictor of future success.*





# Impact of Giving



*\*Example uses a 3.5% disbursement rate and assumes only a one-time donation. Rate of returns and all fees are based on actual 15 year data from 2008 to 2022.*

# Resources

**The Community Foundation is committed to creating a significant and lasting impact within our community. We provide specialized services to cater to a variety of needs:**

• **For Donors:** Your generosity can be a catalyst for positive change. When you partner with us, you gain the opportunity to make a lasting impact in your community. Whether your passion lies in education, healthcare, the environment, or any other cause dear to your heart, the Foundation can help you effectively channel your resources to bring about meaningful change.

• **For Charities:** We firmly believe in the power of collaboration. If you represent a charitable organization, the Foundation is here to support you in achieving your goals. We offer guidance, resources, and assistance to empower you to make a real difference in the lives of those you serve.

• **For Professional Advisors:** Your expertise is invaluable in guiding your clients to make informed decisions regarding their charitable giving and estate planning. The Foundation can be your trusted partner, equipping you with the necessary tools and knowledge to help your clients achieve their philanthropic objectives.

• **For Curious Minds:** If you're simply curious about our Foundation and want to learn more about the positive changes we're making in the community, we invite you to explore our comprehensive information sheets at [westlockfoundation.ca/initiatives](http://westlockfoundation.ca/initiatives). These documents contain a wealth of knowledge about our various initiatives, impact stories, and the tangible difference we're making in our community each day.

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**Join us in our mission to create lasting, meaningful change within our community. Together, we can make a difference. Explore our initiatives further by visiting [www.westlockfoundation.ca/initiatives](http://www.westlockfoundation.ca/initiatives), where you can find the following information.**

**Information Sheets Available Online:**

- General Information
- About the Foundation
- Foundation Summary
- Legacy Flyer
- Strategic Plan

**For Donors, Charities, and Professional Advisors:**

- Family Business
- How You Can Give
- Investments & Stocks
- Leaving a Legacy

- Scholarships & Bursaries
- Agency Funds
- Endowment Incentive
- Life Insurance
- Professional Advisors

**Forms Available Online:**

- Sample Will Clauses
- Stock & Security Transfers
- Succession Planning
- Successor Fund Advisor Form

**Request More Information:**  
[www.westlockfoundation.ca](http://www.westlockfoundation.ca)

**Donation Calculator:**  
[www.westlockfoundation.ca/donate/#donate](http://www.westlockfoundation.ca/donate/#donate)

# *Leave Your Legacy*

**The Community Foundation connects donors  
and charities across Westlock, Westlock  
County, the Village of Clyde, and beyond!**

We believe in facilitating local philanthropy, supporting local charities, and developing our community so that our home is a more vital, strong, and fair place to live, work, and play. At the Foundation, we believe that change starts with a single act of kindness, a spark of compassion, or a generous gesture. It's about recognizing that together, we have the power to create a community that thrives, leaving no one behind.

Your support, whether it's through donations, partnerships, or spreading the word, is the lifeblood of our foundation. Together, we can build a future filled with hope, opportunity, and prosperity for all.

In our pursuit of positive change, we invite you to stay connected with us, to share your stories, and to inspire others to join this incredible journey. Together, we will remain the heartbeat of change in our community, fostering a sense of belonging, support, and unity that defines our community spirit.

Together, we can make a difference that will resonate for generations to come.

Thank you to our remarkable donors and charities who tirelessly work towards a better tomorrow. Your dedication inspires us, and your contributions transform lives. Together, we are truly making a difference, and we couldn't be more grateful for your unwavering support.

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Charity number: 57881800RR0001

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