



Sample Bequest Language in your Will

When you are ready to add a bequest to charitable organizations from within your will, there are a few different options to consider. Below are examples using the services of Lutheran Church-Canada Financial Ministries, making us the sole charitable beneficiary of your estate, with directions to distribute your gift as per a signed *Gift Allocation Agreement* on file at our offices.

If designating a specific amount in terms of dollars:

I give, devise, and bequeath to Lutheran Church-Canada Financial Ministries, B/N 888730397RR0001, 3074 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, MB, R3K 0Y2, the sum of \$ _____ for the benefit of Lutheran Church - Canada Financial Ministries to be used as described in a Gift Allocation Agreement on file at their offices.

If you want to designate a percentage of your residual estate (as typically used):

I give, devise, and bequeath to Lutheran Church-Canada Financial Ministries, B/N 888730397RR0001, 3074 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, MB, R3K 0Y2, _____ percent of the remainder and residue of my property owned at death for the benefit of Lutheran Church-Canada Financial Ministries to be used as described in a Gift Allocation Agreement on file at their offices.

The *Gift Allocation Agreement* will define how the gift will be distributed to other LCC organizations, including the proportion and purpose, as well as naming alternate beneficiaries if needed. If you simply want to include your final beneficiaries directly in your will, it is important to add an *Alternate Use Clause* in case a named beneficiary no longer exists, or the purpose is no longer valid. The *Alternate Use Clause* allows you to name an alternate beneficiary organization or to give permission for the beneficiary organization to utilize the gift for other purposes if your stated purpose is no longer possible. If needed, Lutheran Foundation Canada can assist you in confirming the proper name of a charity as registered with CRA, and their registration number.

Why consider using Lutheran Foundation Canada as the primary beneficiary?

Many times, donors will want to leave a gift to more than one LCC organization. Each time you include a beneficiary in your will, they may be entitled to receive a copy of your will upon your death, and your executor may have to keep them informed about the accounting side of your estate. This may not be what you want, irrespective of the additional work for the Executor. Also, if you decide to change which organizations will benefit from your estate, you will need to draft a new will or add a codicil, all at additional cost to you.

However, if you make Lutheran Church-Canada Financial Ministries (Lutheran Foundation Canada) the sole charitable beneficiary in your will and use our *Gift Allocation Agreement*, it is easy to change allocation amounts or charitable entities in the future, as we simply draft a new agreement. There is no cost for this service and your Executor only needs to work with one entity rather than multiple entities. We will even distribute to non-LCC affiliated organizations, providing their allocations make up no more than 50% of your total gift.