

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Here are some of the most common questions Calgary Foundation (CF) receives from Donors and Professional Advisors:**

**Q: How can I donate to the Calgary Foundation? Is there a minimum donation amount?**

**A:** You can contribute any amount to our existing Endowment Funds. Donors, Corporations and Charitable Organizations can also create their own Endowment Funds. *For more information view **Types of Gifts** at [calgaryfoundation.org](http://calgaryfoundation.org)*

**Q: What is the minimum amount required to start a Fund?**

**A:** An individual, group or organization needs a minimum amount of \$10,000\* to establish a Fund. (\* minimum amount can vary with specific fund types – refer **Cost Recovery**).

**Q: What are my giving options?**

**A:** The Calgary Foundation offers a variety of giving options. Whether it's contributing to a pre-established Fund, establishing a Fund, or making complex, long-term gifting arrangements, The Foundation works with donors to meet financial requirements and philanthropic goals. *For more information view **Types of Gifts** at [calgaryfoundation.org](http://calgaryfoundation.org)*

**Q: Can charitable Funds established at the Calgary Foundation benefit areas outside Calgary?**

**A:** Yes, Calgary Foundation grants to organizations throughout Canada, and internationally. The Calgary Foundation grants to any organization that is deemed a "qualified donee" by Canada Revenue Agency. Under the *Income Tax Act*, qualified donees are organizations that can issue official donation receipts for gifts that individuals and corporations make to them. *View a list of qualified donees at the **Canada Revenue Agency** website [www.cra-arc.gc.ca](http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca) under the "Charities and Giving" tab*

**Q: What is the tax advantage for giving a gift of publicly-traded securities to the Calgary Foundation?**

**A:** Gifts of publicly-traded securities (i.e.: stocks, income trust units, bonds, and mutual fund units) are exempt from capital gains tax. This is one of the most tax effective ways to make a charitable donation.

**Q: Will I receive a tax receipt for my donation?**

**A:** For eligible donations valued at \$25 or more, the Calgary Foundation will issue official charitable tax receipts.

**Q: What costs are recovered from funds at the Calgary Foundation?**

**A:** Annual Costs for permanent endowments are tiered by fund size:

- 1<sup>st</sup> tier - 1.25% up to \$1 million;
- 2<sup>nd</sup> tier - 1.00% on the next \$5 million;
- 3<sup>rd</sup> tier - 0.90% on the next \$14 million;
- 4<sup>th</sup> tier - 0.80% on the balance over \$20 million

*For more detailed information view **Cost Recovery** at [calgaryfoundation.org](http://calgaryfoundation.org)*

**Q: What type of assets can I use to establish a Fund?**

**A:** There are 15 types of planned gifting assets. The most common classes include Outright Gifts of Cash, Gifts of Publicly Listed Securities, Life Insurance Policies and Bequests by Will. The Calgary Foundation can help donors customize a giving approach that takes into account personal interests and tax planning needs.

*For more information view **Types of Gifts** at [calgaryfoundation.org](http://calgaryfoundation.org)*

**Q: What amount can I expect to disburse in grants each year from the endowment Fund I've established?**

**A:** The Calgary Foundation's distributions are based on the market value of each Endowment Fund, at the end of CF's fiscal year (March 31<sup>st</sup>). Our board has adopted a methodology that uses a hybrid formula that will more effectively account for market fluctuations over time, smoothing peaks and valleys in our distribution levels year after year. This will help us to achieve our goal of giving as much as possible to the community each year while better preserving the value of our endowment over time. The distribution rate is confirmed annually by the Board of Directors. Current distribution rate is effectively 4%.

**Q: Which money managers does Calgary Foundation use to manage the Funds?**

**A:** The Foundation employs several professional investment firms to manage the Funds in its care. By allocating the Funds to various asset classes, the Foundation can select investment managers based on their areas of expertise. *For more information view **Investment Overview** at [calgaryfoundation.org](http://calgaryfoundation.org)*

**Q: If I am interested in a particular sector (for example the arts & heritage), can the Calgary Foundation help connect me to interesting proposals that are looking for funding?**

**A:** Yes. That is a key advantage of having a Fund with the Calgary Foundation. CF develop networks in a wide range of sectors and are well placed to make simple and powerful connections between donors and organizations in the community.

*For more information, do feel free to contact, Laily Pirbhai, Vice President, Donor Engagement at E: [lpirbhai@calgaryfoundation.org](mailto:lpirbhai@calgaryfoundation.org) or T: 403-802-7718*