



Sample Will Clauses

A bequest to The Anglican Church of Canada entitles your estate is entitled to a donation receipt for the full value of your gift, which may mean a significant tax credit on your final tax return.

When you choose to make a bequest, you can also choose one or more purposes for which it will be used. While most bequests to The Anglican Church of Canada are for its general purposes (as in the first example), you may also make a restricted bequest for a particular program or ministry.

Subject to Diocesan policies, you may specify that the principal of your bequest be held as an endowment (donor-advised fund) from which only the income is distributed. You may establish a fund in your name, or the name of a family member, friend or colleague, as a thanksgiving offering or as a memorial.

A Power To Vary clause is recommended when a bequest is intended. It gives the Church the power to use your gift for a different purpose in the event that the original purpose is no longer possible and/or necessary.

You may make a bequest in one of several ways. Here are some examples, with the appropriate wording

General Bequest

A general bequest is for a certain dollar amount of property, usually cash: e.g.,

“I give to The Diocese of New Westminster the sum of \$_____ to be used for the general purposes of the Diocese at the discretion of the Diocesan Council.”

Specific Bequest

A specific bequest directs that the Church is to receive a specific piece of property or asset:

“I give 500 shares of XYZ stock to The Anglican Initiatives Fund of the Diocese of New Westminster.”, or

“I give _____ percent of the fair market value of all Registered Retirement Income Funds and/or Registered Retirement Savings Funds owned by me at the time of my death to the Diocese of New Westminster, to be administered as _____ (name of donor-advised fund) in accordance with the terms and conditions which the Diocese of New Westminster and I have agreed upon during my lifetime.”

“I give the sum of \$_____ to the Diocese of New Westminster to be used for _____ (specific purpose) provided however, that if circumstances make the specified use of this bequest impractical or undesirable, the Diocesan Council of the Diocese of New Westminster-

ster is authorized to apply this bequest to other purposes, such purposes however to conform as much as possible to the spirit and intent of this bequest.”

Residual Bequest

A residual bequest designates all or part of what remains after debts, taxes, expenses and other bequests have been paid:

“I give 50 per cent of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate to The Mission to Seafarer’s Society for its own use absolutely.” or

“I give the residue of my estate to the Parish of _____ (name parish) in the Diocese of New Westminster to be used for its own use absolutely.”, or

“I give the rest and residue of my estate to the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada, to be used for _____ (specific purpose) provided however that if circumstances make the specified use of this bequest impractical or undesirable, the Council of General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada is authorized to apply this bequest to other purposes, such purposes however to conform as much as possible to the spirit and intent of this bequest.”

Contingent Bequest

A contingent bequest takes effect only under certain conditions: e.g.,

“In the event that my spouse does not survive me, I give to The General Synod of The Anglican Church of Canada the sum of \$__ to be used for its own use absolutely.” or

“If (name/s of primary beneficiary/ies) do/does not survive me, or shall die within ninety (90) days from the date of my death, or as a result of a common disaster, then I give to the Parish of _____ (name parish) in the Diocese of New Westminster ____ (describe amount of cash, property, or percentage of residual estate)....”

If you wish to do any of these things, it is important that you consult a planned giving representative of the Diocese or your Parish to make sure that your wishes can be met and that the bequest provision is properly worded. You are also encouraged to consult with legal counsel at anytime when preparing a Will.

If you need assistance, contact:

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The information in this brochure does not constitute legal or financial advice and should not be relied upon as a substitute for professional advice. The Anglican Church of Canada encourages you to seek professional legal, estate planning and financial advice before deciding on a course of action.