

Planning MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Gift Planning, Queen's University



George and Maureen Ewan
are adding the
Art to the Science
in Research Success

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Adding the Art to the Science in Research Success

Dr. and Mrs. Ewan attending the SNO exhibit titled "New Eyes on the Universe"

"A master of the art of collaboration who convinced talented physicists and national and international agencies that a multi-million dollar science project two kilometers under the earth in a Sudbury mine-shaft would make it possible to solve The Solar Neutrino Problem."

These are the words used to describe the remarkable academic accomplishments of George Ewan, DSc'05, when he received his honorary degree from Queen's University. They also describe the important role that Dr. Ewan's powerful communication skills played in helping him achieve his research goals.

Now an emeritus professor in the Department of Physics, Engineering Physics and Astronomy, Dr. Ewan focused on nuclear physics and sub-atomic research, particularly the solar neutrino problem – too few neutrinos recorded reaching the Earth from the centre of the Sun.

Dr. Ewan, along with Dr. Herb Chen of University of California, Irvine and other fellow physicists from Canada, the US and the UK, founded the Sudbury Neutrino Observatory (SNO), a subterranean neutrino observation facility located in a Sudbury nickel mine. Only after considerable meetings with politicians, industry leaders, and academic administrators from across North America, as well as plenty of media interviews, were Dr. Ewan and his collaborators able to acquire the funding, re-

sources and support they needed to pursue their remarkable research.

In 2015, the years of research at the Sudbury Neutrino Observatory (SNO) resulted in a Nobel Prize for Dr. Arthur McDonald and his collaborators, including Dr. Ewan, in recognition of their ground-breaking experiments which demonstrated that neutrinos change identities.

When Dr. McDonald accepted the Nobel Prize on behalf of the SNO team in 2015, Dr. Ewan was in Stockholm with him.

With his work recognized at the highest level, the 90-year-old Dr. Ewan now pushes ahead with a goal of influencing the next generation of scientists here at Queen's, remarking that "it is vital that we scientists make our work accessible to the

general public." His wife, Maureen, agrees with him, saying "his work is so remote from what most people would find comprehensible." Effective communication skills are vital to successful research. As he

puts it, scientists have so much of value to share with the world. "As a rule, scientists don't inform the educated public, but there are people who work on exciting experiments who could give very good talks. My dream is to have them come to Queen's to give lectures on the state of their experiments and especially about their re-

sults, and to do it in a way that people without PhDs can understand."

This is why Dr. Ewan and his wife have decided to donate \$100,000 to Queen's to create The George and Maureen Ewan Lecture Series, which will support seminar

"It's important for students to spend time with these scientists talking about science in ways that everyone can understand," Dr. Ewan says. "That way when someone asks a student what they're studying, they can answer in a way that will get people excited about their work."



In January, members of the original SNO Collaboration got together for coffee in the graduate lounge in Stirling Hall. From left to right: Barry Robertson, Hugh Evans, George Ewan, Hamish Leslie, Hay Boon Mak and Peter Skensved.



Dr. George Ewan and some of his SNO collaborators at the Nobel Prize ceremony in Stockholm in 2015, where Dr. Art McDonald received a Nobel Prize in Physics for the research that took place at the Sudbury Neutrino Observatory. Back row: Doug Hallman (Laurentian and Queen's universities), Davis Earle (SNO), Aksel Hallin (University of Alberta). Front row: Art McDonald (Queen's), George Ewan (Queen's), David Sinclair (Carleton University).

and lecture programs designed to increase scientific discourse and culture within the Particle Astrophysics community at Queen's University.

Dr. Tony Noble, a former SNOLAB director and the current director of the Canadian Particle Astrophysics Research Centre, shares Dr. Ewan's dream and sees great benefit in it – especially for Queen's students. "George wants to ratchet up the level of discourse at Queen's and entice top scientists from around the world to come here and share their ideas and results," he says. "To expose our students to this kind of thinking would be inspirational for them. It will open them up to new possibilities."

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Dr. Ewan's gift, which will use Queen's new spend-down option (see page 6 for more information on this new fund option), will give the department access to

\$10,000 a year until the fund is depleted. As Dr. Noble explains, a \$10,000 annual budget will make it possible for the department to look farther afield for guest lecturers and host them for a longer stay. "The idea is to have the guest lecturers stay for a while and spend some quality time with the students, interacting with them

and working with them in the labs," he says.

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The lecture series is only the latest way in which the Ewans have chosen to support Queen’s. In 2014, the couple created two funds in support of the Ban Righ Centre, where Mrs. Ewan worked from 1976 to 1992. Maureen’s Room, a cozy study space in the Ban Righ Centre is named after Mrs. Ewan and can be found in what was once her office. In honour of the great work done by the centre, the couple established the Maureen Ewan Ban Righ Bursary as well as the Maureen Ewan Ban Righ Endowment Fund, which is used to provide ongoing support for the programs and services overseen by the Ban Righ Foundation. Both of these funds will ensure that women who have experienced an interruption in their formal education can return to their studies in order to achieve their personal academic goals.

The Ewans have made their gift commitments a reflection of their lives at Queen’s.

If you are considering making your gift to Queen’s a meaningful reflection of your own life, please get in touch with our Gift Planning team. We can help you create your legacy.

To learn more about the SNO (now SNOLAB) facility and the research being done there, go to queensu.ca/gazette/alumniereview/stories/neutrino-breakthrough



Ban Righ ribbon cutting in 1974. Maureen Ewan is second from the right.

Putting the Queen’s Endowment to Work for Your Legacy

The Ewans chose to make their gift using a spend-down fund because it enables them to make a significant impact over a relatively long time frame.

Queen’s newest fund option, the spend-down model is invested in the Queen’s Endowment, so it generates investment returns in addition to the original gift’s face value. The fund pays out 10 per cent of the gift’s face value each year until it spends down, which is how the Ewans’ gift is able to generate \$10,000 a year.

The payments, which include the investment returns, typically last about 10 to 20 years, although they could last longer (or shorter) depending on the market’s performance.

One of the reasons spend-down funds can pay out so much is that, unlike endowed funds, they’re not designed to last in perpetuity. That suits the Ewans perfectly. “I don’t want the gift to serve for infinity,” Dr. Ewan says, “but I do want \$10,000 available each year because this way we can create a special experience for our students with the lecturers instead of just flying them in and flying them out.”

Introducing the Spend-Down Fund Giving Option

Queen's has traditionally offered two funding options to donors – expendable funds and endowed funds. Expendable funds enable you to make a significant impact immediately. Endowed funds enable you to make an impact in perpetuity. But what if you want to have a big impact over a longer period of time, but not in perpetuity? That's where a spend-down fund could be the right fit for you.

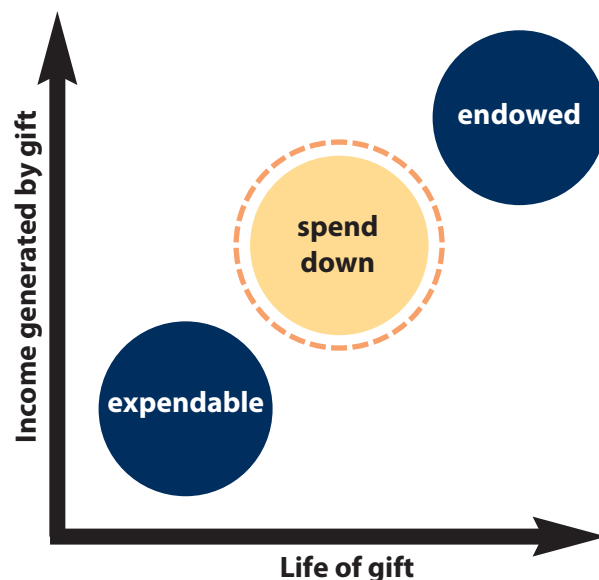
A spend-down fund enables you to make a big impact over a longer time frame, typically over 10 to 20 years.

Where endowed funds are designed to last forever and expendable funds typically are designed to provide an immediate impact, spend-down funds typically last 10 to 20 years. The spend-down fund doesn't generate as much investment return as an endowed fund, but it has the potential to generate more than an expendable fund.

How does it work?

We invest your gift with the Queen's Endowment Fund. The annual payout of your fund will be 10% of the gift's original face value. So for a gift of \$150,000, the payout will be \$15,000 per year.

Because the investment portfolio is influenced by the overall market performance, we can't guarantee how long the money will last. We expect that most spend-down gifts will last between 10 and




20 years.

Because the capital of the spend-down fund is invested, the return rate and the lifespan will depend on the investment performance. That means the lifetime payout could be lower than the original gift. It also means that the gift might spend down to zero before 10 years have elapsed.

Spend-Down

- Invested in Queen's Endowment
- Annual distribution is 10% of the gift's initial face value
- Distributions consist of principal + investment returns
- Time frame of distributions determined by investment performance
- Payouts continue until balance is \$0

If you are interested in learning more about spend-down funds, please contact our Gift Planning team at gift.planning@queensu.ca or our Gift Services team at gifts@queensu.ca.



Over the years, people just like you have chosen to make Queen's a part of their legacy, assuring the well-being of the university and its students for years to come.

What will **your legacy**
look like?
planning
makes a **difference**

Interested in remembering Queen's in your estate plans?
Let us help.

Contact Linda Pearson, Executive Director, Gift Planning
at 1-800-267-7837 or at gift.planning@queensu.ca.

We look forward to hearing from you.



The Value of Asking

the Right Questions

Susan Moore, Com'go, Wealth Specialist for the Menard-Kinkaid Team at RBC Dominion Securities and a member of the Queen's Gift Planning Advisory Committee. Susan is not only an alumna, but as of this Fall, she is also a proud Queen's parent. Here, Susan offers guidance and insight into the questions you may ask your financial advisor to help you achieve your philanthropic and personal goals while offering income tax advantages.

Many of us make charitable donations. We do it on a regular basis to institutions like Queen's that are close to our hearts. As our level of giving increases, the donations tend to become more strategic. The key to strategic donations is planning. You should be working with your financial advisor to develop a long-term plan for your giving that aligns with your personal circumstances and philanthropic goals and with a view to maximizing tax effectiveness.

Timing is Everything

Wherever possible, it is a good idea to consider the potential tax benefits that you can realize by timing your charitable donations appropriately, both to ensure the

donation tax credits will not expire, and to ensure the donation will reduce as much tax as possible. A tax credit on donations may be claimed up to a limit of 75% of net income. If you exceed the 75% net income limit, you can carry the excess donations forward for up to five years, but any credits not used in the five-year period will expire. The federal donation tax credit rate for donations over \$200 is 33% to the extent that an individual has taxable income taxed at 33%. However, where the donation tax credit is carried forward to be claimed in a subsequent year, the tax credit will not be eligible for this high 33% rate, so timing your donations can make a difference.

For example, making a charitable gift at the time that you sell property or your business, or when you exercise stock options, may help reduce your tax liability. If you choose to donate the proceeds, or a portion of the proceeds from the sale of a business, you may receive a tax credit for the value of your donation which could result in significant tax savings for the tax year in which you made the gift. A com-

prehensive financial plan can help to ensure that tax credits or deductions will be used most efficiently.

Donations as Part of Your Estate Planning

Making charitable bequests as part of your estate plan can also be tax-effective. Depending on your situation, your executors may have the flexibility of allocating this donation to the tax year of the estate in which the donation is made, to a previous tax year of the estate, or to your last or next-to-last taxation year. The income limitation increases to 100% of your income for gifts claimed in the year of your death and for the preceding year.

Donate to Eliminate

If you wish to provide significant estate-related gifts to Queen's and want to maximize your tax benefits, you should consider a "donate to eliminate" strategy during your lifetime – that is, donating in two or more parts: an outright gift while alive, and a gift through your estate. This may eliminate the conundrum of having unused charitable donation credits. As with any plan, it is important to review your personal situation in detail with your financial advisors.

Consider the example of an alumnus who is considering starting an endowment at Queen's while alive and enhancing the endowment with a bequest. The minimum threshold for creating an endowment at Queen's is currently \$50,000, which can be paid over a five-year period, or \$10,000 per year for five years. In this case, the alumnus has the opportunity to maximize the credit to income tax at the high rate, while minimizing the risk that donation

credits will expire. In addition, the alumnus could gift publicly traded securities with the highest accrued gain, thereby benefitting from both the tax credit as well as the elimination of the inherent tax liability associated with the shares, thanks to a special tax rule that eliminates the capital gains tax that would otherwise apply to such donations.

What Questions Should You Ask?

Here are some questions to help spark further conversation with your financial advisor and help you better plan your charitable giving strategies:

1. Is my financial plan sustainable? Does my charitable gifting strategy mesh with my current financial plan?
2. Which of my assets are creating the largest tax liabilities for me?
3. What is the most tax-effective way for me to make a gift to charity during my life? How large of a tax credit can I use this year? Can income tax projections be prepared to help spot opportunities?
4. Are there estate-related direct designation gift opportunities that I should consider, e.g. insurance or registered retirement funds? Do my insurance policies represent opportunities to gift?
5. What is my expected tax liability at my death? What opportunities are there to mitigate this tax liability?
6. When would tax credits be most useful/tax effective? Should I make my donations annually, through my estate, or both? Are there tax smart ways for me to combine gifts in life with my estate related gifts?
7. Do the directions in my will reflect my current financial plan?

Conclusion: Planning Makes a Difference

Canada has one of the most generous tax systems for charitable giving, and with so many ways to give, it is wise to seek professional advice. Speak with your financial advisor about the tax benefits of giving as part of your tax and estate planning. Understanding the rules for donating assets can make a big difference when it comes to capital gains tax. Moreover, it provides you with a chance to make a real difference to a charity by planning the way you choose to give.

The timing, amount, and type of your charitable gift will depend on your unique situation, as will the associated income tax and estate planning implications. It all starts with a good plan. Queen's strongly recommends that donors seek independent legal and financial advice.

To learn how you can make a difference, simply contact the Gift Planning office at 1-800-267-7837 or by email at gift.planning@queensu.ca. The Queen's Gift Planning team is always available to partner with you and your financial planning team to help you achieve your philanthropic goals.



"We believe that education can be a game changer," says Catherine. "It can break the cycle of poverty, not just for students, but for their families as well. Our kids were in good shape, so we thought we could help someone else's children. We had an opportunity to do something special... Life is short and this is important."

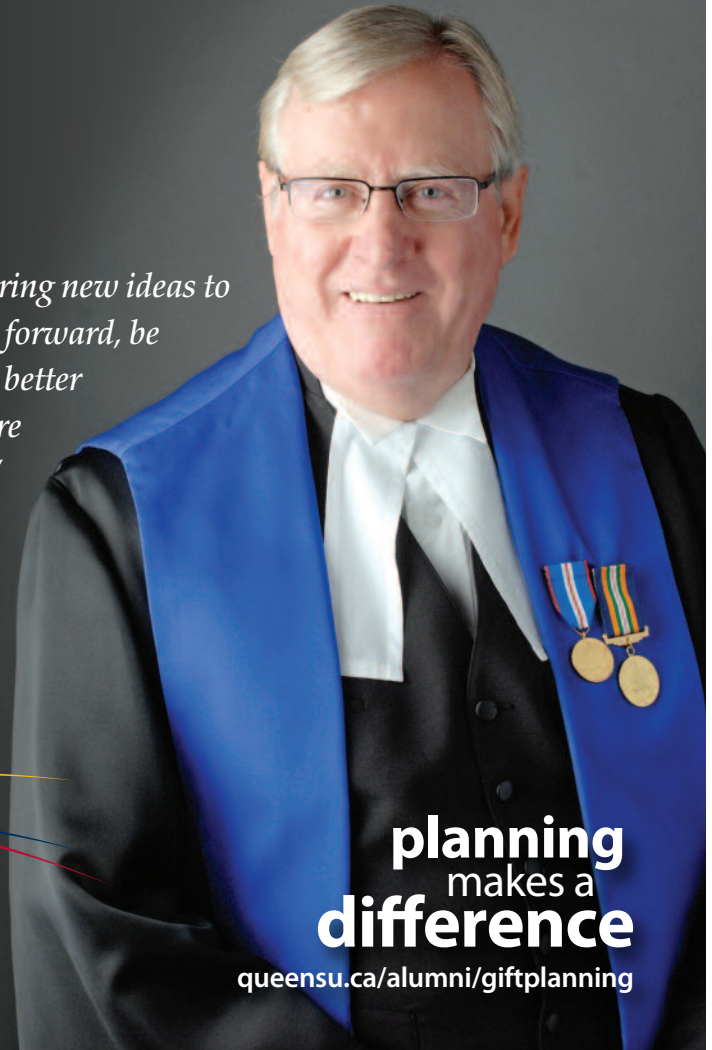
**Catherine Purcell, Artsci'78,
Ed'85, MEd'98
& Michael Purcell, Sc'75**
Queen's University alumni
and insurance donors

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queensu.ca/alumni/giftplanning



"I see my bequest as a way to bring new ideas to the Queen's community, to look forward, be creative, be courageous, envision better things, and enhance the future experience of education."

The Honorable Hugh F. Landerkin, QC LLB'67
Queen's University alumnus,
Retired Judge, Provincial Court of Alberta
and Bequest donor



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queensu.ca/alumni/giftplanning

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Royal Legacy Society

The Royal Legacy Society recognizes those alumni and friends who have thoughtfully remembered Queen's University through a bequest or another future gift commitment. If you have already remembered Queen's with a future gift, please let us know so that we can honour your intention.

For more information on the Royal Legacy Society, please visit our website at queensu.ca/alumni/rls

We look forward to welcoming you.



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