

A Guide to Legacy Giving

from the Donkey Sanctuary of Canada





Dear Friend of the Sanctuary:

Since 1992 it has been a great privilege to be able to work on behalf of the donkeys and mules. When I started The Donkey Sanctuary of Canada (DSC) I was 47 years old and now, into my ninth decade, I find myself thinking often about the animals and their fate.

Here at the DSC, just as we are helping them in the present, when we turn our thoughts to the years ahead, we want to include the donkeys too. It is not uncommon for them to live for well over thirty years and many of the donkeys currently in our care are very young. We want them, and so many others in need, to be able to live complete, natural lives.

Planning for the future is something that all of us can do. We have worked hard during our lives and we have strong feelings about where the fruits of our labours should be placed. To that end, making a Will provides us with the opportunity to define our wishes clearly, to ensure that our money and possessions go to the family, friends and charities that we support.

As you consider the disposition of your estate, we hope this booklet will be helpful. As a friend to the animals, you know how helpless they can be in our modern, industrialized world. By leaving a bequest to The Donkey Sanctuary of Canada you will be a part of the ongoing rescue and lifelong care that, together, we can provide.

Sincerely,

Sandra Pady, Founder



the donkey
sanctuary
of canada

At left, Sandra with Peggy. Shown on the cover is Pearl.



What are the benefits of making a Will?

Your estate is settled efficiently, and you have peace of mind that your wishes will be carried out and your responsibilities met. You, and not the courts, will decide how your assets will be distributed. You will choose an executor who will ensure your wishes are carried out as planned. Your assets will not have to be sold in market downturns, as could be the case if you leave no Will.

Leaving a gift to charities

When you prepare your Will, anything left over after specific gifts to family and friends have been made forms the residue of your estate. You may wish to leave this, or part of it, to your favourite charities. There are three different ways you can give:

- a) Outright Bequest
- b) Bequest of Residuary Estate
- c) Bequest of Percentage of Residuary Estate

When preparing Wills and Trusts containing provisions for the DSC, *the agent authorized to receive gifts is “The Donkey Sanctuary of Canada” (legal title)*. The Sanctuary was incorporated as a federally-licensed charity in 1992 and its charitable number is 138721253 RR0001.

What if I change my mind?

Once you have made a Will, the original contents can be changed or added to by means of a Codicil and will not involve re-writing your Will. The Codicil has to be signed and witnessed in the same way as the Will itself, although the witnesses do not have to be the same. The Codicil must be kept with, but not affixed to, your Will. A sample codicil might begin: *“This is the first Codicil to the last Will of (your name), which last Will bears the date (date of the Will).”*

At left, Meegers.



Why a Donkey Sanctuary?

In many ways donkeys and mules are the forgotten equine. Throughout history, with heroic strength and uncomplaining natures, donkeys have served human needs. Nevertheless, after centuries of negative stereotyping, the intelligence of these animals is frequently underestimated while their gentle temperaments are too often ignored. Some of the most important work that we do is in this regard: we work to change misconceptions.

Along with this humane education program, which we make available to thousands of visitors every year, there is the all-important work that we do in the areas of animal rescue and care. We provide a lifelong home to donkeys and mules who can no longer be cared for, who are being neglected or who are unfortunate victims of outright abuse. The rehabilitation process that each one undergoes is thoughtful and filled with compassion. Our dedicated caregivers work hard to give the animals another chance, the future that they deserve.

Our generous contributions come from every walk of life and every part of Canada. They are ordinary, caring citizens who want to join in the effort to make a positive difference in the lives of animals.

At the Donkey Sanctuary of Canada, we believe:

Animals experience pain and suffering, and have biologically determined instincts, interests and natures.

All animals have intrinsic value and humans have the responsibility to ensure the welfare of animals is respected and protected.

Animals should be able to live free from suffering at the hands of people. Compassion and respect for people, animals and the environment are vital, as it is the recognition of the interdependence of all living things.

At left, Gerry at rest in the paddock.

I have left a bequest to the DSC because:

Most of us love animals but few have the knowledge, energy and determination to actually make a difference on a practical level. The DSC has demonstrated a 'hands-on' approach that has not only saved the lives of these beautiful creatures, but won our hearts. I would like to see this continue. *Lawrence Segal, MD*

I am giving myself peace of mind that my 'beautiful rascals' will be well cared for and loved by the DSC when I am not here to care for them. *Alyson and Brian Arsenault*

I am pleased with this decision to help creatures who all have their own individual personalities. They ask nothing in return, suffer in silence and deserve our respect, care, love, and attention. This gift gives some purpose and happy outcome to my passage. *D.K.F.*

The DSC is much more than just an animal shelter. Through its Humane Education program and its work with special needs people it is encouraging the respect and care for other species which is so important for human societies. For all kinds of reasons: physical, spiritual and psychological, people need animals just as much as they need us. We really are interdependent, and the work of the DSC is helping more of us to recognize it. *Bennett*

I have left a bequest to help ensure the future of the organization to provide long-term animal rescue and care. I believe in the innate value of all animals. I have visited the DSC and I appreciate the wonderful work being done there. *Terry Quinsey*

Please contact us if you have questions about making a bequest to the DSC. All conversations will be held in the strictest confidence.

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