



Sound Advice

A Well Placed Gift

By Rod Tyler, CFP, R.F.P., CLU



Most Saskatchewan residents either know about, or have visited the MacKenzie Art Gallery. Currently located in the T.C. Douglas Building in Regina's Wascana Park, the gallery owes its existence to a generous and visionary gift by Norman MacKenzie, a prominent lawyer and art collector in early Regina history. MacKenzie, prior to his death in 1936, had built a substantial collection of old master drawings and paintings, as well as contemporary Saskatchewan and Canadian art. MacKenzie left most of his collection, and a portion of his estate, to the University of Saskatchewan, with the intent of establishing an art gallery in Regina. Dr. William Riddell, Dean of Regina College, helped establish just such a gallery on the college grounds. By 1957, a larger, more modern gallery was built on the college and was combined with the college's school of art. In 1990 it moved to its present location in the T.C. Douglas building.

We are left to wonder if such an art gallery might ever have been built in Regina had it not been for the foresight and generosity of Norman MacKenzie. Not only did he gift valuable artwork for public viewing, but he committed part of his estate funds to house and exhibit the work. If you and your children or grandchildren appreciate artwork, I encourage you to visit the MacKenzie at least once a year. It stands out as one of those hidden gems in our province, the result of a well-placed gift.

If you are interested in how to set up a trust or foundation for yourself or family, I can help by providing you with referrals to lawyers who specialize in writing the trust documents. I can also help you fund the trust in the most tax-effective manner by considering how to allocate your estate assets, including the use of a life insurance contract. Please call me if I can be of help or if you have any questions.



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