

Toronto Public Library Foundation receives \$1,000,000 legacy gift

Norman G. Hinton bequest will enhance library services and resources that support financial literacy and small business development

Toronto (November 23, 2011) – Toronto Public Library users will benefit from enhanced financial literacy resources and programs, thanks to an extraordinary \$1,000,000 bequest to the Toronto Public Library Foundation from the Estate of Norman G. Hinton.

“This is truly a transformational gift,” said Heather Rumball, President, Toronto Public Library Foundation. “We are enormously grateful and proud to be able to celebrate Mr. Hinton’s life and legacy at the Library.”

“Norman was a staunch supporter of the Toronto Public Library. He valued its resources, both for his own needs and also for the betterment of the city.” said David Mattinson, Friend and Executor of the Estate of Norman G. Hinton. “I know that Norman would have been pleased to see how his gift will benefit the people of Toronto.”

Raised in Toronto, Norman George Hinton (1930 – 2009) was an avid Toronto Public Library user and a self-made investment guru who spent his adult life developing financial literacy skills and managing his own portfolio using the resources at the Library. He was a firm believer in the importance of strong financial literacy skills for all.

“We were delighted to learn that Toronto Public Library played such a key role in Mr. Hinton’s life,” said Jane Pyper, City Librarian. “During the economic downturn in 2008, we heard similar stories from our customers about how important the library was in helping them in the areas of financial literacy and small business supports. Given the ongoing economic issues worldwide, Mr. Hinton’s gift is especially timely, and will enable the Library to provide in-demand services and programs in these areas for Torontonians.”

The majority of the gift will be used to enhance the Library’s collections supporting small business development, investment knowledge and financial literacy. A portion of the gift will support programs such as the Business Incubator series, small business week and personal finance week programming, as well as enhanced online business and personal finance resources. Another portion will be endowed to maintain enhanced financial literacy supports in perpetuity.

In recognition of his exceptional generosity and in appreciation for his use of the Library as a place for life-long learning, another portion of Mr. Hinton’s Estate has been designated to the Foundation’s **re:vitalize – Toronto Reference Library Campaign**. Mr. Hinton will be recognized with the naming of the “Norman G. Hinton Learning Theatre”, a new learning hub being created on the third floor of the Toronto Reference Library. The Learning Theatre, being constructed as part of the Toronto Reference Library on-going revitalization program, will open in 2013.

The Toronto Public Library Foundation believes in the social benefits of a strong and healthy public library system. As a registered charity, the Foundation fosters relationships with people of vision to provide Toronto’s Library with improved and expanded collections, enhanced programs and services, and revitalized community spaces.

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