



OPEN THE DOOR TO A SECURE
ESTATE PLAN FOR YOUR FAMILY



MacMillan
Estate Planning Corp.



TRUST IS PARAMOUNT

In choosing MacMillan Estate Planning, you have chosen the elite estate planning firm in Canada.

For the past decade, MacMillan Estate Planning Corp. has provided families with comprehensive estate planning to maximize wealth and minimize tax. Many families are unaware that an effectively planned estate should encompass a multitude of elements in addition to traditional Will planning. For those with an asset base of one million dollars plus, proactively planning beyond a Will could prevent considerable challenges down the road. As specialists, our senior Trust and Estate Practitioners have a contemporary understanding of the most innovative and creative methods currently available to families.

THE MACMILLAN PHILOSOPHY: We are committed to the protection of you and your family's future. In order to fulfill this commitment, we design comprehensive estate plans that incorporate creative solutions tailored to each family. At MacMillan, estate planning extends well beyond the preservation of wealth; it is about maintaining quality of life. This principle is central to the exceptionally high professional standards upheld by every member of our firm.

CREDENTIALS: Within our firm, each planner holds a Trust and Estate Practitioner designation awarded by the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP). STEP members are experts in their field having earned the profession's most respected and recognized title. Senior Practitioners are involved in the creation and management of Trusts and estates for high net-worth individuals. With over 10,000 members worldwide, STEP provides senior Practitioners with a local, national and international learning and business network.

Our planners are also active members of the Estate Planning Council of Calgary, the Canadian Association of Gift Planners, the Canadian Academy of Senior Advisors and the Canadian Initiative of Elder Planning Studies.

In Trust We Share



COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING TO PROTECT YOUR WEALTH



We tailor solutions to fit each family's unique circumstances.

Similar to an architect, our primary role is to facilitate the design and implementation of your comprehensive estate plan. As senior Trust and Estate Practitioners, we are well-versed in the various methods used to achieve a family's objectives within their estate. First and foremost, we present families with the various options available to them. By providing a thorough understanding of the estate planning process, the most suitable solutions can be determined within the scope of a family's unique circumstances. Once the best course of action is established, we coordinate the implementation of your estate plan, ensuring that all your objectives have been thoroughly accomplished.



The following is an overview of the comprehensive estate planning services offered by our firm:

WILL PLANNING

Recognized as the most traditional approach to designing an estate, Will planning should consist of three key legal documents: a Will, an Enduring Power of Attorney and a Personal Directive. Enacted upon death, a Will provides instructions for the distribution of your estate and appoints an executor to act on your behalf. By contrast, an Enduring Power of Attorney and Personal Directive both come into effect during your lifetime in the event that you are unable to manage your affairs. An Enduring Power of Attorney determines who will administer the financial side of your estate, while a Personal Directive assigns an agent to manage non-financial matters, such as your personal care and health choices.

TRUST PLANNING

Trust Planning is an effective and viable alternative to more traditional methods of transferring wealth to loved ones. Often under-utilized for planning, Trusts can offer a remarkable sum of benefits when applied under the right conditions. Essentially, a Trust is a legal relationship that maintains ownership of an asset on behalf of a beneficiary. Unlike a Will, a Trust may provide a family with taxation, matrimonial and credit protection. In addition, your wishes and estate are held privately. With the assistance of a qualified Practitioner from MacMillan Estate Planning, Trusts can be tailored to fit you and your family's specific requirements.

BUSINESS SUCCESSION

Remarkably, seventy percent of all family businesses in Canada fail to properly succeed to the next generation due to poor planning. In order to avoid unnecessary complications, it is important to use the most qualified professionals available. As experts, our planners have an extensive understanding of the structures that regulate business transfer and succession.



ASSET & INVESTMENT PROTECTION

Assets and investments should ultimately supply families with a concrete source of income for retirement. Unnecessary losses due to tax, market fluctuation or other external forces, such as divorce, bankruptcy or a lawsuit, can be avoided if the proper precautions are taken. There are a multitude of devices available that can shield your estate from undo risk. As part of our comprehensive estate planning services, we thoroughly review your current assets and investments in order to verify that they are structured appropriately and in the most secure manner possible.

TAX PLANNING

When proactively planning an estate, a main focus is often tax savings. Each year, countless individuals pay an excessive amount to Canada Revenue Agency. Although tax is an unavoidable reality within even a well-composed estate, by using the right tools and knowledge, this sum can be significantly reduced or deferred.

US TAX PLANNING

In the event you own property, investments or business assets within the United States or simply choose to enjoy lengthy holidays within a warm US climate, your estate may be liable to pay a significant amount of US inheritance tax. Since we do not have a comparable tax in Canada, this additional tax is not off-set by any tax already paid at home. In situations that have not been properly planned, the result of this double taxation can result in greatly reducing the size of your estate for your loved ones!

CHARITABLE GIVING

In the year of death, one-hundred percent of the tax owed by an estate can be given to a charitable organization of the estate holder's choosing. Instead of surrendering a dollar amount to Canada Revenue Agency, many have chosen to support a charity or begin a legacy by creating a charity or bursary program.

GENERATIONAL PLANNING

A comprehensive multi-generational strategy is extremely beneficial for families. In addition to substantial tax advantages, generational planning may determine the nature of a family's future dynamics. Acting as an unbiased third party, a MacMillan planner provides guidance and objective advice to everyone involved in the estate planning process. By addressing any underlying issues before they become real hindrances, discord amongst loved ones can be easily prevented.

PROBATE & ESTATE ADMINISTRATION

When a loved one passes away, their estate goes through the process of probate. Probate is a court supervised process of validating a Will and establishing the distribution of assets of the deceased, including the payment of any outstanding debts. For a trustee, administering an estate can feel like a part-time job. Expensive and complex, probate can take an average of eighteen months to finalize. Moreover, beyond the court's initial filing costs, additional fees can be quite substantial, depending on each province's specific terms. Fortunately, by proactively planning an estate, a great portion of this work can be avoided or considerably simplified.



KNOWLEDGE IS FREEDOM



WINE AND CHEESE SEMINAR ON ESTATE PLANNING

Should you require further information in regard to the concepts discussed, please do not hesitate to register for a complimentary estate planning seminar. For dates, times and locations, please call our head office based in Calgary at (403) 266-6464. One of our representatives would be more than happy to answer any questions that you may have.

COMPLIMENTARY INTRODUCTORY CONSULTATION

For more specific questions pertaining to your estate, please take advantage of our complimentary introductory consultation. A qualified Trust and Estate Practitioner will share their in-depth knowledge, offering insight and creative solutions to all your estate planning needs. To inquire further about this service, please call (403) 266-6464.





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The concepts and ideas presented are for information and explanatory purposes only; they are not suitable for all circumstances.
Obtain professional advice prior to initiating any estate plan, including the use of the concepts expressed herein.