

NEWS RELEASE
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The University of Winnipeg Collegiate receives largest gift to date
Local donor pledges \$1,000,000 to alma mater

April 26, 2005 (Winnipeg, Manitoba) – The University of Winnipeg Foundation is proud to announce a major contribution by James (Jim) D. MacDonald, local business leader and University of Winnipeg Collegiate alumnus, in the form of an unprecedented pledge of \$1 million to the University of Winnipeg Collegiate. This lead gift supports *The Dean's Bursary Fund in Memory of Lorne Tomlinson*.

“This pledge of \$1 million is the largest gift ever made to our Collegiate program,” said Dr. Lloyd Axworthy, President of The University of Winnipeg. “For more than three decades we have been privileged that Mr. MacDonald has made The University of Winnipeg Collegiate a main priority, from both a volunteer and philanthropic perspective. As a business leader, Mr. MacDonald is in a position to influence others in his sector to take an active role in the community by supporting and investing time and resources to charitable initiatives.”

“We are truly honoured to make this announcement today,” said Susan Thompson, President and CEO of The University of Winnipeg Foundation. “Mr. MacDonald’s philanthropic and voluntary leadership is exemplary. His interest in the growth of The Collegiate is evident to all who know him.”

Mr. MacDonald’s involvement with The University of Winnipeg began as a student more than forty years ago. It was in fact, Lorne Tomlinson, Dean of The Collegiate who interviewed the young Jim MacDonald and admitted him into Grade 11. As with so many Collegiate students, this meeting with Dean Tomlinson set MacDonald on a path of hard work and achievement.

His association with his alma mater did not end with graduation. In the 1970s, he founded The University of Winnipeg Collegiate Alumni Association, and was its first President, serving for five years. Recently, he took on the role of Chair for The Collegiate Appeal, a fundraising initiative within the overall University of Winnipeg Campaign.

Mr. MacDonald, Vice President of RBC Dominion Securities, is a founding director and Vice Chair of The University of Winnipeg Foundation, and is Chair of the Foundation’s Investment Committee. His exceptional service to The University of Winnipeg also includes a nine-year position on the Board of Regents; he initiated and

chaired the Endowments Investment Review Committee; and, he also chaired the Finance Committee and was Treasurer from 1987 – 1989.

Of Mr. MacDonald's substantial \$1 million pledge to The University of Winnipeg Collegiate, Dean Robert Bend says, "Jim MacDonald is a fine example of the impact The Collegiate's traditions of independence and respect have on its students." With regard to the importance of supporting *The Dean's Bursary Fund*, Dean Bend says, "Not only do we see an increase in the number of students applying to The Collegiate annually, we continue to see an increase in the need for their financial subsidy as well."

"This gift is my way of saying 'thank you' for all that The Collegiate has done for me," says Mr. MacDonald. "The Collegiate is a remarkable place. It has the ability to bring out the best in everyone. By supporting this endowment fund, we are enabling those who may not have the financial means to also share in this educational experience that will undoubtedly stay with them forever."

A top priority of James MacDonald is to raise a significant amount of endowed funds for Collegiate bursaries and scholarships. "With all of us working together as partners," MacDonald says, "we can make tremendous progress in helping future students." MacDonald's dream is that alumni and friends will give back a generous measure of what their education has given to them. His goal remains constant – turning more lives around through a University of Winnipeg Collegiate education. MacDonald is also raising capital funds for the restoration of Wesley Hall and academic enhancements.

The Dean's Bursary Fund was established in memory of Dean Lorne A. Tomlinson, Dean of The Collegiate (1957 – 1970). These bursaries are awarded to deserving entrance students who demonstrate financial need. This major contribution by Mr. MacDonald to this program will allow for the support of several additional students annually.

The University of Winnipeg Collegiate is one of academic excellence and accessibility, in an environment of critical thinking and community spirit. Continuing in its worthy traditions, The Collegiate at the University of Winnipeg is committed to offering Senior 2, 3 and 4 (grades 10 – 12) students high school programs that provide a transition to post-secondary education. An overwhelming 87% of Collegiate graduates go on to pursue a post-secondary education. The Collegiate philosophy emphasizes the need for students to become mature individuals within an atmosphere of self-generated discipline, where students can discover freedom and its complement, responsibility.

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