



EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCAL SENIORS – NOW AND FOREVER

September 19, 2016 – STRATFORD – After spending many years in Toronto and visiting annually for the Stratford Festival, John and Leslie Wright are happy to call this community home.

With retirement on the horizon, the Wrights purchased a home in Stratford nine years ago. They knew they wanted to spend the next phase of their life taking in all that Stratford had to offer; walking along the Avon, visiting the quaint shops, dining at top-notch restaurants and of course the excellent festivals and theatre performances.

They also knew that they wanted to give back in some way to their new community. As such, the two got involved at the United Church and John joined the Board at the [Stratford Summer Music Festival](#) where he currently sits as Treasurer. Now the Wrights have established an endowment fund at the [Stratford Perth Community Foundation](#) (SPCF) as another way of impacting this community.

The *John and Leslie Wright Fund* will support charitable projects and initiatives that expand opportunities for seniors' health and wellness in Stratford, St. Marys and Perth County. "We couldn't be more pleased with creating this fund," notes John Wright. "There are many important seniors programs out there and not always a lot funding – we hope to change that."

The Wrights first learned about the Community Foundation in 2010 after they saw a poster for the annual Mayors' Gala – an elegant fundraising evening hosted by the SPCF. "It seemed like a great way to meet people in the community," shares Leslie Wright. Throughout their years of attendance the pair met new friends and also learned about the impact the SPCF had made in the community. That learning led them to wanting to support this community now and for the long term. "We knew we wanted to be involved with the Foundation and an endowment fund just made sense to us."

John and Leslie are looking forward to working with Community Foundation staff to determine their first grant next spring. "We can't wait to hear about the projects and begin making the lasting impact for which we started this Donor Advised Fund," adds John.

"The Wrights' excitement for this community and their new endowment fund is infectious," notes Tracy Van Kalsbeek, Executive Director at the SPCF. "This generous and lasting gift will make a difference in the lives of many local seniors – now and forever."

Donations can be made to the John and Leslie Wright Fund by visiting www.spccf.ca and clicking on [Donate Now](#).

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About the [Stratford Perth Community Foundation](#)

The Stratford Perth Community Foundation (SPCF) is an organization for everyone and unique because donations – large or small – are never spent but are combined and invested. The earned income is used to make grants to local charities year after year to build a vibrant not-for-profit sector in Stratford, St. Marys and Perth County. To make all this work, we share our unique understanding of community needs and help mobilize and guide donors to specific community initiatives. For more information about SPCF please visit www.spccf.ca

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