



1209

N O T E S

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In This Issue:

Christopher M. Lowe
(St. Catharine's 1985)
*Why giving back through
my estate plan means
so much to me*

A Note from the
Planned Giving Team

Upcoming Events &
Website Update

How to Donate
Life Insurance

1209 Society
Overview

Leaving your legacy at Cambridge



A NOTE FROM THE TEAM

Generosity comes in many forms, and planned giving is often an effective way for you to support important causes that matter the most to you. When you include a gift to CAM in your overall estate plan, you can benefit a specific College, the University, or an aspect of University or College life with which you have a particular affinity. Such a gift can open up a world of opportunity for future students, researchers, and academics, helping to provide the environment and tools they need to achieve great things.

We hope this issue of 1209 Notes is enjoyable and educational. The Planned Giving team at Cambridge in America is dedicated to Collegiate Cambridge and its constituents and we are always available to answer any questions you may have about including Cambridge in your estate planning.

Thank you for your continued support of Collegiate Cambridge.

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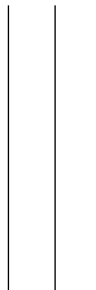
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PLACE
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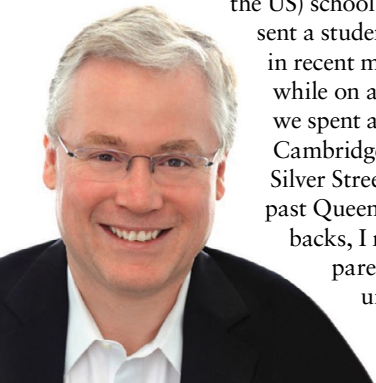


WHY GIVING BACK THROUGH MY ESTATE PLAN MEANS SO MUCH TO ME

Christopher M. Lowe (St. Catharine's 1985)

Without the opportunity to study at St. Catharine's my life would have turned out very differently. In fact, I'm 100% certain that if I hadn't gone to Cambridge I wouldn't be living in New York City, I wouldn't be a Partner in a private equity fund and I wouldn't have the lifestyle I currently enjoy. In hindsight, it is amazing that I had the opportunity to experience the richness and opportunity of a Cambridge education, without any direct contribution on the part of myself or my parents. It is only logical that I should feel a responsibility to give back.

All of my giving to date has been directed towards supporting the access initiative at St. Catharine's, an area about which I feel strongly. In the early 1980's, I was a pupil at a Scottish comprehensive school ("public" in the US) school which had not sent a student to Cambridge in recent memory. By chance, while on a family vacation, we spent an afternoon in Cambridge. Standing on the Silver Street Bridge, looking past Queens' towards the backs, I recall saying to my parents that this was a university I would like to attend.



Upon returning to school after vacation I told my guidance counsellor that I would like to apply to Cambridge. The response I received, "good luck and let me know how it goes!", has stayed with me for the last thirty years.

I was accepted to study mathematics at St. Catharine's (and, needless to say, my school was very pleased). The rigor with which mathematics is taught at Cambridge established an intellectual discipline that has benefitted me through my whole career in investment banking and equity investing. When I wasn't studying I became deeply involved in politics, initially by joining Cambridge University Liberal Club and then more broadly in local and national student politics – this is a passion I still have today as a member of the Democratic Party's National Finance Committee.

Following my second year at Cambridge, I took – much to the chagrin of my Director of Studies – a sabbatical year as the elected Deputy President of Cambridge University Students Union ("CUSU"). It was a curious mixture of business management and student related campaigning but an experience I benefitted from immensely. Interestingly, in those days, CUSU was the only organization championing access at

Cambridge – through what was then known as the Target Schools program.

Fast forward to today and the principles of access seem to be embedded in the collegiate structure, with a genuine commitment to ensuring people from a wide range of backgrounds can study at Cambridge. This includes the existence of Schools Liaison Officers in the Colleges, responsible for encouraging applications from schools that do not traditionally send people to Cambridge. Their ultimate goal is to ensure that anyone who meets the admission criteria can have the life changing experience of studying at a Cambridge College.

Some time ago I decided that alongside my regular contributions, I wanted to make a larger impact and included St. Catharine's in my estate plans. Initially my wife and I decided upon a fixed lump sum but we will be revising our wills to leave a percentage of our estate to the College, as a more appropriate mechanism for giving. We hope that St. Catharine's uses our planned gift to continue to expand access to Cambridge for students from a diverse range of backgrounds. And I feel like I am repaying a small proportion of the debt I owe to the College and the University.

HOW TO DONATE *Life Insurance*

Many of us have life insurance policies that we have purchased for a variety of reasons; be it to provide for dependents, cover unexpected medical costs, add to your investment portfolio, etc. If you reach a point in life when the original purpose for your policy no longer applies – such as educating now grown children – or your circumstances have changed, please consider how your policy could be used to support Cambridge. You can do this by:

1. ***Naming Cambridge in America as a beneficiary of your policy.*** This can be as simple as updating your beneficiary designation form with your policy holder and can often be completed online. You can designate CAM as:
 - a beneficiary for the full amount, for a percentage, or a specific sum
 - a contingent beneficiary, so CAM would receive the death benefits only if your primary beneficiary predeceases you
 - or create a separate trust named to receive the death benefits, with terms providing for the financial support of your dependents for a specific term of years, or for life, after which the trust terminates and its assets pass to CAM

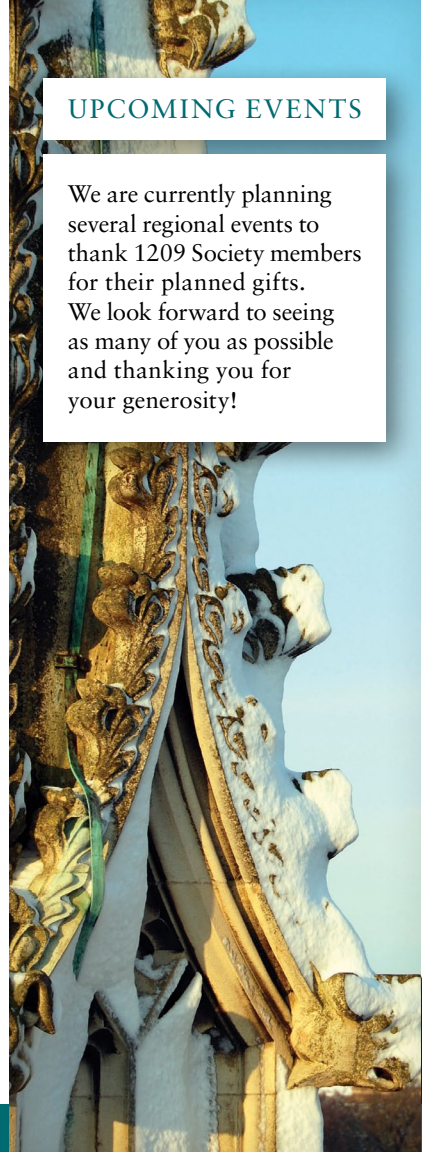
When you retain ownership of a policy, but name CAM as the beneficiary, any death benefit will not be subject to federal estate tax and you retain the right to change the beneficiaries at any point. No current federal income tax charitable deduction is produced when you continue to own the policy.

2. ***Donating an existing policy.*** You can name CAM as the irrevocable owner and beneficiary of an existing policy that you no longer need. You then receive an immediate federal income tax charitable deduction for the lower of your policy's fair market value (FMV) or the cost basis and reduce your future estate tax liability. You can give:
 - a fully paid up policy where the FMV is the cost of replacing the coverage with a comparable policy
 - a policy where premium payments remain and you pledge to give yearly cash gifts to CAM, which we use to pay the policy premiums. Your yearly gifts to CAM are deductible, and the policy is kept in force with pre-tax dollars for a lower actual cost. Here the FMV is usually closer to the cash surrender value
 - a policy where you stipulate that you no longer wish to make future premium payments, which can allow CAM to access the surrender value immediately
3. ***Donating a new policy.*** In most states you can take out a new policy and name CAM as the irrevocable owner and beneficiary. Whether you pay annual premiums or make one single premium payment for the policy, each payment is tax deductible as a charitable gift.

If you are considering any of the above charitable gifts, we strongly advise that you consult with your financial planner/tax advisor/legal counsel. We are always happy to answer any questions that your or your advisor may have.

UPCOMING EVENTS

We are currently planning several regional events to thank 1209 Society members for their planned gifts. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible and thanking you for your generosity!





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TELEPHONE

EMAIL

- ☐ I have already included Cambridge in America, the University of Cambridge, or its constituent Colleges in my will/estate plan and I have not previously notified you.
- ☐ Please send me the membership information for The 1209 Society.

I am considering a provision for Cambridge in America in my estate plan and I would like information about the following:

- ☐ Making a bequest
- ☐ Making a life income gift (e.g. Trust)
- ☐ Making a gift of life insurance
- ☐ Making a gift of a qualified retirement plan



www.cantab.org/plannedgiving

Please detach, fold in half, seal, and mail back to Cambridge in America. Thank you!



THE 1209 SOCIETY

Established by Cambridge in America in 1998, The 1209 Society celebrates the many generous benefactors in the US who recognize the importance of the University of Cambridge and its thirty-one Colleges through their estate planning. With 255 members and growing, The 1209 Society is also a wonderful way to connect with like-minded Cambridge alumni and friends of Collegiate Cambridge.

Membership benefits include:

- ▶ Invitations to special events
- ▶ Recognition certificate
*(signed by the Vice-Chancellor
and the Chairman of the
Board of Directors of
Cambridge in America)*
- ▶ Bi-annual newsletter
- ▶ Listing in The 1209
Society Roll of Honor
*(a bound book listing honorees
kept by the University)*



CAMBRIDGE
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LEAVING YOUR LEGACY AT CAMBRIDGE

Visit our website

www.cantab.org/plannedgiving

to learn more

To update your address

please call **212.984.0960**

or email mail@cantab.org



NEW WEBPAGE!

We are delighted to announce that we have launched a new planned giving webpage (www.cantab.org/plannedgiving). It includes expanded information on the different ways you can make a planned gift and the various tax benefits. Please take a look and let us know your thoughts.