



FONDATION
SANDRA
SCHMIRLER
FOUNDATION

you're in
my
heart
forever

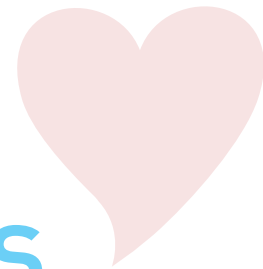


Sandra Schmirler understood that life is precious and we must appreciate it every day because it can be taken away in an instant. While Sandra only lived to the age of 36, she understood that there is more to life than winning and losing. What's really important is family and friends.

The Sandra Schmirler Foundation was created in 2001 as a legacy to three-time Canadian and world curling champion and Olympic gold medalist Sandra Schmirler, who died in March 2000 after a short but courageous battle for life. Her two baby daughters, Jenna and Sara, were just 8 months and 2 years old.

The Foundation raises and donates funds for the purchase of life-saving equipment in Newborn Intensive Care Units (NICUs) in hospitals from coast to coast to coast in Canada for the care of babies born too soon, too small or too sick.

Like Sandra, these miracle babies are inspirational and incredibly brave in their battles for life. We believe every baby deserves the chance to grow up and be a champion like Sandra, wherever their life paths take them.



Tiny Miracles

Miracle babies need your will to survive

Every year more and more babies are being born premature and critically ill, requiring the specialized care that is only available in Newborn Intensive Care Units. These miracle babies are born too soon, too small or too sick. The Sandra Schmirler Foundation has given millions of dollars to NICUs in every province and the Northwest Territories, to purchase state of the art life-saving equipment for premature and critically ill newborns.

The NICU combines advanced technology and trained healthcare professionals to provide specialized care for the tiniest and sickest patients. Giving birth to a sick or premature baby can be quite unexpected for any parent. Unfamiliar sights, sounds, and equipment in the NICU can be overwhelming. There's no way to be completely prepared for complications during delivery or for the discovery that a child will be premature, have a birth defect or medical problem.

Our funding ensures the NICU dedicated healthcare teams are equipped with the latest technology that allows moms and dads to be close to home where parents, family and friends can provide much needed support at this very emotional time.



CHAMPIONS
START SMALL™



The Dobson Family

Emmett's and Evrett's story as told by Dad Rodney

We knew we were having twins when my wife Lanesha went in for a routine ultrasound. We were diagnosed with “Twin to Twin Transfusion Syndrome”. Baby A was taking more nutrients from the placenta than Baby B. We were under 30 weeks. The doctor told me that Lanesha also had “Preeclampsia” and that the babies were coming out as soon as they had a free room. Preeclampsia is a syndrome where the liver starts to stop producing enough red blood cells (the healing cells). Lanesha might need blood transfusions. This was her fourth C-Section and this really scared me.

The doctors also told us that she had “Mirror Syndrome”. This is a very rare syndrome where the mother mimics symptoms of one or both of the babies. I read that in most diagnoses, one or everyone, does not survive birth.

At 5:27 am Emmett arrived and Lanesha got to see him for a few seconds before Evrett arrived. He was not breathing. I remember they were coaxing him to breathe, telling him to breathe, take his first breath. My heart was sinking. And then I heard him cry. Emmett came home after 34 days in hospital and Evrett came home 3 days later.

I want to thank the Sandra Schmirler Foundation for their contributions to the NICU and to the doctors and nurses that helped our boys. If it wasn't for everyone there, I don't know how our story would have turned out.



The Crabb Family

Ethan's story
as told by Dad James



We were told that Ethan's arrival would be earlier than expected as he was diagnosed with "IUGR". This is a growth restriction in the womb which caused him to grow slower. What we didn't imagine was that he would arrive in such a dramatic fashion and 3 1/2 months early. Ethan was born at just 26 weeks gestation and weighed only 1 pound, 5 ounces.

My wife Ashley was diagnosed with "HELLP" syndrome which is an abbreviation for hemolysis - elevated liver enzymes and low platelet count. The condition could potentially be fatal for her, causing liver failure. With low platelets that prevent blood clotting, the surgery and delivery were more risky.

When Ethan was born he was rushed to the NICU where he was intubated, hooked up to wires, IV's and other equipment. The first week was a blur. Ethan suffered from two collapsed lungs, pneumonia, numerous blood transfusions and countless pokes and needles. His condition was a roller coaster.

We weren't sure if he would make it through each night, but he showed us how much of a fighter he was. During his stay, Ethan had 37 x-rays, 9 ultrasounds, 5 blood transfusions and one surgery.

Families expecting don't always anticipate what might happen with a baby born too soon. With my wife in critical condition, a toddler son who needed care and a newborn in such a precarious position, we are grateful and thankful for the generous donations from the Sandra Schmirler Foundation who provide critical life-saving equipment to the hospitals that care for babies like Ethan.

You may wish
to make your
Bequest in honour
of a loved one



Making a Gift in Your Will

When you make a gift in your will to the Sandra Schmirler Foundation, you are creating a legacy of hope and health for the future. Writing or changing your will is not an overwhelming task. Everyone should have a will and update it on a regular basis. To ensure that you have a valid will, we recommend that you use the services of a legal professional.

Bequests

A charitable bequest is a gift to the Sandra Schmirler Foundation made in your will.

Bequests can take a number of forms, including a lump sum of money, an asset such as securities or real estate, or a portion of your estate. Bequests made to the Foundation will generate a tax credit that can create significant income tax savings.



More Ways to Give

Life Insurance

Paying modest premiums now can make for a significant gift in the future. You may donate a new or existing policy and receive tax benefits during your lifetime. If you name the Sandra Schmirler Foundation as a beneficiary of a policy you own, your estate can obtain tax benefits. You can also use life insurance, payable to your heirs, to offset the value of other charitable gifts you have made.

RRSPs and RRIFs

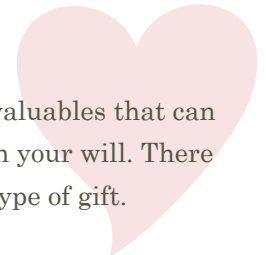
By naming Sandra Schmirler Foundation as the beneficiary of your RRSP or RRIF, you will be making a valuable gift and you will offset the tax that your estate would otherwise pay on these assets. There are some issues to consider before choosing to donate these assets, so be sure to discuss this with your financial advisor or lawyer.

Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds

Publically traded securities - stocks, bonds and mutual funds – can be donated during your lifetime or in your will. There are significant tax advantages to this type of gift. You will not pay capital gains tax on the transfer to the Sandra Schmirler Foundation. You will receive a tax receipt for the full value of the donated securities.

Property

Property includes real estate, jewelry, art or other valuables that can be given to the Foundation, placed in trust, or left in your will. There are substantial tax and income advantages to this type of gift.





Types of Bequests



Residual Bequest:

You donate all or a portion of your estate to the Sandra Schmirler Foundation after your debts, taxes, expenses and other bequests have been paid.

Sample wording:

“I give the residue of my estate (or portion of my estate or percentage of the residue of my estate) to the Fondation Sandra Schmirler Foundation, charitable registration #87142 0410 RR0001, to be used for such of the objects and purposes as the Board of Directors shall from time to time determine.”

Specific Bequest:

You donate a specific or dollar amount or piece of property, such as real estate, stocks or bonds.

Sample wording:

“I give the sum of (dollar amount or description of other property) to the Fondation Sandra Schmirler Foundation, charitable registration #87142 0410 RR0001, to be used for such of the objects and purposes as the Board of Directors shall from time to time determine.”

When including a bequest to the Sandra Schmirler Foundation, please ensure you provide our full name “Fondation Sandra Schmirler Foundation” and charitable registration #87142 0410 RR0001.



We respect your privacy and realize that, rightly, your family and loved ones always come first. We will use your gift carefully and cost effectively so that it has the greatest impact.

If you have decided to create a legacy gift to the Foundation, or a legacy gift in honour of a loved one, we would be grateful if you would let us know.

The information provided on these pages is general in nature and not intended to be a substitute for professional legal or financial planning advice. The Sandra Schmirler Foundation encourages all donors who are planning a legacy gift to seek independent legal and/or financial planning advice.



If you would like more information about creating a legacy gift or have any questions, please contact:

**Robin Wilson, Leadership Director
Sandra Schmirler Foundation**

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wilson@sandraschmirler.org

Charitable Registration
#87142 0410 RR0001



FONDATION
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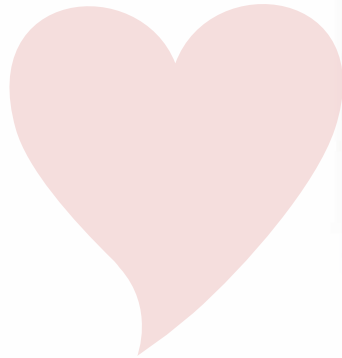
1-866-210-6011
sandraschmirler.org



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The Sandra Schmirler Foundation is dedicated to helping families across Canada with newborn babies requiring specialized neonatal care.

Sandra's will to live is reflected in the fight for survival, often against the odds, that is epitomized in these miracle babies. The Foundation is committed to keeping Sandra's love of family alive by helping to give these most vulnerable babies their chance to live their dreams.

THE LEGACY LIVES ON™

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