

# WHAT IS A CODICIL?

A codicil is an amendment to an existing Will. A Codicil is intended to make a small change to your Will that does not affect the overall structure of your estate plan. **For example, if you wish to add or increase a legacy gift for Scarborough Health Network Foundation in your existing Will, you may simply make a Codicil.**

## A CODICIL IS A SIMPLE DOCUMENT

There may be no need to spend extra time or money to create a new Will in order to add or increase a legacy gift to Scarborough Health Network Foundation. Instead, your wishes to benefit Scarborough Health Network Foundation may be fulfilled by simply having a Codicil, which will be kept with your Will, and may include wording similar to the following:

*I give the residue of my estate or the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to Scarborough Health Network Foundation (charitable registration number 11914 2263 RR0001), 3030 Lawrence Ave. E., Suite 314, Scarborough, ON M1P 2T7, to be used for the highest priorities as determined by the Board of Directors of Scarborough Health Network Foundation.*

## IS A LAWYER REQUIRED TO PREPARE YOUR CODICIL?

While a lawyer is not legally required for you to have a Codicil drafted, reviewed, or executed, it is nevertheless in your best interests to do so. There are legal requirements and formalities that must be followed for a Codicil to be valid and to ensure that it does not inadvertently revoke your existing Will. The Codicil is typically one to two pages in length; therefore, it is relatively less costly and easier to complete than a Will.

The information provided herein is not legal advice and is provided for informational and educational purposes only. If you need legal advice with respect to Wills and Estates matters, you should seek professional assistance.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

Verna Chen, Associate Vice President, Gift & Estate Planning  
416-438-2911 ext. 6040 | [vchen@shn.ca](mailto:vchen@shn.ca)

*This information provided is general in nature, does not constitute legal or financial advice. We strongly encourage you to seek expert advice before deciding upon your course of action.*