

Mr. and Mrs. P.A. Woodward's Foundation

The Mr. and Mrs. P.A. Woodward's Foundation was formally established in 1951.

Mr. P.A. Woodward was the son of Charles Woodward, who was the founder of Woodward stores. He remained close to the family business throughout his life, serving as Vice President of the company prior to his retirement. During their lives, Mr. and Mrs. P.A. Woodward donated to many charitable organizations. Most of their giving supported education, health and various religious bodies.

By 1951, the Woodwards wanted to formalize their charitable giving, and on November 8, 1951, Mr. P.A. Woodward chaired the Foundation's first board of directors meeting at the offices of Woodward's Department Stores at 101 West Hastings Street in Vancouver, British Columbia. In 1953, the Foundation's name was changed to the Mr. and Mrs. P.A. Woodward's Foundation.

The assets of the Foundation represent the lifetime gifts to the Foundation from the late Mr. and Mrs. Woodward, including the residue from their estates. The portfolio is now managed by the Foundation's Executive Committee.

Mr. and Mrs. P.A. Woodward intended the Foundation's income be spent primarily for the betterment of mankind. They preferred contributions that assist with proven and advanced techniques, rather than fundamental research projects or administration. In accordance with the Founders' directions, the Board concentrates on projects in the health field where there is clear indication of health benefits for the people of British Columbia. Since 1953, the Foundation has approved close to \$50 million in grants intended to make a difference for the care of British Columbians.

The Foundation has supported the School of Nursing for 47 years, primarily through the establishment of the Mr. and Mrs. P.A. Woodward's Lecture series, held annually. The lecture was the only one personally endorsed by Mrs. Woodward, and has become a seminal event for the School, attracting nursing professionals from across BC to learn, share experiences, network, and contribute to the advancement of nursing care.

