

Peter Munk Tribute



The late Peter Munk was a Hungarian-born Canadian businessman, entrepreneur, investor, and philanthropist, with deep ties to the city of Toronto, University of Toronto and Toronto General Hospital. Peter Munk graduated from the University of Toronto with a degree in electrical engineering and continued onwards to start a number of high-profile business ventures, including furniture and electronics company Clairtone, real estate company Trizec Properties, and Barrick Gold, the world's largest gold-mining corporation. The Munk School of Global Affairs at the University of Toronto and the Peter Munk Cardiac Center at the Toronto General Hospital are named after him. The University of Toronto has received a total of \$47 million to the Munk School of Global Affairs, and the Toronto General Hospital has received a total of \$143 million to the Peter Munk Cardiac Center. We are deeply saddened by the passing of Peter Munk, a business legend, philanthropist, and

national champion. We wish to share with you some of the tributes to Peter Munk from the President of the University of Toronto, Dr. Meric Gertler, and from various staff physicians at the Peter Munk Cardiac Centre.

"A prince among men, walked the walk, generous to a fault. Believed in the vision that is Canada."

– Dr. Heather Ross
Cardiologist, PMCC

"The first time I heard Peter speak is a memory that remains engrained in my mind. It was about eight years ago at a reception for a donation he and Melanie had just made to the cardiac center. Peter spoke so passionately about his gratitude and love for Canada and how important it was for him to be able to give back to the country that gave him so much.

There were about 50 people present for his speech and all of us were transfixed by his emotion and passion. You could hear a pin drop. Everyone was listening intently, absolutely mesmerized by his words. I have never forgotten that moment. His words have and continue to resonate with me. Since that evening I remain inspired to make that extra effort to provide each patient at the Peter Munk Cardiac Centre with excellent, innovative and empathetic care. Peter firmly believed that the PMCC would be the best heart center in the world. We have all worked tirelessly to make Peter's bold vision a reality."

– Dr. Patricia Murphy
Anesthesiologist,
Medical Director Cardiovascular
Intensive Care Unit, PMCC

"Peter Munk was a visionary who believed that collectively we could build the top heart centre in the world. His commitment to excellence was legendary and he believed in or mission.

His legacy will be the way he made us (nurses, doctors, scientists) feel proud, dedicated and unwavering in our goal to provide Canadians with the best cardiac care possible."

– Dr. Michael Farkouh
Cardiologist, PMCC

"Mr. Munk was a man of great vision and immense generosity, who worked tirelessly to achieve excellence. He arrived in Canada as a young man at the end of WW II with few resources. He was struck by the openness and generosity of the country. Canada, he said, offered him education and opportunity. With an entrepreneurial spirit and incredible

talent, he built successful businesses, eventually developing the largest gold mining company in the world. Mr. Munk spoke often about how grateful he was for the opportunities afforded him, by Ontario and Canada. As a result, he gave generously of his time, energy and financial support to promote excellence in education and health care in Canada. The Munk School of Global Affairs and The Peter Munk Cardiac Centre were created by him with the goals of providing exceptional education and training in these areas to Canadians. At the Peter Munk Cardiac Centre, he supported the recruitment of leading clinician-scientists to deliver world-class clinical care, the acquisition of advanced imaging equipment with a vision for excellence. He supported teaching and research through innovation. Mr. Munk championed the development and implementation of technological advances in clinical care. As a result of Mr. Munk's leadership and support, the Cardiac Centre provides lifesaving treatment to thousands of patients each year with cardiac and vascular conditions. Mr. Munk's vision for exceptional cardiac and vascular care has established a legacy at the University Health Network that will benefit Canadians for years to come."

– Dr. Thomas Lindsay
Division Head, Vascular Surgery, PMCC

"Peter Munk's contributions to higher education and health care are unparalleled in Canada and continue to make a global impact. Together with Melanie Munk, Dr. Munk

championed a wide range of endeavours in Canada and abroad through the Peter Munk Charitable Foundation. Perhaps the best-known initiative is the Peter Munk Cardiac Centre (PMCC).

In 1993, Peter and Melanie Munk gave their first gift to establish the Peter Munk Cardiac Centre at the Toronto General Hospital. The Centre's official opening in May of 1997 heralded a new era for cardiac care in Canada. The PMCC quickly became a world leader in diagnosing and treating cardiac and vascular disease, and in training cardiovascular health care professionals to become leaders in clinical, research and educational aspects of medicine. Each year, the Centre treats more than 163,000 patients from across Canada and around the world. It also trains more cardiologists, cardiovascular surgeons and vascular surgeons than any other hospital in Canada.

Just last year the Peter Munk Charitable Foundation increased its support with the largest single gift ever made to a Canadian hospital. This latest endeavour supports the creation of a digital cardiovascular health platform – marrying data-driven technology and artificial intelligence – to re-define how patients with cardiovascular disease are diagnosed, treated and managed.

A legendary Canadian icon, entrepreneur and philanthropist, Peter Munk has enhanced Canada's standing on the world stage and has left an indelible mark on the University of Toronto and the University Health Network."

– Dr. Meric Gertler,
President, University of Toronto



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