2007


Osgoode Hall Law School of York University

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REPORT ON GIVING
2006-2007

Ignat Kaneff and students
Director’s Message

THIS hasn’t just been a good year; it’s been our best year! Paid gifts to the Law School have increased by 651% since the first Report on Giving in 2000-2001. We have worked hard to reach out to our alumni and friends to explain the value of Osgoode Hall Law School and why it deserves their support. The message has obviously gotten through because we are raising more every year.

We have also launched The Building Osgoode Campaign, which is why this year’s Report on Giving is a little different. We are still recognizing all the donors who paid a gift to the Law School over the last fiscal year, but for the first time we will also be reporting campaign pledges. It is important to note the difference.

A campaign is a multi-year endeavour that recognizes the total amount a donor has committed, or pledged. A donor may choose to pay that pledge all at once or over a number of years. Until our campaign ends, we will be reporting on our progress by total pledge amounts, but will continue to recognize donors individually by gift payments. For example, a donor may pledge $5,000 and pay it off with five annual payments of $1,000. The $5,000 pledge will be included in the campaign total pledges and the donor will be recognized annually at the $1,000 level until the gift has been paid in full.

We are truly grateful to all of the individuals, corporations and foundations that give to Osgoode. The support we receive helps us to maintain Osgoode’s leadership in Canadian legal education.

Anita Herrmann
Director, Office of Advancement
Wonders Happen on the Golf Course

Businessman and philanthropist Ignat Kaneff LLD (Hons), who has given a gift of $2.5 million to the Building Osgoode Campaign, couldn’t believe his eyes when he first saw Osgoode Hall Law School. “I was practically embarrassed to see such a horrible looking building,” he says of his visit to the school where his daughter, Kristina, is a student. “It was awful!”

Kaneff, of course, knows a thing or two about building design and workmanship. He is head of the Kaneff Group of Companies, one of this country’s finest builders of residential properties, office buildings and golf courses including the world-class Lionhead Golf & Country Club in Brampton, which will play host to the second annual Osgoode Classic on June 17, 2008.

Born in a small Bulgarian village called Gorno Abalanova on October 6, 1926, Kaneff rose from humble beginnings to become, not only one of Canada’s business leaders, but also one of its most generous citizens. The list of organizations in the fields of education, health, social services and the arts that have benefited from his philanthropy over the past six decades is staggering.

For Kaneff – who couldn’t speak a word of English when he came to Canada – financial success and gratitude for what this country has given him have gone hand-in-hand. When he spoke in his self-effacing way of that gratitude at the public launch of the Osgoode Building Campaign at Toronto’s Design Exchange last May, his heartfelt words moved some members of the audience to tears.

“You come to this country with nothing and people are trying to help you,” says Kaneff who learned to speak what he calls “street English.” “Right from the beginning when I started looking for job, right away people responded to my request. And when I started building my first little house, people lend me a credit without even know me. I love it in this country. I was able to exercise my ability to maximum, and I’m very thankful for that.”

Kaneff was only 14 years old when he left his home in Bulgaria. He worked in Germany and Austria before coming to Canada in 1951 and landing a job as a labourer. On his 25th birthday, just a year after his arrival in Canada, he bought his first building lot and in the spring of 1952 he built his first house in Port Credit. “It was only about 720 square feet, but it was mine,” he recalls. Then in 1956, he founded Kaneff Properties Limited (a member of the Kaneff Group of Companies), and the rest, as they say, is history. His company has built thousands of homes and apartments in the Brampton and Mississauga areas, and also owns and manages about 2,500 apartments.

Though he himself is a self-made man, Kaneff is a big believer in education. “It makes me so happy to see young people rushing to go to school. I wish I could go there,” says Kaneff, who received an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the University of Toronto in 1994 for his support and contributions to that institution. It is one of many honours he has been awarded over the years by governments, businesses, and community organizations, associations and clubs in recognition of his volunteer and financial support.

And his wife of 30 years, Didi, are very proud of the fact that their daughters, Anna Maria and Kristina, are well-educated. Anna Maria has an undergraduate degree from Georgetown University and an MBA from Harvard University, while Kristina studied at Columbia then Oxford University, where she obtained a Masters in Economics and Social Science, before joining Osgoode’s LLB Program in 2005.

In 2006, in honour of Kaneff’s 80th birthday, his wife and daughters established the Ignat Kaneff Scholarship for Academic Excellence at Osgoode, which acknowledges “his strong dedication to his community and his commitment to promoting equal opportunities through higher education among all Canadians.” The scholarship will be awarded annually to an entering LLB student with a record of academic excellence in undergraduate studies.

The family worked with Dean Patrick Monahan on the creation of the scholarship, which was the first step toward Ignat Kaneff’s generous gift to the Building Osgoode Campaign. “Once the door was open, Dean Monahan was the greatest salesperson,” Didi Kaneff says with a smile. “He saw that this family was open to some further suggestions and he went for it. Some golf games followed – and on the golf course wonders happen.”

Now Ignat Kaneff wants others to follow his lead. “Canada is such a wealthy country with so many wealthy lawyers,” he says, “I’m expecting them to respond to Dean Monahan and enable him to complete his dream to give better opportunity and better facilities for our young leaders to study and plan their futures, and build Canada.”
Preserving Canada’s Legal Heritage

Canada Law Book Inc., one of Canada’s oldest and most respected legal publishers that has been helping Osgoode faculty and students to understand the law for as long as the Law School has been in existence, has donated $1 million to the Building Osgoode Campaign.

In recognition of the company’s generous support, Osgoode will recommend to York University that the rare book room in the renovated Law Library be named The Canada Law Book Rare Book Room. The Law School will also create a permanent display on the history of Canada Law Book in the room.

A leader in Canadian legal publishing since 1855, Canada Law Book’s outstanding collection of books and electronic services for the legal community is a prime reference source for Osgoode faculty and students.

Osgoode’s Law Library is proud to possess the complete series going back to 1912 of Canada Law Book’s premier publication, Dominion Law Reports, which documents Supreme Court of Canada decisions, leading civil and criminal cases from all common law provinces, and cases of general interest from Quebec.

Another important Canada Law Book publication that is well-used by the Osgoode community is O’Brien’s Encyclopedia of Forms, the source for Canadian court forms.

“Canada Law Book has played, and continues to play, an important role in the development of Canada’s jurisprudence,” said Dean Patrick Monahan. “The company’s reputation for excellence and editorial integrity has made it the research destination of choice for legal practitioners, scholars and students. We can’t thank the company enough for its generous donation.”

Ruth Epstein, Vice President of Canada Law Book, which is also affiliated with CLB Media, publisher of Canadian Lawyer and ABCA Journal, said, “Canada Law Book is delighted to play a role in this significant expansion of the Law School and the preservation of Canada’s legal heritage.”

A Very Special 75th Birthday

Rudy Bratty’s recollection of law school is of Osgoode’s original home at Queen St. and University Ave. in downtown Toronto where he attended classes, visited nearby court rooms where he saw legendary criminal lawyers in action, and made many new friends.

Since his graduation in 1957 and the Law School’s move to the York University campus in 1965, Bratty has only been back to Osgoode a few times, but he still feels a deep connection to the School.

“Osgoode Hall Law School contributes a great service, and consequently it deserves my support,” says the affable lawyer and real estate developer who is known for his deep involvement in civic charitable activities. “I consider myself very fortunate to be able to support it.”

Bratty has made a $500,000 donation to the Building Osgoode Campaign, and his colleagues at Bratty and Partners LLP have also made a gift of $25,000 in honour of Bratty’s 75th birthday on March 30, 2007.

Bratty, who is also Chairman & CEO of The Remington Group Inc., a real estate development company that employs his four sons, believes that three things are important in life: family (he and his wife, Catherine, also have a daughter and five grandchildren), knowing the world a better place than when you entered it; and giving back to the community.

“I get great joy out of giving,” says Bratty, who has been granted the Italian Canadian Benevolent Corporation and by the Council of Christians and Jews, is a Knight of Malta and a Commander of Italy.

A self-described workaholic who shuns the use of a computer or cell phone in favour of face-to-face contact, Bratty has served on the boards of numerous corporations and hospitals and currently is a Director of Brampton Brick, Elin Mills Developments and Consolidated HGL Holdings Corporation.

Bratty’s 75th birthday on March 30, 2007.

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He also enjoys life to the fullest, whether he’s golfing, skiing, biking, socializing or spending time with his family.

For Bratty, who is known for his deep involvement in civic charitable activities, he was working in those days as a small builder, and I had a car, and I’d pick him up every day and we’d go to class and we’d say, “What are we doing here?” We attended law school gladly because we did not think we were going to be practising lawyers. I was only there at the insistence of my father.”

Bratty and Partners LLP . “I’m certain I’ll be practising until I die.”

Offman kept his word and went from the last exam directly to the Art Shoppe while literacy teams up with Emilio Gambini to create the law firm of Gambin & Bratty from 1957 to 1985. Since 1985, Bratty has been a Senior Partner with Bratty and Partners LLP. “I’m certain I’ll never retire because I love my work too much,” he says. “I’m busier than I’ve ever been in my life.”

The Students’ Gift Today is for the Students of Tomorrow

Osgoode students are also solidly behind the Building Osgoode Campaign. At the “Toast to the Third-Year Class” on March 28, 2007, legal and literary Society President Jason Boyce and Morris Papworth, Chair of Student Caucus, on behalf of all Osgoode students, presented Dean Patrick Monahan with a cheque for $70,000 to help with the creation of the new student space.

The gift came from the sale of shares Legal and Lit had received through its participation in the student health plan. The funds will be used to improve space designated specifically for student government offices and clubs in the building.

We are grateful to our students for their generous assistance in helping to improve the student experience. They have left a wonderful legacy for future students.
A Tribute to Our Deans, Past and Present


Their effort, enthusiasm and talent have helped make Osgoode one of this country’s great law schools. Arthurs, Beck, McCamus, MacPherson, Pilkington, Hogg and Monahan have each made a commitment to the Building Osgoode Campaign and, in recognition of their generous support, the Law School will recommend to the President and Vice-President of York University that the board room in the Law School’s new executive suite be named The Deans’ Board Room.

We thank them and all of our former Deans for playing great leadership roles in Osgoode’s development.

Leading the Way
(kft to right) Harry Arthurs, Stanley Beck, John McCamus, James MacPherson, Marilyn Pilkington, Peter Hogg and Patrick Monahan.

New Gifts to the Campaign

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<td>Larry Hard '80 (LLB/MBA)</td>
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<td>James Ebster '87</td>
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The William Osgoode Society

The William Osgoode Society has been established to honour the Law School’s most generous donors. Named after the first Chief Justice of Upper Canada, the Society reflects the School’s long history and important influence on legal education. Members in the Society include individuals, law firms, foundations and associations whose cumulative paid gifts total more than $25,000. Members who have given more than $100,000 will also be recognized in the York University Honour Court.

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* New member of The William Osgoode Society
** Advanced to a new giving society
Chair’s Message
This is a very exciting time for the Law School. Osgoode is launching new programs, hiring more full-time faculty and preparing to expand the building. To undertake such massive change requires vision and commitment, but to realize that vision requires support. Osgoode alumni have again demonstrated their belief in the School by contributing to its future. It is not only alumni who understand the value of Osgoode as we have received some very important gifts from friends of the School as well. This is a real testament to the value of the Law School and the education it provides.

Perhaps now, more than ever, Osgoode deserves our support. It continues to prove to be Canada’s leading law school and, in fact, a leader internationally.

Sincerely, J. David Alexander '72
Chair, Osgoode Hall Law School Fund

Annual Paid Gifts

William A. Reeve Circle
$10,000 plus

Newman W. Hoyles Circle
$5,000 to $9,999

John D. Falconbridge Circle
$1,000 to $4,999

Charles E. Smalley-Baker Circle
$500 to $999

H. Allan Leal Circle
$100 to $499

Osgoode Hall Law School is one of this country’s finest law schools as a result of the vision, wisdom and sagacity of those charged with its leadership. Our gift societies are named in honour of the first five deans for their contribution to building an institution that is internationally recognized for its excellence in legal education.

The societies recognize the contributions of annual fund donors who are committed to upholding our tradition of academic excellence by supporting the Law School’s mission. Membership in a society is based on paid gifts to Osgoode Hall Law School during the University’s fiscal year.

William A. Reeve Circle
1889 – 1894

Newman W. Hoyles Circle
1894 – 1923

John D. Falconbridge Circle
1923 – 1948

Charles E. Smalley-Baker Circle
1949 – 1958

H. Allan Leal Circle
1958 – 1966

The Osgoode Hall Law School Fund

Sincerely,

[Signature]


Osgoode Hall Law School of York University
### Annual Paid Gifts by Class

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Paid Gifts</th>
<th>Name</th>
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### Annual Paid Gifts by Class

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**The Thomas Brown Phillips Stewart Society**

Thomas Brown Phillips Stewart (1865-1892) was a barrister and poet who died at the early age of 27. He left a portion of his estate to establish a student library at Osgoode Hall, which later became the largest law library in Canada.

The Thomas Brown Phillips Stewart Society was created to commemorate Thomas Brown Phillips Stewart as Osgoode’s first benefactor and to honour all those who, like this generous young man, made Osgoode Hall Law School a part of their legacy through a planned gift.

Membership in the Society is offered to those alumni and friends who wish to donate to Osgoode by means of a planned gift including charitable bequests, life insurance or other future arrangements. All members will be recognized annually in the Osgoode Hall Law School Report on Giving.

We would be pleased to discuss with donors and their advisors, the many areas within the Law School where bequests can be directed. We do appreciate the opportunity to review the terms of their gifts before they are finalized, so we can confirm our ability to accept and fulfill the gift’s intent.

**Members:**

- Sandra Birnbaum
- Balfour J. Halévy
- Derek Hogg
- L. MacDonald Killaly
- Harvey Spiegel
- William Turville

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**Office of Advancement**

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