



YWCA
TORONTO

NATIONAL ADVOCACY.
COMMUNITY ACTION.



United Way
Greater Toronto
FUNDED AGENCY

INTRODUCING THE HEATHER M. MCGREGOR FUND

For over three decades, Heather McGregor has been the heart, vision, and voice of YWCA Toronto. As Chief Executive Officer, she has led with unmatched commitment, strategic insight, and a deep belief in the resilience and potential of women, girls and gender diverse people. Under her leadership, YWCA Toronto has become a trusted anchor in our city—offering housing, employment, violence prevention, advocacy, mental health supports, and community programming to hundreds of thousands of people across the GTA.

Heather's impact is measurable and lasting. She championed the construction of the 300-unit Elm Centre, one of Canada's largest affordable housing projects, and more than quadrupled YWCA Toronto's housing portfolio, now home to over 1,300 residents. She expanded wraparound supports that help families maintain stability, while growing employment, skills training and violence prevention programs. Beyond bricks and mortar, Heather built enduring partnerships, advanced gender equity, and fostered a culture of trust and accountability that continues to inspire the sector.

To honour this legacy, YWCA Toronto has created the Heather M. McGregor Fund, an initiative that will provide the flexible resources needed to sustain what Heather built—a continuum of care. The Fund will embolden our future by allowing YWCA Toronto to strengthen affordable housing, respond to gender-based violence, expand mental health services, and ignite new advocacy and programming.

The Fund comes as we are navigating a critical moment: gender equity is under threat globally, the housing crisis in Toronto continues to leave too many vulnerable to homelessness, and mental health needs are surging, particularly among historically marginalized communities. Gender-based and intimate partner violence remain pervasive, and nonprofit

organizations face ongoing strain from short-term, highly restricted funding that limits innovation and responsiveness. The Heather M. McGregor Fund will ensure YWCA Toronto can act with speed, adapt strategically, and continue offering the continuum of services that make a real difference every day.

Transitions, even celebrated ones, deserve to be met with strength, clarity and care. As Heather steps down, what she has helped build remains: exemplary programs, a deeply committed leadership team, and a culture of accountability firmly in place to carry her legacy forward.

"We believe in the resilience of the human spirit to persist despite circumstances that are sometimes so terrible and out of our control. Let's come together as a community to lift one another up. We believe that with the right services, all residents of Toronto can thrive."

— Heather McGregor, Retiring CEO,
YWCA Toronto —

The Heather M. McGregor Fund is more than a tribute. It is a launchpad. It is your opportunity to strengthen YWCA Toronto. You have always fueled our most profound impact, and this Fund ensures our continued ability to lead boldly, invest in what works, and stay true to our mission, no matter what lies ahead. Heather showed us what trust in leadership makes possible. Your trust now will carry us forward, into a future as bold, visionary, and resilient as the past.

Join us in sustaining this legacy—and in writing the next chapter.

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