

Celebrating Alberta: 105 Years

One of the great privileges of my work is meeting people like Alberta Goltz, who celebrated her 105th birthday on Aug. 8, and the 85th anniversary of her arrival in Canada on Oct. 5. If you spend even a few minutes with Alberta, you will know that one of the goals she's set for herself, especially now that God has given her more than her biblical "three score and 10" years, is to live to see Jesus come.

"God has given me so much," said Alberta when I visited her recently in her Leduc farm home. "A hundred and five years!"

Soon after her first visit to the province's first church (erected in 1903), the young immigrant joined the first Adventist congregation in the province and even in the depths of the Depression paid a faithful tithe — a value she passed on to her children and grandchildren. It's a short leap

from her gratitude for today to gratitude for the path that God has led her on, from exile and strife in Russia to peace and a church family in Alberta.

"The people of Canada are so kind," she says, and thanks me for the flowers I brought on behalf of the Alberta Conference to commemorate her milestone birthday—unprecedented, as far as I know, among Alberta and Canadian Adventists.

Alberta's attitude of gratitude is, when I stopped to think about it, the basis of the Conference's mission for Planned Giving ministry. As we express our thanks for God's kindness and generosity, we are reminded that God gives us good gifts not only because He wants us to enjoy life, but also to demonstrate—model for us, if you will—the

Remembering God and His work in the financial tools you use to care for those you love—a will, life insurance, RRSPs, Tax-free Savings Accounts, annuities—is a way of letting the world know that God is always part of the equation.

giving character He wants to share.

God is good, and His wonderful roadmap for life includes sharing. Sometimes we share today—through a testimony, through a loaf of bread or raking leaves for our neighbor, through tithes and Alberta Advance offer-

ings, to name a few. And we reap the benefits of sharing, growing personally and as congregations with expanding ministries.

Remembering God and His work in the financial tools that you put in place to care for those you love—a will, life insurance, RRSPs,



Tax-free Savings Accounts, annuities, etc.—is a way of letting the world know that God is always part of the equation.

If you've remembered God's goodness and His work by making the Alberta Conference a beneficiary in your will, life insurance policy, RRSP or other tax planning tool, please consider letting me know. The Conference wants to express its thanks to you personally; it's only right that His church administration model gratitude and celebrate your reflection of His character.

God is good all the time. Let's celebrate and acknowledge His generosity—to us, in each other, at every opportunity!

— Lynn McDowell, CSPG
Director of Planned Giving & Trust Services/Philanthropy

DID YOU KNOW?

In addition to wills, Alberta Adventists have used life insurance, charitable remainder trusts, gifts of land and other means to shift their tax dollars to the Alberta Conference and God's work during their lifetime. Look for more on these tools in coming issues.

