

DONORS LIKE YOU CAN IMPACT A LIFETIME OF HEALTH RESEARCH OUTCOMES

Meet James and Dorothy MacConnell



Molly Appeal
Annual Campaign
1986-Present

Board Member:
1986-2004
(James MacConnell)

Director Emeritus:
2019-Present

Planned Giving:
Future Estate Gift

DMRF is grateful to James and Dorothy MacConnell of New Glasgow, Pictou County, who have generously supported health research at Dalhousie University through the DMRF Molly Appeal, for several decades. Additionally, James joined the DMRF board in 1986 and is a director emeritus still today.

From James: How a donor story begins...

I first heard about DMRF from Bill Sobey, who was a founding member of the Foundation as well as their board chair. Although Bill and I were a few years apart, we developed a great friendship through many one-on-one business dealings, an annual fishing trip, various social events, and frequent visits by Doris and Bill to our home in Scotsburn. Eventually, Bill began telling me about DMRF and where he saw it going. I had a natural interest in all things Dalhousie, and this really intrigued me. The next thing I knew, Bill asked me to become a member of the DMRF Board. I joined in 1986 and was so impressed with my fellow board members that the flame was lit. I was really impressed with the Molly appeal and thus began our family donations to the Foundation.

While I've never been personally impacted by health research, I am certainly aware of many who have. The biggest influence for me was that I immediately quit smoking after hearing about the dreadful effects it was having on human health. I'm also very concerned about Alzheimer's disease and am hoping our research will help find ways to delay and eventually find a cure for this terrible affliction which has affected so many of my friends and their loved ones. The research into various cancers is showing wonderful results and will have long lasting effects on our people. I think everyone needs to be more aware that governments can't do everything, and private research is the most valuable tool in our medical future.

We want to say "thank you" to the DMRF researchers, for all that you are doing. Please take every opportunity to tell your story! It's important that DMRF continuously remind all of us about the work being done and the expense of doing it. So very simply put, people should give to DMRF because there are few causes that can have a more lasting impact on and for all of us.