



## AREA Fund Overview

### Mission Statement

To raise funds for asbestos-related research, education and advocacy projects, and to raise awareness of the devastating effects of asbestos use.

### Fund Origin and Description

The Ford family created the Asbestos-related Research, Education & Advocacy Fund (AREA Fund) in 2010 in loving memory of Dave Ford who died of mesothelioma. The AREA Fund was created when the family learned that asbestos-related diseases are the number one occupational killer in Canada, and that there was no Canadian fund to specifically support asbestos-related research, education and advocacy work. It was originally set up as an endowment fund; the return on the endowment would support this work.

Starting August 2011, the fund structure was changed to provide donors with the option of having their donation go directly to funds available for granting, or having it permanently endowed. This flexibility will enable the AREA Fund to make meaningful grants more quickly (thereby actively supporting asbestos-related issues sooner), while still ensuring that there are permanently endowed funds that will continue to grow and generate revenue for this important work over the long-term.

The AREA Fund is just that, a fund, not an organization. As such, the AREA Fund has no employees; all work done on behalf of the fund is done by volunteers.

### Fund Management

The Vancouver Foundation manages the AREA Fund; it's Canada's largest community foundation helping people give back to communities since 1943. The Fund Advisor, Tracy Ford, and AREA Fund Trustees (listed below) work together to decide how available grant money will be awarded:

- Dr. Christopher Lee, Medical Oncologist — BC Cancer Agency, Fraser Valley Centre
- Wayne Peppard, Retired Executive Director — BC and Yukon Building and Construction Trades Council
- Larry Stoffman, Labour Consultant / OH&S Specialist — HMIRC Labour Governor; WHMIS Current Issues Committee
- Tim K. Takaro, Associate Professor — SFU Faculty of Health Sciences
- Sheila Moir, Occupational Health & Safety Officer — BC Government Employees' Union

Currently, available funding is limited, as the endowment (AREA Endowment Fund) was created relatively recently (spring 2010), and the fund for immediate giving (AREA Fund) was just created in August 2011. For the present time, the Trustees will make decisions regarding grants based on ad hoc review of proposals and the size of the requests. Each quarter, based on funds available for granting, we will reassess the need for a more formal process.

### Short-Term Goals

- To establish and affirm strong relationships with affected organizations to raise awareness of the asbestos issue.
- To raise enough money to be able to help financially support at least one asbestos-related education, advocacy, or research project each year.
- To raise awareness of the fund and asbestos-related diseases.

### Donations

Online: The "Please Give" page of the AREA Fund website ([www.areafund.ca](http://www.areafund.ca)) has a direct link to the secure online donation form on the Vancouver Foundation website.

By Mail: AREA Fund c/o Vancouver Foundation **or** AREA Endowment Fund c/o Vancouver Foundation  
Suite 1200 – 555 West Hastings Street, Box 12132 Harbour Centre, Vancouver BC V6B 4N6

*If you have questions, or would like further information, please send us an email: [admin@areafund.ca](mailto:admin@areafund.ca).*